



NEBRASKA SAS[®] USERS GROUP

nebsug.org

2018 ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018

8:00am – 4:30pm

Scott Conference Center

6450 Pine St, Omaha NE 68106



Conference Co-Chairs:

Robin High --- University of Nebraska Medical Center

Anne O'Keefe --- Douglas County Health Department

schedule on page 5

Sponsors:



Message from Co-Chairs

Dear Nebraska SAS® Users,

The Nebraska SAS Users Group 2018 One-Day Conference will be held on Tuesday, May 22nd in Omaha at the Scott Conference Center. Choose from 3 concurrent presentation sessions that cover a diverse set of presentations which will help to grow your SAS skills and will cover a wide variety of topics and interests. Presentation sessions are scheduled in 50 minute time slots throughout the day. SAS Institute, Inc. will have some of their experts presenting the most recently developed methods on how to use SAS.

As in the past, this conference is the day following the annual conference hosted by the Iowa SAS Users. We have joined with them to invite several regional SAS experts to demonstrate their innovative techniques with SAS. Hopefully you have the time participate and learn something new! Check the conference schedule for details.

In addition to the presentations and hands-on workshops, the conference registration will provide a continental breakfast and lunch, door prizes, and the important opportunity to network with fellow SAS users. Take advantage of early registration. If you register by May 11 the conference fee is only \$50. After May 11th, the registration fee will increase to \$80. This conference is an excellent value at either price, however, we strongly encourage early registrations. Refunds are not given, but can be transferred to another person with advance notice.

Many thanks go to SAS for their support of Nebraska SAS Users. SAS has been a big part of this conference from “day one” by providing speakers, door prizes, and a lot of “behind the scenes” support. Our conference simply would not exist if not for the support we’ve received from SAS. Also, we extend a big thank-you to the Iowa SAS User’s for making this conference possible.

Come join us and your fellow SAS users for an informative and educational experience which will provide many valuable opportunities for networking and developing of your SAS skills.

Robin High & Anne O’Keefe

NEBSUG 2018 Conference Co-chairs



Network with Fellow SAS® Users

Learn from the SAS® Pro’s

Learn more about SAS® 9.4

Three Concurrent Sessions with 14 Presentations

2 Hands-On Workshops

Conference Information

This one-day conference will provide an opportunity to enhance your SAS® skills and improve your understanding of the SAS® System. There will be three concurrent sessions throughout the day for the registration fee of only \$50, with breakfast and lunch included!

Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Location: Scott Conference Center (See map and direction on next page)
6450 Pine St., Omaha NE 68106

Registration Fee: \$50 for Early Registration by Friday, May 11, 2018
(Only \$10 for student early registration, contact us before registering)
\$80 for Late and On-site Registration after May 11, 2018

Online Registration: <https://www.regonline.com/NEBSUG2018>

Cancellation Policy: No refund, but substitutions are accepted. Log in to your registration confirmation to enter your substitute.

SAS Classes Not offered at this conference. Contact Ben Cochran (bencochran@nc.rr.com), for information on SAS classes at Iowa SAS Users Group on Wednesday and Thursday, May 23-24, 2018 in Des Moines.

Check in: Starting at 8:00 AM on May 22, 2018.

Schedule: The Opening Session will begin at 8:45 AM. Three concurrent sessions will start at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 PM. The afternoon sessions will start at 1:00 PM. The closing session begins at 4:00 PM and the conference will conclude no later than 4:30 PM. Each presentation will last for 50 minutes.

Lunch: Lunch on site is included in your registration fee.

Hotel: Courtyard Omaha Aksarben Village
1625 South 67th Street
Omaha, NE 68106
(402) 951-4300
* Only one block away. Ask for Scott Conference Center contract rate.
You may use other nearby hotels.

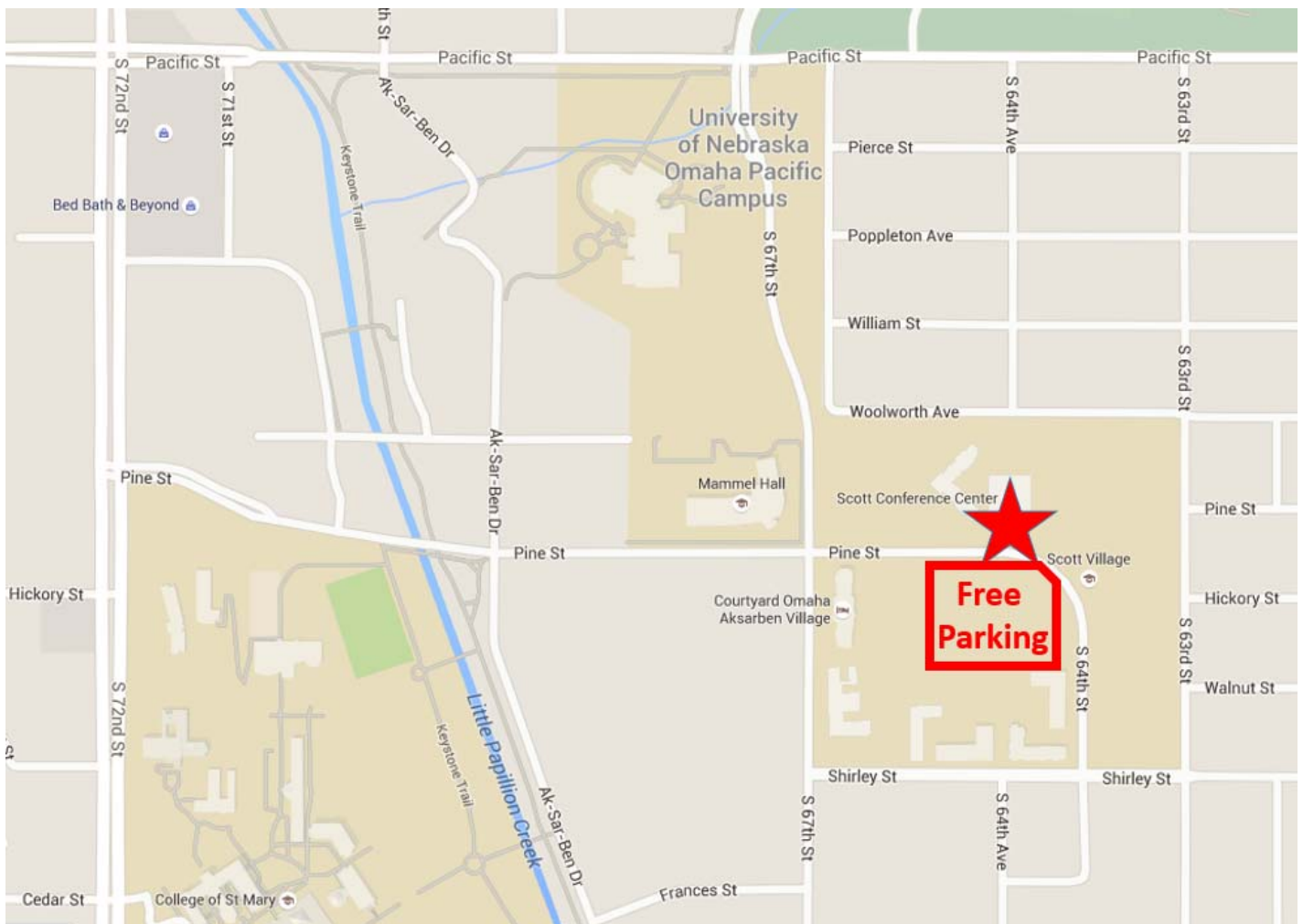
Volunteers: Volunteers are needed to help with check-in and assist speakers during sessions. If you are interested, email Anne O'Keefe at omaha1day@yahoo.com before registering. Volunteers will receive discounted or free registration.

Students: Contact Robin High (rhigh@unmc.edu) before registering for instructions.

Location and Directions

From the South: From I-80 and 72nd Street, head north on 72nd Street
(left if coming from the west; right if coming from the east)
Turn right on Pine Street for .6 miles
Continue past the lights on 67th Street
Scott Conference Center is on Your Left



From the West From I-680 & Pacific Street, go east on Pacific St to 67th Street
Turn right on 67th Street
Continue to stoplight and turn left onto Pine Street
Scott Conference Center is on your left



Parking: Parking in Lot 9 across from The Scott Conference Center is **complimentary**

Questions: E-mail your question to Conference Co-Chair, Robin High: rhigh@unmc.edu

Conference Schedule

5/22/18	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
8:00– 8:45	Check In & Networking -- Breakfast Sponsored by 		
8:45 – 9:00	Opening Session		
9:00 – 9:50	Introduction to making maps in SAS Kaeli Samson, UNMC (1)	44 Tricks with the FORMAT Procedure Ben Cochran, Bedford (2)	SAS Enterprise Miner Open Source Integration -Working with R Simon Geletta, Des Moines University (3)
10:00 – 10:50	Graph a Million With the SGPLOT Procedure Prashant Hebbar, SAS (4)	Causal Analysis with Observational Data: Methods and Applications I Michael Lamm, SAS (5)	Hands-On Workshop Intermediate SAS® ODS Graphics Chuck Kincaid, Experis. (6)
11:00 – 11:50	Combining Text, Bitmaps and Graphs in a Single Report Ben Cochran, Bedford (7)	Causal Analysis with Observational Data: Methods and Applications II Michael Lamm, SAS (8)	
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch Sponsored by 		
1:00 – 1:50	Back to Basics: 10 things every SAS Programmer should know (and understand!) Delayne Stokke, WF(9)	Top 10 SAS® Support Resources Shannon Moore, SAS (10)	Count data analysis with SAS Robin High, UNMC (11)
2:00 – 2:50	How to succeed in consulting without really Trying Chuck Kincaid (12)	Clinical Graphs Using SAS Prashant Hebbar, SAS (13)	Hands-On Workshop Writing a SAS Program to Create and Process Data From Directories Ben Cochran (14)
2:50– 3:10	Afternoon Break		
3:10 – 4:00	Ensuring data integrity with PROC COMPARE and beyond Scott A. Miller, WF (15)	Visual Analytics 8.2 on Viya Shannon Moore, SAS (16)	
4:00 – 4:30	Closing Session/Door Prizes		

[number in () is the index in abstract section]

Presentation Abstracts

(1) Introduction to Making Maps in SAS

Kaeli Samson, University of Nebraska Medical Center

When data has a spatial component, mapping can aid in the interpretation of spatial patterns and distributions, as opposed to displaying the same data in tabular format. This presentation will cover the basics of using PROC GMAP to create descriptive, choropleth maps, which are maps that indicate numeric values of spatial regions (such as the population or median income of counties or states) through color or some other visual attribute. While SAS provides some popular maps and spatial summary data, this presentation will use census data and shapefiles to demonstrate how external data can be used within SAS for mapping.

(2) 44 Tricks with the FORMAT Procedure

Ben Cochran, The Bedford Group

There are some fairly powerful things one can do with the Format procedure, and this presentation serves as a gentle introduction to the FORMAT procedure. In SAS, a format is simply instructions on how to write or display a value. There are dozens, if not hundreds, of formats that ship with the SAS system. While they cover many of the user's needs, they cannot possibly cover all of them. So, the SAS System includes a tool that allows users to create their own formats. That tool is the FORMAT procedure. While this presentation serves as an introduction to the FORMAT procedure, it is not necessarily for the new SAS user. It is for any level of SAS programmer who wants to learn a lot more about this procedure.

(3) SAS Enterprise Miner Open Source Integration -Working with R

Simon Geletta, Des Moines University

When working in a research team, it is important that each team member work with the analytical tool that is she/he is proficient with. In my recent collaborative work I worked together with a statistician who felt much more comfortable in R than SAS. I was more comfortable with SAS. We found a comfortable way of working together on a text mining project using both. This presentation demonstrates how we achieved a successful collaboration thanks to the open source integration interface of SAS Enterprise Miner.

(4) Graph a Million with the SGPLOT Procedure

Prashant Hebbar, SAS Institute

In today's world of torrential data, plotting large amounts of data has its own challenges. The SGPLOT procedure in ODS Graphics offers a simple yet powerful tool for your graphing needs. In this paper we present some graphs that work better for large data sets. We create heat maps, box plots, and parallel coordinate plots that visualize large data. You can make your graphs resilient to your growing data with ODS Graphics!

(5,8) Causal Analysis with Observational Data: Methods and Applications I & II

Michael Lamm, SAS Institute

Applied statisticians and data scientists are increasingly facing data that come from observational studies rather than randomized experiments. Making valid causal inferences from observational data is a growing problem for statistical practitioners in applications ranging from health care to marketing to government policymaking. This course introduces propensity score and related methods that address this problem, including matching, stratification and weighting. The course reviews the issues concerning causal inference from observational data, and it emphasizes techniques that promote sound practice and effective communication, such as graphical assessment of covariate balance. The PSMATCH procedure of SAS/STAT is primarily used to illustrate the methods with real and simulated data examples.

Presentation Abstracts

(6) Intermediate SAS® ODS Graphics - Hands-on Workshop

Chuck Kincaid, Experis Business Analytics

This presentation will build on the knowledge gained in the Intro to SAS® ODS Graphics. The capabilities in ODS Graphics grow with every release as both new paradigms and smaller tweaks are introduced. After talking with the ODS developers, a selection of the many wonderful capabilities was selected. This presentation will look at that selection of both types of capabilities and provide the reader with more tools for their belt. Visualization of data is an important part of telling the story seen in the data. And while the standards and defaults in ODS Graphics are very well done, sometimes the user has specific nuances for characters in the story or additional plot lines they want to incorporate. Almost any possibility, from drama to comedy to mystery, is available in ODS Graphics if you know how. We will explore tables, annotation and changing attributes, as well as the BLOCK plot. Any user of Base SAS on any platform will find great value from the SAS ODS Graphics procedures. Some experience with these procedures is assumed, but not required.

(7) Combining Text, Bitmaps and Graphs in a Single Report

Ben Cochran, The Bedford Group

This paper looks at methods of combining all kinds of output, such as text, graphs and tables, into a single pdf file. The process is accomplished totally within SAS. This paper is the product of having done this for an organization to improve its annual report process. What originally took a few months to produce, now takes only a few minutes.

(9) Back to Basics: 10 things every SAS Programmer should know (and understand!)

Delayne Stokke, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

This presentation will go into detail on 10 things that I think every SAS programmer should know. (1) SAS Documentation – where it is and how to use it (2) SAS Data Types: Numeric (default) and Character. (3) Numerical Accuracy in SAS. There are some limitations to numeric precision in SAS. Understanding those limitations may help you avoid undetected errors. (4) SAS DATE, TIME and DATETIME values (5) SAS Formats can be used to change the way values are displayed, but Formats do not change the underlying value of a variable. (6) Missing Values: what they are and how to work with them. (7) SAS LIBREFs: Paths are permanent, LIBREFs are temporary. (8) The WORK Library (9) SAS Views: what they are; how to create them; when to use them (10) DATA Step Concepts

(10) Top 10 SAS® Support Resources

Shannon Moore, SAS Institute

This session shows you various support resources, including support.sas.com, the main SAS support site. You also learn about SAS blogs, SAS communities, and video and thought leader sites. Great information for SAS novices and experts alike.

(11) Count data analysis with SAS

Robin High, University of Nebraska Medical Center

SAS®/STAT and SAS/ETS software have several procedures for working with count data based on the Poisson or negative binomial distributions. In particular, the GENMOD and GLIMMIX procedures offer the most conventional approaches for estimating model coefficients and assessing goodness of fit and also for working with correlated data. In addition, the COUNTREG procedure includes the Conway-Maxwell Poisson distribution

Presentation Abstracts

with a statement to model dispersion and the negative binomial distribution with two different variance functions. The FMM procedure includes a generalized Poisson distribution as a method to deal with over-dispersion in count data. However, programming statements entered into the NLMIXED procedure in SAS/STAT can also model count data with other distributions and in particular to estimate the dispersion parameter as a function of covariates, and as a result modify the variance function to improve the fit.

(12) How to Succeed in Consulting without Really Trying

Chuck Kincaid, Experis Business Analytics

Maybe you are an awesome programmer working on a company's internal consulting team, but you have a hard time getting work done by the deadline. Maybe you are a strong SAS developer who does independent consulting, but clients get upset when changes they ask for cost them more money. Just because you're good in the technical skills doesn't mean that you can succeed as a consultant. This presentation will give you tips on how to do just that. With a combination of project management and consulting skills you can go much farther, whether it's doing internal consulting, independent consulting or working for a consulting company. This presentation will be good for people who want to do better at managing the world outside of their code.

(13) Clinical Graphs Using SAS

Prashant Hebbar, SAS Institute

Graphs are essential for many clinical and health care domains, including analysis of clinical trials safety data and analysis of the efficacy of the treatment, such as change in tumor size. Creating such graphs is a breeze with procedures from SAS® 9.4 ODS Graphics. This paper shows how to create many industry standard graphs such as Lipid Profile, Swimmer Plot, Survival Plot, Forest Plot with Subgroups, Waterfall Plot, and Patient Profile using Study Data Tabulation Model (SDTM) data.

(14) Writing a SAS Program to Create and Process Data From Directories- Hands-on Workshop

Ben Cochran, The Bedford Group

This HOW teaches attendees how to write a SAS program that will do many things. First, it will read the contents of a directory, then it will retrieve all the excel spreadsheets, and only the excel spreadsheets. Then it traces the steps necessary to create SAS datasets from them. Finally, this HOW shows a program that will create 3 separate directories - one to store SAS programs, one to store SAS logs, and finally, one to store the procedure output that was created earlier. Next, the program populates each directory with the appropriate file.

(15) Ensuring data integrity with PROC COMPARE and beyond

Scott A. Miller, Wells Fargo

Comparing the contents of two data sets is a very frequent task to ensure data integrity. It's very reassuring to know a bug has been fixed properly, a new feature is working correctly, and that the latest change didn't create new problems. SAS® provides PROC COMPARE for comparing two data sets, but this procedure has many underutilized options and features. In addition to PROC COMPARE, there are other methods for comparing the contents of two data sets. This presentation aims to provide you with some new tools for ensuring data integrity.

(16) Visual Analytics 8.2 on Viya

Shannon Moore, SAS Institute

Learn about the power of SAS Visual Analytics 8.2 on SAS Viya. This presentation has been labeled a "SAS super demo" on the SAS Global Conference.

Intended Audience: All SAS users

Biographies



Ben Cochran, After more than 11 years with SAS Institute in the Professional Services (as an Instructor) and Marketing Departments (as Marketing Manager for the SAS/EIS product), Ben Cochran left to start his own consulting and SAS Training business in the fall of 1996 - The Bedford Group. As an affiliate member of SAS Institute Alliance Partner Program, Ben has been involved in many teaching and consulting projects over the last 10 years. Ben has authored and presented several papers at SUGI, SGF, and regional user groups on a variety of topics since 1988.



Simon Geletta is an associate professor in the Master of Public Health (MPH) program at Des Moines University in Des Moines, Iowa, where he teaches courses in healthcare research and statistics, community research methods and geographic information systems for healthcare professionals. Dr. Geletta is also the founder of Knowledge Delivery Services, LLC - a systems consulting and service business and a Silver Partner member of the SAS Alliance Network.



Delayne Stokke has been a SAS programmer and analyst since 1986. He has presented papers at local, regional and international users group meetings, and has been co-chair of the Midwest SAS Users Group annual meeting on two occasions (2003 and 2007). Delayne is a Certified Advanced Programmer for SAS9. He works for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in West Des Moines, IA, where he provides support and consultative services to SAS users.



Kaeli Samson is currently a Statistician at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE. She is certified in both Base and Advanced SAS, and is currently working on a graduate certificate in Geographic Information Science from the University of Nebraska Omaha. She has a Master of Arts in Psychobiology from the University of Nebraska Omaha and a Master of Public Health from the University of Nebraska Medical Center



Scott Miller uses SAS for analytics using large data at Wells Fargo. He has a BA in Computer Science from Simpson College and is SAS Advanced Certified. In his spare time, he is fascinated with solving puzzles using computer programs.

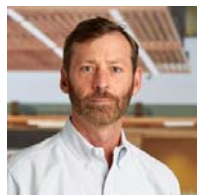


Michael Lamm is a Senior Research Statistician Developer in the Advanced Regression Research Department at the SAS Institute. He currently supports the GEE and CAUSALTRT procedures in SAS/STAT. He received his Ph.D. in Statistics and Operations Research from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department.

Biographies



Prashant Hebbar is a Principal Software Developer in Data Visualization at SAS. He began his career at SAS in 1997. His areas of expertise are the Graph Template Language (GTL), the ODS Graphics Designer and image formats.



Shannon Moore, Senior Systems Engineer, SAS Customer Success, has been with SAS since 1997 and is a charter member of the SAS' Customer Success organization. His areas of emphasis include Enterprise Business Intelligence, Office Analytics, Visual Analytics, and ODS Statistical Graphics. He is the recipient of a SAS Americas Sales Innovation Award and is a SAS Certified Visual Business Analyst. He has experience in many industries including Health and Life Sciences, Financial Services and Government. Shannon graduated from the University of Colorado, Boulder.



Chuck Kincaid is Engagement Director in the Kalamazoo Center of Excellence, where a team of analytics professionals has been providing services to every industry since the early 90's. Chuck regularly speaks at events like this one, including the International Workshop on "Advanced Analytics and Data Science" in Poland, as well as giving the keynote presentation at SESUG 2014. Awesome experiences for which he is humbly grateful. His professional interests are in analytics talent, data science, analytics infrastructure, education and visualization.



Robin High, Conference Co-Chair, is biostatistician at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE. His prior experience includes statistical consulting with a civil engineering firm in Austin, Tx, researchers at Oregon State University, and for nearly 15 years assisted graduate students and faculty at The University of Oregon. He has over 25 years' experience with the SAS System.



Anne O'Keefe, Conference Co-Chair, is the Senior Epidemiologist with the Douglas County Health Department, in Omaha, Nebraska. She has over 20 years of SAS experience in federal, state, and local public health agencies.

Regional Conference Announcement



The 2018 Mid-West SAS® Users Group (MWSUG) Conference will be held on September 30th through October 2nd at the gorgeous JW Marriott Indianapolis located in the heart of downtown Indianapolis, Indiana.

This year's conference will be our 29th and we have a lot in store for you. Our conference committee is busy planning two full days of paper presentations from other SAS users, hands-on workshops, live demonstrations, and opportunities to network with other SAS users. We will also be offering a full menu of pre-conference training workshops. You'll also have access to our popular Code Clinic where SAS programming gurus can help you solve your sticky coding problems. In addition, staff from SAS will be there to provide their unique expertise and insight.

Come, enjoy the fun, food, see good friends and make new ones. Share what you know and gather new information. There is something for everyone.

The MWSUG conference is the premier SAS educational forum in the twelve-state region. MWSUG is a non-profit, all-volunteer user group and is officially recognized by SAS.

We are working hard to make this conference a great opportunity for you to learn more ways to make better use of SAS software and get more value from your SAS software investment. We look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis this October!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN XU, 515-778-4093, JOHNXU@1ST-CONSULTING.COM