



School of Data Science

香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong

Distinguished
Seminar
Series

Data Ethics

Date: 13 January 2020 (Monday)
Time: 3:00pm - 4:30pm
Venue: YEUNG-G7603, Yeung Kin Man Academic Building,
City University of Hong Kong

Dr Wendy L. Martinez

President, American Statistical Association,
Director, Mathematical Statistics Research Center, Office of Survey
Methods Research, Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States of America



Abstract

I became interested in data ethics after moderating a panel session on ethics at the 2019 American Statistical Association (ASA) Conference on Statistical Practice. Talks from the panel members and remarks from the audience reinforced for me that as statisticians and data scientists we must be intentional in our application of ethical guidelines for statistical practice. Throughout our careers, we must confront issues such as privileged information, black-box models, biased data, data ownership, and more. Our analyses always start with data, so I will focus more on data ethics in this presentation. I will begin by providing some real-world examples where ethical concerns arose and will follow this with a description of data ethics. I will conclude by describing some global efforts to address the ethical issues highlighted in the talk and how we might move forward as ethical data scientists and statisticians.

Biography

Dr. Wendy Martinez is the president of the American Statistical Association for the year 2020 and directs the Mathematical Statistics Research Center of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). She is also the coordinating editor of the journal *Statistics Surveys* (jointly sponsored by four major statistical societies). Her research interests include computational statistics, exploratory data analysis, data visualization, outlier detection, statistical pattern recognition, spatial statistics, and the analysis of unstructured text.

She has published several books and journal publications in the field of computational statistics. Dr. Martinez was elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2006 and was elected as a member of the International Statistical Institute in 2007. She has received many awards including the Founders Award (2017) of the American Statistical Association for outstanding leadership and support of statistical and multidisciplinary research and BLS Commissioner's Award (2018) for management excellence.

