

The Boston Area SAS[®] Users Group

Quarterly Meeting, February 1, 2001

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Meeting Announcement

WHAT: Quarterly BASUG Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, February 1, 2001, 8:30 A.M. to Noon

WHERE: Epsilon Data Management Inc.
50 Cambridge St.
Burlington, MA

RSVP: REQUIRED! by e-mail ONLY to: WFREFIOR@aol.com

NOTES: Seating is limited, so you MUST RSVP for this meeting!!!

Please be aware of the following:

This meeting will be at an Intermediate to Advanced level of SAS, as the key presentation will be based on SAS Macro coding to produce reports.

Upon you arrival, please check-in with the receptionist at the second floor, BEFORE proceeding to the third floor training room,

for the meeting.

DIRECTIONS: See below.

AGENDA:

8:30-9:00 Coffee and registration

9:00-10:00 "SAS/IntrNet Software: An Architectural Overview",

Paul Grant and Lisa Horwitz, SAS Institute

10:00-10:30 Break & BASUG business

10:30-11:45 "Live Show and Tell from Verizon Applications",
Mary Singelais

11:45-12:00 "Open Discussion on Future Needs & Trends for SAS
and the Web"

RSVP: REQUIRED! by e-mail ONLY to: WFREFIOR@aol.com

CONTACT: If you have questions about the meeting, contact:
Wendell Refior, 508-652-5639

(Note that this phone takes no messages)

ABSTRACTS AND BIOS:

9:00-10:00 "SAS/IntrNet Software: An Architectural Overview"
by Paul Grant and Lisa Horwitz, SAS Institute

This presentation provides a high-level architectural overview of SAS/Intrnet software. From a web page which allows a user to make selections and submit a request, all the way to the SAS program which generates the results to fulfill the request. This presentation will introduce the major components of SAS/IntrNet software and describe the communications between them.

10:30-11:45 "Live Show and Tell from Verizon Applications"
by Mary Singelais, Verizon(NH)

The Internet presentation will be in a live "show and tell" format that will cover many tips and techniques for building a successful web reporting application. The presentation will demonstrate many of the reports that have been developed over the past 3 years using SAS/Intrnet software. We will look at creating static and dynamic web reports, drill down procedures, data download to EXCEL options, using the SAS macro language for increased report functionality, creating web forms, and more. The presentation is geared towards all levels of SAS users.

11:45-12:00 "Open Discussion on Future Needs & Trends for SAS
and the Web" by Panel of the Speakers and
selected Steering Committee Members

The speakers will be available for further discussion, but the discussion will be opened up to what's happening in your company as far as connecting SAS to the World Wide Web or your company's Intranet. Please think about what the future trends might be for your company and ask yourself: What

if your company wanted to use SAS for Web reports? or What impact and potential would this have on our work and the skills required to meet these demands?

Paul Grant is a Systems Engineer at SAS Institute's Boston Regional Office. He has been active in SAS user groups as a presenter and an organizer for many years. He chaired the SUGI 21 (Chicago, 1996) and co-chaired the NESUG '94 (Philadelphia, 1994) SAS user group conferences. He has been using SAS software in a variety of industries since 1981.

Lisa Horwitz has been with SAS Institute for 16 years and is also a Systems Engineer at SAS Institute's Boston Regional Office. She is a frequent presenter at Users Groups, including NESUG and SUGI.

Mary Singelais is a Systems Engineer with the Infrastructure Systems Development and Support Services group at Verizon Communications Inc. She has 23 years experience in the

telecommunications industry supporting data center operations and developing application software. She is currently responsible for the ongoing development of a dynamic Intranet metrics application, using SAS/Intrnet software, web publishing tools for SAS output, and other SAS software products. Ms. Singelais holds a BA degree in Communication Studies and a certificate in Programmer Training. She was a guest speaker at prior NESUG conferences and is an active member of the Boston Area SAS Users Group.

DIRECTIONS:

*** Please Check in with the receptionist at the second floor before proceeding to the third floor training room.

By Car:

>From 93:

Take exit 37B to Route 128/95 South.
Follow Route 128 for 4 miles.
Take exit 33A (Route 3 South Winchester).
This brings you onto Cambridge Street.
Proceed in left lane and take a left at the second light.
Epsilon is the first building on the left.

>From 128 North:

Take exit 33A (Route 3 South Winchester).
This brings you onto Cambridge Street.
Proceed in left lane and take a left at the second light.
Epsilon is the first building on the left.

>From 128 South:

Take exit 33A (Route 3 South Winchester).
Stay in the left lane at exit.
Turn right at the light then stay at the most left lane;
then take a left turn at the light.
Epsilon is the first building on the left.

Parking:

There are ample parking spaces surrounding the Epsilon building.

Public Transportation:

Take Bus #350 from Alewife Station and get off on Cambridge Street
before the intersection of Cambridge Street and Wayside Road .
Walk up on Cambridge to Epsilon (50 Cambridge Street).

Remember: Please Check in with the receptionist at the second floor before proceeding to the third floor training room.

BASUG Contacts

Mail: BASUG

PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

To email our Webmaster: webmaster@basug.org

How to subscribe/unsubscribe from this Message List:

To receive automatic e-mail notification of upcoming meetings, courses, and conferences of interest to local SAS users, subscribe to our electronic meeting mailing-list. Send an e-mail message to subscribe@basug.org and in the body of the message, simply type subscribe basug.

To unsubscribe send an e-mail message to webmaster@basug.org and in the body of the message, type unsubscribe basug.

The Boston Area SAS[®] Users Group

Advanced Macro Class

WHAT: "SAS Advanced Macro and Variable Workshop" by Chris Yindra

WHEN: Wednesday, March 14, 2001, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

WHERE: Ramada Inn Woburn 15 Middlesex Canal Park Road,
Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 935-8760

HOW: Register by March 9, 2001.
(Print the [registration form](#), fill out, mail.)

CONTACT: Tim Muir E-mail: timothy.muir@compaq.com

DETAILS:

Registration and admission:

BASUG is offering to its members an Advanced SAS Macro class, one of the most popular features in SAS, for \$70. The instructor's course notes are included in the price. Seating will be limited! Complete and mail the registration form below as soon as you can. Payment must be enclosed to reserve a seat. If you or your company have not yet paid dues to BASUG for 2001, you may do so on the same form.

Course Content:

- Macro Review:
- Referencing Environment:
 - Symbol Tables
 - Global Variables
 - Local Variables
 - Altering the Environment
 - Nesting Referencing Environments
 - Writing a Driver Macro
- Macro Programming Statements:
 - Programming Statements
 - Comments
 - Conditional Execution
 - DO Loops
 - MLOGIC Option
- Macro Functions:
 - Function Categories
 - Using Macro Functions
- Utility Macros
 - The WHERE Statement Macro
 - The Data Set EXISTS Macro

- The FLATFILE Macro
- Accessing and Submitting Macros:
 - Autocall Facility
 - Stored Macros
- Macro Windows (optional):
 - Defining Macro Windows
 - Defining Fields
 - Defining Groups
 - Creating Macro Windows

Prerequisites:

This course is an advanced SAS macro class; knowledge of the SAS Fundamentals and basic Macro concepts is required.

Note:

Continental breakfast will be available at 8:15.

Directions:

- From the North:
Take route 95/128 SOUTH to Exit 35, Route 38 - Woburn.
Follow rotary to Route 38 SOUTH. Ramada Hotel entrance will be approximately 25 yards on the right.
 - From the South:
Take Route 95/128 NORTH to Exit 35, Route 38 - Woburn. Take first right off rotary onto Route 38 SOUTH. Ramada entrance will be approximately 25 yards on the right.
 - From the West
Take the Massachusetts Turnpike to Exit 14 - Route 95/128.
Follow directions for 'FROM THE SOUTH' above.
 - From Boston
Take Route 93 North to Route 95/128 SOUTH. Follow directions for 'FROM THE NORTH' above.
 - From New Hamshire
Take Route 93 SOUTH to Route 95/128 SOUTH. Follow directions for 'FROM THE NORTH' above.
 - From Route 3
Take Route 3 SOUTH to Route 95/128 NORTH. Follow directions for 'FROM THE SOUTH' above.
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The Boston Area SAS[®] Users Group

Quarterly Meeting April 5, 2001

WHAT: Quarterly BASUG Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, April 5, 2001, 1.30 P.M. to 4.30 P.M

WHERE: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.
Landmark Center
401 park Drive
Boston, MA 02215

RSVP:REQUIRED! by e-mail ONLY to: gajanan.bhat@parexel.com

NOTES:You MUST RSVP for this meeting to accommodate everyone!!!

Please be aware of the following:

This meeting will be at a Beginner to Advanced level of SAS.

Upon you arrival, please check-in with the receptionist at the 4th floor East, BEFORE proceeding to the fourth floor training room, for the meeting.

DIRECTIONS: See below.

AGENDA:

1:30-2.30 - Coder's Corner Presentations (SAS Programming Tips and Techniques)

2:30-3:30 - Key Presentation, "Writing the "Best" Program: The How and When of Efficient Programming" by Frank DiIorio

3:30-4.30 - Coder's Corner Presentations (SAS Programming Tips and Techniques)

RSVP:REQUIRED! by e-mail ONLY to: gajanan.bhat@parexel.com

CONTACT:If you have questions about the meeting or detail directions, contact: Thiru Satchi 617-246-3432 or Gajanan Bhat 781-434-4617

ABSTRACTS AND BIOS:

1:30-2:30 Coders' Corner Topics

Topic 1:

"What is Coders' Corner" by Paul grant, SAS Institute

Coders' Corner is a great way to share coding techniques within the SAS programming community. This presentation will explain what Coders' Corner is and how - with a number of

examples - you can develop and present your own coding tip at a Coders' Corner session.

Topic 2:

"Paying Health Care Claims With User-Defined FORMATS" by Robert Rosofsky , Massachusetts Department of Public Health

In a SAS application that edited and paid health care claims, user-defined FORMATS were used as lookup tables to determine the allowable amounts to be paid. Multiple variables, including provider identifier, the medical procedure code, and ranges of dates of service were all placed in a single FORMAT, to determine which rate to use. This FORMAT also made use of an interesting calendar change to solve the 16-character limit on the size of START and END components of FORMATS.

Topic 3:

"Customizing Statistical Output with ODS" by William Simpson, Harvard University

Description: Examples are given for using ODS to reduce the amount and to modify the format of the output from statistical procedures. These can be used even if you are using the standard listing output.

Topic 4:

"Output your SAS data set in Excel/Access -ready format using put statement" by Ali Sabouri, Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA

Outputting data in the 'right' format often is a time consuming task, to say the least. Two methods "PUT Statement" and "PROC PRINTO" to write out SAS data in a format that is readily imported into Microsoft Excel or Access will be discussed.

- No need to define column locations
 - No need to worry about formats of the variables (type, length)
 - Works on any platform (UNIX, IBM)
-

Topic 5:

"Renaming big set of variables in data set" By Arkadiy Pitman, Boston University

The main idea is to create a new set of variables instead of renaming the old set, if you have a really convenient set of names. Otherwise, you can create a macro, which would create a new list of variables from the old one by our rules and a rename statement for data step.

2:30-3:20 PM "Writing the "Best" Program: The How and When of Efficient Programming" by Frank DiIorio

It's relatively easy to write programs that optimize the use of CPU and other machine resources. There is a large and continually growing body of literature on the subject. What

isn't as straight forward is knowing ****when**** to employ the techniques - blind implementation of tuning techniques is often not required by the task at hand and can sometimes even be counterproductive.

This paper addresses both the "how to" and "when to" aspects of writing efficient programs. It describes design and coding techniques that conserve hardware resource usage. It also identifies other, non-machine implications of their usage that could dissuade the programmer from their use. For example, using temporary array elements is more efficient than using named elements but has the documented-but-obscure behavior of retaining values across observations. Maintenance of such code by other than "seasoned" and up to date programmers can be unexpectedly problematic.

The concept of efficiency used in the paper includes all aspects of the program life cycle. We apply the "how and when" question to system design issues, system startup, DATA steps, procedures, and macros. Emphasis is on Base SAS software. The reader should finish the paper comfortable with the idea that the "best" program is not always the one that minimizes hardware resources.

Frank DiIorio is author of "SAS Applications Programming: A Gentle Introduction" and (with Ken Hardy) "Quick Start to Data Analysis with SAS," Both titles are part of SAS Institute's Books by Users series and have sold nearly 30,000 copies. Frank has been active in the SouthEast SAS Users Group (SESUG) since its inception, co-chairing the 1994 and 1996 conferences. He has, much to his astonishment after doing the math, nearly a quarter century experience with SAS software. His new book, "The Elements of SAS Programming Style," (working title) will be published in 2001.

3:30-4:30 Coders Corner Topics

Topic 7:

"Simplifying Complex Character Comparisons by Using the IN Operator and the Colon (:) Operator Modifier" by Paul Grant, SAS Institute Inc.

Complex character comparisons - comparisons of character values in a data set against a number of character constants that vary in length - are easier specified than coded. For example, how would you select the records of customers whose last names begin with 'Mc' or 'Mac'? How would you select the records of customers who live in ZIP codes beginning with '010' through '0131'? This paper will show you how to use the IN operator and the colon (:) operator modifier to code these comparisons simply and clearly.

Topic 8:

"Using the Magical Keyword 'INTO: ' in PROC SQL by Thiru Satchi, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

SQL INTO: is a powerful tool that simplifies programming code while minimizing the risk of typographical errors. SQL INTO: creates one or more macro variables, based on the results of a SELECT statement. This macro variable(s) reflects a list of values that can then be used to manipulate data in both DATA

and PROC steps. The usefulness of SQL INTO: will be demonstrated by analyzing a large medical claims database.

Topic 8:

"Dictionary Tables / Customizing Windows Shortcut to SAS" by Kimball Lewis, Harvard University

A brief introduction to the SAS dictionary tables. What are they, how are they accessed, and what are some ways they are used? (Hint: they provide quick access to all sorts of SAS metadata.)

Learn a simple way to create a windows shortcut will open the SAS session in the current folder and will make file open commands open a dialog box for the current folder. This requires creating a shortcut and modifying the "target" and "start in" fields of the shortcut's properties dialog box.

Topic 9:

"Describing Data Libraries In HTML" by Tim Muir, Compaq Computer Corporation

A method of extracting data library information, creating tables of contents, and linking them to data set content descriptions in an HTML frame will be shown.

DIRECTIONS:

Please Check in with the receptionist at the fourth floor before proceeding to the fourth floor training room.

By Car:

> From North of Boston:

Take Route 93 South to the Central Artery. Then take Exit 26B, Storrow Drive West. Follow "Storrow Drive " direction below.

(Storrow Drive West via Boylston street)

Follow storrow Drive West for approximately 2.0 miles. Take the exit for Kenmore Square/Fenway. (This exit is a left turn.) Keep to the left for Fenway. Once on the overpass bridge, keep to the right. Bear right going onto Boylston street (outbound). Follow Boylston St. for .8 mile (5th set of traffic lights) the intersection of Boylston St., Park Drive, and Brookline Ave. Landmark center is on your right. Take a right onto Brookline Ave. Then take the first left onto Fullerton St. The Landmark Center parking garage is located on the left.

> From South of Boston:

Take 93 North to exit 16 Southhamton St./Andrew Square. At exit 16, keep to the left. At the traffic light at the top of the ramp take a left onto Southhampton St. Go .6 mile and turn on to melena cass Blvd. Follow "Melina Cass Blvd." directions below.

(From Melnea Cass Blvd.)

Travel along Melnea Cass Blvd. (1.5 miles) to Tremont St. Take a left on Tremont Street. At the 2nd traffic light, Ruggles St., take a right. Stay on Ruggles St. Go across Huntington Ave. (landmarks are Wentworth Institute and Northeastern University) to Louis Prang St. At the next set of traffic lights (two sets close together), bear left onto the Fenway, and keep to the right. At the split bear right and then bear left onto Park Drive. Once on Park Drive keep to the right. At the next set of the lights you will see the Landmark Center. At this traffic light bear to the right and take the second right onto Brookline Ave. (a hard right is Boylston St.) Take first left onto Fullerton St. Landmark Center parking garage is on the left.

Parking:

There are ample parking spaces in the Landmark Center and surrounding for \$6.00 to \$8.50 a day.

Public Transportation:

> From Orange Line

Take the orange Line to Ruggie Station. Transfer to Bus Route 8 (destination : Kenmore), 47 (Destination: Central Sq. , Cambridge), or CT2 (Destination : Kendall/MIT). Take Bus Route 8, 47, or CT2 to Landmark Center.

> From Green Line:

Transfer to Green Line west bound. Take the D car (Cleveland Circle) to Fenway station

Remember: Please Check in with the receptionist at the fourth floor
East before proceeding to the forth floor training room.

BASUG Contacts:

Mail: BASUG
PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

To email our Webmaster: webmaster@basug.org

Subscribe to our email list:

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To unsubscribe from the BASUG message list, send a message to:
[Mailto:basugwm@basug.org](mailto:basugwm@basug.org) Subject: unsubscribe

The Boston Area SAS[®] Users Group

Quarterly Meeting June 21, 2001

WHAT: Quarterly BASUG Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, June 21, 2001, 1.30 P.M. to 4.30 P.M

WHERE: PAREXEL International Corporation . (Directions are included below)

PAREXEL International Corporation
Crosspoint Building, 900 Chelmsford Street
Lowell, MA 01851

Upon your arrival in Crosspoint building (tower 3),
take the elevator and go to Floor 1,
look for sign conference center.

RSVP:REQUIRED! by e-mail **ONLY** to: [Dave Russo](mailto:Dave.Russo@consultsas.com) at
ConsultSAS@aol.com

NOTES: So that we may accommodate as many attendees as possible without exceeding the capacity of the meeting room, you **MUST** RSVP for this meeting. Please include your full name and the company for which you work in the RSVP e-mail.

Please Note the following :

This meeting will be mainly on Clinical programming, data analysis and drug approval process. The target audience is SAS users (programmers, statisticians, etc.) from pharmaceutical, biotech, CRO, healthcare, and related companies.

AGENDA:

1:30-2.30 - 'SAS Output for Clinical Trial Reports',
Shylendra Kumar, Datafarm, Inc., Marlboro, MA

2:30-3:30 - 'Experiences in FDA Submission of New Drug Application',
Melissa Nichols and Elizabeth Singer, Genzyme Corp., Cambridge, MA

3:30-4.30 - 'Statistical considerations in FDA Submissions',
Peter Lam, PAREXEL International, Waltham, MA

CONTACT: If you have questions about the following, contact for RSVP, David Russo 781-648-1429
for Meeting details, and others, Gajanan Bhat 781-434-4617

ABSTRACTS AND BIOS:

1:30-2:30: 'SAS Output for Clinical Trial Reports', Shylendra Kumar, Datafarm, Inc., Marlboro, MA

In January 1999 the FDA issued two guidance documents: Guidance for Industry- Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format- General Considerations and NDAs. These guidance documents are part of the series of guidance documents intended to assist applicants making regulatory submissions in electronic format to CDER and the CBER. Since major portions of the clinical sections of regulatory submissions include SAS generated output as clinical trial report in-text and end-text tables, figures and listings, compliance with the guidance and recommendations is critical. SAS V8 and especially the ODS technology provide us with the programming capabilities we need. In this presentation we will discuss output generation using SAS Software from the perspective of today (V6.12 or earlier) and tomorrow (V8). We will also discuss about SAS based applications and other essential tools which will help us create submission ready PDF documents.

Shy Kumar is President of Datafarm, Inc. Datafarm provides integrated computing solutions with hands-on experience for biotech, pharmaceutical and other healthcare related companies on clinical data analysis and regulatory submissions. The company has consistently grown over the last few years and have several clients across the nation. With their services and specialized custom software applications that facilitate the preparation of electronic regulatory submissions, Datafarm worked with several clients in approval of many new drugs over the past few years.

2:30 - 3:30: 'Statistical Considerations in FDA Submissions', Peter Lam, PAREXEL International, Waltham, MA

In this presentation, the basic elements of intent-to-treat principle in clinical trial reporting and randomization strategy to treatments will be illustrated; The experience of working with a large team of statisticians and programmers on an NDA submission will be shared. The most important aspect of completing the statistical programming is the way to handle the complicated programming in the core analysis datasets such that the tables/listings/figures programming can be a 'simple' task. This facilitates the review process of consistent outputs and shorten the reviewing time.

Peter Lam received his B.S. degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from Gonzaga University, an M.S. degree in Mathematical Statistics from Purdue University and a Ph.D. in Management Science/Operation Research from Purdue University. In 1992, he joined PAREXEL International Corporation as a biostatistician and he currently holds the position of Principal Biostatistician in the Waltham headquarters, Massachusetts. He has been responsible to provide a broad statistical support, including clinical trial design, protocol and case report form development, Data Safety Monitoring Board support, data analyses and reporting for clinical trials.

2:30 - 3:30: 'Experiences in FDA Submission of New Drug Application', Melissa Nichols and Elizabeth Singer, Genzyme Corp., Cambridge, MA

Communication between Statistician and SAS programmer is essential to completing accurate data tables. A key element to effective communication is the Programming Specification Document ("Spec"). This document lays out the specifics of each table's numbering scheme (based on ICH Guidelines), title, layout, content, and the associated SAS program that generates the table. Once devised, this document serves, at first, as a roadmap for table production, and then as a resource for answering the inevitable questions that come from FDA post-submission.

Melissa Nichols is a Senior Biostatistician at Genzyme Corporation, where she has worked for 2 years. Prior to Genzyme, Melissa worked at Howmedica (now Stryker Howmedica Osteonics) as a biostatistician. She has a Master of Sciences Degree in Biostatistics from the University of Albany.

Elizabeth Singer is a Principal SAS Programmer at Genzyme Corporation, where she has worked for 3 years. She has 8 years of programming experience in the biotech and pharmaceutical industries. Elizabeth received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the Johns Hopkins University.

DIRECTIONS:

There is plenty of parking around the building and near Showcase Cinema right next to the Crosspoint building. Parking is free. Please note that there is no train connection to this site.

By Car:

>From Route 128 North

- take exit 32A (route 3 north) from 128
- take exit 31A (110 east) from route 3
- (this exit comes quickly, right after the I495 on ramps)
- take a right at the end of the ramp
- make a right into the driveway after the Mobil Gas Station

You will be entering the parking lot at tower 3.

>From 495 South

- take the Lowell Connector
- take exit 3 (Industrial Avenue)
- bear to the right off the ramp
- at the rotary go half way around the rotary
- CrossPoint will be on your left

>From 495 North

- Take exit 34 (Rt. 110 Lowell)
- Bear Right off ramp toward Lowell
- CrossPoint will be 1 mile on right

>From Boston Logan Airport
· Follow the signs to the Sumner Tunnel
· Go South to the Mass Pike West
· Follow from 128 North Directions above

BASUG Contacts:

Mail: BASUG
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To email our Webmaster: webmaster@basug.org

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The Boston Area SAS[®] Users Group

Quarterly Meeting September 26, 2001

WHAT: Quarterly BASUG Meeting

TOPIC: Statistics and Data Mining

WHEN: Wednesday, September 26, 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

WHERE: Holiday Inn - Newton (Directions are included below)
399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462

617-969-5300

RSVP:REQUIRED! by e-mail **ONLY** to: klewis@hbs.edu

NOTES: So that we may accommodate as many attendees as possible without exceeding the capacity of the meeting room, you **MUST** RSVP for this meeting. Please include your full name and the company for which you work in the RSVP e-mail.

Please Note the following :

This meeting will be at a Beginner to Advanced level of SAS.

AGENDA:

1:00-1:15 - Meeting Announcements and Introductions

1:15-2:45 - 'Enterprise Miner' by Michael Mancini, Destiny Corporation

2:45-3:00 - Break and Refreshments

3:00-3:45 - 'How to Present Logistic Results to a Wide Audience' by Dominique Haughton, Bentley College

3:45-4:30 - "Alternative Regression Models in Data Mining" by Eleanor Tipa, Ph.D., Epsilon Corporation

RSVP:REQUIRED! by e-mail **ONLY** to: klewis@hbs.edu

CONTACT: If you have questions about the meeting contact:
Kimball Lewis (klewis@hbs.edu) - (617) 495-6974
William Simpson (wsimpson@hbs.edu) - (617) 495-6671

ABSTRACTS AND BIOS:

1:15-2:45 "Introduction to Enterprise Miner" by Michael Mancini

This presentation will discuss the basic features of Enterprise Miner (EM), demonstrate how to navigate the EM interface, and develop a specific data mining example. The example will demonstrate how to read a SAS data set and perform initial analysis and processing of the data. Several statistical analyses will then be performed within EM, including the creation of a traditional statistical analysis involving logistic regression and an alternative statistical analysis using a neural network model. Some options and features available with these statistical techniques will be demonstrated. Finally, we will demonstrate how, based on the analyses performed, to have EM generate traditional SAS code that can be used in SAS outside of EM. Michael Mancini is an instructor and consultant with Destiny Corporation. Destiny Corporation is a SAS Training and Consulting firm (www.destinycorp.com).

3:00-3:45 PM "How to Present Logistic Results to a Wide Audience" by Dominique Haughton

Logistic regression output can be confusing to many people, and yet the technique is quite crucial in many applications where one needs to model who will respond to an offer, who will respond to a medical treatment, who is poor and who is not, etc. In this talk, we explain how to interpret logistic regression coefficients, and then derive from this interpretation a couple of ways of presenting the results, which involve simple manipulations of numbers available on the SAS logistic regression output. We give examples of such interpretations in the area of direct marketing and more generally in the social sciences.

3:45-4:30 PM "Alternative Regression Models in Data Mining" by Eleanor Tipa, Ph.D.

The multivariate linear regression model is the most commonly used methodology when the prediction of a continuous variable, such as customer spending, is of interest. However, there are times when a certain percentage of the population will have zero spending, so that the distribution of the dependent variable is semi-continuous. Three approaches in modeling such a dependent variable will be presented: the two-part model, the Heckman two-stage model, and the Tobit model. The modeling results will be compared.

Eleanor Tipa is a statistical manager at the Epsilon Corporation, a marketing firm specializing in the strategic development and deployment of online and offline marketing solutions. She holds a Ph.D. in statistics from Penn State University.

DIRECTIONS:

There is plenty of parking around the building and near Showcase Cinema right next to the Crosspoint building. Parking

is free. Please note that there is no train connection to this site.

By Car:

FROM BOSTON: Take I-90 West to Exit 15, then take Route 128 South (I-95) 1/4 mile to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM SOUTH OF BOSTON: Take Route 128 North (I-95) to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM WESTERN MASS: Take I-90 East to Exit 14, then take Route 128 South (I-95) 1/4 mile to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE: Take I-93 South to Route 128 South (I-95), follow for approximately 15 miles to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM RHODE ISLAND: Take I-95 North to Route 128 North (I-95). Follow to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

Public Transportation:

The hotel is adjacent to the Riverside T Station.

From Kenmore Square take the Green Line - D (Riverside) to the Riverside stop. Hotel is adjacent to the T Station.

The hotel is also accessible from downtown Boston via Express Bus #500 (EXPRESS BUS Riverside - Downtown Via Mass. Turnpike.). See www.mbta.com/schedmaps/bus/index.cfm for detailed bus route and schedule. Bus drops off at Riverside T Station. Hotel is adjacent to the T Station.

BASUG Contacts:

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Boston, MA 02117

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The Boston Area SAS[®] Users Group

Quarterly Meeting December 5, 2001

WHAT: Quarterly BASUG Meeting

WHEN: Wednesday, December 5, 8:30AM to 12:30

WHERE: Holiday Inn - Newton (Directions are included below)
399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462
617-969-5300

INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED. NO EMAIL!

To Register visit: <http://www.basug.org/registerx.shtml>

CONTACT: If you have questions about the meeting contact:
Tim Muir (timothy.muir@compaq.com) - (978) 264-5137

Please Note the following :

This meeting will be at a Beginner to Advanced level of SAS.

AGENDA:

8:30 - 8:45 - Sign in and Coffee Break

8:45 - 9:00 - Meeting Announcements and Introductions

9:00 - 9:45 - 'Accessing Data in Microsoft Excel using SAS' by Paul Grant

9:45 - 10:15 - 'Quick Retrieval From Large Files Using The Direct-access Method ' by Wendell Refior

10:15 - 10:30 - Break and Refreshments

10:30 - 10:45 - BASUG Business

10:45 - 11:30 - 'The Fuzzy Feeling SAS Provides: Electronic Matching of Records without Common Keys' by Charles Patridge

11:30 - 11:40 - Stretch Break

11:40 - 12:05 - 'Two Reasons to Use PROC REPORT Instead of PROC PRINT: PANELS= and FLOW Options' by Kimball Lewis

12:05 - 12:30 "Powerful Techniques For Data Processing Using Formats" by Tim Muir

ABSTRACTS AND BIOS:

'Using and Accessing Microsoft Excel Files' by Paul Grant

SAS programmers often have to read data from and write data to Microsoft Excel. This presentation will review the various ways of doing this. We'll look at the code and SAS modules needed to implement each method and also the pro's and con's of using each. This will be a beginning level presentation and assumes the listener has no experience accessing Excel data.

Paul Grant is a Systems Engineer at SAS Institute's Boston regional office. He has been active at SUGI, NESUG and BASUG as a chair and as a presenter. Paul has been using SAS software in a variety of industries since 1981.

'Quick Retrieval From Large Files Using The Direct-access Method' by Wendell Refior

How can you get faster access to a subset of records from a 12 Million record file? To avoid, always reading the whole file, Wendell will demonstrate a creative solution taking advantage of the DIRECT ACCESS method, also called RANDOM ACCESS, using the POINT= option on the SET statement. The overhead involved in this approach implies that it is applicable only to cases where repeated access to the same file is routinely required. The method actually involves using two SET statements within the same DATA step. Wendell will explain the formation of two separate files, one of which is like the card index for books in a library that points to a specific book. The year 2000 Medicare hospital inpatient file, included up 9 different five-digit ICD-9 Diagnosis Codes for a total of 72 Million diagnosis X unique hospital discharge combinations. To pull a relatively small file of about 400,000 from the 12 Million, retrieval time was reduced from about 2 HOURS to less than 20 MINUTES.

Wendell F. Refior is employed by Boston Scientific as a Senior Statistical Programmer, Data Analytics Dept., Healthcare Strategies Division at their Natick world headquarters. His responsibilities include estimating national projections of the Medicare-aged patient population with certain disease diagnoses or having specific surgical procedures. This requires processing and analyzing large files of Medicare data annually released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS, formerly called HCFA) and summarizing data for display as data cubes on the company's internal website. Wendell has been programming in SAS for over 20 years. He has been a speaker at NESUG and BASUG. He is an active member of the BASUG Steering Committee and has served as President and Secretary. Wendell has over 8 years experience in analysis of hospital discharges, and medical or disability insurance claims. In addition to teaching and consulting in SAS programming, his experience includes two years doing pharmaceutical clinical trials analysis in the Boston area, and four years of survey sampling design and programming at the Research Triangle Institute in RTP, N.C. Wendell holds a Master of Science degree in Statistics from University of Connecticut, Storrs.

'The Fuzzy Feeling SAS Provides: Electronic Matching of Records without Common Keys' by Charles Patridge
(Charles_S_Patridge@prodigy.net)

This article briefly describes a sample application where the normal SAS merge or SQL join would fail to provide the kind of

results needed or hoped for. By using a set of SAS functions, custom programs and macros, and simple scoring techniques and common sense, the author developed a working model that matches two unlinked files that contain no common keys. The fuzzy matching process developed entailed over 1500 man hours of development, testing and revisions after being applied to several different project/ assignments.

Charles has been using SAS since 1979 in various positions, companies and consulting assignments. In 1983 Charles founded HASUG (Hartford, CT Area SAS User Group) and is currently a member of its steering committee. He is founder and director of SAS CONSIG (Consultant Special Interest Group), and creator and Webmaster for the SAS CONSIG website. He has presented numerous papers and accepted speaking engagements to HASUG, BASUG, NYSUG, NESUG, DCSUG and SUGI as well as given presentations at the Institute for Graphic Communications. Charles holds a B.S. degree in Mathematics from Central Connecticut State University, has accumulated 45 hrs of graduate studies in Statistics, and has completed parts I & II of the Society of Actuaries, HIAA and LOMA exams.

'Two Reasons to Use PROC REPORT Instead of PROC PRINT: PANELS= and FLOW Options' by Kimball Lewis

PROC REPORT is a very powerful and flexible too, but unless you are a report writer or need to make custom reports on a regular basis, tackling the PROC REPORT manual and using it enough to get comfortable with its syntax may not be worth the effort for many SAS programmers. However, there are two features of PROC REPORT, PANELS= and FLOW, that the average user ought to know about because they provide a terrific alternative to PROC PRINT when viewing very long or very wide data.

Kimball Lewis is a research analyst at Harvard Business School and in independent consultant. Prior to that, he worked for several years for Mathematica Policy Research. Mr. Lewis has been using SAS for data management, analysis, and report writing for 7 years.

'Powerful Techniques For Data Processing Using Formats' by Tim Muir

Switching industries from clinical trials where small data sets (<1K observations) are typically used to database marketing, in which observations run into the millions is quite an experience. The amount of time it takes to handle these large datasets can seem like forever; reading in millions of observations from each data set, sorting, then merging could take forever at times. This paper will show where performance gains can be obtained using formats in place of sorting/merging for sub setting purposes and creating new variables, and how easily these formats can be created.

Tim Muir has been a SAS user for 9 years, supporting statistical analyses and research, primarily in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Tim is now employed at Compaq Computer Corporation in the CRM Database and Business Analysis Department, where he works to analyze customer behavior and trends for computer technology purchase and development. Tim is also a member of the BASUG steering committee and WWW.BASUG.ORG webmaster.

DIRECTIONS

DRIVING:

FROM BOSTON: Take I-90 West to Exit 15, then take Route 128 South (I-95) 1/4 mile to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM SOUTH OF BOSTON: Take Route 128 North (I-95) to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM WESTERN MASS: Take I-90 East to Exit 14, then take Route 128 South (I-95) 1/4 mile to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE: Take I-93 South to Route 128 South (I-95), follow for approximately 15 miles to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

FROM RHODE ISLAND: Take I-95 North to Route 128 North (I-95). Follow to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. Hotel is on your left.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

The hotel is adjacent to the Riverside T Station.

From Kenmore Square take the Green Line - D (Riverside) to the Riverside stop. Hotel is adjacent to the T Station.

The hotel is also accessible from downtown Boston via Express Bus #500 (EXPRESS BUS Riverside - Downtown Via Mass. Turnpike.). See <http://www.mbtta.com/schedmaps/bus/index.cfm> for detailed bus route and schedule. Bus drops off at Riverside T Station. Hotel is adjacent to the T Station.

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