**Report on the November 2012 Mini-conference Sessions for the**

**Making Statistics More Effective in Schools of Business**

**DSI Specific Interest Group**

A total of seven regular sessions were organized as a mini-conference for the Making Statistics More Effective in Schools of Business (MSMESB) Specific Interest Group (SIG). A caucus meeting was held at 5 PM on Monday after all of the other sessions. As we have experienced for several years, all seven of our regular sessions were well attended with an average attendance of 32 and 99 people supplied their names and email addresses on the signup sheets circulated during the sessions. Attendance by session is recorded below. Consistent with our request and past history, the sessions were held on Sunday and Monday. On both days extra chairs were brought in to accommodate those attending and some people may have chosen to not try to come in due to the room being filled. Also, the 5 PM sessions had the smallest number of people attending.

We opened our caucus meeting with each person giving their reactions to the DSI meeting and the MSMESB mini-conference. These points were made:

* Our attendance justifies a bigger room for MSMESB sessions.
* The variety of topics addressed in the MSMESB sessions was good.
* There were several comments about the Annual Meeting Program

1. The table of sessions by time and location was very good. Having a page number and/or the session code would be helpful for finding the session description.
2. The Participant Index at the end did not have page numbers for the session descriptions which is confusing, especially to the new attendees.
3. There was unanimous support for having the room locations listed in what is posted online.
4. Several people expressed their dissatisfaction with the ability to search the program for words of interest to them. The suggestion was to e-mail out a pdf file to everyone who had registered.
5. The inability to connect to the Internet in the session room and nearby was unacceptable for today’s mobile connected society.
6. There was limited support expressed for the 5 PM sessions, especially because 5 PM was 8 PM for those from the east. Among the 5 PM caucus attendees, the consensus was that the support would be even less among those who chose not to attend the caucus meeting.
7. There was objection to the plenary sessions being the only option at the prime time of 10 AM. However, some liked this schedule choice because it gave them a time slot to go sightseeing, have lunch with friends and companions, or do similar non-conference activities.

Bob Andrews agreed to take leadership for MSMESB within DSI for 2013 and Kellie Keeling agreed to assist him. They will request to be co-chairs for the MSMESB track for DSI 2013. Kellie Keeling and David Stephan agreed to work on getting some web presence for MSMESB. Barbara Price agreed to distribute a survey about topics that would be of interest for 2013 MSMESB and John McKenzie agreed to help her with questions. Bob Andrews will get a list of email addresses for the people who signed up on the sheets that were circulated during the sessions.

Bob Andrews is organizing a series of MSMESB sessions for February 21 & 22, 2013 to be held in conjunction the meeting of the Southeast Region of DSI in Charleston, SC. MSMESB will also be at the August 3-8, 2013 Joint Statistical Meetings in Montreal, Canada.

**MSMESB session attendance for the 2012 DSI meeting**

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| **Time** | **Attendees** | **Session Title** |
| 8 am Sun. | **24** | **Improve Your Class by Getting Out of the Box** |
| 1 pm Sun. | **37** | **Analysis and Instructional Implications of Big Data** |
| 3 pm Sun. | **34** | **Data Visualization** |
| 5 pm Sun. | **19** | **Improve Your Class through Effective Interaction with Students** |
| 8 am Mon. | **26** | **Analytic and Quantitative Skill Development** |
| 1 pm Mon. | **46** | **The Analytics Curriculum: Is it Reengineering or Merely Rebranding of Existing Offerings?** |
| 3 pm Mon. | **37** | **Introducing Business Analytics Into the Introductory Business Statistics Course** |
| 5 pm Mon. | **18** | **Making Statistics More Effective in Schools of Business Caucus** |