

SPAIG History

Chronology of Key Events in History of SPAIG

The following summary provides a brief review of the formation and accomplishments of the Statistics Partnerships among Academe, Industry, and Government (SPAIG).

Joint Statistical Meetings in Boston (August 1992)

Ron Iman attended the separate meetings of both the Academic Program Representatives (APRs) and Corporate Member Representatives (CMRs) and, following a brief presentation, suggested that they try something “bold” by having a joint meeting.

Joint Statistical Meetings in San Francisco (August 1993)

The two groups heeded Ron Iman’s advice and began to hold joint meetings to define areas of mutual interest and to take action on recommendations that would further those interests. This first meeting was set up by Tom Capizzi (chair of ASA Organizational Membership Subcommittee) and facilitated by Tom and by Jeff Meeker. The first action taken was to identify industry and government internship opportunities, which are published annually in *Amstat News* by Jim Rosenberger of Penn State University. This has been extremely successful in helping industry and government communicate available internships and in identifying intern candidates.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Toronto (August 1994)

CMRs decided to focus their efforts on enhancing partnerships with academe. Ron Iman challenged both groups to form a strategic partnership, which he called the Strategic Partnership of Academe, Industry, and Government (SPAIG). Each group was charged with developing vision statements and recommendations for achieving those visions, and reporting their results at the JSM in Orlando.

Conference on Partnerships Between Academe & Industry/Government (July 1995)

Roxy Peck organized and hosted a three-day conference at Cal-Poly. This conference was sponsored by the NSF and brought representatives from academe, industry, and government together to form 22 individual partnerships between academe and industry/government.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Orlando (August 1995)

At the joint meeting of the APRs and CMRs, both groups presented draft vision statements, recommendations for achieving those visions, and related issues and concerns. Both sets of vision statements and recommendations were remarkably similar. To accelerate the progress of harmonizing the visions and recommended action items, a joint subcommittee of three APRs and three CMRs was formed to:

- a. Further evaluate and refine the vision statements and recommended action items.
- b. Identify action items that can be implemented quickly and define a strategy to accomplish them.
- c. Organize a two-day symposium in the first half of 1996 focused on these vision statements and action items. Ron Iman suggested this symposium, which was strongly supported by the audience.
- d. Hold a meeting with NSF to explore funding support for a workshop.

The members of this joint committee were:

Mr. Ron Bosecker, US Department of Agriculture
Dr. Thomas Gerig, North Carolina State University
Dr. David Marx, University of Nebraska
Dr. William Parr, University of Tennessee
Dr. Bruce Rodda, Schering-Plough Research Institute
Dr. Susan Schall, DuPont Engineering

It was also recommended that an invited session be held annually at the JSM on the SPAIG initiative.

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Meeting of Representatives of the ASA and NSF (October 1995)

Ron Iman, Tom Gerig, Bill Parr, Bruce Rodda, and Bob Starbuck met with National Science Foundation staff in Arlington, VA, on 23 October 1995 to inform the NSF about the SPAIG initiative and to solicit NSF support for the workshop proposed at the JSM in Orlando. Following the meeting, Bill Parr led the effort to prepare a proposal for NSF funding for a workshop planning meeting. This proposal was accepted by the NSF.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Chicago (August 1996)

At the joint meeting of the APRs and CMRs, the progress of SPAIG initiatives and the plans for a SPAIG workshop were presented.

SPAIG Conference Planning Meeting (August 1996)

Thirteen statisticians from academe, industry, and government met in Gatlinburg, TN, on 23-24 August 1996 to lay the groundwork for a SPAIG workshop. A report on the workshop was presented in the October 1996 issue of *Amstat News*, 235, pp. 19-20. Those attending were:

Ron Bosecker (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture)	Bill Parr (Univ. of Tennessee)
Gale Bryce (Brigham Young Univ.)	Ron Randles (Univ. of Florida)
Tom Gerig (N.C. State Univ.)	Bruce Rodda (Schering-Plough Research)
Lynne Hare (Nat. Inst. for Standards & Tech.)	Susan Schall (DuPont)
Bob Hogg (Univ. of Iowa)	Bob Starbuck (Wyeth-Ayerst Research)
Ron Iman (Southwest Tech. Consultants)	Ray Waller (ASA)
Dean Isaacson (Iowa State Univ.)	

SPAIG Workshop (May 1997)

A SPAIG Workshop was held in Raleigh, NC, on 30-31 May 1997. Eighty senior-level statisticians from academe, industry, and government attended. A request for NSF support was led and submitted by Tom Gerig, but was not supported by NSF. Except for several contributions from professional societies, the cost of the workshop was borne by the attendees.

A full report on the outcome of the workshop was presented in the August-September issue of *Amstat News*, 245, pp. 1, 4-5. Eleven initiatives were identified, and task force leaders and members were identified for each initiative. The 11 initiatives were:

1. Create contact lists to facilitate partnering and make available as appropriate.
2. Conduct Business/Industry/Government (B/I/G) salary survey.
3. Regional SPAIG workshops designed and implemented.
4. Include B/I/G statisticians on academic advisory boards and review teams.
5. "How To" manual on short-term visits between Academe, Industry, & Government statisticians.
6. Incorporate collaboration into Academe, Industry, & Government job descriptions and job goals.
7. ASA award for partnership.
8. Assess past and current long-term collaboration between Academe, Industry, & Government, and develop process for long-term collaboration.
9. Survey collaboration with other disciplines.
10. Collect and edit partnering success stories.
11. Manage SPAIG web site.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Anaheim (August 1997)

At the joint meeting of the APRs and CMRs, the progress of SPAIG initiatives was presented.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Dallas (August 1998)

At the meeting of the APRs, the progress of SPAIG initiatives was presented.

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ASA-SPAIG Salary Survey of B/I/G Statisticians (January 1999)

A salary survey questionnaire was sent to 1,264 B/I/G organizations, and the results were compiled and published in the October 1999 issue of *Amstat News*, 268, pp. 17-20. Funds left over from the SPAIG Workshop in May 1997 were used for the postage. All other efforts associated with the survey were contributed by ASA and SPAIG Committee volunteers.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore (August 1999)

At the meeting of the APRs, a summary of the ASA-SPAIG salary survey of B/I/G statisticians was presented via a talk by Bob Starbuck and a poster session by Phil Pichotta.

SPAIG Committee Endorsed by ASA (April 2000)

Bob Starbuck submitted a proposal to the ASA Board to establish a current committee focused on SPAIG initiatives. The ASA Board met on 31 March - 1 April 2000 and approved the proposal.

Joint Statistical Meetings in Indianapolis (August 2000)

The first meeting of the SPAIG Committee established in April was held.

Key SPAIG Accomplishments

1. Created speaker lists to identify:
 - Business/Industry/Government (B/I/G) speakers willing to present talks at Academic institutions
 - Academic speakers willing to present seminars or short courses to Business/Industry/Government organizations
2. Conducted B/I/G statistician salary survey in 1Q1999. Results were published in *Amstat News*, 268, pp. 17-20. Subsequent salary surveys were conducted in 2003, 2005, and 2007; results were published in *Amstat News*.
3. Created list of B/I/G statisticians willing to serve on Academic Program Advisory Boards or Review Teams.
4. Created "How To" manual on short-term visits between Academe & B/I/G statisticians.
5. Created SPAIG Award program in 2001. First award presented at 2002 JSM. Awards have been presented at each subsequent JSM.
6. Added Partnership Success Stories section to SPAIG web page.

Current Status of SPAIG Initiatives

- | <u>Initiative</u> | <u>Status</u> |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. SPAIG Award | Next Award will be presented at 2009 JSM. |
| 2. SPAIG Salary Survey | Next survey planned for 2009. |