

BASUG Quarterly Meeting Announcement A Winter's Stew

Come join fellow BASUG members at our First Quarterly Meeting of 2013. This meeting will be a Winter's Stew of sorts and consist of a rich melange of strategic and operational SAS topics. The first part of our meeting will consist of 3 presenters who happen to be current or former members of the BASUG Steering Committee. Topics to be presented are described below. The second part of the meeting will consist of a panel discussion with participants familiar with being a SAS consultant.

After the meeting, we will provide an informal light buffet lunch for all attendees. We hope you can stay for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.

Topic	A Winter's Stew
When	Wednesday, March 13, 2013 8:15AM – Noon
Where	Microsoft New England Research and Development Center (NERD) ¹ One Memorial Drive Conference Center, First Floor Cambridge, MA 02142 857-453-6000
Directions	Please visit the meeting site directions page
How to register	Individual, on-line registration required. Please visit the event registration page NO WALK-INS! (Pre-Registration is required, even if you plan to pay at-the-door)
Payment	\$10 – if paid on-line by 3/1/13 \$15 – if paid on-line (by 5pm 3/12/13) \$20 – at-the-door (checks only)
Contact	If you have questions about the meeting, contact the meeting organizers Asli Memisoglu and Brian Saper .

Agenda*

8:15	Sign in and Refreshments
8:45	Announcements
9:00	Big Data - Too Many Variables: Coding a Random Sampling Technique for Handling Large Numbers of Potential Predictive Variables <i>by Victor Pontes, CAUSALYTICS, LLC</i>

9:30	How many ways can you sort a large file? And why knowledge of alternative methods can be important <i>by Rita Volya, Harvard Medical School, Department of Health Care Policy</i>
10:00	Break
10:15	The Mini-Sentinel Distributed Database Project <i>by Robert Rosofsky, Health Information Systems Consulting LLC</i>
10:55	Break
11:10	So you Wanna be a SAS Consultant- Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Hayden, <i>Independent Consultant/SAS Programmer</i> • Victor Pontes, <i>Chief Technology Officer, CAUSALYTICS, LLC</i> • Robert Rosofsky, <i>Principal, Health Information Systems Consulting LLC</i> • Bob Virgile, <i>Independent SAS Trainer and Consultant</i>
12:00	Networking Lunch

**Note: Times (and sequence) are approximate and subject to change. Please re-visit [the BASUG website](#) for updated information.*

Speaker biographies and abstracts

Big Data - Too Many Variables: Coding a Random Sampling Technique for Handling Large Numbers of Potential Predictive Variables

by Victor Pontes, CAUSALYTICS, LLC

At the last BASUG meeting we enjoyed several presentations regarding techniques for handling datasets with large numbers of records using SAS. This presentation discusses one solution to the other 'Big Data' problem: that of analyzing datasets with large numbers of variables, an increasingly common problem at a time where genomic and social media data require analysis. The presentation will describe the problem using the example of a large dataset with genomic data, describe the proposed approach, and demonstrating the SAS code used to implement the approach. Concepts including macro calls embedded in 'call execute' calls and metadata manipulation will be demonstrated.

Victor Pontes is the Chief Technology Officer of CAUSALYTICS, LLC. He has close to two decades of experience managing programming projects, designing databases, performing statistical analysis, and developing software applications. Victor is a proficient and active user of both SAS and the SAS macro programming languages. For the past decade he has focused on applying SAS to biopharmaceutical research, primarily in the area of clinical trials, as an independent consultant. He has also provided support for medical and social science research in academic settings, and for business intelligence and marketing research in the private sector. Most recently, he co-founded Causalytics, an analytic services company focused on personalizing randomized trial results.

How many ways can you sort a large file? And why knowledge of alternative methods can be important

by Rita Volya, Harvard Medical School, Department of Health Care Policy

Working with very large data is not only a question of efficiency but is also a question of feasibility. SAS work space is limited and shared by many users at the same time. How many times did you get a message "ERROR: No disk space is available for the write operation. Filename = /saswork/SAS_util00010..... is full" ?

In many cases this message is caused by a procedure trying to sort your data. Proc Sort requires 3 to 4 times the space needed for the data storage. This presentation addresses alternative methods of sorting data without leaving a big footprint on the disk space.

Rita Volya has MS in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics. She is a Senior Programmer Analyst in the Department of Health Care Policy of Harvard Medical School. She has been programming for research in Health Care using SAS for more than twenty years.

The Mini-Sentinel Distributed Database Project

by Robert Rosofsky, Health Information Systems Consulting LLC

How is it possible to perform public health surveillance of a significant proportion of the nation without a central database? The Mini-Sentinel project, funded by the Food and Drug Administration, is a 5-year pilot project to engage in medical product safety surveillance (e.g., drugs, vaccines, medical devices). By use of SAS distributed databases at 18 sites, the FDA is able to query relationships between the use of medical products and health outcomes of concern. This presentation will provide a detailed description of the distributed database structure, processes to ensure data quality, the query and analytic processes, use of SAS techniques, and how our nation is advancing public health surveillance while protecting patient confidentiality.

To improve public health and patient care through the effective use of information systems, **Robert Rosofsky** has been developing and implementing health information systems for nearly three decades in both the public sector and as an independent consultant. He offers services in project management, systems analysis, SAS data management/statistical programming, and SAS training.

SAS Consultant Panel Discussion

Moderated by Asli Memisoglu, Alkermes Inc.

BASUG is going to hold a panel discussion with four seasoned and successful SAS consultants. We are honored to have the following panelists:

- Vanessa Hayden, Independent Consultant/SAS Programmer
- Victor Pontes, Chief Technology Officer, CAUSALYTICS, LLC
- Robert Rosofsky, Principal, Health Information Systems Consulting LLC
- Bob Virgile, Independent SAS Trainer and Consultant

The panelists will give a brief introduction of themselves, describe how they became a SAS consultant, and briefly discuss their work life consulting. Next, the bulk of the time will be devoted to accepting questions from the audience to prompt discussions on the pros and cons of being a SAS consultant and the operational challenges of working independently. BASUG Steering Committee member, Asli Memisoglu, will moderate the panel discussion.

BASUG Contacts

Mailing Address:

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PO Box 170253
Boston, MA 02117

Email [Our Webmaster](#)

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- (1) The Microsoft New England Research & Development Center (NERD) is a research and software innovation campus located in the heart of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The NERD vertical campus spans two buildings with its primary presence and conference center located at One Memorial Drive and a recently renovated and expanded space located at One Cambridge Center. NERD is home to some of Microsoft's most strategic teams including Microsoft Research New England, Microsoft Application Virtualization (App-V), SharePoint Workspace, Microsoft Technical Computing, Microsoft Advertising, Microsoft Lync, Microsoft Office 365 and more. NERD has become a hub of activity for the local tech community and has hosted more than 500 events and welcomed more than 40,000 visitors during the past two years.

Boston Area SAS® Users Group BASUG Q2 Quarterly Meeting Announcement

Are you a die-hard programmer, convinced you'll never want to use SAS Enterprise Guide? Would you like to create multi-sheet Excel workbooks directly from SAS? Well, we've got the Dream Team! Christopher Bost and SAS Institute's own Vince DelGobbo will cover these topics in their uniquely colorful styles.

Please join us for these informative talks, and consider staying for the afternoon class (separate event), taught by Christopher Bost. For information on the training, please visit the [Training Announcement](#).

After the meeting, we will provide an informal light buffet lunch for all attendees. We hope you can stay for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.

Theme	The Dream Team comes to BASUG
When	June 28, 2013 8:15AM - Noon
Where	Microsoft New England Research and Development Center (NERD) ¹ One Memorial Drive Conference Center, First Floor Cambridge MA 02142 857-453-6000
Directions	Please visit the meeting site directions page
How to Register	Individual, on-line registration required Please visit the event registration page NO WALK-INS!
Payment	\$10 – if paid on-line by June 18th \$15 – if paid online before by 5:00PM June 27th \$20 – at-the-door - check only
Contact	If you have questions about the meeting, please contact the meeting organizers : Bruno Berszoner, Lori Goldman, and Sharon Kautz.

Agenda *

- 8:15** - Sign-in and Refreshments
- 8:45** - Announcements
- 9:00** - *"The Enterprise Guide 5.1 Experience"*,
by Christopher Bost, MDRC
- 10:15** - Break
- 10:30** - *"An Introduction to Creating Multi-Sheet Microsoft Excel Workbooks the Easy Way with SAS"*,
by Vince DelGobbo, SAS Institute Inc.
- 12:00** - Networking Lunch

* Note: Times (and sequence) are approximate and subject to change. Please re-visit [the BASUG website](#) for updated information.

Speaker biographies and abstracts

"The Enterprise Guide 5.1 Experience"

by [Christopher Bost, MDRC](#)

Enterprise Guide gets a bad rap. It was originally promoted as a code generator for non-programmers. The truth is, however, that Enterprise Guide has always allowed programmers to write their own code. In addition, it offers many features that are not included in PC SAS®. This presentation will show you how to use features like autocomplete, context-sensitive help, data set name and variable name prompts, and more. And it will be taught by a programmer who now prefers using Enterprise Guide.

Christopher Bost is the Director of the Research Technology Unit at MDRC where he is responsible for SAS training and support. He has used SAS for data management, analysis, and reporting since 1985 in fields including public health, criminal justice, and social policy. He also teaches graduate classes in data management with SAS and regularly presents at SAS Users Groups. Here is a [good blog review](#) of a SAS Global Forum presentation by Christopher last year. And he has gone international! [This paper by Christopher](#) has been translated into Chinese.

"An Introduction to Creating Multi-Sheet Microsoft Excel Workbooks the Easy Way with SAS"

by [Vince DelGobbo, SAS Institute Inc](#)

Transferring SAS data and analytical results between SAS and Microsoft Excel can be difficult, especially when SAS is not installed on a Windows platform. This presentation provides basic information on how to use Base SAS 9 software to create multi-sheet Excel workbooks (for Excel versions 2002 and later). You will learn techniques for quickly and easily creating attractive, multi-sheet Excel workbooks that contain your SAS output using the ExcelXP tagset. The techniques can be used regardless of the platform on which SAS software is installed. You can even use them on a mainframe! More in-depth information on this topic will be presented if time permits.

Vince DelGobbo is a Senior Software Developer in the Metadata and Execution Services group at SAS Institute Inc. This group's responsibilities include the SAS/IntrNet Application Dispatcher and SAS Stored Processes. He is involved in the development of new Web- and server-based technologies, as well as integrating SAS output with Microsoft Office. He was also involved in the early development of the ExcelXP ODS tagset. Vince has been a SAS Software user since 1982, and joined SAS in 1992. Here is a link to Vince's [SAS/Excel resources](#). He is among those mentioned in a recent SAS [customer recognition article](#) on Marje Fecht.

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Boston Area SAS® Users Group BASUG Half-Day Training Announcement

Have some MACROs to MEND? Come learn from master trainer Christopher Bost as he takes us through fundamentals of building and deciphering SAS Macro Language.

Please join us for this informative training, and consider coming to our morning quarterly meeting as well (separate event). For information on the morning meeting, please visit the [Quarterly Meeting Announcement](#).

BASUG is hosting an informal light buffet lunch between the morning and afternoon sessions prior to the training. We hope you can join us for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.

Topic	Introduction to the SAS Macro Language
Summary	Explore the world beyond SAS Basics and make the leap to SAS Macro language (Please see detailed topics below)
Instructor	Christopher Bost Director, Research Technology Unit, MDRC New York City
When	June 28, 2013 1:00 – 5:30PM
Where	Microsoft New England Research and Development Center (NERD) ¹ One Memorial Drive Conference Center, First Floor Cambridge MA 02142 857-453-6000
Directions	Please visit the meeting site directions page
Price	\$155 - if paid online by June 18th \$180 - if paid online before by 5:00pm June 27th \$195 - at-the-door – check only Please see details below
Prerequisites	Assumes 1+ years of SAS programming
Benefits	A solid foundation in SAS Macro language
How to Register	Individual, on-line registration required Pre-payment guarantees you a seat and handouts Please visit the event registration page
Contact	If you have questions about the course, please contact the training coordinators .

Course Description

This half-day course provides a comprehensive introduction to the SAS macro language.

Course Details

- define macros
- use macro parameters
- run macros
- define a macro variable
- reference a macro variable
- debug macros with MPRINT and SYMBOLGEN

use MPRINT and MFILE to store text generated by a macro
 list macro variable values with %PUT statements
 use macro functions and %SYSFUNC
 run code iteratively with %DO and %END
 run code conditionally with %IF and %THEN

Training materials will be provided, including in-class exercises and optional homework assignments. (Exercises can be done with pen and paper, but feel free to bring a [charged] SAS laptop for hands-on practice.) Content is taught at the introductory and intermediate level and assumes one or more years of SAS programming experience.

Instructor Bio

[Christopher Bost](#) is the Director of the Research Technology Unit at [MDRC](#) where he is responsible for SAS training and support. He has used SAS for data management, analysis, and reporting since 1985 in fields including public health, criminal justice, and social policy. He also teaches graduate classes in data management with SAS and regularly presents at SAS Users Groups. Here is a [good blog review](#) of a SAS Global Forum presentation by Christopher last year. And he has gone international! [This paper by Christopher](#) has been translated into Chinese.

Training Registration and Payment Instructions

Please read this ENTIRE section carefully!

1. Pricing
 - \$ 155 if paid online by June 18th
 - \$ 180 if paid online before by 5:00pm June 27th
 - \$ 195 if paid at-the-door (check only)
2. Register
 - INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.
 - You must register for this training (even if you plan to pay by check). To register and purchase tickets for the class please visit the [event registration page](#).
 - Please register early! Seating and handouts are guaranteed only for pre-paid registrants.
3. Payment Methods
 - Credit Card:** We urge you to pay by credit card, using our online system. Make sure to purchase your ticket by June 18th to get the early-bird price.
 - Check: Do NOT mail a check to us prior to the workshop.** Pre-register online, and bring a check with you for the at-the-door-price.
 - Full payment is due by the day of the class. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS. We never accept cash. We accept credit card payments through our online registration service only.
4. Refund Policy
 - To receive a refund for the training, please send an email to our [training coordinators](#) by 5PM on June 18th. After June 18th, we will refund your payment (less a \$10 processing fee) only if we can fill your seat with other attendees.

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Boston Area SAS® Users Group BASUG Q3 Quarterly Meeting Announcement

Do you think survival analysis is the study of the many survival-based reality shows currently on television? Do you think interaction refers to how well you get along with your coworkers? Or are you just not sure? If you want to find out the answers to these questions, you will want to join us for a couple of very informative talks, and consider staying for the afternoon class (separate event), taught by Christianna Williams.

For information on the training, please visit the [Training Announcement](#).

After the meeting, we will provide an informal light buffet lunch for all attendees. We hope you can stay for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.

Topic	Advanced Statistics and SAS
When	Thursday, October 3, 2013 8:15AM - Noon
Where	Microsoft New England Research and Development Center (NERD) ¹ One Memorial Drive Conference Center, First Floor Cambridge MA 02142 857-453-6000
Directions	Please visit the meeting site directions page
How to Register	Individual, on-line registration required Please visit the event registration page NO WALK-INS!
Payment	\$10 – if paid on-line by September 24, 2013 \$15 – if paid on-line (through 5:00PM October 2, 2013) \$20 – at the door (checks only)
Contact	If you have questions about the meeting, please contact the meeting organizers: Karen Olson or Bridget Neville .

Agenda *

- 8:15** - Sign-in and Refreshments
- 8:45** - Announcements
- 9:00** - *"Surviving Survival Analysis - An Applied Introduction"*,
by Christianna Williams, Independent Consultant from Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- 10:15** - Break
- 10:30** - *"Epidemiology, SAS and the Conundrum of Interaction"*,
by Charles DiMaggio, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and Mailman School of Public Health
- 12:00** - Networking Lunch

* Note: Times (and sequence) are approximate and subject to change. Please re-visit [the BASUG website](#) for updated information.

Speaker biographies and abstracts

"Surviving Survival Analysis - An Applied Introduction"

by [Christianna Williams](#)

By incorporating time-to-event information, survival analysis can be more powerful than simply examining whether or not an endpoint of interest occurs, and it has the added benefit of accounting for censoring, thus allowing inclusion of individuals who leave the study early. This tutorial-style presentation will go through the basics of survival analysis, starting with defining key variables, examining and comparing survival curves using PROC LIFETEST and leading into a brief introduction to estimating Cox regression models using PROC PHREG. The evaluation of the proportional hazards assumption and coding of time-dependent covariates will also be explained. The emphasis will be on application, not theory, but pitfalls the analyst must watch out for will be covered. Examples will be taken from real-world data in health research.

Christianna Williams, PhD is an independent consultant based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, focusing on study design, statistical analyses and reporting in epidemiology and health services research. She started using SAS as a graduate student back in the waning days of punch cards and is still learning! Christianna is a frequent presenter at local and regional user group conferences as well as SAS Global Forum, and really loves to share her enthusiasm for SAS. She also devotes as much time as possible to her other passions: running, vegetarian cooking and reading novels.

"Epidemiology, SAS and the Conundrum of Interaction"

by [Charles DiMaggio](#), [Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and Mailman School of Public Health](#)

When an epidemiological measure of disease risk behaves differently in the presence or absence of another variable, we may believe interaction is occurring. Because we can measure disease risk on either absolute scales like risk differences, or on relative scales, like ratios, we may find ourselves facing a conundrum. Different measures of effect, may lead to different measures of interaction. And interaction may be present on one measure of effect, but absent on the other. How can interaction be both present and absent? Charles DiMaggio will draw examples from the epidemiologic literature and his recent book, "[SAS for Epidemiologists](#)" to illustrate the issue and describe approaches to epidemiologic analysis in the setting of interaction.

Charles DiMaggio, PhD, MPH, PA-C is associate professor in the departments of anesthesiology and epidemiology at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Mailman School of Public Health. He is an injury epidemiologist whose NIH and CDC-funded work includes describing and analyzing the epidemiology of pediatric pedestrian injuries for the New York City Department of Transportation, establishing a surveillance program to track and explain the behavioral health effects of the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001 in New York, and investigating the developmental and behavioral effects of anesthesia on young children. He has an active interest in the application of epidemiological approaches like Bayesian and spatial models to large data sets, and teaches introductory and advanced methods using the SAS and R programming languages. Dr. DiMaggio's previous positions include chief research scientist with the Nassau County, NY, Department of Health where he worked on a variety of projects including bioterrorism preparedness, syndromic surveillance, and health disparities, and as chief physician assistant and director of research for the emergency department at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine at Elmhurst Hospital Center in NY. He is the author of the recently published Springer text "[SAS for Epidemiologists](#)".

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Boston Area SAS® Users Group BASUG Half-Day Training Announcement

Please join us for this informative training, and consider coming to our morning quarterly meeting as well (separate event). For information on the morning meeting, please visit the [Quarterly Meeting Announcement](#).

BASUG is hosting an informal light buffet lunch {between the morning and afternoon sessions / prior to the training}. We hope you can join us for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.

Topic	Demystifying PROC SQL®
Instructor	Christianna Williams Independent consultant based in Chapel Hill, NC
When	Thursday, October 3, 2013 1:00 – 5:00PM
Where	Microsoft New England Research and Development Center (NERD) ¹ One Memorial Drive Conference Center, First Floor Cambridge MA 02142 857-453-6000
Directions	Please visit the meeting site directions page
Price	\$155 - if paid on-line by September 24, 2013 \$180 - if paid on-line (through 5:00PM October 2, 2013) \$195 - at the door – check only Please see details below
Audience / Prerequisites	Some DATA step familiarity helpful No prior experience with SQL is expected
Benefits	This course is an intensive introduction to PROC SQL – sort of an SQL “Boot Camp”. It starts with the basics and moves quite rapidly so that nearly all key aspects of using PROC SQL for SAS data set manipulation are covered. Because of the comprehensive approach and broad experience of the instructor, even users with substantial SQL expertise are sure to learn something new and gain a deeper understanding of how SQL works within SAS. The fully explained code examples will remain a useful resource after the course.
How to Register	Individual, on-line registration required Pre-payment guarantees you a seat and handouts Please visit the event registration page
Contact	If you have questions about the course, please contact the training coordinator .

Course Description

Subqueries, inline views, outer joins, Cartesian products, HAVING expressions, Set operators, INTO clauses ... Just the terminology of SQL can be rather daunting for SAS programmers raised on getting the DATA step to do our bidding for data manipulation. Not to mention the profusion of commas and complete dearth of semi-colons found in a PROC SQL step! Nonetheless, even the most die-hard DATA Step programmers must grudgingly acknowledge that there are some tasks - such as the many-to-many merge or the "not-quite-equi-join" - that would require Herculean effort to accomplish with DATA steps but can be achieved amazingly concisely, even elegantly, using PROC SQL. This seminar will present a series of increasingly complex examples to illustrate the function of each of PROC SQL's clauses, with particular focus on summarization/ aggregation and a variety of joins. Additionally, the examples will illuminate how SQL "thinks" about rows and columns, some of

which can cause unexpected results for the unwary user. And after all, PROC SQL is part of Base SAS; so, though you may need to learn a few new keywords to become an SQL wizard, no special license is required!

Instructor Bio

[Christianna Williams, PhD](#) is an independent consultant based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, focusing on study design, statistical analyses and reporting in epidemiology and health services research. She started using SAS as a graduate student back in the waning days of punch cards and is still learning! Christianna is a frequent presenter at local and regional user group conferences as well as SAS Global Forum, and really loves to share her enthusiasm for SAS. She also devotes as much time as possible to her other passions: running, vegetarian cooking and reading novels.

Training Registration and Payment Instructions

Please read this ENTIRE section carefully!

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
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| 2. Register | INDIVIDUAL, ON-LINE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.
You must register for this training (even if you plan to pay by check). To register and purchase tickets for the class please visit the event registration page .
Please register early! Seating and handouts are guaranteed only for pre-paid registrants. |
| 3. Payment Methods | Credit Card: We urge you to pay by credit card, using our online system. Make sure to purchase your ticket by September 24, 2013 to get the early-bird price.
Check: Do NOT mail a check to us prior to the workshop. Pre-register online, and bring a check with you for the at-the-door-price.
Full payment is due by the day of the class. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS. We never accept cash. We <i>do</i> accept credit card payments through our online registration service. |
| 4. Refund Policy | To receive a refund for the training, please send an email to our training coordinator by 5PM on September 24, 2013. After September 24, 2013, we will refund your payment (less a \$10 processing fee) only if we can fill your seat with other attendees. |

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Boston Area SAS® Users Group BASUG Q4 Quarterly Meeting Announcement

For our final meeting of 2013, we are pleased to host **David Shamlin**, Senior R&D Director from SAS Institute Inc., to talk to us about **Big Data. REALLY Big Data**. Please join us!

After the meeting, we will provide an informal light buffet lunch for all attendees. We hope you can stay for this opportunity to network and socialize with your fellow SAS users.

Topic	What's the Big Deal with Big Data?
When	Wednesday, December 4, 2013 8:30AM - Noon
Where	Microsoft New England Research and Development Center (NERD) ¹ One Memorial Drive Conference Center, First Floor Cambridge MA 02142 857-453-6000
Directions	Please visit the meeting site directions page
How to Register	Individual, on-line registration required Please visit the event registration page NO WALK-INS!
Payment	\$10 – if paid on-line by November 25, 2013 \$15 – if paid on-line (through 5:00PM December 3, 2013) \$20 – at the door (checks only)
Contact	If you have questions about the meeting, please contact the meeting organizers: Robert Rosofsky or Jean Roth .

Agenda *

- 8:30** - Sign-in and Refreshments
- 9:00** - Announcements
- 9:15** - *"What's the Big Deal with Big Data?"*,
by David Shamlin, SAS Institute Inc.
Includes breaks at speaker's discretion
- 12:00** - Networking Lunch
Opportunity for attendees to meet with David Shamlin

* Note: Times (and sequence) are approximate and subject to change. Please re-visit [the BASUG website](#) for updated information.

Speaker biographies and abstracts

"What's the Big Deal with Big Data?"

by David Shamlin, [SAS Institute Inc.](#)

"Big Data" is one of the latest hot industry trends, but what is Big Data, why is it so interesting, and what are organizations doing with it? In this presentation, we'll define what Big Data is and the kinds of problems people are trying to solve with it. We will review popular Big Data platforms and how SAS in-database, in-memory analytics, and data exploration technologies can

be used with these platforms to accelerate analytic business workflows and data science problems faster and at incredibly large scale. Please join us to learn how the latest SAS 9 release enables you and your organization to get more value from your data faster!

[David Shamlin](#) is a Senior R&D Director at SAS Institute Inc. He leads the development teams responsible for SAS 9 Platform's storage technology including data sets, DATA Step, ACCESS, Base PROCs, and various client/server components. He directs the development of SAS in-database capabilities and in-memory infrastructure.

David has previously attended Boston Area SAS User Group events and presented on SAS 9 technologies. He is honored to be invited to join the group again and excited about the opportunity to share about Big Data trends and related SAS technologies.

David Shamlin joined SAS in 1987. David has a B.S. in Computer Science from North Carolina State University.



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