

## Boston Area SAS® Users Group (BASUG) Quarterly Meeting Announcement

**Thursday December 5, 2019  
8:15 AM – 12:30 PM**

BASUG's fourth quarterly meeting of the year will be of special interest to students and early career SAS professionals, while still providing a wealth of information for more seasoned veterans. Ron Cody, internationally known SAS expert and author, will present the SAS University Edition (free SAS!) and SAS functions. Paul Grant will provide an overview of online SAS resources. Asli Memisoglu will lead a panel discussion of advice for students and tips for starting your SAS career.

Please join us for these informative talks, and consider staying for the afternoon training class on data cleaning (separate event), led by Ron Cody. *For information on the training, please visit the [Training Announcement](#).*

*After the meeting, we will provide an informal light buffet lunch for all attendees. We hope you can stay for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.*

### Agenda\*

8:15 AM	<b>Sign in and Continental Breakfast</b>
8:45 AM	Announcements
9:00 AM	Free Online SAS® Resources <i>by Paul Grant</i>
9:15 AM	A Tour of the SAS University Edition (AKA "Free SAS") <i>by Ron Cody</i>
10:05 AM	BREAK
10:20 AM	A Survey of Some of the Most Useful SAS Functions <i>by Ron Cody</i>
11:10 AM	BREAK
11:25 AM	Panel Discussion: Advice for Students and Early Career SAS Professionals <i>Led by Asli Memisoglu</i>
12:30 PM	Networking Lunch
1:30 PM	Afternoon Training (separate event) see <a href="#">Training Announcement</a> <i>by Ron Cody</i>

*\*Note: Times (and sequence) are approximate and subject to change. Please re-visit the BASUG website ([www.basug.org](http://www.basug.org)) for updated information.*

# Abstracts and Speaker Biographies

## Free Online SAS® Resources

by Paul Grant

This talk will highlight a number of free, self-study, SAS resources available on the web. Some of these you may know about; many, you may not. The resources range from basic tutorials to materials on the latest SAS technologies.

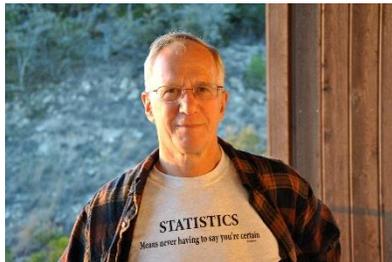


**Paul Grant** is a retired Senior Technical Architect at SAS Institute. The organizations he supported during his 17 years with SAS include the U.S Treasury Department, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the FBI. He chaired SUGI 21 in Chicago in 1996 and co-chaired NESUG '94 in Philadelphia. He has been active in the Boston Area SAS Users Group since 1983. He has been developing systems with SAS since 1981.

## A Tour of the SAS University Edition (AKA "Free SAS")

by Ron Cody

Did you know that you can use SAS at home for personal educational use for FREE? This talk presents the SAS University Edition and the SAS Studio interface, both of which are available at no cost. In this session, we'll briefly go through the steps needed to set up the SAS University Edition on your home computer. We'll explore both the SAS Studio point-and-click tasks and the programming environment. By the end of this session, you'll want to download, install and use the SAS University Edition to create your personal, free SAS learning environment.



**Dr. Ron Cody** was a Professor of Biostatistics at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey for 26 years. During his tenure at the medical school, he taught biostatistics to medical students as well as students in the Rutgers School of Public Health. While on the faculty he authored or co-authored over a hundred papers in scientific journals.

His first book, Applied Statistics and the SAS Programming Language, was first published by Prentice hall in 1985 and is now in its fifth edition. Since then he has published over a dozen books on SAS programming and statistical analysis using SAS. His latest book, A Gentle Introduction to Statistics Using SAS Studio was published this year. Ron has presented numerous papers at SAS Global forums, regional conferences, as well as local user groups. He is presently a contract instructor for SAS Institute and continues to write books on SAS and statistical topics.

<https://support.sas.com/en/books/authors/ron-cody.html>

## A Survey of Some of the Most Useful SAS Functions

by Ron Cody

SAS Functions provide amazing power to your DATA step programming. Some of these functions are essential—some of them save you writing volumes of unnecessary code. This talk covers some of the most useful SAS functions. Some of these functions may be new to you and they will change the way you program and approach common programming tasks.

The majority of the functions described in this presentation work with character data. There are functions that search for strings, others that can find and replace strings or join strings together. Still others that can measure the spelling distance between two strings (useful for "fuzzy" matching). Some of the newest and most amazing functions are not functions at all, but call routines. Did you know that you can sort values **within** an observation? Did you know that not only can you identify the largest or smallest value in a list of variables, but you can identify the second or third or  $n^{\text{th}}$  largest or smallest value? I hope this abstract piques your interest.

### **Panel Discussion: Advice for Students and Early Career SAS Professionals**

*Led by Asli Memisoglu*

Asli Memisoglu will lead a panel discussion on career advice for students and early career SAS professionals. The panel will feature experienced hiring managers from a variety of industries, as well as a young professional who has successfully navigated the post-graduation hiring process. They will share tips on what skills students should be focusing on to make yourself an attractive hiring candidate, finding your first SAS job, and succeeding in your job once you've started. We look forward to an informative discussion, with plenty of opportunity for meeting attendees to ask questions and contribute their own advice.



**Asli Memisoglu, ScD** has directed and implemented statistical analysis and SAS programming in clinical trials and related healthcare research studies for over 20 years. Therapeutic areas of focus include cardiovascular disease, schizophrenia, diabetes, obesity, breast cancer, alcohol and opioid dependence, constipation and depression. She is currently Senior Director, Biostatistics, at Alkermes, Inc, and has played key roles in development of regulatory strategy and successful submission of new drug applications. At Alkermes, Dr. Memisoglu provides project leadership in biostatistics for several clinical programs and regularly participates in interactions with the FDA.

Prior to joining Alkermes, Dr. Memisoglu held positions of increasing responsibility at several organizations including WorldCare Clinical, LLC, Acusphere, Inc. and Abt Associates, Inc.

Dr. Memisoglu has served on the Board of Directors for the Boston Chapter of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association and was Co-Director of IT Women in Science Affinity Group. She is also a past member of the steering committee for the Boston Area SAS Users Group. Dr. Memisoglu holds a doctorate in molecular science and cellular toxicology and a master's degree in epidemiology both from Harvard University, and a bachelor's degree in biology from Tufts University.

## Event Details

<b>When</b>	<b>Thursday, December 5, 2019</b> 8:15 AM – 12:30 PM
<b>Where</b>	The Link <sup>1</sup> 255 Main Street, 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor Cambridge, MA 02142 617-945-2562 
<b>Directions</b>	Please visit the <a href="#">meeting site directions page</a> . There is no on-site parking. The Link is next to the Kendall Square Red Line station. There are also <a href="#">public parking lots</a> in Kendall Square.
<b>How to register</b>	Individual, online registration required. Please visit the <a href="#">event registration page</a>  <b>Registration closes at NOON on Tuesday December 3!</b> <b>NO WALK-INS!</b> Online pre-registration is required for all attendees!!  Please register early! Seating is limited.
<b>Payment</b>	\$10 – if paid online by Tuesday, November 26 \$15 – if paid online by <b>NOON on Tuesday, December 3</b> \$20 – pay-at-the-door (checks only) – but pre-registration is required!
<b>Refund Policy</b>	We do not offer refunds for quarterly meetings.
<b>Contact</b>	If you have questions about the meeting, contact our meeting organizers: Quentin McMullen and Elizabeth Axelrod at: <a href="#">Event Organizers</a> .

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### BASUG Contacts

Mailing Address:

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(1) The Link serves as a connection between the innovation economy of Kendall Square and Greater Boston, and underrepresented job seekers. It was championed and developed by the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority and Boston Properties as a workforce training and employment solution, in keeping with the

innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of Kendall Square. Operated by TSNE MissionWorks, the developer of The NonProfit Center in Boston, The Link welcomes a variety of organizations to use its event facilities, classrooms and meeting spaces for training, education, and gatherings. The Link is home to a host of nonprofits who offer career development and technical training programs.