WSS Short Course on Statistical Leadership

Date: Wednesday, 14 November 2018  
Time: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Instructor: Dr. Gary Sullivan (Espirer Consulting, LLC)

Leader/Presenters:  
Dr. Barry Nussbaum (2017 ASA President and Chief Statistician of the Environmental Protection Agency (retired))  
Dr. Sally C. Morton (2009 ASA President and Dean of the College of Science at Virginia Tech)

Place: RTI International, 701 13th St NW 750, Washington, DC 20005-3967

Course Content:  
What is leadership? Why is it important for our profession? Moreover, how do you develop as a leader? Much has been written and discussed within the statistics profession in the last few years on these questions. This course will provide an understanding of leadership and its importance, as well as how statisticians can develop their leadership skills with a focus on business/organizational acumen & influence. It will feature leadership speakers from different sectors of statistics talking about their personal journeys and providing insights into how they developed as leaders. Through personal reflection, group discussion and targeted exercises, you will develop a greater awareness of leadership and chart your path forward on your leadership development journey.

Who Should Attend?  
- Statisticians who have a significant desire to become a student of leadership—a process you can start from any position by taking small but continuous steps  
- Statisticians with an open mind; an eagerness to learn and improve; and a willingness to share their thoughts, insights and experiences with others  
- Recommended for statisticians/professionals who have at least three years of work experience outside of their academic training, but students with the first two characteristics are welcome

Note: This is NOT a career Development Course. This course will focus on understanding and developing leadership skills in current and future roles of the attendees

About the Instructors:  
Dr. Gary Sullivan is a leadership development specialist for Espirer Consulting, LLC, and is the current chair of the Ad Hoc Leadership Training committee for the American Statistical Association. He recently retired from Eli Lilly and Company after over 28 years where he held numerous management and technical roles. While at Eli Lilly, he helped develop a leadership program for their statistics function and led the administration of that program from 2009–2017. He brought aspects of that program to the ASA and led the development
and instruction of the first leadership course at JSM in 2014. He has provided leadership training to over 250 people at Eli Lilly and the within the ASA.

**Dr. Barry Nussbaum** became 2017 ASA President after he retired as Chief Statistician for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He had been with the EPA since 1975. Dr. Nussbaum was in charge developing statistical policy and overseeing statistical consultation for EPA’s many varied offices. He also founded and chaired the EPA Statistics Users Group. Dr. Nussbaum is the recipient of two EPA Silver Medals for Superior Service as well as the EPA Distinguished Career Service Award. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

Dr. Nussbaum has a bachelor’s degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and both a master’s and a doctorate from the George Washington University. He has taught graduate statistics courses for George Washington University and Virginia Tech. He has also survived two terms as the treasurer of the Ravensworth Elementary School PTA. He often called upon to discuss the role of statistics and the statistician in helping to make, explain, and defend major decisions, policies, regulations, and enforcement actions.

**Dr. Sally C. Morton** is dean of the College of Science and professor of statistics at Virginia Tech. She previously served as chair of biostatistics and directed the Comparative Effectiveness Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh. Before joining Pitt, Dr. Morton was vice president for statistics and epidemiology at RTI International. She began her career at the RAND Corporation and was head of RAND’s Statistics Group. She also has served on several National Academy of Medicine committees, the Census Scientific Advisory Committee, and the National Academy of Sciences Committee on National Statistics.

Dr. Morton was president of the ASA in 2009 and chair of Statistics Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2013. She is a fellow of both organizations. She holds a bachelor’s degree in mathematical sciences, a master’s degree in operations research, and a doctoral degree in statistics, all from Stanford University, as well as a master’s degree in statistics from the London School of Economics.

**Course Schedule:**

- **8:00 – 8:30** Coffee, breakfast, and check in
- **8:30 – 9:15** Welcome & Introduction
- **9:15 – 10:15** Morning Speaker: Dr. Barry Nussbaum
- **10:15 – 10:35** Break
- **10:35 – 11:05** Reflection and Discussion
- **11:05 – 11:25** Introduction to Influence
- **11:25 – 12:10** Structured Exercise on Influence
- **12:10 – 1:00** Lunch (provided)
- **1:00 – 2:00** Afternoon Speaker: Dr. Sally C. Morton
- **2:00 – 2:15** Break
- **2:45 – 3:05** Introduction to Organizational/Business Acumen
- **3:05 – 3:35** Structured Exercise on Organizational/Business Acumen:
Advance registration: Registration will open August 15. Please go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wss-short-course-on-statistical-leadership-tickets-48342338235 to register and pay for the class. Online registration will close at noon on 9 November 2018; earlier if the course fills up.

Registration Fee:
Full-time students (at most 5): $63.58 advance, $80 at the door
WSS members: $186.66 advance, $200 at the door
All others: $217.43 advance, $240 at the door

Organizers: Mark Otto (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Eileen O'Brien (U.S. Energy Information Agency)
Dr. Jennifer Parker (National Center for Health Statistics)

Contact person: Mark Otto, 301-497-5872, mark.ot2o@gmail.com