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Plan Now for PharmaSUG 2011

By: Brian Shilling (Operations Chair)
and MaryAnne DePesquo (Academic Chair)

Learning and Family Fun in Nashville!

PharmaSUG 2011 offers its attendees a wide variety of learning experiences tailored to the health sciences, biotech, and pharmaceutical industries with 4 concurrent presentation sections plus Hands-On Workshops and Posters, including:

- Industry-specific sections in Regulatory Submissions and Standards (CDISC), Health Sciences and Post Market Research
- A non-technical Management Section
- Industry Basics
- Pre/Post Conference Seminars at very affordable price of \$99 each offering programming tips as well as topics not found elsewhere.

This year's seminars are:

- XML for SAS Programmers
- Statistics for the Non-statistician: An Introduction to Statistical Methods
- Practical Considerations for SDTM Implementation
- An Introduction to Excel VBA For SAS Programmers
- Advanced and Efficient SAS Programming
- How to Customize and Automate Patient Profile Reporting using SAS 9.2
- ADaM Implementation a Practical Approach
- Introduction to Output Delivery System: From the Basics to Practical Implementation
- An Introduction to SQL
- An Introduction to the SAS Clinical Research Toolkit
- Advanced Proc REPORT: Understanding the Compute Block and the Report Process
- Advanced Techniques in the SAS® Macro Language

Game Night on Monday evening – Texas Hold 'em Poker, Ping Pong tournaments and more! Prizes for first, second and third place.

What to Do While You Are in Nashville

Our conference hotel, the Gaylord Opryland, is the world's largest conference center. In May of 2010 the Opryland was flooded and greatly damaged but the hotel has reopened with many new enhancements, including:

- Completely redesigned Cascades lobby with new VIP check-in area and enhancements to technology and service to ensure a great customer experience
- New restaurants and bars with fresh, contemporary menus:
 - **Ravello** - Southern Italian cuisine with a seasonal flair
 - **Solario** - authentic Mexican and house-infused tequilas
 - **The Falls** - hand-crafted cocktails in an incredible atrium setting
 - **Conservatory Bar** - sample wines from around the world, featuring the Enomatic Wine System
 - **Cocoa Bean** - gourmet coffee, breakfast sandwiches, quick bites
- Magnolia guest rooms redesigned and renovated
- Redesigned Presidential suites
- More entertainment - Fuse will feature live country and rock bands

To learn more, visit

<http://www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylord-opryland/>

Plan to learn new SAS skills, meet new friends, reunite with old ones and enjoy all that Nashville has to offer!

PharmaSUG 2011 Dates to Remember

Abstracts and first drafts due	December 18, 2010
Online Registration opens	January 18, 2011
Final Papers and Copyright Grants due	February 21, 2011
Student Scholarship and Young Professional Program applications due	March 14, 2011
Early Registration ends	March 26, 2011
Guaranteed Hotel Conference Rate ends	April 14, 2011
Regular Registration ends**	April 15, 2011
PharmaSUG 2011 Conference	May 8-11, 2011

Registration Fees

On-site Registration	\$625
Regular Registration	\$525**
Early Registration	\$425**
Presenter rate	\$325**

**\$50 will be added to the above rates for paper registration i.e. 'print & fax' instead of using the PharmaSUG online registration system at www.PharmaSUG.org



PharmaSUG 2010 in Review

By: Elaine Dempsey and James Wu

PharmaSUG 2010, co-chaired by Elaine Dempsey and James Wu, was held from Sunday May 23 through Wednesday May 26, 2010 at the beautiful Renaissance Sea World Resort in Orlando, FL. Despite a still sluggish economy, we were able to attract an audience of 526 attendees from USA and 10 other countries. Some traveled from as far away as Australia, South Africa.

PharmaSUG 2010 had 11 sections, with 144 paper presentations and 14 posters. We also had 13 Pre- and Post-Conference Seminars.

The conference began on Sunday evening with the opening session and a keynote presentation by Dr. Maura Stokes from the SAS institute Analytics group entitled "Analytics and SAS: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." followed by dinner. During the dinner a slide show of some scenes from past PharmaSUG and present conferences were shown (thanks in large part to our conference photographer, Jim Zhao). We had wonderful food at the dinner and throughout the conference thanks to our newly-vetted Meals Coordinator, Syamala Schomperlen.

On Monday night, we had our 34th Annual Game Night where many conference attendees joined us for a 'no money exchange' Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament as well as our fast becoming popular Ping-Pong tournament. We also tried a round of Disney Trivia and managed to find the two people in the world who know the least about things Disney. (You know who you are ☺). Prior to that, SAS held a mixer in the exhibit/demo room for attendees to unwind. Tuesday night was the volunteer party for those that helped organizing and running the conference.

During the conference, attendees could unwind with any of the many hotel amenities or go out on the town. The hotel was located within walking distance of Sea World and just a short bus ride to the many other Orlando attractions as well as shops, restaurants and other events. Many attendees arrived early or stayed after the conference to take advantage of this wonderful location. Thanks to all 2010 volunteers and we hope that everyone will consider volunteering to help out with the 2011 conference in Nashville, TN. Overall, PharmaSUG 2010 was an enjoyable, fast-paced and fun event offering a vibrant exchange of valuable information.

PharmaSUG 2010 Scholarship Winners

By: Richard Allen

PharmaSUG had another very successful student scholarship program in 2010 thanks to a generous grant and a lot of help from SAS, specifically Elizabeth Ceranowski. She was instrumental in getting word out regarding the scholarships to colleges and universities around the country and organizing many events at the conference for the students. PharmaSUG scholarship coordinators Richard Allen and Craig Brelage reviewed applications from students and we were able to award scholarships to the following deserving graduate students:

- Jin Long, Texas A&M University
- Claudia Twum, Mercer University
- Jason Karnes, University of Florida
- Robert McQueen, University of Colorado
- Wanrudee Isaranuwatthai, University of Toronto
- Deidra Coleman, North Carolina State University
- Gilbert Adongo, University of Nevada – Reno
- Aleksandra Stein, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Ulviya Abdulkarimova, McMaster University
- Brandon Fleming, University of Maryland
- Benjamin Denny, Middle Tennessee State University

PharmaSUG and SAS plan to continue the scholarship program at the 2011. Scholarship applications will be available for download on the PharmaSUG website early in 2011. Scholarships will again include the conference registration fee, a free 1/2-day pre- or post-conference seminar and 3 free hotel nights during the conference period. The application deadline is March 31, 2011.



Thanks To Our 2010 Sponsors!

The Executive and Conference Committees for 2010 would like to extend their deepest gratitude to our corporate sponsors. Your support and sponsorship makes PharmaSUG one of the most comprehensive conferences for SAS programmers. Without your support our conferences would not be as valuable as they have become.



Thank You to Our Sponsors

PHARMA SUG 2010 • ORLANDO, FL • MAY 23-26

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www.stat.tamu.com

PharmaSUG 2010 Presentation Awards

The Pharmaceutical Industry SAS® Users Group would like to congratulate the following 2010 presentation award recipients:

Statistics & Pharmacokinetics

SP10 - Assessing superiority/futility in a clinical trial: from multiplicity to simplicity with SAS
by Phil d'Almada and Laura Aberle, *Duke Clinical Research Institute*

CDISC

CD04 - The CDISC/FDA Integrated Data Pilot: A Final Summary of Findings, Reviewer Feedback, and Recommendations Implementing CDISC Standards Within and Across Studies by Chris Decker, *d-Wise Technologies*

CD14 - Accessing the metadata from the define.xml using XSLT transformations
by Lex Jansen, *Octagon Research Solutions, Inc.*

Health Science, Epidemiology and Medical Devices

HS03 - Estimation of Adherence of Antipsychotic Diabetic Medications in a Sample of Schizophrenia Patients"
by Venky Chakravarthy, Thomas Taylor, *BioPharma Data Services*

Data Management and Quality

DM03, Validate it Again?! Get SAS to do it! by Carol Matthews, Ginger Lewis, Olga Belotserkovsky, *United BioSource Corporation*

Management

MA08 - In for the Long Haul: Retaining a Talented SAS Programming Team
by Lynn DiFinizio, *Biogen Idec, Cambridge, MA*, John Hotaling, *Biogen Idec, Cambridge, MA*

MA05 - How a Wiki Can Greatly Contribute to Information Sharing and Management
by James Worley, *PPD, Inc.*

Coder's Corner

CC16, Lisa Fine, ORDER, ORDER PLEASE: SORTING DATA USING PROC REPORT , *United BioSource Corporation*

CC23, Shuping Zhang & Xingshu Zhu, An Error Bar Macro with PROC GPLOT, *Merck & Co.*

Applications Development

AD23, Use Base SAS FILENAME URL to Build Surveillance and Monitoring System for New Clinical Trial Registration
by Xin Weixin Wei, James Cai, Jim Rosinski, *ROCHE*
AD16, Automating the Link Between Metadata and Analysis Datasets
by Misha Rittmann, *Octagon Research*

Tutorial

TU02, "The SAS Hash Object: It's Time to .find() Your Way Around".
by Peter Eberhardt , *Fernwood Consulting Group, Inc.*

Industry Basics

IB07 "Macros are Helpful – Tips to Avoid Giving Them a Bad Rep" by Deb Cassidy, *PPD*
IB04 "Don't Run Away, It's Only Labs" by Lucy Wang and Paul Slagle (presented by Paul Slagle), *United Biosource Corp*

Technical Techniques

TT03: Creating Customized Word Tables with Table of Contents using SAS ODS RTF for Clinical Studies, by Sue Zhang, *Abbott Nutrition*
TT06: SAS Programming Techniques for Manipulating Metadata on Database Level, by Chris Speck, *PAREXEL International*

Poster

PO05 - Combining RTF files from Different Sources John Iwaniszek, Natalie Walker, Laura Lovette, *Stat-Tech Services, LLC.*
PO06 - Proc Report - Compute Block and Conditional Footnote, by Yumi Sembongi, *Independent Consultant*

Congratulations to all 2010 winners!



Notes from PhUSE2011 Conference Chair

Dear PharmaSUG Members,

Comparable to PharmaSUG in the US, PhUSE (Pharmaceutical Users Software Exchange) is the premier organization for programmers predominantly in Europe which also serves statisticians, data managers and other functions within the Pharmaceutical Industry. PhUSE's purpose is to share knowledge and experience from across the programming discipline and was established by a few enthusiastic like-minded volunteers who saw their vision grow from a relatively small conference in Heidelberg, Germany in 2004, to the ever growing membership society that it is today. Currently, the PhUSE Society boasts over 1000 members, there is a formal Board of Directors, including two US Based Directors, who oversee various subcommittees. Being a member of PhUSE brings with it a bi-annual Journal, a quarterly Newsletter and a program of Single Day Events as well as access to register for an annual Conference and PhUSE's own Website (<http://www.phuse.com/>) that provides everything that you would want to know about PhUSE, including a library of papers from 6 annual conferences.

I attended my first annual conference in 2006 which was held in Dublin, Ireland, and it has been a pleasure to be involved with the society ever since. Over the years, I have taken different roles and I now have the challenge of chairing the conference in Brighton for the Annual Conference 2011. This is, of course, a huge honor but also a great responsibility. Heidi (2010 Chair – Berlin) and all other chairs before her have ensured a very high standard of conference has been achieved and it will be an accomplishment to even equal their success.

The 2011 event will be PhUSE's seventh annual conference and every year so far there have been more delegates, presenters, exhibitors and innovative additions to the proceedings that have added to the thriving format. Every year it is a challenge to continue to make improvements and enhance the successes of previous years but I know I can rely on the support of Jean-Marc Ferran as my co-chair and on the motivated people that make up the conference organization committee to rise once again to the challenge and make PhUSE 2011 an even bigger and better event.

In 2011 the event is scheduled for October 9-12 in Brighton, UK which is an ideal location to host a conference. The city is recognized nationally and internationally as a leading and dynamic conference combining a seaside location with a vibrant city atmosphere. Brighton is under an hour by rail from London and thirty minutes from London Gatwick Airport

and in the city itself, everything is within walking distance. The fantastic venue is without doubt a major draw, but ultimately it is the quality of the conference itself that will determine its success. It is the ideal opportunity to meet up with colleagues from within the industry from all over the world, to listen to subject matter experts sharing their knowledge and views and to discuss and debate the experiences that we all deal with.

In keeping with the PhUSE vision that '**PhUSE is the worldwide voice that provides the Life Sciences industry with the mechanism for sharing knowledge, defining and promoting industry standards, with a view to furthering the provision of health-care information through technology**', we have chosen '**Open Standards and Global Collaboration**' as the main theme for 2011. As in previous years, presenters will be requested to consider this theme when putting forward their papers

In the ongoing difficult economic climates, companies consider conference attendance to be an investment that demands a return. Therefore, we expect all presentations and discussions to be varied, novel, topical and of the highest quality. We will be retaining the successful formula from previous years, and following the positive feedback of the pre-conference training in Berlin, we will offer again training/workshop events on the Sunday afternoon including SAS Certification. The format of the main conference will, as usual, be over 3 days where a number of streams will be running in parallel, all dealing with specific aspects of Application & Software Development, Coding Solutions, Tutorials, Industry Standards, Statistics & Pharmacokinetics, Software Demonstrations and many others. We also hope to continue with the various discussion clubs added over the last few years.

The very nature of our industry means that both PharmaSUG and PhUSE have common goals and we should use the power of the special relationship between the organisations to better serve the global programming community. PhUSE started small but has grown to be a strong organization in the field of computer programming within the Pharmaceutical and Health Care Industries. If you would like to learn more about PhUSE and its benefits, please explore our website <http://www.phuse.com/>.

Best Regards,
Yvonne Moores, Quanticate Ltd, UK
Conference Chair, PhUSE 2011

About PharmaSUG ...

PharmaSUG is a non-profit organization consisting of professionals worldwide who use SAS software in their work. Its primary purpose is to provide a forum for the exchange of information and the promotion of new ideas concerning the use of SAS software as it relates to quantitative health sciences including epidemiology, health economics, health management, outcomes research, biostatistics, clinical research and the pharmaceutical industry.

This newsletter is published by PharmaSUG as a vehicle for disseminating information to PharmaSUG affiliates. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided herein, but PharmaSUG cannot be held liable for inaccuracies.

Please visit our website at:
WWW.PHARMASUG.ORG



Volunteers

PharmaSUG is a conference organization based on volunteers, Can you volunteer? We need all kinds of skills. We need people who can stuff bags, help at the registration desk, judge papers, set up and remove posters, take pictures, coordinate sections, etc. You will make new friends as well as build your list of contacts all while having fun! All volunteers are invited to the special Volunteers Appreciation Party during the Conference. Contact Craig Brelage the Volunteer Coordinator to sign up (contact information at www.PharmaSUG.org).

Monday Evening Game Night

During the PharmaSUG conference, Monday evening is our game night – Texas Hold'em Poker, Ping Pong tournament. Please join the fun and show off your non-SAS talents!



Meet Our PharmaSUG 2011 Conference Co-chairs

Brian Shilling (Operations Chair)

(OperationsChair@pharmasug.org)



Brian C. Shilling is a Senior Statistical Programmer with Bogier Clinical and IT Solutions, Inc. He has over two decades of experience in the pharmaceutical industry with over 15 years experience in SAS® programming as well as extensive experience with pharmacokinetic analysis and programming. Brian also holds adjunct faculty status at both Philadelphia University and Arcadia University teaching SAS programming. He is co-author of the SAS Press book *Validating Clinical Trial Data Reporting Using SAS* and is currently in discussions for his second SAS Press venture. This is Brian's third time co-chairing PharmaSUG having done so in 1997 and in 1998.

MaryAnne DePesquo (Academic Chair)

(AcademicChair@pharmasug.org)



MaryAnne DePesquo is the Sr. Manager of SAS Advanced Analytics at BlueCross BlueShield of Arizona. She holds a MS in Statistics and her career has been in the health care field for over 25 years. MaryAnne has used SAS throughout those years working for major pharmaceutical companies, CROs, health care quality improvement organizations, CMS and the Veteran's Administration.

PharmaSUG 2011 Conference Committee
(Specific contact information is available at www.PharmaSUG.org)

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MaryAnne DePesquo
BCBS of Arizona

Operations Chair
Brian Shilling
Bogier Clinical and IT Solutions, Inc.

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Data Management
Elaine Dempsey
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Jennifer Harper
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Management
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Tutorials
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and
Helen Wang
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Technical Techniques
Jim Johnson
JKL Consulting
and
Eric Larson
JKL Consulting

**Health Sciences, Epidemiology &
Health Outcomes**
Paul Slagle
United Biosource Corporation

CDISC
Sandy Paternotte
PPD
and
Meera Kumar
Image Solutions, Inc.
(ISI)

**Statistics &
Pharmacokinetics**
Richard Read Allen
Peak Stat

Industry Basics
William Turner
ICON Clinical Research
and
Raoul Bernal
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Independent Contractor

Speaker Training
Mal Foley
Contractor/Trainer

Photographer
James Wu
Mitsubishi Pharma
and
Jim Zhao
Dendreon

Thank you for volunteering and thank you to your companies that allow and encourage you to participate.
Please find up-to-date contact information in our web page (www.PharmaSUG.org).

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PharmaSUG 2011 Newsletter Editor: James Wu