

The Boston Area SAS® Users Group Quarterly Meeting March 22, 2006

TOPIC: Coders' Corner Galore

A smorgasbord of computing techniques and tricks brought to you by experienced SAS® programmers, members of our very own BASUG.

WHEN: March 22, 8:00AM to 12:00PM

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

AGENDA:

8:00 - 8:30 Sign in and Refreshments

8:30 - 8:45 Meeting Announcements

8:45 - 9:05 "Numeric Representation Problems In SAS®" by Jeff Martin

9:05 - 9:35 "All Programming Is Local: Successfully Managing Local and Remote SAS® Sessions (*with apologies to Tip O'Neill*)" by Robert Rosofsky

9:35 - 9:55 "Data Flow Diagrams I: A Useful Tool for SAS® Users and Application Developers" by Mark Martin

9:55 - 10:10 BREAK

10:10 - 10:30 "Effective Strategy to Set Page Breaks for ODS RTF Outputs Using PROC REPORT" by Songtao Jiang and Daniel Boisvert

10:30 - 10:45 "Put Down That Mouse!" by Daniel Boisvert

10:45 - 11:00 "My Favorite Title" by Bob Virgile

11:00 - 11:15 BREAK

11:15 - 11:35 "Creating Code Templates in the SAS® Enhanced Editor Using Abbreviations and User-Defined Keywords" by Paul Grant

11:35 - 11:55 "Data Flow Diagrams II: Not Just for Programmers!" by Mark Martin

11:55 - 12:00 Final Announcements and Adjournment

LEVEL: This meeting is appropriate for anyone with a basic understanding of the SAS DATA step.

INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED. NO EMAIL!

To register, visit: <http://www.basug.org/register.php3>

CONTACT: If you have questions about the meeting contact:
Vanessa Hayden: vhayden@yahoo.com

ABSTRACTS AND BIOGRAPHIES:**Daniel Boisvert: Put Down That Mouse!**

Abstract: The Enhanced Editor is the most widely used interface in SAS®. Understanding all it has to offer allows the programmer to write code more efficiently. This paper will focus on the use of the keyboard, as opposed to the mouse, to save programming time. New users and seasoned pros can all benefit from these featured methods.

Speaker: Daniel Boisvert is a Senior SAS® Analyst at Genzyme. He is responsible for statistical programming, program validation and general support in clinical trials. Daniel has been using SAS® extensively for the last 3 years. Daniel holds a Bachelors degree in German from Hamilton College.

Paul Grant: Creating Code Templates in the SAS® Enhanced Editor Using Abbreviations and User Defined Keywords

Abstract: Two features of the SAS Enhanced Editor make it possible for programmers to create templates for SAS code. Code templates are portions of code which are pre-programmed with the statements, options and formatting most useful to you and which can be inserted into your programs by typing a keyword. The two features of the Enhanced Editor which make this possible are abbreviations and user defined keywords. This presentation will show you how to create your own code templates using these two features.

Speaker: Paul Grant is a Systems Engineer at the SAS Boston regional office. 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 for many years. He originated Coders' Corner and the Sunday Workshops at SUGI and NESUG. Some of his other papers are "The 'SKIP' Statement" and "Simplifying Complex Character Comparisons by Using the IN Operator and the Colon (:) Operator Modifier". Paul has been using SAS software in a variety of industries since 1981.

Songtao Jiang and Daniel Boisvert: Effective Strategy to Set Page Breaks for ODS RTF Outputs Using PROC REPORT

Abstract: PROC REPORT, combined with output deliver system (ODS), is a very powerful and widely used report generator in SAS®. By allowing Microsoft Word to control the printing process, SAS users relinquish some of the power to control the layout of the output. This makes it almost impossible to set appropriate page breaks for ODS rtf output. This paper proposes an effective strategy to force correct page breaks. By calculating number of printed rows for each dataset observation, the proposed algorithm assigns each observation a page number according to the column width and page size, which are set by user. This approach is extremely useful and efficient when dealing with long data listings.

Speakers: Songtao Jiang is a statistical programmer at Harvard Clinical Research Institute. He is responsible for statistical programming, data validation and table/graph/listing generation using SAS. He has been a SAS user for 3+ years. He also has extensive programming experience including SQL, C/C++, Java and VB. He holds a M.S. degree in Computer Science and B.S. in Mathematics.

Daniel Boisvert is a Senior SAS® Analyst at Genzyme. He is responsible for statistical programming, program validation and general support in clinical trials. Daniel has been using SAS® extensively for the last 3 years. Daniel holds a Bachelors degree in German from Hamilton College.

Jeff Martin: Numeric Representation Problems Using SAS®

Abstract: Appearances may be deceiving when working with numeric variables in SAS®. Values that look equivalent may not yield the results one expects. This may be attributable to numeric representation error inherent in computer systems and could impact programming results if one is not aware of it. This presentation will give an overview of some methods for recognizing numeric representation error and possible solutions for dealing with it.

Speaker: Jeff Martin is a Principal Statistical Programmer/Analyst at Serono, Inc. in Rockland, MA. He has been working with SAS for 14 years in the biotech and pharmaceutical industries and holds a master's degree in Biostatistics from Boston University.

**Mark Martin: Data Flow Diagrams I: A Useful Tool for SAS Users and Application Developers
Data Flow Diagrams II: Getting Started Back at the Office**

Abstract for Data Flow Diagrams I: Have you ever tried to map out a SAS program, only to find that a flow chart is too tedious? Try using a data flow diagram (DFD) instead! DFDs show the flow of data, not of control. Through examples you'll learn how to construct data flow diagrams, while the benefits of their use are demonstrated. The final example will show how a DFD can visually depict a SAS program.

Abstract for Data Flow Diagrams II: There are many ways that data flow diagrams (DFDs) may be useful in your own work. We'll explore a few possibilities: (1) using Proc Contents to create a "data dictionary" to complement a DFD; (2) using DFDs proactively in application development; and (3) drawing a DFD to decipher inherited SAS code.

Speaker: Mark Martin is a Biostatistician in Bayer Healthcare's Diagnostics Division. His time is split between R&D collaborations and manufacturing support. During his undergraduate studies, two of his project-based Computer Science courses employed data flow diagrams (for systems analysis and for software engineering). He has found these diagrams are useful for writing cleaner SAS code, for making sense of inherited SAS code, and even for understanding his own code a few months or years after writing it.

Robert Rosofsky: All Programming is Local: Successfully Managing Local and Remote SAS® Sessions

Abstract: Similar to the differences between living alone and then getting roommates, having multiple SAS environments means increased management and communication issues that would not be required when working in a PC or remote host environment alone. With the power and flexibility of submitting code in both local and remote SAS environments, simultaneously managing both of them together requires some finesse and careful tracking of "*Where's my stuff?*" This talk will cover some of the basic issues inherent in managing SAS components, such as source code, datasets, macro features, etc. and then how to communicate critical information between remote and local environments.

Speaker: To improve patient care and public health through the effective use of information systems, Robert Rosofsky has been developing and implementing health information systems for over two decades in both the public sector and for the last 5 years as an independent consultant. He offers services in project management, systems analysis, SAS data management/ statistical programming, and SAS training.

Bob Virgile: My Favorite Title

Abstract: I believe in leaving a paper trail ... documenting my programs as well as connecting the output back to the program itself. One way to do this is to include the program name in a title or footnote. Despite this, I've used the same title on nearly all my programs for the past several years. Come find out why.

Speaker: Bob Virgile is a SAS guru, with over 20 years of experience designing and teaching SAS courses. He has written two books for SAS Institute, formerly composed problem-solving contests for NESUG and SUGI, and is currently barred from the NESUG SAS Bowl due to superior SAS knowledge.

MEMBERSHIP: Keep your BASUG Membership up-to-date! If you are not currently a member, print out a membership form from our website, and bring it with you to the meeting (along with your check).

Please note that we have discontinued Corporate Memberships - we now provide only Individual Membership at \$25 annually.

For more information on our membership policy, or to print out a form visit: <http://www.basug.org/basugj.shtml>

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING

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 AND RHODE ISLAND: 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.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

The hotel is adjacent to the Riverside T Station. Take the Green Line - D (Riverside) to the Riverside stop. 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.

BASUG CONTACTS:

Mail Address:

BASUG
PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

Webmaster: basugwm@basug.org

BASUG - Quarterly Meeting announcement – March 22, 2006

BASUG
The Boston Area SAS® Users Group
www.basug.org

WHAT: The Boston Area SAS® Users Group Quarterly Meeting Announcement

WHEN: Wednesday, May 10, 2006
8:15 – 12:00

TOPIC: Just Can't Get Enough of SAS® Macros

WHERE: Holiday Inn, Newton
Riverside Room
399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462
617-969-5300

CONTENTS: Meeting Announcement
Abstracts and Bios
Directions to Holiday Inn
BASUG – General Information
BASUG – Membership Application

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

TOPIC: Just Can't Get Enough of SAS® Macros

LEVEL: Intermediate Level SAS® Programmers – Some Macro Knowledge

WHEN: May 10, 2006, 8:15 – 12:00

HOW: INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED. NO EMAIL!

To register for this meeting, please visit: <http://www.basug.org/register.php3>

CONTACT: If you have questions about the meeting contact:
Steve Freitas (sfreitas76@yahoo.com)

AGENDA:

8:15 - 8:45	Sign in and Coffee Break
8:45 - 9:00	Meeting Announcements and Introductions
9:00 -10:15	"Macro Bugs – How to Create, Avoid and Destroy Them" by Ian Whitlock
10:15 - 10:35	Break
10:35 - 12:00	"Macro Mania" by Robert Virgile, Robert Virgile Associates, Inc.

ABSTRACTS AND BIOS

We have gathered 2 of the top knowledgeable SAS® Macro gurus to entertain us for this meeting. Please join us!

“Macro Bugs – How to Create, Avoid and Destroy Them” by Ian Whitlock

The central theme of this paper is the macro debugging process. However, a great many bugs are simply due to not understanding how macro processing works, so some time will be spent on understanding this process. One has to be able to locate bugs before they can be fixed, so time will also be spent on design features as they impinge on the search for bugs. A moment might be left for the traditionally supplied tools for debugging.

The reader may be relatively new to writing macros, but he/she should bring some SAS(r) and some macro experience to the lecture for it is hard to pick up all the background even when all terms are explained.

Dr. Ian Whitlock has been programming largely in SAS since 1981. His main interest is in computer languages, particularly SAS, and how the language affects the programming process. He has participated since 1985 in many international, regional, and local SAS User Group meetings. He is also active on SAS-L with some insightful answers to perplexed SAS programmers.

"Macro Mania" by Robert Virgile, Robert Virgile Associates, Inc.

So you're a macro whiz? Not good enough! To solve these problems, you'll also need imagination and cleverness, with a little genius (or is it madness?) thrown into the mix. These problems are difficult, so you'll get the most out of it if you work on them ahead of time.

Click here for a link to the Macro Problems: <http://www.basug.org/downloads/MacroMania.doc>

Don't ask for solutions! They don't exist, at least not in printed or electronic form. The only way to obtain the answers is to attend the presentation!

Bob Virgile is a SAS guru, with over 20 years of experience designing and teaching SAS courses. He has written two books for SAS Institute, formerly composed problem-solving contests for NESUG and SUGI, and is currently barred from the NESUG SAS Bowl due to superior SAS knowledge.

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DIRECTIONS TO MEETING

Holiday Inn, Newton
Riverside Room
399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462
617-969-5300

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BASUG CONTACTS

Mail Address:

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PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

Webmaster: basugwm@basug.org

BASUG Training Announcement

June 23, 2006

Note: The venue for this event has changed, see below for details.

Note: This announcement describes two separate training workshops. Come to either one, or both. Pre-registration and payment required!

~ Overview of the day ~

Morning class:	What's New in SAS 9: the Open Management Architecture, Enterprise Guide and Stored Processes
Afternoon class:	XML for SAS Programmers
Instructor:	Frederick Pratter (see biography below)
Date:	June 23, 2006
Where:	Holiday Inn Newton (see below for Directions) 399 Grove Street Newton, MA 02462 617-969-5300
Price:	See below
Contacts:	Victor Pontes (victor.pontes@channing.harvard.edu) Lori Goldman (lgoldman@ihcis.com)

INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. NO EMAIL.
Please do not reply to this message. See details below.

These ½ day workshops are open to BASUG members only. If you are not currently a member, you may join BASUG at the same time you register for a workshop. See details below.

~ Price ~

Price for single class:	\$105 for either ½ day class (if paid by check, post-marked by June 14, 2006) \$135 (at the door) plus (if you're not currently a BASUG member) membership fee (\$25) for 2006
Price for both classes:	\$180 for both classes (if paid by check, post-marked by June 14, 2006) \$210 (at the door) plus (if you're not currently a BASUG member) membership fee (\$25) for 2006

~ Details for Morning Class ~

Topic:	What's New in SAS 9: the Open Management Architecture, Enterprise Guide and Stored Processes
Instructor:	Frederick Pratter
When:	9:00-12:00 June 23, 2006
How:	See details below for registration instructions
Course description:	The changes introduced in SAS 9 may be the most important since the release of Version 6 for the PC, more than 20 years ago. This half-day workshop will cover several of the new capabilities in Base SAS, in particular creating and managing SAS Stored Processes using SAS® Enterprise Guide and/or the SAS® Management Console. New in SAS 9, stored processes are SAS programs that are stored centrally on a server. Stored processes enable you to maintain and manage code, give you better control over changes, enhance security and application integrity, and ensure that every client executes the latest version of code. SAS Stored Processes can be used in many different client applications, in particular the Add-in for Microsoft Office, SAS Enterprise Guide and the SAS Stored Process Web Application. The course will cover three main topics: ▪ Using SAS Enterprise Guide to create and view stored processes – provides a way for users to connect to a SAS server without having a copy of SAS on their local system. ▪ Using SAS Management Console to set up and manage Metadata and Stored Process Servers – important for SAS managers and anyone who works for one! ▪ Using the SAS Stored Process Web Application - a potential replacement for SAS Internet for distributing SAS programs and data over the Web. There are FREE white papers ("SAS Stored Processes -- A Road Map" and "SAS Enterprise Guide® — A Roadmap") on the SAS website at http://www.sas.com/whitepapers/ which attempt to explain these new concepts. Also be sure to check out Phil Mason's NESUG 18 paper "Using SAS Enterprise Guide with the WIK" at http://www.nesug.org/html/Proceedings/nesug05/ap/ap13.pdf. This workshop will introduce you to these significant changes, help unravel the mysteries and present examples of how the new Open Management Architecture (OMA) can be used to make your SAS life better, or at least more exciting.
Pre-requisite:	A basic understanding of the SAS DATA and PROC steps and familiarity with the Display Manager.
Intended audience:	SAS Users who have used the Display Manager in a Windows environment and would like to learn about the new functionality available in SAS 9.

Course materials: Handouts with code examples.

~ Details for Afternoon Class ~

Topic: XML for SAS Programmers

Instructor: Frederick Pratter

When: 1:30-4:30
June 23, 2006

How: See details below for registration instructions

Course description: This seminar is an expanded version of the famous SUGI 27 paper "Beyond HTML: Using the SAS System® Version 8.2 with HTML and XML". In particular, the following topics will be covered:

- What is XML?
- What is the difference between XML and HTML?
- What does XML do?
- What SAS tools are available for XML processing?
- What do they do, and why would you want to use them?

In addition, new topics will include using examples of using XMLMap to parse arbitrary XML documents, using templates to create XML and XHTML, and the use of DTDs (Document Type Definitions) for validating XML data documents. PROC CDISC, new in Version 9, will also be covered. The CDISC procedure supports the import, export, and processing of XML documents and content that are in CDISC-defined formats.

Pre-requisite: A basic understanding of the SAS DATA and PROC steps and a burning interest in XML.

Intended audience: SAS users with an interest in XML, in particular the necessary background for understanding the FDA XML Data Format Requirements Specification.

Course materials: Handouts with code examples.

~ About the Instructor ~

Biography: Frederick Pratter teaches in the Computer Science/Multimedia Studies Program at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, OR. The 2nd edition of his book from SAS Press *Introduction to Web Development Using SAS AppDev Studio™* will be available later this summer. Prior to giving up the East Coast urban lifestyle, he was a Senior Scientist and Information Technology Director for the Business Research Consulting Group at Abt Associates in Cambridge, MA. Dr. Pratter is a SAS Silver Circle awardee. He has been a SAS user since 1975, and has also presented a number of papers and seminars at SUGI, WUSS, NESUG, SESUG, PharmaSUG and PNWSUG along with local user groups in Boston and New York.

~ Registration Instructions and Refund Policy ~

Please read this entire section!

To register for either of both of the classes, you must follow these steps.

1. *Preregister*

Go online to pre-register by clicking the following link:

<http://www.basug.org/register.php3>

**INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
NO EMAIL, PLEASE!**

All registrants will receive an immediate email confirmation of their pre-registration.

Within 72 hours you will then receive another e-mail, with a customized invoice for the training based on your membership status.

Seats are limited, so register early! Seating is guaranteed only for pre-paid registrants.

2. *Mail Invoice*

Complete the invoice form and mail it along with your check by **June 14th** to our Treasurer, Karen Olsen at:

BASUG
PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

3. *Pay Dues*

Note that this class is open to BASUG members only, meaning your 2006 dues must be paid up in order to attend! If you are not currently a member, your invoice will include the 2006 BASUG membership dues.

If you have any questions about your BASUG membership status, please contact our Membership Coordinator (Robert Rosofsky) at:
Robert.Rosofsky@Verizon.net

4. *Mail-in deadline*

Please do not mail any checks after June 14th. If you miss the mail-in deadline, bring your completed invoice form and a check made payable to BASUG to cover the at-the-door tuition rate (of \$130 for one class, or \$205 for both classes) plus any membership fees due as specified in your invoice form.

Full payment is due by the day of the class. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this. No credit cards, no cash please!

5. *Refund Policy*

If you need to cancel, you will receive a full refund if you notify both Victor Pontes (victor.pontes@channing.harvard.edu) and Lori Goldman (lgoldman@ihcis.com) by Friday, June 16, 2006. No refunds will be provided after June 16, 2006. **No refunds will be provided after June 16, 2006.**

~ DIRECTIONS TO THE TRAINING ~

Notice: The venue for these events has changed. The new location is:
Abt Associates Inc
55 Wheeler St
Cambridge MA 02138

There will be no parking available at Abt. However, Abt Associates is only ½-mile walk from the MBTA Red Line Alewife Station. A free shuttle service will be provided from Alewife Station to the Training location.

For Directions to Abt, see <http://www.abtassociates.com/Page.cfm?PageID=15005>.

~ MEMBERSHIP ~

Want to become a member without signing up for a workshop? Click here:
<http://www.basug.org/basugj.shtml>

~ BASUG GENERAL INFORMATION ~

Mailing Address: BASUG
PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

Website: www.basug.org

E-mail our Webmaster: basugwm@basug.org

Subscribe to e-mail list: Subscribers receive automatic e-mail notification of upcoming meetings, courses, and conferences of interest to local SAS users.

To subscribe to the BASUG message list, send a message to majordomo@basug.org, and in the BODY of the message specify:

subscribe basugnews

Unsubscribe: To unsubscribe to the BASUG message list, send a message to majordomo@basug.org, and in the BODY of the message specify:

unsubscribe basugnews

BASUG Quarterly Meeting Announcement

Topic: Elementary Statistics: The why and wherefore of all of those numbers

When: Wednesday, October 4, 2006, 8:15 AM– 12:00 PM noon (Note: This is one of 2 BASUG events being held on that day. To find information on the training that BASUG is offering, go to [Training: SAS Tools and Techniques](#))

Where: Holiday Inn Newton
399 Grove Street
Newton, MA
(Directions below)

How: INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED. NO EMAIL!

To register for this meeting, please visit: <http://www.basug.org/register.php3>

Contact: If you have questions about the meeting contact Bridget Neville (Bridget_Neville@dfci.harvard.edu) or Robert Rosofsky (Robert.Rosofsky@verizon.net)

Agenda:*

8:15 - 8:45	Sign in and Refreshments
8:45 - 9:00	Meeting Announcements and Introductions
9:00 –9:45	<i>The statistics and programming for “Table 1”</i> by Gheorghe Doros, Ph.D.
9:45 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 10:45	<i>When you get hit by a car . . .</i> by Constance Elson
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 11:45	<i>Programmers and Analysts: The Yin and Yang of Policy Research</i> by Nancy Burstein
11:45 – 12:00	Final questions and closure

*These times are approximate and subject to change; check the BASUG website (www.basug.org) for updated information.

Abstracts and Bio

The statistics and programming for “Table 1”
by Gheorghe Doros, Ph.D.

Many medical research articles contain a table that contrasts a set of patient characteristics with the main risk factor(s) under study. Such a table is usually one of the first tables in the article and is usually referenced as Table 1. The results presented in this table are requested by the researchers soon after the data is collected and gives investigators the first indications of the success and validity of the study. In this presentation, I will discuss some of the statistics used in such tables, as well as some of the SAS programming that I find useful when constructing such tables.

Gheorghe Doros earned a Ph.D. in Statistics from Yale University in May 2004. He spent one year and a half in the Toxicology Department at Eli Lilly and Company. In January 2006 he took a position in the Biostatistics Department at Boston University as Assistant Professor. He is a self taught SAS programmer and he has been using the software since 1999.

When you get hit by a car . . .
by Constance Elson

Using a set of multi-site clinical data collected on trauma patients, we will discuss how some very basic statistical methods can be used to look for significant associations among variables measuring patient demographics, injury type, initial response to injury, and outcome. We show how the data types of the variables suggest which SAS procedures to use and we also see how far one can get using just two workhorse procedures: PROC CORR and PROC GLM. The technology now exists to profile a patient's entire genomic state shortly after injury. We conclude with a brief discussion about efforts to incorporate this information into a prognosis for patient outcome.

Constance Elson was Associate Professor of Mathematics at Ithaca College (Ithaca NY) for several decades. After leaping recklessly into a major mid-life career change, she is currently part of a research team at the Massachusetts General Hospital Biostatistics Center, using SAS and statistics to study the genetics of the human response to inflammation after trauma.

Programmers and Analysts: The Yin and Yang of Policy Research
by Nancy Burstein

Successful policy research requires continuous communication between the programmer and the analyst. The programmer needs to understand the objectives of the research, and the analyst needs to understand the flow of the data processing. While unspoken assumptions on either side can lead to disaster, integration of the process can lead to remarkable synergy. This presentation describes some concrete ways in which you, the programmer, can help achieve that goal.

Nancy Burstein is a Principal Scientist and Fellow at Abt Associates Inc., a social science research firm in Cambridge. In her 27 years at Abt she has designed and directed analyses of many federal and state programs in the areas of income maintenance, food and nutrition assistance, health care, child care, and workforce participation. Trained as an economist, she is an amateur SAS programmer.

BASUG MEMBERSHIP

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Directions to the Holiday Inn

**Holiday Inn, Newton
399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462
617-969-5300**

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

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To email our Webmaster: basugwm@basug.org

BASUG Training Announcement

OCTOBER 4-5, 2006

SAS Tools and Techniques

Instructor: Bob Virgile

Dates and Times: October 4, 2006 (1:15 PM to 4:00 PM)

October 5, 2006 (9:00 AM to 4:00 PM)

(Note: This is one of 2 BASUG events being held on October 4, 2006. To find information on the Quarterly Meeting that BASUG is offering on October 4, go to [Elementary Statistics: The why and wherefore of all of those numbers](#))

Where: Holiday Inn Newton (see below for Directions)

399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462
617-969-5300

Price: \$250.00 (\$275.00 at the door)

Contacts: Bruno Berszoner (Bruno.Berszoner@tufts-health.com) and
Sally Skinner (sally.skinner@tufts.edu)

INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. NO EMAIL.
See details below.

This 1 1/2 day workshop is open to BASUG members only. If you are not currently a member, you may join BASUG at the same time you register for a workshop. See details below.

~ Price ~

Price for single class: \$250 for 1 1/2 day class, post-marked by September 26, 2006

\$275 (at the door)

PLUS (if you are not currently a BASUG member) 2006 membership fee (\$25)

~ Class Overview and Details ~

Topic: SAS Tools and Techniques

This is an intermediate-level SAS course, designed to expand the skills of programmers who are already using SAS. It begins with a short review of some basics, including creating by variables in a data step and determining matches and mismatches when merging. From that point, the course

moves on to a variety of topics, such as:

- Proc Summary Output Data Sets
- Proc Freq Output Data Sets
- Abbreviated methods to refer to a set of variables
- Making Character Comparisons
- Do Loops
- Arrays
- Beyond the basics of Proc Format
- Proc Tabulate Overview
- Proc Report Overview
- Table Look-up Techniques

If you have a topic that you would like to see covered, email the instructor (rvirgile@comcast.net) ahead of time to request it! You will get a reply letting you know whether that topic can be included or not!

Intended audience:	Experienced SAS users interested in expanding their skills.
Course materials:	Handouts with code examples.

~ About the Instructor ~

Biography: Bob Virgile is a SAS guru with over 20 years of experience designing and teaching SAS courses. He has written two books for the SAS institute, formerly composed problem-solving contests for NESUG and SUGI, and is currently barred from the NESUG SAS bowl due to superior SAS knowledge.

~ Registration Instructions and Refund Policy ~

Please read this entire section! To register for either of both of the classes, you must follow these steps.

1. Preregister Go online to pre-register by clicking the following link:

<http://www.basug.org/register.php3>

 INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
 NO EMAIL, PLEASE!

 All registrants will receive an immediate email confirmation of their pre-registration. Within 72 hours you will then receive another e-mail, with a customized invoice for the training based on your membership status. Seats are limited, so register early! Seating is guaranteed only for pre-paid registrants.
2. Mail Invoice Complete the invoice form and mail it along with your check by September 25th to our Treasurer, Karen Olsen at:

 BASUG
 PO Box 253
 Boston, MA 02117
3. Pay Dues Note that this class is open to BASUG members only, meaning your 2006 dues must be paid up in order to attend! If you are not currently a member, your invoice will include the 2006 BASUG membership dues.

 If you have any questions about your BASUG membership status, please contact our Membership Coordinator Robert Rosofsky at: Robert.Rosofsky@Verizon.net.
4. Mail-in deadline Please do not mail any checks after September 25th. If you miss the mail-in deadline, bring your completed invoice form and a check made payable to BASUG to cover the at-the-door tuition rate (of \$275) plus any membership fees due as specified in your invoice form.

 Full payment is due by the day of the class. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this. Please, no credit cards or cash!
5. Refund Policy If you need to cancel, you will receive a full refund if you notify both Bruno Berszoner (Bruno_Berszoner@tufts-health.com) and Sally Skinner (sally.skinner@tufts.edu) by Monday, September 27, 2006.

 No refunds will be provided after September 27, 2006.

~ DIRECTIONS TO THE TRAINING ~

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 AND RHODE ISLAND: 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.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

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

~ MEMBERSHIP ~

Want to become a member without signing up for a workshop? Click here:

<http://www.basug.org/basugj.shtml>

~ BASUG GENERAL INFORMATION ~

Mailing Address: BASUG
PO Box 253
Boston, MA 02117

Website: <http://www.basug.org/>

E-mail our Webmaster: basugwm@basug.org

BASUG Quarterly Meeting Announcement

Topic: SAS[®] and Microsoft[®] Office, transferring data and analytical results between programs

When: Tuesday, December 5, 2006, 8:15 AM – 12:00 noon

Where: **Holiday Inn Newton**, 399 Grove Street, Newton, MA 02462
(Directions below)

How: Individual, **On-Line Registration Required**. No Email!

To register, please visit: <http://www.basug.org/register.php3>

Contact: If you have questions about the meeting contact Karen Olson (karen.olson@childrens.harvard.edu) or Brian Saper (briansaper@yahoo.com)

Agenda *

8:15 - 8:45	Sign in and Refreshments
8:45 - 9:00	Meeting Announcements and Introductions
9:00 - 9:45	<i>SAS and Microsoft Office integration</i>
9:45 - 10:00	Break
10:00 - 10:45	<i>Creating and importing multi-sheet Excel workbooks the easy way with SAS</i>
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	<i>Creating and importing ... (continued)</i>

* Times are approximate and subject to change; check the BASUG website (www.basug.org) for updated information.

Abstract and Bio

We are excited to have Vincent DelGobbo from SAS Institute Inc. for this meeting. He will begin the morning with a presentation of some introductory material on SAS[®] and Microsoft[®] Office integration. After a break, the major part of the meeting will focus on transferring data and analytical results between SAS and Microsoft Excel. This part of the talk will discuss using new XML support in Base SAS 9.1 software to move data between SAS and Microsoft Excel (versions 2002 and later). Particular challenges when SAS is not installed on a Windows platform will be discussed. You will learn step-by-step techniques for quickly and easily creating multi-sheet Excel workbooks that contain your SAS output, and importing your own multi-sheet Excel workbooks into SAS tables. Most importantly, the techniques that are presented in this talk can be used regardless of the platform on which SAS software is installed, including a mainframe! The use of SAS server technology is also discussed.

Vince DelGobbo is a Senior Systems Developer in the Web Tools group at SAS. This group is responsible for developing the SAS/IntrNet Application Dispatcher and SAS Stored Processes. He is the developer for the HTML Formatting Tools and the SAS

Design-Time Controls, and is developing other new Web- and server-based technologies, as well as integrating SAS output with Microsoft Office. He is also involved in the development of the ExcelXP ODS tagset. Vince has been a SAS Software user since 1982, and joined SAS in 1992.

For more information about our speaker and this topic, see:
<http://support.sas.com/news/feature/2006/workbooks.html>

BASUG MEMBERSHIP

Keep your BASUG Membership up-to-date! Print out a membership form from our website, and bring it with you to the meeting (along with your check). Please note that we have discontinued Corporate Memberships - we now provide only Individual Membership at \$25 annually. For more information on our membership policy, or to print out a form visit:
<http://www.basug.org/basugj.shtml>

Directions to the Holiday Inn

**399 Grove Street
Newton, MA 02462
617-969-5300**

DRIVING

From Boston: Take I-90 West to Exit 15, Route 128 South (I-95). Go 1/4 mile to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. The 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. The hotel is on your left.

From Western Mass: Take I-90 East to Exit 14, Route 128 South (I-95). Go 1/4 mile to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. The hotel is on your left.

From New Hampshire: Take I-93 South to Route 128 South (I-95). Go approximately 15 miles to Exit 22. When you exit, stay right and bear right at the fork onto Grove Street. The 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. The 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 for detailed bus route and schedule. Bus drops off at Riverside T Station. Hotel is adjacent to the T Station.

BASUG CONTACTS

Mailing Address: BASUG, PO Box 253, Boston, MA 02117

To email our Webmaster: basugwm@basug.org