Stephine Keeton – Candidate for CWS President-Elect

Candidate’s Statement:

I am grateful and humbled to be nominated for the position of CWS President-Elect. If I am elected as President-Elect, I will be an ambassador for the continued growth and development of the CWS with a focus on recruitment of new members, retention of current members, and help increase diversity and inclusiveness in the statistical profession.

I would like to review and address the recruitment (and subsequent retention) of members, particularly young professionals. I am aware of how difficult it can become to keep young professionals as long-term members. Membership attrition can be a challenge, but if CWS wants to grow and diversify, then finding ways to engage students and young professionals is critical. If I am elected, I will spend time talking to membership experts across organizations about new techniques the CWS might consider to boost and keep this cohort in the CWS fold.

The CWS offers an incredible opportunity to further increase diversity and inclusiveness in our profession. There are many avenues to accomplish this effort. One such avenue is supporting the J.E.D.I initiative and increase our efforts to foster and recognize the successes of all members of CWS, including members who have been historically underrepresented and underappreciated. I will work within CWS to assist underrepresented undergraduates with graduate school applications through workshops and other opportunities. I am also interested in continuing to support graduate students by helping them build networks of statisticians with similar backgrounds as a source of support and guidance.

Lastly, I will work and advocate for the need to continue to building on successful CWS initiatives to increase awareness of our profession and resources available through CWS membership.

I would love the opportunity to continue working with the CWS to expand these types of activities.

Current Position:

- Senior Director, Statistics at Abond CRO, Inc.

Degrees:

- PhD in Mathematics (concentration Statistics), University of Mississippi
- MS in Mathematics, University of Mississippi
CWS Activities:

- Nominations Committee
- On-the-Go-Mentoring Program Development Team Member

Other Professional Activities:

- American Statistical Association and Biopharmaceutical Subsection-Program Chair, 2020
- Regulatory Industry Statistics Workshop Steering Committee-Member, 2016
- Council of Section Representative, 2011 – 2013: American Statistical Association, Biopharmaceutical Section

Biography:

I am the Senior Director, Statistics at Abond CRO, Inc. I received my PhD in Mathematics (concentration in Statistics) from the University of Mississippi in 2006. I have over 15 years of experience in the industry as a statistician and member of management. Prior to joining Abond CRO, I've held positions in the Food and Drug Administration as a Mathematical/Lead Mathematical Statistician. I am a long-time member of the American Statistical Association and Caucus for Women in Statistics, where I’ve served in numerous committees, sections and chapters in various capacities, including elected positions.