



# PhilaSUG newsletter



## Spring 2013 Meeting Announcement

### PhilaSUG Spring 2013 Meeting Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>

The Philadelphia Area SAS Users Group Spring Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 12, 2012 at 1:00 PM, and will be hosted by the West Chester University's Department of Mathematics, at their Sykes Student Union Building, 110 W. Rosedale Avenue, West Chester, PA. A map and driving instructions are available later in the newsletter.

Registration will begin at 12:15 PM and the meeting will commence at 1 PM. Dues for the year are \$30. There are no other fees for attending PhilaSUG meetings. We will accept cash, but a check is preferred. If you are a student, faculty, or staff at West Chester University, fees for this meeting will be waived. A tip – **to breeze through registration** – bring in the completed registration form found in the back of this newsletter to the meeting, otherwise registration can still be simplified if you attach a business card to a check or \$30 exact cash, as there is less writing and it will be more legible. Please do not mail in your registration fee beforehand. Receipts will be available at registration time.



**Important** - In order to obtain an accurate food count we are asking all attendees to please complete the Meeting Attendee Sign-up

Form by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The link can be found on our home page.

The presenters and the PhilaSUG Executive Committee will adjourn for dinner at a nearby restaurant when the meeting concludes. You are invited to join us. The location will be announced at the meeting.

<b>Agenda</b>	
<b>PhilaSUG Spring Meeting</b> You're on your own for lunch	
<b>12:15-1:00</b>	Registration
<b>1:00-1:10</b>	Opening Remarks
<b>1:10-2:10</b>	Chevell Parker - The Perfect Marriage: The SAS Output Delivery System (ODS) and Microsoft Office
<b>2:10-2:30</b>	Jonas Bilenas - Using Categorical Variables in Regression Analysis
<b>2:30-3:00</b>	Break, Posters, and light refreshments
<b>3:00-3:45</b>	Russ Lavery - An Animated Guide: Knowing SQL internal processes makes SQL Easy
<b>3:45-4:35</b>	Frank DiIorio - OpenCDISC: Beyond Point and Click
<b>4:35-4:45</b>	Open Forum / Raffle / Closing
Posters will be on display throughout the meeting. Authors will be present alongside their posters during the break for questions and discussions.	
Abstracts and bios are found later in the newsletter.	
Refreshments courtesy of our host.	

While the food court at the Sykes Student Union will be closed there are lots of restaurants up and down S High Street (see some choices at [http://www.PhilaSUG.org/WCU\\_Restaurants.htm](http://www.PhilaSUG.org/WCU_Restaurants.htm)).

## Directions to Meeting Site

**West Chester University, Sykes Student Union Building, 110 W. Rosedale Avenue, West Chester, PA 19383**



West Chester University is located approximately 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington. The meeting will be hosted in the Sykes Student Union Building, 110 W. Rosedale Avenue. **Parking** is located behind the building and can best be approached by Norfolk Ave. Just be sure to avoid parking in any spot reserved for employee, staff or faculty. There should be plenty of other spots available. If not there is a larger parking lot and garage east of High St. on East Campus Dr.

### **From Philadelphia**

Take Schuylkill Expressway (Rt. 76 West) to exit #328. Follow Rt. 202 South, West Chester, for approximately 20 minutes. Take High Street exit to second traffic light at Rosedale Ave. and turn left. Go one block and cross Church Street.

Or take West Chester Pike (Rt. 3 West) to Rt. 202 S. bypass. Follow Rt. 202 S. to High Street exit. Go to second traffic light at Rosedale Avenue and turn left. Sykes Student Union is on the left. Parking is available behind the building.

### **From Western Pennsylvania (Pa. Turnpike)**

Take Pennsylvania Turnpike to exit #312, Downingtown. Follow signs for Rt. 100 South. Shortly after the intersection of Rts. 100 and 30, follow the signs for Pottstown Pike. Route 100 S. will become High Street in the borough of West Chester. Stay on High Street until you come to Rosedale Avenue. Turn right on Rosedale Avenue. Sykes Student Union is on the left. Parking is available behind the building.

### **From Commodore Barry Bridge (New Jersey)**

Coming from either North or South on New Jersey Rt. 295, follow signs for Rt. 322 West. (Bridge is on 322 W.)

Cross bridge and continue on 322 W. to Rt. 1. Turn left on Rt. 1 to Rt. 202 North. Turn right on Rt. 202 N. and continue for approximately seven miles. At the Days Hotel proceed straight ahead under the overpass, following the signs for the Business District, Rt. 322. Continue north on High Street to the second traffic light at Rosedale Avenue. Turn left on Rosedale Avenue. Sykes Student Union is on the left. Parking is available behind the building.

### **From Delaware Memorial Bridge (and points south)**

Take Rt. 95 North through Wilmington to the exit for Rt. 202 N. (Concord Pike). Continue north on 202. (From the intersections of Rt. 1 and 202, it is approximately seven miles to West Chester.) At the Days Hotel proceed straight ahead under the overpass, following the signs for the Business District, Rt. 322. Continue north on High Street to the second traffic light at Rosedale Avenue. Turn left on Rosedale Avenue. Sykes Student Union is on the left. Parking is available behind the building.

### **Public Transportation SEPTA 104 Bus**

Between West Chester University and the 69th Street Transportation Center.

## About Our Host



# WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY

West Chester University offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as certification and certificate programs, in more than 100 subject areas. Its master of science in applied statistics is a state-of-the-art program that brings together statistical theory, computer programming, and scientific research. This degree provides preparation for immediate employment in a variety of high-paying industry positions, as well as doctoral study in applied statistics or a related field.

Students benefit from the following:

- The integration of SAS into virtually every course.
- Evening classes geared towards the working professional
- A flexible curriculum that allows one to explore various concentrations
- Visiting lectures from prominent statisticians on topics of current interest in applied statistics
- Pursuing intensive study on a topic of interest with a faculty member through the optional thesis track
- Optional supervised, paid internships at local companies

To learn more please visit us online at [www.wcupa.edu/appliedstatistics](http://www.wcupa.edu/appliedstatistics)

## Thank You to our Host

The PhilaSUG Executive Committee wishes to thank the Department of mathematics, West Chester University for hosting this meeting. We would like to thank the following professors from the West Chester University for making the meeting possible: Randall H. Rieger, Ph.D., Professor & Director of the Graduate Program in Applied Statistics; Drew Crossett, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics; and Scott McClintock, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics. In addition, we wish to thank Kajal Tahiliani and Robert Schechter of the PhilaSUG Executive Committee for their efforts to coordinate this meeting.

## Host Sites Wanted

We continuously seek host sites for future PhilaSUG meetings. There is not a lot of work involved, and it is a great way to put your company on the local SAS map. We need your help with this. If your company would like to host a meeting, within reasonable geographic proximity to Philadelphia, PhilaSUG would be grateful if you would contact Randy Noga at [President@PhilaSUG.org](mailto:President@PhilaSUG.org).

## E-mail Announcements

PhilaSUG-L is a low volume, announcement-only e-mail notification service provided free of charge to all members who wish to subscribe. In order to sign up for this service, you need only send a blank e-mail message to: [PhilaSUG-L-subscribe@onelist.com](mailto:PhilaSUG-L-subscribe@onelist.com). Note that you can subscribe as many times with as many different e-mail addresses as you wish to have the e-mail sent to; e.g., home and office.

## PhilaSUG Web Site

Our site on the World Wide Web always contains the latest information concerning upcoming meetings, SAS training and seminars, links to SAS related hot topics, and local SAS job opportunities.



Visit us regularly at: <http://www.PhilaSUG.org>

## PhilaSUG Executive Committee

Randy Noga, President	
John Cohen, Membership	
Diane Foose, Secretary	
Robert Schechter, Web Master and Newsletter Editor	
Ellen Asam	Jonas V. Bilenas
Max Cherny	Barry Cohen
Michael Davis	Jessica Lam
Karin LaPann	Terek Peterson
Mona Sinha	Kajal Tahiliani
Donna Usavage	

## Future Meetings and Events



### Next PhilaSUG Meeting

PhilaSUG Fall 2013 Meeting  
October 11th  
Hosted by Bank of America (Deerfield),  
655 Paper Mill Road  
Newark, DE



September 8 - 11

## Presenters Wanted



You are invited to be a Presenter - PhilaSUG constantly seeks individuals who wish to participate actively in our meetings by presenting various SAS topics in the form of delivered papers or posters. This is a great way to share your knowledge with others, to brush up your presentation prior to delivery at NESUG or SUGI or some other major conference, and to gain confidence as a speaker. Short technical SAS related articles are also desired for inclusion in the Newsletter. If this is of interest to you, please use the online abstract submission form found on our web site. Presentations can be from a few minutes to 50 minutes. If you wish to participate, the deadline for the fall meeting is **August 5th**. Your abstract must be submitted online on our web site.

## Paper Abstracts

### The Perfect Marriage: The SAS Output Delivery System (ODS) and Microsoft Office *Chevell Parker, SAS Institute*

A compatible relationship is one in which the associated entities complement each other's strengths and compensate for each other's weaknesses. This relationship is certainly the case when you combine the power of ODS and the flexibility of Microsoft Office. This paper describes how you can create outstanding spreadsheets via the harmonious union of ODS with Microsoft Office applications. The paper explores the relationships among ODS destinations (for example, ExcelXP and MSOffice2K) as well as custom tagsets (for example, the TableEditor tagset). In addition, the paper explains how these components enable you to generate highly presentational spreadsheets.

This paper covers the following topics:

- specific layout techniques such as paneling tables and graphics and positioning output in a worksheet
- common issues (related to styles, cell formatting, and so on) that occur when you export data
- customization of your output in Microsoft Word using the RTF destination and the tagset
- generated output that can be read into Microsoft Access and other Office applications



*Chevell Parker is a consultant in the Base/Graph and ODS group within the Technical Support Division. His group supports the Base Procedures, SAS Graph and the Output Delivery System. He joined SAS Institute in 1993 and has been a SAS user for over 17 years.*



## **Using Categorical Variables in Regression Analysis**

*Jonas Bilenas, Barclays UK&E RBB*

In this tutorial we will review how to deal with categorical variables in regression models. Techniques will show how categorical variables can test for changes in intercept or slope parameters in regression models. We will review how to use the CLASS statement in many regression PROCs and the default settings for various PROCs. We will also review how to select the reference level for more than 2 categories.

*Jonas has been using SAS since 1986 in the consumer credit industry. His application of SAS has been in the areas of reporting, regression models, experimental design, simulation and optimization. He has worked at Citigroup, American Express, Chase Bank and currently at Barclays. He is the author of the SAS Press text, The Power of PROC FORMAT, and has been active in local SAS user groups, SAS Global Forum, and Regional SAS User Group organizations.*

## **An Animated Guide: Knowing SQL internal processes makes SQL Easy**

*Russ Lavery – Numeric Resources Contractor, Ardmore, PA*

This paper shows a flowchart of Proc SQL internal processes that makes Proc SQL easier to learn. Knowing the flowchart allows creation of simple rules that can be used to explain how to code Proc SQL queries. Without the flowchart, Proc SQL is a black box. Teaching “black box Proc SQL” has usually been a process of showing examples until the student can say, “I know what will happen when I code like this, because I’ve done this query before”. Mastery only happens as students recognize situations encountered. This paper says “here is the Proc SQL process and here are rules for its behavior”. The “process and rule” based learning is faster and a more precise learning method. The major deliverable of this paper is that it offers a graphical representation of the SQL process and some rules for describing/predicting the SQL process.

*Russ is a frequent presenter at SAS conferences. He started studying SAS in 1985 and is still studying.*



## OpenCDISC: Beyond Point and Click

Frank Dilorio, CodeCrafters, Inc.

Pinnacle 21's OpenCDISC framework has rapidly gained popularity with programmers who have to validate data compliance with ADaM, SDTM and other CDISC standards.

The most common way to use the software is via the user interface. Its clean design and simplicity make it an appealing tool. Given that the software is open source, however, it makes sense to go "under the hood" and explore some of its other capabilities.

This presentation discusses some ways the author has ventured beyond the user interface and effectively utilized OpenCDISC. Among these are: running in batch; creating custom configuration files; and workflow required before moving to a new version of the software.

*A SAS programmer since 1975, Frank Dilorio is President of CodeCrafters, Inc. and the author of "SAS Applications Programming: A Gentle Introduction" and "Quick Start to Data Analysis with SAS." A frequent presenter at local and regional SAS user groups, he is past President of the SouthEast SAS Users Group, and co-chaired its 1994 and 1996 conferences. He is also active in several local SAS user groups and was a co-founder of the Research Triangle CDISC Users Group.*



## Poster Abstracts

### **Automation of ADaM Dataset Creation with a Retrospective, Prospective, and Pragmatic Process**

*Karin LaPann, Terek Peterson, PRA International*

In the CDISC Standards, analysis datasets (ADaM) hold a unique place in the end to end process and must be created with both a prospective and retrospective view of the entire clinical trial process. Analysis datasets must support the statistical analysis plan (SAP) by providing accurate efficacy and safety analyses. Companies must be pragmatic in deciding which processes can be automated by tools. Industry has tools to effectively transform data to the SDTM structure. These tools should be able build a large portion of the appropriate ADaM datasets with maximum efficiency. The burning question: Can ADaM datasets be built with a mapping tool just like SDTM? Here we feature a tool that uses SAS to do just that.

*Karin LaPann is currently a Principal Clinical Programmer at PRA International, a world-wide company. Karin's career began in the academic environment, working on medical studies directly with the Principal Investigator, first at the University of Pennsylvania and then at Temple University. She has since worked as a clinical SAS programmer at several Pharmaceutical companies, including Sanofi-Aventis, AstraZeneca and Octagon Research Solutions (now part of Accenture). She is an active member of the CDISC ADaM team, and of PhUSE working groups.*

*Terek Peterson is the Senior Director of Global Standards Strategies at PRA International. He has over 17 years of programming and systems development experience, including over 9 years as director or manager of clinical statistical programming groups at pharmaceutical companies and CROs. Terek received his MBA from Rutgers in 1995. He has presented at DIA, SGF, PharmaSUG, NESUG, SCDM, and PhilaSUG. He is a member of CDISC ADaM team, and ADaM Compliance, Metadata, and Integration subteams.*

# Philadelphia Area SAS User Group (**PhilaSUG**) Membership Form

To speed through registration complete this form (please print) and return it to the registration desk of any PhilaSUG meeting (do **NOT** mail it). Checks should be made payable to PhilaSUG. Our membership year runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Dues for the year are \$30.

This is a \_\_\_ new, \_\_\_ renewal or \_\_\_ update / correction.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Time Phone Number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PhilaSUG-L is a low volume, announcement-only e-mail notification service provided free of charge. By subscribing you'll be notified of the latest information about upcoming events, especially meeting announcements. By listing your e-mail address below you will be added to the electronic mailing list, you can cancel at anytime.

**Privacy Statement** - Local SAS User Groups are requested to share their membership/ mailing list with SAS Institute on an annual basis. We respect your privacy and will never rent, sell or trade your personal information provided with any other group or individual and the information provided will only be used for PhilaSUG mailings. We will not share your name, address and email address with SAS unless you Opt In below.

Check this box (Opt In) if you agree to allow us to share *your name, address and email address with SAS.*

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Be sure to clearly distinguish a dash from an underscore)

For updates / corrections, please list your old / incorrect information below: