

# JSM 2024 SI Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2024, 4:30pm PST

## List of Section Officers

**Chair:** Marina Vannucci

**Past-Chair:** Ying Guo

**Chair-Elect:** Michele Guindani

**Treasurer:** Kristin Linn/Suprateek Kundu

**Secretary:** Joshua Lukemire

**Program Chair:** Kristin Linn

**Program Chair-Elect:** Dehan Kong

**Publications Officer:** Panpan Zhang

**Council of Sections Representative:** Yize Zhao

**Staff Liason:** Rick Peterson

## Minutes

### Introduction

- Everyone introduced themselves
- Discussed current section membership. We are up to 511 members.

### Finances

- Kristin - we have had surplus for past several years. We are supporting OHBM neuroimaging stats workshop (we provide lunch).
- Discussion about sponsoring continuing education from last year. Marina received inquiry about putting together a short course for JSM 2025.
- Discussed SI food functions at JSM. Concerns were raised that this can be very expensive, especially if hosted at the conference venue. Discussed possibility of outside venue such as a dinner hall or bar. Could potentially provide tickets for first drink or add cost in at registration to help with budget.
- Returned to roundtables/continuing education/short courses discussion. The deadline is September 30th. It was suggested that if we have a roundtable in the future it needs to be well advertised.

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## SMI 2024

- Yi Zhao - budget projected 120 attendees but had 93 attendees (due to conflicting conferences). Budget was more expensive. Got some financial support from host university to help with cost.
  - Jian Kang mentioned that NSF can also provide funding for conference
  - Marina Vannucci mentioned ASA can also give money for conferences but is targeting sections that have not already hosted a conference so we do not quality
- Yi - SMI 2024 had 3 sessions of tutorials, open to all who registered. 3 keynotes (instead of 2 keynotes and a founders talk).
- SMI 2024 had 2 parallel sessions at a time held over 2.5 days.
- Food and 1 drink ticket at poster mixer
- Discussion of the structure for the student paper competition
  - Currently there are 2 tracks for student paper competition: Theory and Methods and Applications and Case Studies.
  - Concerns were raised about splitting the student paper submissions into Theory and Methods and Applications and Case Studies categories.
    - \* Potentially difficult to distinguish what belongs in each category.
    - \* It was pointed out that under the current system the student decides which category their paper falls into.
    - \* Discussed that these tracks are generic and not really focused enough on imaging.
    - \* Students seem to show a preference for submitted to ACS category - this years SMI had 14 submissions to ACS and 8 to Theory and Methods.
  - It was discussed that if we do continue to split into Theory and Methods and Applications and Case Studies categories, we should use two different rubrics as well.
  - Eventually landed on following:
    - \* Stratification into Theory and Methods/Applications and Case Studies will be **performed by the committee**. All papers will be submitted to the same pool.
- Yi Zhao - would be good for committee to create a consistent deadline for submissions.
- Also was suggested that we should try to get SMI on calendar sooner to avoid scheduling conflicts with other conferences.
- Random assignment of session chairs from a volunteer pool was suggested as a way to help encourage people to get to know each other.
- Sessions this year were also split into categories, but not many case study proposals were received.
- This year's session structure allowed 3 speakers (plus discussion) OR 4 speakers.
- It was suggested that we add a checkbox for "I want to present this work as a poster if not accepted" for the student paper submissions.
- Finally there was some discussion of adding conference proceedings and opening up paper submission to everyone, not just students. Some potential downsides include potential issues with journal metrics (large number of papers, potentially with fewer citations), whether or not students might have trouble getting papers accepted, and the overall impact since the imaging stats community is relatively small.

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## **JSM 2024**

- We had 1 invited session spot this year, we did not win competition for another spot.
- Not all invited session proposals were related to this years JSM theme - potentially caused difficulty getting them accepted.
- We had 3 topic contributed sessions, next year possible that only 2 will be guaranteed. One automatically goes to student paper competition.
- Student paper competition had 29 submissions. 10 reviewers. Each paper got 2 reviewers. 1 first place, 4 runner up.
- Discussed the possibility of changing the number of winners (e.g. 2 winners, 3 runner ups), but if we do change the number of winners we still need to keep the session to 5 speakers.

## **Council of Sections Updates**

- Yize Zhao - council of sections discussed deadlines for treasurer to submit budget. Deadline will be sent to treasurer.
- There is a new deadline for JSM student paper awards. It is now November 15th (instead of December 15th).
- In the council of sections meeting there was discussion of financial structure for sections. The ASA will send this information to the chair and treasurer in September of 2024.
- The ASA has a new system for tracking monthly revenue and registration (add/cancel). The section treasurer will be added to this system.
- The ASA will also send an email about DEI information that the chair needs to address. The ASA is going to reach out to individual sections to gather more information from the section regarding DEI.
- There was discussion of reallocation of slots for invited sessions. This is the first time this was done since 2018. Currently, they determined to keep same allocations. While they are planning to add some additional slots, these are going to be reserved for a new section (text analytics).

## **Section Officers**

- Michele Guindani needs to appoint secretary and publications officer.
- Marina Vannucci appointed Suprateek Kundu as new treasurer (effective after JSM).
- There was some discussion of if we should change any of the current appointments to elected positions, but there were no complaints about the current system.

## **SMI 2025**

- SMI 2025 will be hosted in Houston - Marina Vannucci and Suprateek Kundu organizing.
- Conference dates were discussed. Likely going to be Monday, May 19 – Wednesday, May 21.
- Section also needs to start planning for 2026 and 2027 SMI conferences. Michigan was discussed as a possibility for 2026. A call can be put out to see which sites are interested in hosting.

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## **Closing Discussions**

- Virtual Working group was discussed, Julia still organizing. Last working group was in May.
- There was discussion of the previous webinar series. It is not currently going on.
- There was discussion of new journal: Statistics and Data Science in Imaging (<https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/usdi20>).
- The yearly SI business meeting was discussed - goal is to standardize the format in future years.