



# ICSA Bulletin

Volume 36/2, July, 2025

ISSN 2226-2393

## Editorial Staff

<b>Editor-in-Chief</b>	From the Editor . . . . .	1
	From the 2025 President, ICSA . . . . .	2
Chixiang Chen chixiang.chen@som.umaryland.edu	From the Executive Director 2023-2025 . . . . .	4
	Candidates for 2025 ICSA Officers . . . . .	6
<b>Editorial Assistant</b>	ICSA 2025 Executives and Members of the Committees . . . . .	7
	2025 ICSA Awards . . . . .	12
Xue Wu xue.wu3@merck.com	ICSA Members Recognitions . . . . .	14
	The Spotlight from ICSA 2025 Applied Statistics Symposium (June 15 - July 18, 2025) . . . . .	15
<b>Executive Committee</b>	ICSA 2025 China Conference Highlights Innovation and Global Collaboration . . . . .	16
<i>President</i> Hongyu Zhao hongyu.zhao@yale.edu	Post Event Report on 2025 Rao Prize Conference . . . . .	17
	Report from the ICSA Springer Book Series in Statistics . . . . .	19
<i>Past President</i> Xun Chen xun.chen@abbvie.com	Report from Outreach and Engagement (O & E) Committee . . . . .	19
	News from the ICSA-Canada Chapter . . . . .	20
	ICSA Financial Report . . . . .	21
<i>President-Elect</i> Rong Chen rongchen@stat.rutgers.edu	Speak with an Established Lab . . . . .	22
	Experience-Sharing from Successful Young Researchers . . . . .	25
<i>Executive Director</i> Jun Zhao executive.director@icsa.org	XL-Files: If Statistics Must Die...Let It Go Out with All Its Styles . . . . .	27
	Upcoming Events . . . . .	29
<i>Treasurer</i> Xin He treasurer@icsa.org	Introduction of the ICSA Mentor-Mentee Program Empowering the Next Generation of Statisticians . . . . .	31

# From the Editor



Dear ICSA members:

Welcome to the July 2025 issue of the ICSA Bulletin! The first half of the year has been marked by several exciting ICSA-sponsored events, including the 2025 Applied Statistics Symposium

at University of Connecticut and the 2025 ICSA China Conference in Zhuhai. Both conferences drew global participation and were great successes, featuring keynote talks, short courses, panel discussions, and poster sessions. We were especially thrilled to see strong engagement from young scholars presenting cutting-edge work in AI/ML, causal inference, and data integration, alongside warm reunions among longtime ICSA members.

To enrich the 2025 ICSA bulletin theme of “Opportunities for the Next Generation of Statisticians and Data Scientists”, we are delighted to share three articles that we believe will deeply resonate with your professional journey and research interests:

1. In the column of Virtual Interviews with an Established Lab, we are honored to invite the principal investigator, Dr. Shuo Chen, a MPower Professor from University of Maryland, to share their lab focus and research experience. Dr. Chen discusses how his lab develops novel statistical and computational tools to address challenges in high-dimensional, multi-modal data, with a focus on applications such as neuropsychiatric disorders and biological aging. He also shares strategies for fostering an interdisciplinary, collaborative research environment that empowers trainees to develop both applied and methodological expertise.

2. We have expanded the experience-sharing column, from featuring a single successful junior or middle year researchers to conducting virtual interviews with multiple researchers at their early-career stage. This update allows more outstanding young researchers from diverse disciplines to share their insights and experiences. In this revised column, we are excited to feature three exceptional junior/mid-career researchers in statistics, biostatistics, and data science who share their personal experiences and guidance for early-career professionals. They are Dr. Wang Miao, Associate Professor at Peking University; Dr. Zheng Li, Associate Director at Novartis Oncology; and Dr. Elynn Chen, Assistant Professor at

New York University. With diverse backgrounds spanning both academia and industry, they offer valuable perspectives on research, interdisciplinary collaboration, emerging trends, and professional growth.

3. In this XL-Files essay, Xiao-Li Meng emphasizes the enduring relevance of statistics not just as a discipline but as a profession, calling for a renewed embrace of diverse statistical ‘styles’ including modeling and fitting, decision-making, and consensus-building. He urges statisticians to step beyond technical comfort zones and engage in leadership and real-world problem solving, lest the profession lose vitality despite the discipline’s intellectual immortality. This is a reprint from a column article published in the IMS Bulletin with permission. We hope you enjoy reading these articles and welcome your feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to share your valuable insights in future issues of the ICSA Bulletin.

Moreover, this issue is packed with important updates and announcements for the ICSA community. It features messages from the 2025 ICSA President, Dr. Hongyu Zhao, and Executive Director (2023–2025), Dr. Jun Zhao. Included are the official announcements of the 2025 ICSA awards and the list of candidates for the 2026 ICSA officer elections. You’ll also find exciting news from the ICSA-Canada Chapter, reports from the Outreach and Engagement Committee and the 2025 Rao Prize Conference, as well as the semi-annual financial report for 2025. Additionally, the issue includes a call for submissions to the ICSA Springer Book Series in Statistics and Statistics in Biosciences, along with details on upcoming ICSA-sponsored or co-sponsored meetings, conferences, and the Mentor-Mentee Program. I hope you find this issue both informative and engaging, and I warmly welcome your feedback. Special thanks to my assistant, Dr. Xue Wu from Merck, for her excellent work in formatting and assembling the materials for this issue.

In closing, I sincerely thank all contributors, ICSA executives, and committee members for their invaluable support in this issue. I look forward to your continued engagement. See you in next year’s ICSA Bulletin!

*Chixiang Chen, Ph.D.*  
*Editor-in-Chief, ICSA Bulletin*

*Associate Professor  
Department of Epidemiology and Public Health,  
Department of Neurosurgery,*

*Institute for Health Computing (Bethesda),  
University of Maryland, School of Medicine.*

## From the 2025 President, ICSA

*Hongyu Zhao*



Dear ICSA Members and Friends,

The first half of 2025 has been busy and successful for our society, despite the many challenges and uncertainties facing our lives and community these days.

ICSA has continued to grow with many events and initiatives.

ICSA held two highly successful conferences within a two-week span in June. Chaired by Dr. Dacheng Liu and Dr. Xiaojing Wang, the 34th ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium was held on the UConn campus from June 15 to June 18, with the theme of “Insights into Complexity, Empowering Policy through Statistical Learning and Data Analytics”. More than 400 people from 10 countries attended the conference. The ICSA China Conference was held on the Beijing Normal University Zhuhai campus from June 28 to June 30 with the theme of “The Future of Statistics: Partnership and Innovation in the Data-Rich Era”. Dr. Yuanjia Wang and Dr. Lixing Zhu chaired the program committee. This event drew over 600 participants from around the world, including the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, and France. These conferences have served as a platform for ICSA members to come together, share their research, and discuss the future of our profession. More importantly, I view these conferences as an ideal platform for recognizing the future of our society, graduate students, and junior faculty for their brilliant research through the junior research awards, student paper awards, and poster awards presented at these meetings. Moreover, as an international meeting held in China, the ICSA-China conference provides a valuable platform for young researchers in China to present and interact with statisticians from around the world, as international travel can present some challenges.

The great success of these conferences, including the pleasant weather in Zhuhai, is due to the countless hours of work from members of various committees, including the Scientific Program Committee, IT Committee, Fundraising Committee, Short Course Committee, Paper and Poster Award Committees, and Local Organizing Committees. As we enter the second half of 2025, we will have the third major event for ICSA this year, the Joint Meetings of the ICSA and International Conference and Taipei International Statistical Symposium, which will be held from December 17 to December 20 on the campus of the Academia Sinica in Taipei. With the theme of “The New Frontier: Statistical Science in a Changing World”, this meeting is co-chaired by Dr. Ming-Chung Chang, Dr. Xinping Cui, and Dr. Ying Zhang. In addition to these three major ICSA conferences, ICSA has also co-sponsored many meetings and events.

ICSA recognizes the accomplishments of our members with many awards. This year, the Award Committee faced a challenging task, given the numerous outstanding candidates. This year’s awards include the Pao-Lu Hsu Award to Dr. Hui Zou, the Distinguished Achievement Award to Dr. Hongtu Zhu, the Outstanding Service Award to Dr. Xuming He and Dr. Gang Li, the Outstanding Young Researcher Award to Dr. Lihua Lei, President’s Citation to Dr. Qingxia Chen, Dr. Dandan Liu, and Dr. Xinping Cui, the Peter Hall Lecture to Dr. Danyu Lin, and the inaugural Catalyst for Impact Award to Dr. Jie Chen. Our society members have also been recognized with numerous awards and honors from other professional societies. I hope you can join us in celebrating these achievements at the award ceremonies and named lectures at JSM in August. I would like to extend my special congratulations to Dr. Naitee Ting for receiving the prestigious ASA Mentoring Award, which recognizes his exceptional contributions to mentoring that have had a profound impact on people, our profession, and society. Dr. Ting is exemplary in his service to our society

in various roles since the inception of ICSA and holds the record of attending every single ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium, 34 and counting! It is dedicated members like Dr. Ting who make ICSA a welcoming home for all our members, both professionally and personally.

The first half of 2025 also saw many outreach activities. The Outreach and Engagement Committee, led by Dr. Jin Zhou and Dr. Qing Yang, together with the Webinar Sub-Committee led by Dr. Deli Wang and Dr. Qing Yang have put forward many events in the first six months of 2025, including “From Campus to Pharma: Interview prep for Aspiring Statistician” on February 21st with panelists Dr. Shuang Gao and Dr. Jingjing Ye facilitated by Dr. Xiyuan Gao, “Clinical Trial Data Analysis” on March 21st delivered by Dr. Deli Wang, “Panel Discussion with Journal Editors” on March 29th hosted by Dr. Xiaowu Dai and Dr. Yuhua Zhu, “Causal Inference in Pharmaceutical Statistics” on April 19th delivered by Dr. Yixin Fang, “The Art and Science of Negotiation” on May 30th with panelists Dr. Jing Huang and Dr. Jian Zhu facilitated by Dr. Helena Fan. Stay tuned for more in the coming months!

Among the many initiatives is the ICSA Mentor/Mentee Program. I encourage you to join this program to share your experiences and learn from one another. ICSA has recently launched a series of monthly interactive Mentoring Lounges via Zoom, where mentors will answer questions and provide guidance to students nearing graduation. Each session will have a specific theme to ensure focused and productive discussions.

To better engage statisticians from the industry, following Dr. Bo Huang’s suggestion, we approached the ASA about the possibility of a Joint Membership between the ASA and ICSA. After several months of discussion, the ASA has agreed to a 12-to 18-month pilot project to facilitate joint membership registration between the ASA and ICSA. We hope that this arrangement will make the ICSA more visible and attract more members to join our vibrant society.

The local organizing committee for this year’s JSM, led by Dr. Dandan Liu, has worked diligently to plan and organize activities during the JSM in Nashville in August. Please stop by the ICSA booth, join the many ICSA-sponsored sessions, and the membership meeting. Following the tremendous success of the cruise in Portland last year, we will again host our banquet on the Music City Nights Cruise aboard the General Jackson Showboat this year after the membership meeting on August 6th. I look forward to seeing you at the ICSA booth and the many events in Nashville.

As always, our society’s continued growth depends on members’ participation and feedback. Please share your ideas and comments with us. You can email us at [hongyu.zhao@yale.edu](mailto:hongyu.zhao@yale.edu) or the ICSA Executive Committee at [executive.director@icsa.org](mailto:executive.director@icsa.org).

*Hongyu Zhao, Ph.D.  
2025 ICSA President,  
Ira V. Hiscock Professor of Biostatistics,  
Yale University.*

# From the Executive Director

## 2023-2025

*Jun Zhao*



Dear ICSA members, It is time to update ICSA members from my position as the Executive Director of the association. Let's begin from two ICSA conferences: The 34th annual ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium, themed "Insights into Complexity: Empowering Policy through Statistical Learning and Data Analytics", was successfully held from June 14 to June 17 at the University of Connecticut at Storrs, CT, USA; and the 2025 ICSA China Conference, themed "Future in Statistics: Partnership and Innovation in the Data-Rich Era", was held from June 28 to 30, in the beautiful coastal city of Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, China.

The ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium co-chairs Dr. Dacheng Liu and Xiaojing Wang, along with the whole organizing committee, welcomed around 440 participants from 10 countries. ICSA members had a get-together scientifically and personally in this venue. The symposium provided keynote speeches, scientific programs, short courses, a poster session, a reception, and a traditional banquet with a wonderful banquet speech and student award ceremony. In addition, a general member meeting with the ICSA Award Ceremony was also held during the symposium.

The 2025 ICSA China Conference, co-sponsored by the ICSA and Beijing Normal University at Zhuhai (BNUZ), was co-chaired by Prof. Lixing Zhu from BNUZ and Prof. Yuanjia Wang from Columbia University, who welcomed researchers in academia, industry, government, practitioners, and students globally, pushing the frontiers of statistics in today's data-rich world to solve real-world challenges.

During the ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium, the first physical ICSA board members meeting of this year was held. Most of the ICSA board members and committee chairs joined the discussion either physically or online. Special thanks to those members who called in from different time zones globally and stayed the whole scheduled 3 hours. Within the meeting, many ICSA committee chairs updated the board their achievements and committee activities. In addition, several topics

were discussed during the meeting: 1) ICSA policy on co-sponsorships; 2) ICSA joint membership with ASA; 3) the status and suggestions of the ICSA Sections and Chapters; 4) The expansion of IT and ICSA management to fit for the growing society; and 5) ICSA future.

Meanwhile, the board of directors approved the several items and proposals on 1) candidate lists of the 2026 ICSA President-elect and the 2026 ICSA new board of directors; 2) the local host of the 2026 China Conference, which was granted to the Southern University of Science and technology in Shenzhen; 3) the first half of the 2025 ICSA financial report, and 4) the proposal of establishing the Mentor/Mentee Program.

Overall, in the first half of 2025, under the leadership of the current president Dr. Hongyu Zhao and other members in the executive committee, the ICSA achieved its objectives. As you may have noticed, many committee chairs were selected from the committee members who had served for years and made major contributions to the committee. Furthermore, many committees have started to document and standardize procedures to improve committee efficiency and continuity.

In addition to the ICSA conferences, some exciting activities and initiatives are occurring, to name a few: The ICSA Catalyst for Impact Award is presented to individual(s) "In recognition of the distinguished statistical contribution and achievement in the industry and regulatory agencies and unselfish support of the association"; A new process is established for the ICSA sponsored events, e.g., the Outreach and Engagement Committee, led by Dr. Jin Zhou, co-hosted the Greater Los Angeles Health Data Science Career Day with the UCLA Master of Data Science in Health (MDSH) program; The ICSA Webinar committee, led by Dr. Qing Yang and Deli Wang, continues to establish and host webinars which attracted many audiences; More social media tools are used for the ICSA communications, e.g., X, Linked-in, YouTube; and The ICSA Mentor/Mentee Program has been proposed and started to initiate the programs.

Many of you have been notified that the 13th ICSA International Conference will take place at Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan from December 17 - 20, 2025. This conference, themed "The New Frontier: Statistical Science in a Changing

World”, will be co-organized by ICSA, the Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica (ISSAS), in collaboration with the Chinese Institute of Probability and Statistics (CIPS). Members should stay alert for the announcement of the conference registration and scientific programs. Hope to see you in the winter in Taipei.

I have been contacted by many fellow statisticians who are willing to spend their extra time and energy to serve the community. As an ICSA member, you have many opportunities and privileges to serve the ICSA community. Ways to serve the association include being elected on the board or the executive committee, volunteering at any ICSA sponsored events, attending ICSA conferences, casting your votes, and serving in various committees.

Currently there are many active ICSA committees, e.g., The ICSA Outreach and Engagement Committee, co-chaired by Dr. Jin Zhou and Dr. Qing Yang, organizes many activities; The Webinar sub-committee, co-chaired by Dr. Qing Yang and Dr. Deli Wang, organizes and hosts many webinars; The Program Committee, led by Dr. Cindy Chen, lines up ICSA conferences; The Award Committee, led by Dr. Yong Chen, has streamlined the award nomination and evaluation process; The Nominating and Election Committee, led by Dr. Hongjian Zhu, has concluded the

candidates for 2026 president-elect and new board members for ICSA members’ final vote; The Special Lecture Committee, led by Dr. Hongzhe Lee, selects keynote speakers/lecturers for ICSA conferences; The membership Committee, led by Dr. Tiejun Tong, is in charge of all membership related activities; and other committees. Contact me if you are willing to serve the expanding community.

I encourage current ICSA members and newly registered members to attend the General Member Meetings to show your leadership, profession, support, and engagement. You will expect the General Meetings will be conjunct with the ICSA announcements, awards ceremony, social gathering, and other exciting events.

Finally, as usual, I would like to thank the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, the standing committees, volunteers, and all the ICSA members for your continuous support to the association, and to make the ICSA stronger. In the next half year, I hope to see you, your students, and your colleagues at the 2025 JSM in Nashville, 2025 International Conference in Taiwan, among others.

*Jun Zhao, Ph.D.*  
*ICSA Executive Director (2023-2025) ,*  
*Senior Director, Statistics,*  
*Antengene Corp.*

# Candidates for 2025 ICSA Officers

The board of directors has approved the following candidates for election. Please click each candidate's name for more information. Your vote is important. Only eligible ICSA regular members can cast your votes at the voting site by August 1st, 2025 via your ICSA account: <https://www.icsa.org/vote/>. Thank you! Please ensure the Membership Committee has your recent and correct e-mail address on file. For questions, you can reach the Membership Committee in private at [membership@icsa.org](mailto:membership@icsa.org).

## Candidates for President-Elect

Dr. Yunming Mu



Vice President, Head of Biostatistics, Revolution Medicine

Dr. Rui (Sammi) Tang



Senior Vice President, Global Head of Quantitative Sciences and Evidence Generation, Astellas

## Candidates for Board of Directors

Dr. Xiaotian Chen



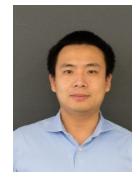
Director, Statistical Innovation, Data and Statistical Sciences, AbbVie Inc.

Dr. Xiaoming Huo



Russell Chandler III Prof., School of Industrial & Systems Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology

Dr. Dehan Kong



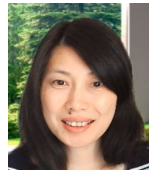
Assoc. Prof., Dept. at Statistical Sciences, Univ. of Toronto

Dr. Lei Liu



Prof. and Deputy Director, Institute of Informatics, Data Science, and Biostatistics, Washington Univ. in St. Louis

Dr. Li Liu



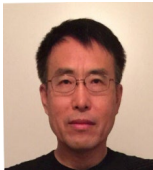
Sr. Director, Head of Precision Medicine Biostatistics Group, Daiichi Sankyo

Dr. Grace S. Shieh



Full Research Fellow, Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

Dr. Zhenming Shun



Global Head of Biostatistics and Data Management, Daiichi Sankyo

Dr. Junhui Wang



Prof. and Chair, Dept. of Statistics, The Chinese Univ. of Hong Kong

Dr. Jingjing Ye



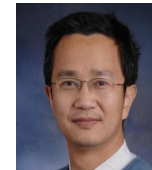
Executive Dr., Global Head of Data Sciences and Digital Innovations, Global Statistics and Data Sciences, BeOne

Dr. Emma Zhang



Assoc. Prof., Information System and Operations Research, Goizueta Business School, Emory Univ.

Dr. Yichuan Zhao



Full Prof., Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics, The Georgia State Univ.

Dr. Lixin Zhu



Jingshi Distinguished Prof., School of Statistics, Beijing Normal Univ. and Chair Prof. of Statistics, Dept. of Mathematics, Hong Kong Baptist Univ.

# ICSA 2025 Executives and Members of the Committees

## EXECUTIVES:

President: Hongyu Zhao (hongyu.zhao@yale.edu)  
 Past-President: Xun Chen (xun.chen@abbvie.com)  
 President-Elect: Rong Chen (rongchen@stat.rutgers.edu)  
 Executive Director: Jun Zhao (2023-2025, executive.director@icsa.org)  
 ICSA Treasurer: Xin He (2025-2027, treasurer@icsa.org )  
 The ICSA Office Manager: Grace Ying Li (oicsa@icsa.org)

## BOARD of DIRECTORS:

Ming Tan (2023-2025, mtt34@georgetown.edu)  
 Huazhen Lin (2023-2025, linhz@swufe.edu.cn)  
 Min Zhang (2023-2025, mzhangst@umich.edu)  
 Li Wang (2023-2025, li.wang1@abbvie.com)  
 Yanping Wang (2023-2025, WANG\_YANPING@LILLY.COM)  
 Jialiang Li (2024-2026, jialiang@nus.edu.sg)  
 George Tseng (2024-2026, ctseng@pitt.edu)  
 Kun Chen (2024-2026, kun.chen@uconn.edu)  
 Song Yang (2024-2026, yangso@nhlbi.nih.gov)  
 Jianchang Lin (2024-2026, Jianchang.Lin@takeda.com)  
 Yuguo Chen (2025-2027, yuguo@illinois.edu)  
 Haitao Chu (2025-2027, hchu.xy@gmail.com)  
 Yuanjia Wang (2025-2027, yw2016@cumc.columbia.edu)  
 Xinping Cui (2025-2027, xpcui@ucr.edu)  
 Yushi Liu (2025-2027, liu\_yushi@lilly.com)

## STANDING COMMITTEES:

### Program Committee:

Qingxia Chen (Chair, 2025, cindy.chen@vanderbilt.edu)  
 Xinping Cui (2023-2025, ICSA China Conference 2024, ICSA International Conference 2025, xpcui@ucr.edu)  
 Yuanjia Wang (2024-2026, ICSA China Conference 2025, yw2016@cumc.columbia.edu)  
 Ying Zhang (2024-2026, ICSA International Conference 2025, ying.zhang@unmc.edu)  
 Ming-Chung Chang (2024-2026, ICSA International Conference 2025, mcchang@stat.sinica.edu.tw)  
 Dandan Liu (2023-2025, ICSA Symposium 2024, dandan.liu@vumc.org)  
 Dacheng Liu (2024-2026, ICSA Symposium 2025, dacheng.liu@boehringer-ingelheim.com)  
 Xiaojing Wang (2024-2026, ICSA Symposium 2025, xiaojing.wang@uconn.edu)  
 Lily Wang (2025-2027, ICSA Symposium 2026, lwang41@gmu.edu)  
 Wanli Qiao (2025-2027, ICSA Symposium 2026, wqiao@gmu.edu)  
 Yingwen Dong (2023-2025, JSM Representative 2024, yingwen.dong@sanofi.com)  
 Shuangge Ma (2024-2026, JSM Representative 2025, shuangge.ma@yale.edu)  
 Sijian Wang (2025-2027, JSM Representative 2026, sijian.wang@stat.rutgers.edu)  
 t.b.d. (2025-2027, ICSA China Conference 2026)

**Nominating and Election Committee:**

Hongjian Zhu (Chair, 2025, hongjian.zhu@systimmune.com)  
 Yichuan Zhao (2023-2025, yichuan@gsu.edu)  
 Wenqing He (2023-2025, whe@stats.uwo.ca)  
 Zhigang Li (2023-2025, zhigang.li@ufl.edu)  
 Tiejun Tong (2024-2026, tongt@hkbu.edu.hk)  
 Li-Shan Huang (2024-2026, lhuang@stat.nthu.edu.tw)  
 Wei Zhang (2024-2026, wei.zhang@boehringer-ingelheim.com)  
 Jin-Ting Zhang (2024-2026, stazjt2020@nus.edu.sg)  
 Jingshen Wang (2025-2027, jingshenwang@berkeley.edu)  
 Min Chen (2025-2027, mchen@utdallas.edu)  
 Jimin Ding (2025-2027, jmding@wustl.edu)

**Membership Committee:**

Tiejun Tong (Chair, 2025, tongt@hkbu.edu.hk)  
 Victoria Chang (2025-2027, victoria.chang@beigene.com)  
 Pengfei Li (2025-2027, pengfei.li@uwaterloo.ca)  
 Tu Xu (2023-2025, xutu1116@gmail.com)  
 Zhigen Zhao (2025-2027, zhaozhg@temple.edu)  
 Wangli Xu (2025-2027, wlxu@ruc.edu.cn)  
 Yunwen Yang (2025-2027, andrea.yang2@gmail.com)

**Awards Committee:**

Yong Chen (Chair, 2025, ychen123@penmedicine.upenn.edu)  
 Zhigang Li (2023-2025, zhigang.li@ufl.edu)  
 Chunming Zhang (2023-2025, cmzhang@stat.wisc.edu)  
 Wei Wu (2023-2025, ww@fsu.edu)  
 Lu Tian (2023-2025, lutian@stanford.edu)  
 Xuezhou Mao (2023-2025, Xuezhou.Mao@modernatx.com)  
 Hong Tian (2024-2026, hong.tian@beigene.com)  
 Huilin Li (2024-2026, Huilin.Li@nyulangone.org)  
 Gen Li (2024-2026, ligen@umich.edu)  
 Kai Yang (2024-2026, kayang@mcw.edu)

**Special Lecture Committee:**

Hongzhe Lee (Chair, 2025, hongzhe@penmedicine.upenn.edu)  
 Ming Tony Tan (2023-2025, mtt34@georgetown.edu)  
 Ronghui Xu (2025-2027, rxu@health.ucsd.edu)  
 Zijian Guo (2025-2027, zijguo@stat.rutgers.edu)  
 Jianxin Shi (2025-2027, jianxin.shi.nci@gmail.com)  
 Bingming Yi (2025-2027, Bingming\_Yi@vrtx.com)

**Publication Committee:**

Runze Li (Chair, 2025, rzli@psu.edu)  
 Lan Wang (2025-2027, wangx346@gmail.com)  
 Zhigen Zhao (2025-2027, zhigen.zhao@temple.edu)  
 Meg Gamalo (2025-2027, Co-Editors of SIB, Margaret.Gamalo@pfizer.com)  
 Jianguo (Tony) Sun (2024-2026, Co-Editors of SIB, sunj@missouri.edu)  
 Yi-Hau Chen (2023-2026, Co-Editors of Statistica Sinica, yhchen@stat.sinica.edu.tw)  
 John Stufken (2023-2026, Co-Editors of Statistica Sinica, jstufken@gmu.edu)

Huixia Judy Wang (2023-2026, Co-Editors of *Statistica Sinica*, judywang@gwu.edu)  
 Ding-Geng (Din) Chen (Co-Editor of ICSA book series, dinchen@email.unc.edu)  
 Yichuan Zhao (2025-2027, Co-Editor of ICSA book series, yichuan@gsu.edu)  
 Chixiang Chen (2024-2026, Editor for ICSA Bulletin, chixiang.chen@som.umd.edu)  
 Jun Zhao (2023-2025, Executive Director of ICSA, executive.director@icsa.org )  
 Grace Ying Li (2024-2026, Editor of ICSA Newsletter, li\_ying\_grace@lilly.com)

### ICSA Outreach and Engagement Committee:

Jin Zhou (Co-Chair, 2023-2025, jinjinzhou@g.ucla.edu)  
 Qing Yang (Co-Chair, 2023-2025, qing.yang@duke.edu)  
 Weining Shen (2023-2025, weinings@uci.edu)  
 Xiaowu Dai (2025-2027, dai@stat.ucla.edu)  
 Yuhua Zhu (2025-2027, yuhuzhu@ucla.edu)  
 Yu Wu (2025-2027, yuwu58@gmail.com)  
 Hua Zhou (2025-2027, huazhou@ucla.edu)

### Finance Committee:

Xin He (Chair, 2025-2027, treasurer@icsa.org)  
 Rochelle Fu (2022-2025, fur@ohsu.edu)  
 Rui Feng (2022-2025, ruifeng@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)

### Financial Advisory Committee:

Xiangqin Cui (Chair, 2025, xiangqin.cui@emory.edu)  
 Fang Chen (2022-2025, FangK.Chen@sas.com)  
 Nianjun Liu (2020-2025, liunian@indiana.edu)  
 Rochelle Fu (2020-2025, fur@ohsu.edu)  
 Yuan Jiang (2020-2025, yuan.jiang@stat.oregonstate.edu)  
 Hongliang Shi (2020-2025, hongliangshi15@gmail.com)

### IT Committee:

Chengsheng Jiang (Chair, 2025, website@icsa.org)

### Archive Committee:

Jun Yan (Chair, 2025, jun.yan@uconn.edu)  
 Raymond Wong (2025-2027, raywong@tamu.edu)

### ICSA Representative to JSM Program Committee:

Yingwen Dong, (2024, yingwen.dong@sanofi.com)  
 Shuangge Ma (2025, shuangge.ma@yale.edu)  
 Sijian Wang (2026, sijian.wang@stat.rutgers.edu)

### ICSA Constitution Committee:

Hongzhe Lee (Chair, 2023-2025, hongzhe@penncmedicine.upenn.edu)  
 Rochelle Fu (2023-2025, fur@ohsu.edu)  
 Jun Zhao (2023-2025, executive.director@icsa.org)  
 Ying Lu (2023-2025, ylu1@stanford.edu)  
 Jianguo Sun (2023-2025, sunj@missouri.edu)

Chengsheng Jiang (2023-2025, website@icsa.org)

Yichuan Zhao (2023-2025, yichuan@gsu.edu)

Jiayang Sun (2023-2025, jsun21@gmu.edu)

## Webinar Sub-Committee:

Qing Yang (Co-Chair, 2025, qing.yang@duke.edu)

Deli Wang (Co-Chair, 2025, wangdeli@gmail.com)

Jun Zhao (2023-2025, executive.director@icsa.org)

Helena Fan (2023-2025, Helena.fan@tlgcareers.com)

Lei Wang (2023-2025, Lei.Wang@tlgcareers.com)

Xiyuan Gao (2024-2026, sheila.gao@lilly.com)

Jessica (Jingxian) Cai (2024-2026, jingxian.cai@regeneron.com)

Meng Wang (2024-2026, wm.mengwang11@gmail.com)

Betty (Yutong) Tan (2024-2026, bettytan9614@gmail.com)

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEES:

### 2025 Applied Statistics Symposium:

Xiaojing Wang (Co-Chair, xiaojing.wang@uconn.edu)

Dacheng Liu (Co-Chair, dacheng.liu@boehringer-ingelheim.com)

### 2025 ICSA China Conference:

Yuanjia Wang (Co-Chair, yw2016@cumc.columbia.edu)

Lixing Zhu (Co-Chair, lzhu@bnu.edu.cn)

### 2025 JSM Local Committee:

Dandan Liu (Chair, dandan.liu@vumc.org)

### 2025 ICSA International Conference:

Ying Zhang (Co-Chair, ying.zhang@unmc.edu)

Xinping Cui (Co-Chair, xpcui@ucr.edu)

Ming-Chung Chang (Co-Chair, mcchang@stat.sinica.edu.tw)

### 2026 Applied Statistics Symposium:

Lily Wang (Co-Chair, lwang41@gmu.edu)

Wanli Qiao (Co-Chair, wqiao@gmu.edu)

## ICSA CHAPTERS:

### ICSA-Taiwan Chapter:

Henry Horng-Shing Lu (Chair, 2025, hslu@stat.nycu.edu.tw)

Chao A. Hsiung (Past Chair, hsiung@nhri.org.tw)

### ICSA-Canada Chapter:

Wenqing He (Chair, 2025, whe@stats.uwo.ca)

Joan Hu (Past Chair, joan\_hu@sfu.ca)

Leilei Zeng (Secretary/Treasurer, lzeng@uwaterloo.ca)

**ICSA-Midwest Chapter:**

Ziqian Geng (Chair, 2025, [ziqian.geng@abbvie.com](mailto:ziqian.geng@abbvie.com))

Xiaohong Huang (Past Chair, [xiaohong.huang@abbvie.com](mailto:xiaohong.huang@abbvie.com))

# 2025 ICSA Awards

## 2025 ICSA Distinguished Achievement Award

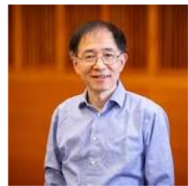


Hongtu Zhu, Ph.D.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

For outstanding contributions to the fields of statistical methodology and applications in neuroimaging, big data integration, and imaging genetics, exemplified by pioneering advances in multimodal medical image analysis, innovative statistical learning techniques for large-scale biomedical data, and leadership in developing critical resources that bridge genetics and brain health.

## 2025 Outstanding Service Award



Xuming He, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis

For outstanding contributions to modernizing ICSA governance during his presidency in 2010, initiating the Pao-Lu Hsu Award, advancing scholarly publishing through the founding of Statistics in Biosciences, and enhancing the impact of ICSA conferences and journals through sustained leadership and editorial service.



Gang Li, Ph.D.

University of California - Los Angeles

For transformative and sustained leadership to the ICSA, most notably during his presidency (2022–2024), where he expanded global outreach, launched impactful initiatives such as the ICSA Webinar Series and social media platforms, and significantly strengthened the society's visibility, membership, and international collaborations.

## 2025 ICSA Outstanding Young Researcher Award



Lihua Lei, Ph.D.

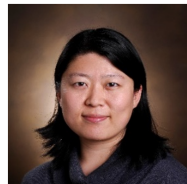
University of California - Berkeley

For outstanding contributions to the fields of innovative statistical methodologies for causal inference, multiple testing, high-dimensional data analysis and optimization, with impactful applications across economics, social sciences, and biomedical research.

### 2025 ICSA President Citation Award



Qingxia (Cindy) Chen, Ph.D.  
Vanderbilt University



Dandan Liu, Ph.D.  
Vanderbilt University

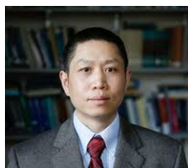
In recognition and appreciation of dedicated and outstanding service and leadership as the Co-Chair of the Executive Committee for the 2024 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium.



Xinping Cui, Ph.D.  
University of California, Riverside

In recognition and appreciation of dedicated and outstanding service and leadership as the Co-Chair of the Program Committee for the 2024 China Conference.

### Pao-Lu Hsu Award



Hui Zou, Ph.D.  
University of Minnesota

For groundbreaking contributions to the fields of high-dimensional statistics and statistical machine learning, through the development of methods such as the elastic net, adaptive Lasso, and local linear approximation, which have had lasting impact on variable selection, graphical modeling, and sparse estimation.

### Catalyst for Impact Award



Jie Chen, Ph.D.  
Taimei Intelligence Biopharma R&D Co. Inc.

For outstanding contributions to innovative statistical methodologies in drug safety and real-world evidence, significantly advancing biopharmaceutical development and regulatory science while fostering leadership and mentorship in the global statistical community.

# ICSA Members Recognitions

## Celebrating Dr. Naitee Ting: Winner of the Prestigious ASA Mentoring Award!

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Naitee Ting has won the prestigious ASA Mentoring Award for 2025! This honor recognizes Dr. Ting's exceptional contributions to mentoring, which have profoundly impacted individuals, our profession, and society. Dr. Ting's selection by the ASA Mentoring Award Committee highlights the remarkable difference made. Join us in celebrating this achievement at the JSM during the ASA President's Address and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, August 5, at 8:00 PM ET in Nashville, TN.

Dr. Ting's dedication to mentoring has strengthened our community and advanced the profession in meaningful ways.

## Congratulations on the ICSA Members to the 2025 ASA Fellows

Le Bao, The Pennsylvania State University  
Robert A. Beckman, Georgetown University  
Jing Cao, Southern Methodist University  
Xi Chen, New York University  
Abhirup Datta, Johns Hopkins University  
Ying Ding, University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health  
Yixin Fang, AbbVie  
Jianchang Lin, Takeda  
Yan Ma, University of Pittsburgh  
Zhenming Shun, Daiichi Sankyo  
Ying Sun, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology  
Chenguang Wang, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals  
Lan Xue, Oregon State University  
Jiajia Zhang, University of South Carolina  
Kai Zhang, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Xiang Zhou, University of Michigan  
For details, please refer to <https://www.amstat.org/news-listing/2025/04/21/asa-recognizes-2025-fellows-and-fellows>.

## Congratulations on the ICSA Members to the 2025 Class of IMS Fellows

Tianxi Cai, Harvard University  
Chiung-Yu Huang, University of California, San Francisco  
Ching-Kang Ing, National Tsing Hua University  
Chuanhai Liu, Purdue University  
Po-Ling Loh, University of Cambridge  
Qi Long, University of Pennsylvania  
Weijie Su, University of Pennsylvania  
For details, please refer to <https://imstat.org/2025/05/05/congratulations-to-the-2025-class-of-ims-fellows/>.

# The Spotlight from ICSA 2025 Applied Statistics Symposium (June 15 - July 18, 2025)

*Xiaojing Wang, Dacheng Liu*

The 34th annual ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium, themed “Insights into Complexity: Empowering Policy through Statistical Learning and Data Analytics”, was a resounding success! Hosted at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, CT, USA, from June 15th to June 18th, 2025, this exceptional event brought together over 440 participants from academia, government, and industry to explore how cutting-edge statistical methods inform policy and tackle real-world complexities. Notably, this marked the second time the University of Connecticut hosted the symposium, with the first occasion in 2006.

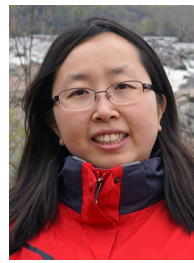
The symposium featured a rich and diverse program, including 3 keynote speeches, 1 banquet speech, and 97 invited sessions. Participants had the opportunity to engage in 4 short courses, explore 24 posters (including 16 posters in the poster competition), and attend 12 oral presentations by student paper award recipients and honorable mentions. The enthusiasm and intellectual exchange among attendees were truly inspiring, reflecting the vibrant community dedicated to advancing the field of statistics.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all individuals and organizations who contributed to the success of this symposium. We are especially thankful to the ICSA Executive Committee, ICSA Program Committee, and ICSA Special Lecture Committee for their unwavering support. Our sincere appreciation also goes to the University of Connecticut for hosting us in their outstanding conference venues, as well as to the faculty and student volunteers from UConn’s Department of Statistics, session organizers, and the dedicated symposium committees. Lastly, we extend our deepest thanks to all enthusiastic speakers and participants who made this event an

unforgettable experience.

In addition, we are deeply grateful for the generous financial support from our sponsors. Special thanks to the National Science Foundation, whose funding made it possible for participants from diverse backgrounds to attend and engage in the symposium. We also sincerely acknowledge our 2 Gold sponsors (AbbVie and Pfizer), 9 Silver sponsors (Amgen, Astellas, BeOne, BioPIER, The Lotus Group, Mathematics –an Open Access Journal by MDPI, Merck, Regeneron, and Sanofi), and 7 Bronze sponsors (ASA Biopharmaceutical Section, Boehringer Ingelheim, Eli Lilly, LLX Solutions, Novartis, Servier, and Tower Research Capital). Your contributions were instrumental in making this symposium a great success.

Thank you all for your dedication, passion, and enthusiasm in advancing the field of statistics and making the 34th ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium an extraordinary event. We look forward to future collaborations and opportunities to continue driving innovation and excellence in statistical science!



*Xiaojing Wang, PhD,  
Professor of Statistics,  
University of Connecticut.*



*Dacheng Liu, PhD,  
Highly Distinguished Therapeutic  
Area Statistician,  
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals.*

# ICSA 2025 China Conference Highlights Innovation and Global Collaboration

*Yuanjia Wang and Lixing Zhu*



The ICSA 2025 China Conference took place from June 28 to June 30, 2025, at the Zhuhai campus of Beijing Normal University (BNUZ) in Guangdong, China. Co-organized by the International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) and Beijing Normal University, the conference centered around the theme: "Future in Statistics: Partnership and Innovation in the Data-Rich Era." This theme reflects a growing emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration and cutting-edge applications of statistics and data science in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape.

The conference featured a dynamic and comprehensive program: two keynote addresses, 113 invited sessions, eight contributed sessions, a special session for junior researcher award winners, 17 poster presentations, and a variety of social events. Keynote lectures were delivered by two internationally renowned statisticians, Dr. Runze Li (Pennsylvania State University, USA) and Dr. Wenguang Sun (Zhejiang University, China), who shared their latest insights on statistical methodology and its future directions.



Thanks to the tireless efforts of the executive and organizing committees, as well as strong support from the ICSA and local organizers, the conference attracted over 600 participants from academia, government, and industry across the globe. It provided a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, collaboration, recruitment,

and professional development.

A special acknowledgment goes to the local organizing committee and more than 50 student volunteers at BNUZ for their exceptional coordination of meeting logistics and social activities. Highlights included the conference banquet on Sunday, June 29, where attendees enjoyed seafood and an engaging talk by banquet speaker, Dr. Tian Zheng from Columbia University. The 7 Junior Research Award winners and 5 Poster Award winners were recognized at the banquet.



Beyond the academic program, the city of Zhuhai offered a memorable backdrop. Known for its subtropical climate and scenic coastline, Zhuhai blends natural beauty with modern attractions, including the world-famous Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and Chimelong Ocean Kingdom. Attendees also had the opportunity to enjoy the city's signature Cantonese seafood and explore its lush gardens, luxury resorts, and bustling shopping districts.

With its rich content, international reach, and warm hospitality, the ICSA 2025 China Conference proved to be an inspiring and impactful gathering, one that reaffirmed the global importance of statistical science in shaping the data-driven future.



*Yuanjia Wang, PhD,  
Professor of Biostatistics,  
Columbia University.*



*Lixing Zhu, PhD,  
Professor of Statistics,  
Beijing Normal University.*

# Post Event Report on 2025 Rao Prize Conference

The Penn State Department of Statistics held the 2025 Rao Prize Conference on May 20, 2025, to honor three prize recipients: the 2025 C. R. and Bhargavi Rao Prize Recipient Trevor Hastie, the John A. Overdeck Professor of Statistics and Biomedical Data Science at Stanford University; the 2025 P. R. Krishnaiah Lecturer Martin Wainwright, the Cecil H. Green Professor in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and the 2025 C. G. Khatri Lecturer Hui Zou, the Dr. Lynn Y. S. Lin Professor of Statistics at the University of Minnesota. There were about 100 researchers attending this conference.

The conference program consisted of three plenary speakers, four invited speakers, and a poster presentation by postdocs and graduate students. The plenary speakers were Hastie, Wainwright, and Zou. The invited speakers were Associate Professor of Statistics Will Fithian of the University of California, Berkeley, Assistant Professor of Data Sciences and Operations Zijun Gao of the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business, Professor of Statistics and Computer Science Jia Li of Penn State, and Professor of Computer Science Pradeep Ravikumar of Carnegie Mellon University.



One of the highlights of the conference was the awarding of the 2025 Rao Prize to Trevor Hastie. Hastie is known for his research in the fields of statistical modeling, statistical computing, bioinformatics, and statistical learning. He has published six books and over 200 research articles in these areas. Hastie is an elected Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the American Statistical Association, the Royal Statistical Society, and the South African Statistical

Society. In 2018, Hastie was elected a member of the United States National Academy of Sciences. In 2019, he became a foreign member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is also a recipient of the Founders of Statistics Prize for Contemporary Research Contributions, the Leo Breiman Award (Senior), the Wald Memorial Award, and the Technometrics Ziegel Award. During the period 2006 – 2009, he was the chair of the Department of Statistics at Stanford University. He has also made contributions in statistical computing, co-editing (with J. Chambers) a large software library on modeling tools in the S language (“Statistical Models in S”, Wadsworth, 1992), which forms the foundation for much of the statistical modeling in R. He has received honorary doctoral degrees from University of Waterloo, Canada, and Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Germany.

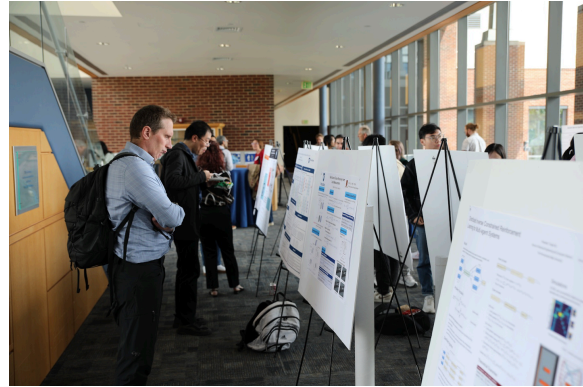


This conference also highlighted the 2025 P. R. Krishnaiah Lecturer, Martin Wainwright, and the 2025 C. G. Khatri Lecturer, Hui Zou. Wainwright is the 2014 winner of the COPSS Presidents’ Award from the Joint Statistical Societies; he is an elected fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow, and an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellow; he has won best paper awards from the IEEE Signal Processing Society, the IEEE Communications Society, and the IEEE Information Theory and Communication Societies; and he has received the Medallion Lectureship and Blackwell Award from the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the NSF CAREER Award. Zou is an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and

a recipient of the Founders of Statistics Prize for Contemporary Research Contributions, the NSF CAREER Award, and the Tweedie Award from the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.



The C. R. and Bhargavi Rao Prize was established to honor and recognize outstanding and influential innovations in the theory and practice of mathematical statistics, international leadership in directing statistics research, and pioneering contributions by a recognized leader in the field of statistics. The C. G. Khatri Memorial Lectureship and P. R. Krishnaiah Memorial Lectureship honor the memory of C. G. Khatri and P. R. Krishnaiah by inviting outstanding researchers in statistics to deliver lectures at Penn State. More details about the conference can be found on the web at <https://science.psu.edu/stat/2025-rao-prize-conference>.



# Report from the ICSA Springer Book Series in Statistics

*Yichuan Zhao, Ding-Geng Chen*

Professor Din Chen, the editor of the Springer Statistics & Biostatistics book series, would like to showcase the scientific output for our workshop by making a book, which reflects new challenges and advances in Biostatistics and Bioinformatics. We welcome submissions from all areas of statistics, data science and interdisciplinary areas. Submitted papers are expected to present new methods in statistics and data science, new theories in biostatistics, and applications in bioinformatics.

Below are our plans in details:

- You are encouraged to submit your research that is related to the biostatistics and bioinformatics.
- To include high quality papers to the book, all submissions will be subject to peer review. Each submission will also be independently reviewed by the co-editors. The final accepted papers will be those selected by the co-editors.
- To make the process move very smoothly,
  - If you wish to submit a paper, we need you to indicate your intent of submission

by September 15, 2025, with a tentative title of the paper (you can change the title later), your name (first, middle and last), and your affiliation. Please email this information to Yichuan Zhao at [yichuan@gsu.edu](mailto:yichuan@gsu.edu).

- A manuscript is sent to Dr. Yichuan Zhao by December 31, 2025. The decision will be reached by July 31, 2026.
- The book is expected to appear on December 31, 2026.



*Yichuan Zhao, PhD,  
Full Professor of Statistics,  
Georgia State University,  
Atlanta, USA.*



*Ding-Geng Chen, PhD,  
ASA Fellow,  
Executive Director and Professor  
in Biostatistics,  
College of Health Solutions,  
Arizona State University,  
Phoenix, AZ, USA.*

# Report from Outreach and Engagement (O & E) Committee

*Jin Zhou, Qing Yang*

Over the past year and a half, the ICSA Webinar Sub-Committee has built a robust platform and successfully delivered ten high-quality webinars and panel discussions on career development in the pharmaceutical industry. These sessions have attracted nearly 1,700 registrants and over 800 attendees. Beyond knowledge sharing, the series has fostered a strong sense of community among professionals, providing a valuable space for learning, connection, and growth. Recordings of all webinars are available on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@ICSA-Webinar>.

Building on this success, we are excited to launch a new webinar series focused on career development in academia. The first session, organized by Dr. Jing Zhou, featured a panel discussion with journal editors on navigating publishing in the era of AI. Upcoming topics may include “Landing Your First Academic Position” and “Thriving as a Statistical Collaborator in Academia.” If you’re interested in contributing to or participating in this new series, we’d love to hear from you!

Table 1. Attendance Statistics for ICSA Webinars in 2024 and 2025

Time	# of registrants	# of attendants
Feb 2024	213	122
Mar 2024	125	90
Apr 2024	123	67
May 2024	166	95
Sep 2024	226	97
Oct 2024	123	50
Nov 2024	123	50
Feb 2025	100	50
Mar 2025	122	54
Mar 2025 (2)	268	93
Apr 2025	113	63
May 2025	117	48
Total	976	521



*Jin Zhou, PhD,  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Medicine,  
UCLA, USA.*



*Qing Yang, PhD,  
Associate Professor  
Duke School of Nursing,  
Duke University, USA.*

## News from the ICSA-Canada Chapter

*Wenqing He*

The ICSA-Canada Chapter has elected Professor Pengfei Li from the University of Waterloo as Chair-Elect (2025-2026), and Professor Hua Shen from the University of Calgary as Secretary/Treasurer (2025-2030). We warmly welcome Pengfei and Hua to the Executive Committee to serve the Chapter.

Professor Paul Peng from Queen’s University has completed his terms as Chair-Elect (2019-2020), Chair (2021-2022), and Past Chair (2023-2024). Professor Leilei Zeng from the University of Waterloo has also completed her six-year term as Secretary/Treasurer. Both have now concluded their service on the Executive Committee of the Chapter. We extend our sincere thanks to Paul and Leilei for their extraordinary contributions to the Chapter.

Dr. Grace Yi, the founding chair of the ICSA-Canada Chapter, received the Gold Medal of the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC), the most prestigious award of the Society. The ICSA-Canada Chapter organized a member dinner in Saskatoon during the SSC Annual Meeting on May 26, 2025. Approximately 32 members attended the dinner,

where they exchanged suggestions and feedback on the Chapter’s activities.

Following the successful 6th Chapter Symposium held in Niagara Falls in 2024, we are now planning the 7th Biannual Chapter Symposium, which will be held at McGill University in Montreal from August 7-9, 2026—immediately following JSM 2026. The Local Organizing Committee is chaired by Professor Qihuang Zhang from McGill University, and the Program Committee is chaired by Professor Devon Chunfang Lin from Queen’s University. More details about the symposium will be announced soon.

If you are interested in organizing an invited session or have questions regarding the scientific program, please contact Devon at [devon.lin@queensu.ca](mailto:devon.lin@queensu.ca).



*Wenqing He, PhD,  
Chair, ICSA Canada Chapter,  
Professor of Statistics,  
Department of Statistics and  
Actuarial Science,  
University of Western Ontario,  
Canada.*

# ICSA Financial Report

**International Chinese Statistical Association**  
**Profit and Loss**  
**Jan 1, 2025 through Jun 30, 2025**

<b>Beginning Cash Balance (Bank/Stripe/Symposium/PayPal Accounts)</b>	<b>1/1/2025</b>	<b>\$ 252,418.34</b>
<b>Income:</b>		
Membership		\$ 28,874.03
2025 Donations		\$ 40,137.66
2025 ICSA Symposium Registration Fees		\$ 154,174.35
2025 China Conference Registration Fees		\$ 90,228.36
Springer Science & Taylor Francis		\$ 3,188.53
Job Posting		\$ 300.00
Interest		\$ 40.35
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 316,943.28</b>
<b>Expense:</b>		
ICSA Office Cost		\$ (3,229.19)
2024 ICSA Symposium		\$ (400.00)
2024 ICSA Webinar Honorarium		\$ (250.00)
2025 ICSA Symposium Awards and Honorarium		\$ (13,900.00)
2024 SIBS Best Paper Awards		\$ (1,000.00)
IT Cost		\$ (6,555.83)
PayPal Fees		\$ (639.57)
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$ (25,974.59)</b>
<b>Net Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 290,968.69</b>
<b>Ending Cash Balance (Bank/Stripe/Symposium/PayPal Accounts)</b>	<b>6/30/2025</b>	<b>\$ 543,387.03</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
JP Hsu		\$ 34,717.09
Bank/Stripe/Symposium/PayPal		\$ 543,387.03
Vanguard Investment Balance		\$ 1,585,934.25
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 2,164,038.37</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Equity</b>		
Main Accounts Opening Balance on Jan 1, 2025		\$ 247,718.34
Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2025 Net Income(+)/Expense(-)		\$ 290,968.69
2018 ICSA Symposium Bank Account Opening Balance on Jan 1, 2025		\$ 4,700.00
JP Hsu Account Opening Balance on Jan 1, 2025		\$ 32,699.87
Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2025 Investment Income(+)/Expense(-)		\$ 2,017.22
Vanguard Investment Account Opening Balance on Jan 1, 2025		\$ 1,465,219.16
Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2025 Investment Profit(+)/Loss(-)		\$ 120,715.09
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>\$ 2,164,038.37</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		<b>\$ 2,164,038.37</b>



*Xin He, PhD,  
Treasurer, ICSA,  
Associate Professor of Biostatistics,  
University of Maryland.*

# Speak with an Established Lab

*Shuo Chen, Zhenyao Ye, Hwiyoung Lee, AlFahad AlQadhi*

Column Description: the column offers labs an opportunity to share their experiences, including insights into research focus, mentorship, and lab management. These contributions aim to support principal investigators, particularly junior and mid-career researchers, as they build and lead their own scientific teams.

## Interview with the Principal Investigator



*Shuo Chen, Ph.D.,  
Professor and Director,  
Biostatistics and Bioinformatics,  
School of Medicine,  
University of Maryland, USA.*

**Question 1:** Can you briefly describe the primary research focus of your lab and the specific problems in data science that you are currently addressing?

**Answer:** Our lab focuses on developing novel statistical and computational methods to address the challenges of multi-modal, high-throughput data, with the goal of achieving more reliable and replicable scientific findings. For example, we design new objective functions and implement innovative algorithms to correct systematic prediction bias in existing machine learning and AI-based regression methods, motivated by research on biological aging. We also develop network-based approaches for analyzing whole-brain connectomes for neuropsychiatric disorders, imaging-genetics, multi-omics pathway interactions, and multivariate mediation and moderation effects. These methodological developments are driven by the demands of our scientific investigations, and they enable us to generate robust and reproducible results from large and complex datasets.

**Question 2:** What motivated you to establish your lab in the field of data science, and how has your research focus evolved over time?

**Answer:** Solving practical problems in scientific research increasingly requires teamwork, particularly as modern studies involve large-scale data curation and computational analysis across consortia. These collaborative efforts provide trainees with valuable hands-on experience in real-world data science challenges. Over time, our lab's research focus has evolved from analyzing a single data modality—such as brain connectome data—to integrating more complex and diverse sources, including imaging-genetics, multi-omics, and imaging- or omics-guided clinical trials. In parallel, the scale of data we work with has grown dramatically, from gigabytes to petabytes, further motivating the development of scalable and efficient data science methodologies.

**Question 3:** How do you foster an innovative and collaborative environment in your lab that encourages new ideas and interdisciplinary research?

**Answer:** I have been working to foster an innovative and collaborative environment by encouraging lab members to collaborate on both data processing and methodological development. Each member leads a few research projects, but they are also encouraged to apply their methods to datasets curated by others in the lab. For large consortium datasets such as the UK Biobank, pre-processing and data curation require team-based efforts, allowing all members to explore different research questions using shared, high-quality data. This structure supports a culture of collaboration and mutual learning. We also hold two weekly lab meetings – one focused on scientific research and the other on methodological development – where members share progress, provide feedback, and brainstorm new ideas. These meetings play a key role in promoting interdisciplinary thinking and generating novel research directions.

**Question 4:** What strategies do you use to mentor and support your lab members, especially junior researchers, in their career development?

**Answer:** I begin by meeting with each mentee to introduce the lab's current research areas and collaboratively identify topics that align with their interests. Senior lab members play an important role by sharing datasets and practical challenges, helping junior researchers quickly gain exposure to

real-world problems and understand the significance of their work. This hands-on approach allows junior members to develop a strong foundation in the applied aspects of the research. As they progress, they gradually delve into the theoretical and methodological components, ultimately developing the skills needed to contribute new methods and lead their own projects. This structured yet flexible mentorship approach supports both skill-building and career development.

## Virtual Interview for Lab Members



*Zhenyao Ye,  
MPH in Biostatistics,  
University of Maryland, College  
Park.*

**Question 2:** Can you describe the most rewarding aspect of your work in this lab, and how it has helped you grow as a researcher?

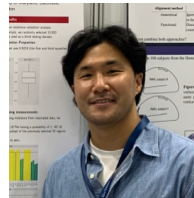
**Answer:** The most rewarding aspect of my work in this lab has been leading projects on the topics that align with both my own interests and our PI’s research focus. Throughout these projects, I have had opportunities to develop independent thinking and problem-solving skills, which are crucial for becoming a successful researcher. In addition, our PI and team members have provided many supports during our regular meetings to discuss challenges, and explore solutions. These experiences have helped me gain valuable skills that are highly relevant to helping me grow as a researcher.

**Question 3:** What strategies have you found effective for managing your time and balancing multiple research projects or responsibilities within the lab?

**Answer:** I have found that an effective strategy for managing my time and balancing multiple research projects in the lab is to start each week by outlining major goals and deadlines for each project, then break them down into specific tasks for each weekday. I prioritize tasks based on urgency and upcoming deadlines, which helps me stay

focused and make steady progress across different responsibilities.

## Virtual Interview for Lab Members



*Hwiyoung Lee, Ph.D.,  
Ph.D. in Statistics,  
Florida State University*

**Question 1:** How do you approach communication and collaboration with your PI, lab colleagues, and other teams, and what have you learned about effective teamwork in a research environment?

**Answer:** We have regular group meetings where we discuss data, methods, and research progress. Each member presents their work and receives feedback from colleagues and our PI. These meetings provide valuable insights that help improve my research or overcome challenges. Open communication with other teams and lab members has been very effective and helpful for collaborative problem-solving.

**Question 2:** How do you stay updated with the latest developments, tools, or trends in data science and statistics, and how do you apply new knowledge to your research work?

**Answer:** I stay updated by reading recent journal articles and watching virtual seminars like the “online Causal Inference Seminar” on YouTube. I first test new knowledge through simulations using toy examples, then compare it with my current approach. This helps me identify areas for improvement and adapt the new methods to refine my research methods.

## Virtual Interview for Lab Members



*AlFahad AlQadhi, Ph.D.,  
Post-Doctoral Fellow,  
University of Maryland*

**Question 1:** Describe a time when you encountered ambiguous or incomplete data. How did you approach resolving the issue, and what did you learn from the experience?

**Answer:** When working with unclear or ambiguous data, I find it best to communicate with the source or curator, explain the ambiguity, and ask for clarification. As for missing data it will

heavily depend on how much is missing. In my experience, ignoring the samples with missing data was always possible.

**Question 2:** Data science often involves ethical considerations, especially when working with sensitive or personal data. How do you ensure ethical standards in your research, and how would you handle a situation where you identify a potential ethical concern?

**Answer:** Using trusted public release datasets is the best practice as these sources would have taken the necessary steps towards anonymization. If data with personal information was found during my analysis, I would start by communicating the problem to the data provider or curator, hold any publications using this data, and removing the data from all the locations I have stored it.

# Experience-Sharing from Successful Young Researchers

*Miao Wang, Zheng Li, Elynn Chen*

In this ICSA Bulletin, we are excited to have three excellent junior/middle-year researchers in statistics, biostatistics, and data science who would like to share their personal experience and insight they with early-career researchers. They are Dr. Wang Miao (WM), an Associate Professor from Peking University, Dr. Zheng Li (ZL), an Associate Director from Novartis Oncology, and Dr. Elynn Chen (EC), an assistant professor from New York University. The following is the summary of this virtual interview. Their diverse backgrounds span academia and industry, offering valuable perspectives on research, interdisciplinary collaboration, emerging trends, and professional development.

***What inspired you to pursue a career in statistics or data science, and how did you find your specific niche within the field (e.g., academia, biopharma)?***

**WM:** In 2011, I was a third-year undergraduate. Occasionally in a lecture, I listened to a talk on causal inference given by Professor Zhi Geng. Among the various concepts and methods he introduced, I was deeply attracted by Simpson's paradox. I decided to investigate this problem and the large area behind under the supervision of Professor Geng. This is the starting point of my journey in statistics and causal inference.

**LZ:** Interest in data and coding. Some undergraduate classes (categorical analyses) to me are more interesting than others.

**EC:** My background in both computer science and economics led me to appreciate the foundational role of statistical modeling across disciplines. During my undergraduate thesis in natural language processing with models like Hidden Markov Models and Conditional Random Fields – which were still widely used at the time, before the deep learning wave post-2015 – I became intellectually curious about the statistical principles underlying these methods. This curiosity, along with my exposure to econometric modeling in economics, motivated me

to pursue a deeper understanding of statistics and eventually led me to a research career in this field.

***How do you balance technical rigor with real-world impact in your current role, especially when working with interdisciplinary teams or stakeholders?***

**WM:** I must first ensure 100 percent technical rigor, and upon this basis, I strive to seek as large real-world impact as possible. Whoever I am working with, this is the way I am working.

***Looking ahead, what trends or emerging areas in statistics or data science excite you the most, and how do you stay current in such a rapidly evolving field?***

**ZL:** Probably it's artificial intelligence (AI). AI can do more and more. To stay current, the easiest way is to try different latest generative AI and learn what they can do in terms statistical tasks. Additionally, attending industry, academic conferences are also important. Listening to what others are doing with AI is helpful to generate new idea. Last but not least, taking some courses to understand the generative AI models to have a deep understanding of the large language model (LLM).

***How do you approach the diversity of tasks in your work, such as research, data analysis, writing, project management, and communication? Do you have strategies for staying productive or avoiding burnout?***

**EC:** I embrace the diversity of tasks in my work as a natural outlet for my curiosity and a way to stay intellectually engaged. While I enjoy exploring new ideas, I also prioritize effectively and maintain focus to stay on track. To sustain productivity and prevent burnout, I lead a balanced life – playing tennis regularly, which sharpens both body and mind. The physical challenge, strategic depth, and measurable progress in the sport provide a refreshing counterbalance to academic work.

***What advice would you give to students or early-career professionals looking to build a fulfilling career in statistics, biostatistics, or data science?***

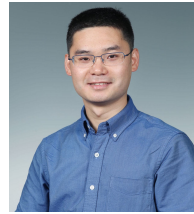
**ZL:** The most important thing is to keep learning. Although, classic statistical theory is well established, more and more modern techniques along with the development of computer science is changing both academia and industry very fast. Learning from school is definitely not enough. When the paper of Lasso was published, no one would expect it would impact the machine learning so much after 10 years. And now with the new generative AI, more and more to learn.

The next thing is to make yourself always understandable for your audience. Our role as statistician or data scientist will always need to collaborate with specialist in other area. The communication skill will become very important in these collaborations. The data need to be understood; otherwise, your work will become meaningless.

### Summary

In this virtual interview, three accomplished early- to mid-career researchers share their journeys into statistics and data science, reflecting on what

inspired their career paths and how they found their professional niches. They discuss strategies for balancing technical rigor with real-world impact, staying current in a rapidly evolving field, managing diverse responsibilities, and preventing burnout. The panel also offers practical advice for students and early-career professionals, emphasizing lifelong learning, interdisciplinary communication, and the importance of curiosity. Together, their insights provide a thoughtful and inspiring resource for those navigating careers in statistics, biostatistics, or data science.



*Miao Wang, Ph.D.,  
Associate Professor,  
Department of probability and  
statistics,  
Peking University.*



*Zheng Li, Ph.D.,  
Associate Director,  
Novartis Oncology.*



*Elynn Chen, Ph.D.,  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Technology,  
Operations, and Statistics,  
New York University.*

# XL-Files: If Statistics Must Die... Let It Go Out with All Its Styles

*Xiao-Li Meng*

**Editorial:** The styles Xiao-Li Meng writes about here are the styles of the discipline of statistics: not just the traditional “modeling and fitting” but also “statistics as decision-making” and “statistics as consensus”, as Christopher Phillips recently outlined...

“The Theory That Would Not Die,” Sharon Bertsch McGrayne’s 2011 chronicle of Bayes’ theorem, tells the tale of a statistical rule born long before statistics became a formal discipline. Our appreciation of its value may vary with our perspective. Some hail it as the key to understanding how the human brain processes information; others—myself included—consider it an overly demanding learning rule due to its reliance on distributional specifications. Nevertheless, few would dispute that Bayes’ theorem has no expiration date, despite continued attempts to extend or generalize it.

Similarly, statistics as a discipline will endure as long as *Homo sapiens* exists—and, quite likely, it has been or will be rediscovered by other intelligent beings across the cosmos, particularly if the universe is as inherently quantum as we think. The rise of machine learning, the advent of large language models, and the flourishing of agentic AI all showcase breathtaking engineering feats and computational ingenuity. Yet these advances are developed and deployed to unleash the might of statistical prediction and reasoning, not to replace them—nor could they. In fact, the anticipated quantum computing revolution may shine an even brighter light on statistics, given its reliance on stochastic quantum interference and the necessity of controlling inherent statistical errors to acceptable levels.

However, as I noted in my editorial (<https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/shn1mqmm/release/5>) for the Spring 2025 issue of Harvard Data Science Review (HDSR), a discipline’s intellectual viability does not guarantee its professional vitality. (This XL-Files also serves as a brief introduction to that HDSR issue to the statistical community; all articles cited come from it.) Statistics as a scientific subject will always exist, but statistics as a profession might not, if we allow our styles to fall out of fashion, especially while our sibling disciplines (or rivals?)

embrace an increasingly entrepreneurial culture. For fellow statisticians who may bristle at the mere allusion that we need to adapt to trends, I offer a Victorian-style, hat-tipping bow and invite you to examine and critique—historian of science Christopher Phillips’s article—titled (wait for it!) “Styles of Statistics” [<https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/yen5ysj5/release/1>]*—*featured in the Mining the Past column of HDSR.

As a historian who understands well that histories are made and written by different generations, Phillips wisely cautions that “Generalizations about the nature of a discipline as broad as statistics can and should be contested.” I thus hope his delineation of evolving styles of statistical reasoning will spark an inner dialogue by any statistician. My own internal back-and-forth centers on how statistics, as a profession rather than merely a discipline, might cultivate a culture that strengthens our traditional “modeling and fitting” style while embracing significantly more the newer styles Phillips outlined: “statistics as decision-making” and “statistics as consensus.”

Surely, we should teach and value all three styles (and others). Our strength in modeling and fitting earns us a seat at decision and negotiation tables. Conversely, engaging directly in decision-making and consensus-building can enhance our toolkit and sharpen our modeling efforts. Yet internalizing such a culture as a profession is far more complex than simply talking about its benefits. Anyone who has held a leadership role—and who didn’t pursue it solely for personal gain—can attest to the inner struggles between “getting it right” and “getting it going.” Decisions often demand judgments beyond what data alone can justify. Consensus-building may force compromises, not only on measurable outcomes but on values or even principles.

Statistically inclined readers might rightly point out that modeling and fitting also involve judgments and compromises. Indeed they do. Jeffrey Rosenthal’s article, “An Investigation Into Probabilities of Streaks in Online Chess,” [<https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/ex6vbavk/release/2?readingCollection=da931fd2>] illustrates this well. Determining whether a long winning streak signals cheating requires assessing skill levels and translating them into probabilistic outcomes—a process lacking hard theory, thus judgment

and compromise (e.g., bias–variance trade-off) are inevitable for modeling and fitting, as the article carefully articulated.

Detecting cheating in online chess is relatively narrow in scope compared to the high-stakes problems we statisticians regularly encounter. Yet because its findings can have real consequences for the accused and the platform, the study must be rigorous and defensible including in its presentation. Rosenthal concludes with a careful interpretation, emphasizing that unexpected streaks alone are neither necessary nor sufficient evidence for cheating. Some may find such caution anticlimactic, but it is essential for the credibility of the author and study—and for avoiding misinterpretation in legal contexts. This is the kind of nuance we risk neglecting if we stay within our “back-of-house” modeling comfort zones.

Venturing into “front-of-house” tasks like decision-making and consensus-building pushes us beyond our comfort zones, toward action-oriented leadership anchored in statistical principles. Many of us have lamented that a host of statistical wheels have been reinvented. Yet fewer of us manage to deliver “meals on wheels”—solutions that feed the real-world hunger as quickly as our sister disciplines. Who garners more visibility and appreciation: The meal deliverers or the wheel inventors?

Yes, we can and should warn consumers of the risks of fast food—statistical or otherwise. But unless we help reduce those risks or provide healthier, equally convenient alternatives, our warnings make us look more like troublemakers than wheelmakers.

As a concerned statistician, I therefore take particular pleasure in introducing two more HDSR articles aimed at strengthening statistical styles in the era of data science and AI. The first, co-authored by three dozen participants of a June 2023 workshop in Germany, explores the “Challenges and Opportunities for Statistics in the Era of Data Science” (Kirch et al., 2025) [<https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/ufaltur6/release/1?readingCollection=da931fd2>]. It delves into statisticians’ roles in data science, offering reflections on effective organizational structures, fruitful directions, enabling conditions, and the need for a shared language for the broad data science community.

The second article recounts a webinar held nine months later, co-organized by Stats Up AI Alliance [<https://statsupai.org/>] and the International Chinese Statistical Association [<https://www.icsa.org/>], with a title that reflects the rapid revolution of AI technologies, namely, “Statistics and AI: A Fireside Conversation” (Lin et al., 2025) [<https://hdsr.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/a7kmqk35/release/1?readingCollection=da931fd2>]. The webinar’s three panels tackled timely issues for statistics as a profession, with the aim to build a strategic roadmap for attracting talent, securing funding, reforming publication, modernizing education, encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration, and preserving statistical rigor and foundational values.

In short, Statistics as a discipline will never die. But as a profession, it requires our collective effort to avoid repeating the fate of Operations Research, as I argued in my aforementioned editorial. Still, if statistics must die—let it go out with all its styles.

Let us be sure to raise an annual toast to celebrate both the immortality of statistics and the diversity of its styles—especially during the Vine to Mind symposium. If you haven’t heard of this symposium before, you can explore its origins and the 2025 program (June 24–25, 2025, in Lausanne, Switzerland) at [vinetomind.org](http://vinetomind.org), which also links to the special Vine to Mind theme in HDSR; also check the December 2024 issue’s XL-Files (<https://imstat.org/2024/11/15/xl-files-vine-to-mind/>). I look forward to seeing as many XL-Files readers as possible at the 2025 gathering, hosted at the world’s leading school of hospitality management. Please help to spread the word, but only after you secure a ticket for yourself—seating is truly limited (by the size of the tasting Lab at École Hôtelière de Lausanne).

Just in case I don’t see you at Lausanne (or JSM 2025), cheers, to statistics’ immortality, and all statistical styles!



*Xiao-Li Meng, Ph.D.  
Whipple V. N. Jones Professor  
of Statistics,  
Department of Statistics,  
Harvard University.*

# Upcoming Events

## Join Us as a Volunteer at 2025 JSM in Nashville

We are calling on enthusiastic volunteers to help with ICSA activities during the 2025 JSM in Nashville, Tennessee! This is your chance to be part of an exciting event and make a significant impact. Volunteers will work with the JSM local committee at the ICSA booth from Monday, August 4th to Wednesday, August 6th, 2025. You'll also have the opportunity to participate in the ICSA membership meeting, social events, and the ICSA Boat Tour Banquet.

If you're interested, please reach out to the ICSA JSM Local Committee Chair, Dr. Dandan Liu ([dandan.liu@vumc.org](mailto:dandan.liu@vumc.org)), the ICSA office manager Grace Li ([office@icsa.org](mailto:office@icsa.org)), or the ICSA executive director Dr. Jun Zhao ([executive.director@icsa.org](mailto:executive.director@icsa.org)).

We need volunteers to attend the ICSA booth from August 4th to August 6th. Please sign up for a time slot that fits your schedule via <https://www.icsa.org/jsm-2025-icsa-volunteer-sign-up/>. Your participation will help make this event a success!

## The 13th ICSA International Conference (December 17 - 20, 2025)

This conference will take place at Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. With the theme "The New Frontier: Statistical Science in a Changing World," this prestigious event will be co-organized by ICSA, the Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica (ISSAS), in collaboration with the Chinese Institute of Probability and Statistics (CIPS). For detailed information, you may refer to <https://www3.stat.sinica.edu.tw/joint2025/>. ICSA members may contact Dr. Xinpeng Cui ([xpcui@ucr.edu](mailto:xpcui@ucr.edu)), or Dr. Ying Zhang ([ying.zhang@unmc.edu](mailto:ying.zhang@unmc.edu)) for the conference programs.

## ICSA Symposium 2026 (June 14 - 17, 2026)

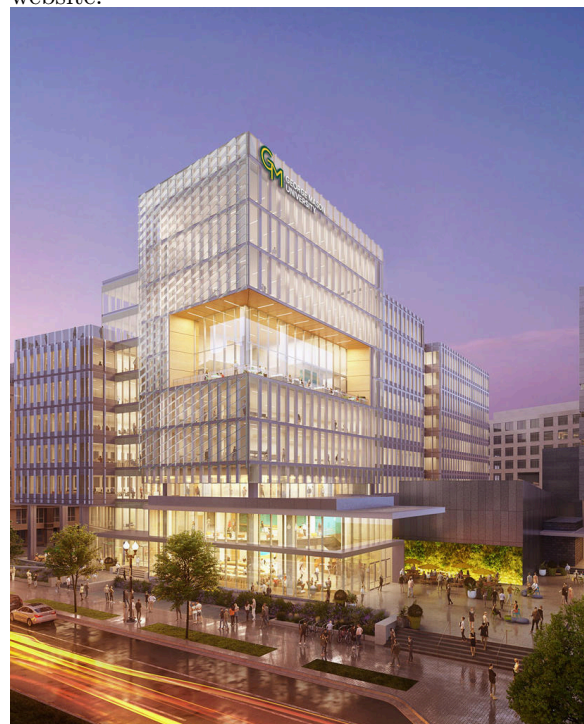
The International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) is thrilled to announce that the 2026 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium will be held from

June 14 -17, 2026, on the Arlington Campus of George Mason University. This premier event will bring together over 600 participants from academia, government, and industry for four days of vibrant scientific exchange and professional networking.

The symposium will feature keynote lectures, short courses, 100+ invited sessions, poster presentations, panel and roundtable discussions, and a new federal-industry summit designed to foster cross-sector collaboration. With its strategic location near numerous federal agencies, research institutions, and think tanks, the Arlington venue offers a unique platform for statisticians and data scientists from all sectors to exchange ideas, showcase innovations, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

The area is highly accessible through three major airports (DCA, IAD, and BWI) and served by an extensive public transit system, including direct access to five Metro lines, making travel seamless. With walkable neighborhoods, top-tier restaurants, nearby hotels, and cultural attractions, attendees can fully enjoy both the professional and social aspects of the event.

We look forward to welcoming you to a dynamic program that highlights innovations in statistics, data science, and AI across diversity disciplines. Stay tuned for updates on session proposals, student activities, and registration details at the ICSA website!





### ICSA China Conference 2026

The 2026 ICSA China Conference will be hosted by the Department of Statistics Data Science, Southern University of Science and Technology in Shenzhen, China. The conference is scheduled to be held from June 26 to June 29, 2026. Professor Qiman Shao will co-chair the organizing executive committee. Stay tuned for more details.

# Introduction of the ICSA Mentor-Mentee Program

## Empowering the Next Generation of Statisticians

*Yushi Liu, Hanfei Xu, Jun Zhao, Xun Chen, Wei Shen, Hongzhe Li, and Hongtu Zhu*

The ICSA Mentor-Mentee Program (IM<sup>2</sup>) is a new initiative launched by the International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) to support junior statisticians in particular students close to graduation and early-career professionals to facilitate their transition from academia to industry. Recognizing the challenges of this shift, including differences in collaborative environment, communication expectation, and internal/external influence, the IM<sup>2</sup> Program provides a structured platform for experience sharing and professional growth.

Beyond individual development, the IM<sup>2</sup> Program aims to enhance ICSA's visibility, foster stronger industry-academia collaboration, and cultivate a healthy, supportive community. The program is guided by an ad hoc committee and

supported by the ICSA Webinar and IT teams, with plans to feature IM<sup>2</sup> Program highlights in different conferences. Whether you're a student seeking direction or a seasoned professional eager to give back, the IM<sup>2</sup> Program is your path to meaningful mentorship and lasting impact.

The IM<sup>2</sup> program plans to launch a Zoom-based monthly "Mentoring Lounge", where selected mentors (i.e. seasoned statisticians with years of industry experience) engage in open, interactive discussions with registered mentees for one hour. The sessions will be themed specific industry sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, finance, and data science, and offer mentees the opportunity to ask questions, gain career insights, and build confidence in navigating transition challenges. Mentee registration is open to ICSA members who register through a secure Google Cloud form, which also includes a legal agreement to ensure professionalism and confidentiality.