**Career Day proves a big success with Washington DC area college and graduate students**

The George Washington University, Washington DC, April 1, 2017

A classroom filled to capacity with students is the last thing you would expect on a Saturday, yet the Washington Statistical Society (a chapter of the American Statistical Association) and the George Washington University Statistics Department managed to buck the trend when they hosted a Career Day in Statistics and Data Science at the school on April 1.

Nearly 70 undergraduate and graduate students attended the 6-hour, multiple panel event featuring 13 speakers from industries including pharmaceuticals, surveys and polling, and statistical consulting. The students capitalized on the opportunity to ask questions and hear from area leaders and hiring officials on how to best posture themselves to make the leap from the classroom to the workplace. Perhaps most popular was the networking lunch, affording the students a more casual opportunity to interact with individual panelists over sandwiches one-on-one or in small groups. The day ended with a social hour for continuing lunchtime conversations or engaging in new networking opportunities.

“We began work on this event last October,” noted Arnold Saunders, the Washington Statistical Society Student Representative. “The ASA Student Chapters at George Mason and George Washington Universities partnered together to enthusiastically support it from the start. The day’s success owes much to their leadership, advocacy and volunteerism.” The Washington Statistical Society President, Michael Larsen, agreed, “We are fortunate to have such active student chapters. Hopefully, this is the first of many annual events.”

Financial support for the event came from the Washington Statistical Society along with additional funds from the American Statistical Association and George Washington University’s Department of Statistics.