May 30, 2007

Frank,

I have asked our Treasurer Steve Lewis to write a check to you for   You should be receiving it within a few days. Please let me know if after MetroHealth reimburses you for some of your expenses if there are any outstanding ones for us ASA Cleveland Chapter to pick up.

Thanks for a superb presentation. As you can tell from the comments below, we really enjoyed your expertise. On behalf of the ASA Cleveland Chapter, thanks again Frank for having made our 21st version of *Tools for Regaining the Competitive Edge* a huge success. I can't express enough the extent of our appreciation.

All the best.

Jerry

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The comments below are the responses to the question on our Evaluation Form:

"Was the presentation what you expected? Was it useful? If not, what were you expecting and what would have made it beneficial for you? Include comments on the quality of presentation."

*Yes, very useful and lots of food for thought. It's important that we point out the abuse of statistics in papers that others believe as hard facts. I'm eager to try some of these techniques in my job. Loved that we used Splus/R in the examples. I'm not very familiar with Splus/R, but I'm very unhappy with SAS and excited to try another computer package.

*Presentation was of good quality – in content and presentation. It gave me quite a few things to reconsider and to research. I would have li8ke to see more examples written out (early part of the notes).

*It was not what I expected – it turned out to be much better. Notes were extensive. This may be hard to do, but receiving the notes before the seminar (i.e., email attachment, or download site) would be very helpful to prepare for it and get accustomed to the notation beforehand. This was an area I wasn't very familiar with and the human brain (at least mine) needs some time to digest this amount of new material. Similarly, it would have been useful to have the data (examples) ahead of time to "play" with. Likewise, maybe getting the commands electronically (S-plus or R) would have been nice.

*Very comprehensive, easy to follow, applicable to my area.

*Presentation was excellent, relevant and interesting. Would have also added summary section to illustrate what one should do. I got more information on what one shouldn't do and why, but not what one should do instead. Covered too much material. Would have been better if fewer topics in more depth.

*Presentation was great! Very informative and great speaker. Lends many issues to think about in current work. Just as expected – thanks for getting Dr. Harrell!

*I found it useful. I wish there where more examples during the initial lecturing as I'm not a statistician.

*Yes, very useful. Good introduction of topics at beginning. Dr. Harrell is presenting a huge number of very important facts based on his years of experience.

*It was more biomedically focused than I had thought it would be. Given that, however, I did get several good insights into the type of data we deal with.

*No, not really. It was thought provoking but the relentless assault on the RSM methodology, while seemingly appropriate for drug efficacy studies, seemed a bit excessive and overblown. The format of the scrolling slide was okay but some graphs and live analysis might perk things up a bit. Overall a good day.

*No, it's more than I expected. It is useful. There seems to be too much information covered, in very short time.

*Excellent presentation.

*Yes. Presentation was very similar to text. Very beneficial. Good quality.

*Useful. Speaker well spoken and well prepared.

*Yes – expected, useful. Course was strongly recommended to me by colleague who took it at JSM meeting in Toronto. I did find the layout of the bullets bit confusing. E.g., there weren't natural breakpoints in lists. As guideline, some cleaner, more frequent header of what next set of bullets would be and that set should correspond to what would be a paragraph in a book.

*Way too oriented to the bio world. What about few y's and lots of x's? Nothing done in SAS, and that is what would have been useful to me.

*The presentation was very educational.

*Well-organized.

*Yes, the presentation provided a good overview of methods that are useful, and showed areas where improper techniques are employed. The handouts and overheads were clear, and it was helpful that they agreed. It would have been nice if the examples would have been incorporated earlier to highlight each of the topics.

*Very useful. There was an enormous amount of information that was very effectively presented.

*Very good. Will be useful. Wish some examples were in SAS.

*Yes, very good.

*Good.

*Yes. Can we study and switch with cases or part of the cases so that we can apply or better understand what we learn. More examples of how we can be misleading by using the incorrect method of statistic.

*Yes, it is useful. It is better if strategies and case examples go together rather than strategies first and case studies later.

*The speaker is great. Easy to understand. Good path. Not too fast nor slow. Hope to see more examples and cases.

*No, possibly useful. Assumed we knew more than I did. Might be useful. Quality of presentation – over my head, too fast.

*Refreshing to learn new things even after many years of modeling. Liked the "holistic" view of models (OLS, Logistic, Survival, etc.) Visuals became tedious. Too much text. Page breaks for each section and sub-section would have helped. It would also have resulted in more white space which would be welcome. Verbal presentation was very good!

*Yes. Perhaps a bit more rigorous with respect to ethical approach to analysis than my customers would accept (I'm a consultant), however I definitely have a greater appreciation for the issues.