

# **A Tribute to Roxy Peck**

**Winner of the  
2009 CAUSE/USCOTS  
Lifetime Achievement Award**

**From the  
Statistics Education Community**





Dear Roxy,

What a great pleasure it is to write to you on the occasion of your being chosen for the Lifetime Achievement Award. I can't think of anyone more deserving: you have done so much as a leader in statistics education, and it has been my good fortune to have been able to work with you, tour with you, learn from you, and enjoy your company over the years.

Thanks to you, I got to see Victoria Falls, in addition to seeing far more of South Africa – complete with exotic wildlife -- than I would have otherwise. Not only were you tour director and traveling companion, but when my part planning left me short of funds, you stepped in and rescued me by becoming my banker.

Thanks to you, I also got to spend time admiring the magnificence of the Omaha fair grounds – complete with exotic wild rabbits roaming the streets. Your invitation to me to give a talk to the AP graders meant a lot to me at the time, and still means a lot in retrospect. I remain grateful not just for the invitation, but also for all the things you did to make me feel welcome during my stay.

Thanks to you, a volume that in my hands might have remained forever virtual -- *Statistics: A Guide to the Unfinished?* – became in your hands an actual book, one of your many enduring contributions to our field.

One of the many things I admire about you is the variety of your contributions. In addition to SAGTTU, two other contributions that stand out in my mind are your suite of introductory textbooks with Jay Devore and Chris Olsen, and your SIAM book based on collaborations that bring academia and industry together. Taken together, these three contributions mark out a convex hull that takes in impressive intellectual territory. Moreover, each is truly innovative. Your introductory books set the standard for effective reliance on real data, and the SIAM book remains without peer, a stellar example of statistics at its best.

Not only does the originality of these contributions say a lot about your intellectual leadership, but the fact that all three are collaborative efforts, two of them led by you, bears testimony to another important facet of your leadership: you have the kind of personality that makes people want to work with you, and you have the kind of organizational talent that can convert such willingness to work into a valuable finished product. As David Moore has observed on a number of occasions, originality alone accomplishes little. For innovative thinking to have impact, it must be institutionalized. You've inspired our profession with your originality, but you've also led us by turning original ideas into important resources of enduring value.

In conclusion, and on a more personal level, I'll rely for a metaphor on the basketball video you showed us at USCOTS. By nature I'm too often inclined to focus narrowly on just counting passes. You've helped me to learn to look for the gorillas in our midst.

With immense regard and fond wishes,

George

Dear Roxy,

I first met you in Anaheim at JSM in 1990 at a reception that followed a session that SLAW had organized about statistics at four-year colleges. I knew of you through your superb “first book” with Jay Devore. The data sets in that book set a new standard for real and vibrant data sets being an important part of a good textbook, a standard that the best books since have emulated. What impressed me most about you from that first meeting was your embodiment of that most unusual of high human qualities, especially among very competent people: you were humble.

Since then I have had the distinct pleasure to work with you on a number of occasions and also to observe your good work on others. Whether working as part of a team or as a leader, whether in writing, speaking, or organizing, these two qualities—competence and humility—are, without fail, evident.

I very much appreciated having you and Allan as co-organizers here at Grinnell in October of 2000 when we hosted the MAA’s CRAFTY Workshop in Statistics. I recall feeling overwhelmed the day we were to begin, but when you and Allan arrived, you intuited where to step in and lead. And without that wonderful leadership, the conference would not have attained the high level of success it did. You saw the tasks that needed to be done, got to them, and did them without stepping on a single toe of mine. I thank you for that wonderful gift both because it obviated my looking foolish and also because it was an important conference that needed to succeed.

When I was editing my MAA Notes volume on Teaching Resources, you graciously agreed to write a companion piece on three software packages you were using at Cal Poly in your fancy new classroom. If all authors had been so easy to work with, I would have had a much easier time of it. But thank heavens yours was one instance where I simply accepted with gratitude a terrific contribution to the volume, and concentrated my meager editorial energies on the pieces that really needed my attention. And it was a great pleasure to host you at Grinnell a few years ago to have you present to our campus an excellent talk about that fancy classroom.

Congratulations, Roxy, on your being accorded this lifetime achievement award at USCOTS 2009. You so richly deserve it.

Sincerely yours,

Tom



To Roxy,

Congratulations on this wonderful honor! I can't think of a more deserving recipient. You are so amazing, and yet so humble about all you have done. I think everyone has someone they hold in such high esteem that when confronted with a situation they don't know how to handle they say "I wonder how \_\_\_\_ would handle this." Well, for me you're that person. Many times I've figured out how to handle something by thinking "I wonder how Roxy would handle this." I don't know if I've gotten it right when I try to answer the question, but just contemplating the answer has been a great help. Thank you for being who you are!

Love,  
Jessica



Thanks for changing my life!

Beth Chance

Beth



Seoul 2001



South Africa 2002



Kim Gilbert

Roxy,  
You will be missed in the stat ed community, but go have fun!  
Thank you for the opportunities you gave me. It has been an honor  
working with you and congratulations on  
this award.  
I wish you the best,

Kim



I had the good fortune of being Roxy's publisher and have come to  
admire her as a superb teacher and an author with deep  
understanding of students. Over the years I never saw Roxy act from  
habit or routine, but in every instance she would listen, observe and  
reflect about the best way to convey knowledge, always creative,  
always innovative. It has been a privilege to be exposed to Roxy  
Peck.

Alex

Alex Kugushev

May 2009

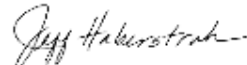
Roxy,

What a wonderful and well-deserved honor! I know that AP is just one of your many accomplishments and contributions to statistics and statistics education, and all of us who work on AP feel very fortunate to have had the benefit of your knowledge and expertise on the program. And, I feel doubly fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with you during your term as chief reader, and while you served on the AP Statistics Development Committee.

When you assumed the responsibility of chief reader, you saw the AP readings through their infancy during a period of rapid growth and change, and I'm sure that you know that everyone associated with those readings always looked to you for, and always received, the rational and thoughtful resolutions that they expected to the issues of the day. Your always calm and professional manner, along with the right amounts of common sense and humor, consistently earned you the highest regard and respect by those at the readings --- including the reading aides, the readers, the reading leadership, and everyone from ETS.

I am grateful that, in your post chief reader years, you've been able to continue to contribute to the work of AP and that you also agreed to work with the SAT-M committee on the statistics questions. Thank you for your ongoing dedication.

With sincerest congratulations on being awarded the USCOTS lifetime achievement award in 2009,



Jeff Haberstroh



Dear Roxy.

Congratulations on being chosen to receive the CAUSE/USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award in Statistics Education. It is truly most deserved. You have contributed to statistics education in fundamental ways through your highly regarded textbooks, continuing service to the statistics profession, and leadership in K-12 education.

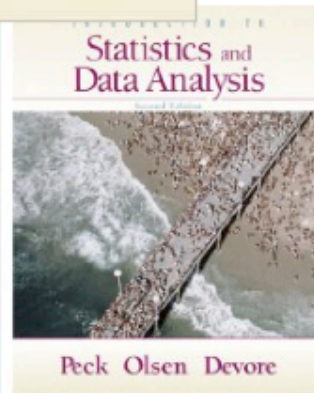
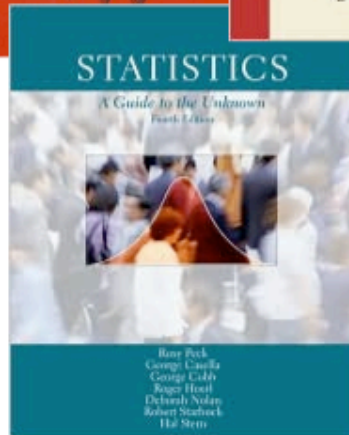
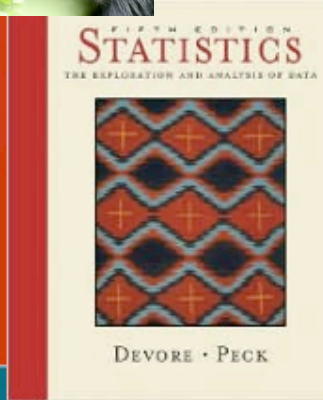
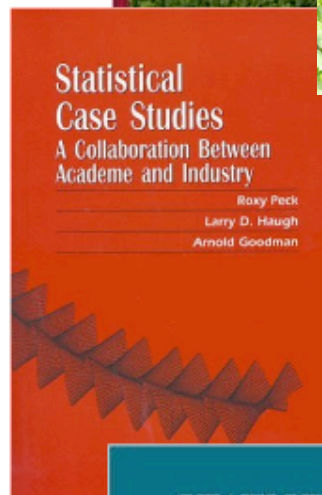
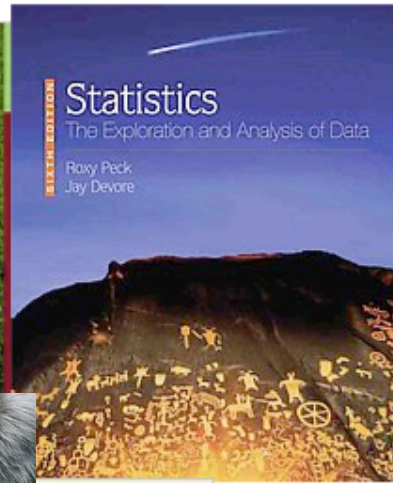
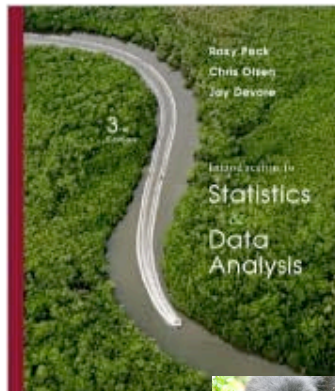
I admire your talks on teaching practice, they are invariably fun, and yet your light-hearted humor helps us all take a critical look at our own practices. I equally admire the tremendous effort and dedication that you bring to your work in statistics education. I saw firsthand, how, as chief editor, these characteristics kept us co-editors on track and working toward a common goal to produce the entirely new *Statistics: A Guide to the Unknown, fourth edition*.

On a personal level, I very much appreciate your generosity in welcoming me into the statistics education community. The invitation to speak at my first ICOTS meeting in 2002 at Cape Town, South Africa introduced me to people and ideas that continue to shape my work. Thank you.

With warm regards,

Deb

Deb Nolan







Roxy Peck is a fine statistician, statistics educator, ASA fellow, and recipient of the 2003 ASA Founders Award for

*... advancing the Association's goals to promote statistics education; for innovative leadership in the Advanced Placement statistics program; and for highly effective service in advancing statistics education through ASA members, committees, chapters, sections, and the Joint Statistical Meetings.*

ASA staff note and appreciate that she is always responsive and willing to volunteer her guidance on statistical literacy and statistics education policy.

She has long served the American Statistical Association in multiple roles. The ASA staff are delighted she will be honored with the well-deserved 2009 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award, and extend their hearty congratulations.

The ASA Education Staff

Roxy,

Thank you for your generous support not only of the ASA and of our profession, but also of so many of us individually as statistics educators. Your grace and warm encouragement has meant so much to me personally over the years.

I am honored to be your colleague, and congratulate you on this richly deserved award.

Ron



I simply did not know what to say. I have lots of memories of working with Roxy and traveling with Roxy, all of them good memories. I first met her when we both showed up for the first AP Statistics grading in New Jersey. Next we ended up on the AP Development committee together and then we traveled to China after an ICOTS meeting in Singapore. I found her to be a great colleague and an even better travel agent! She arranged the China trip through the daughter of a friend. The daughter was a travel agent who found good accommodations and tours for us. We happened to get placed on a tour with two other women of about our ages, but they came from a family of morticians. We learned that morticians have unusually good senses of humor and they provided us with many stories. My next trip with Roxy in the lead was the African safari after the ICOTS meeting in South Africa. She and I have kept in touch through our work with ASA and with the College Board over the years. I've always appreciated her sense of humor and her determination to make things work.

Best,  
Katherine

Katherine Halvorsen



Dear Roxy

I can't say enough good things about you! You have done so much for statistics education, and have reached countless teachers and thousands of students through all of your work. You've been my mentor and my friend, and I thank you for that. You are one of the people that really 'gets it' and this is what inspires me the most about you. I wish you all the best always, and look forward to hearing more of your memorable talks, reading more of your books, and hearing stories about your world travels. I drink a diet coke in your honor, my friend!

Deb Rumsey

All the best and many thanks,

Deb



Roxy,

Congratulations on receiving the 2009 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award. You so deserve this award! I have learned so much from you about statistics education. However, in your next life you should be a travel planner. As much as I have enjoyed our professional relationship, I have enjoyed our travels together even more. Eating ostrich on our South African safari, almost losing Jeff Witmer between Zimbabwe and Zambia at Victoria Falls, and catching piranhas on the Rio Negro are some of the most memorable experiences of my life. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with you and to enjoy some of life with you. You are a great statistics educator and a wonderful friend.

Gary

Roxy,

It's not an overstatement to say you changed my life professionally. Your encouragement, your "pass it on" philosophy, showing me open doors that I thought were beyond me, and also personally by being a good friend. You inspired me to move 3000 miles and were always there for me with advice when I asked for it – and sometimes when I didn't, but always when it was needed.

I, along with many others, will always be grateful. Congratulations and many, many thanks.

Mary





Roxy,

There are a handful of people in one's life who have a profound impact--on belief systems, priorities, directions, or even the essence of one's character. From the time I met you in Lincoln lo those many years ago, you have served as a professional role model for me. Your grace under pressure, dedication to principles, and sheer class are just a few of your statistics, but also about living a life that sees the glass half full.

For your guidance, inspiration, and friendship, I offer my sincere thanks.

Congratulations on this well deserved tribute for your many contributions to statistics education over the years.

Daren

Daren Starnes

To Roxy, the Rock and Roll Queen of probability as "Long Term Relative Frequency". Lots of people will today trumpet your dedication to the teaching and learning of statistics, but how many of your hard core Statistician buds will thank you for your contributions to probability? I figured that role was pretty much uncovered, so I'll take it on. THANK YOU for your great work supporting writing and reviewing NCTM materials in probability, and a special thanks for being my co-author, 'navigating' the probabilistic waters.

All the best to you, Roxy,

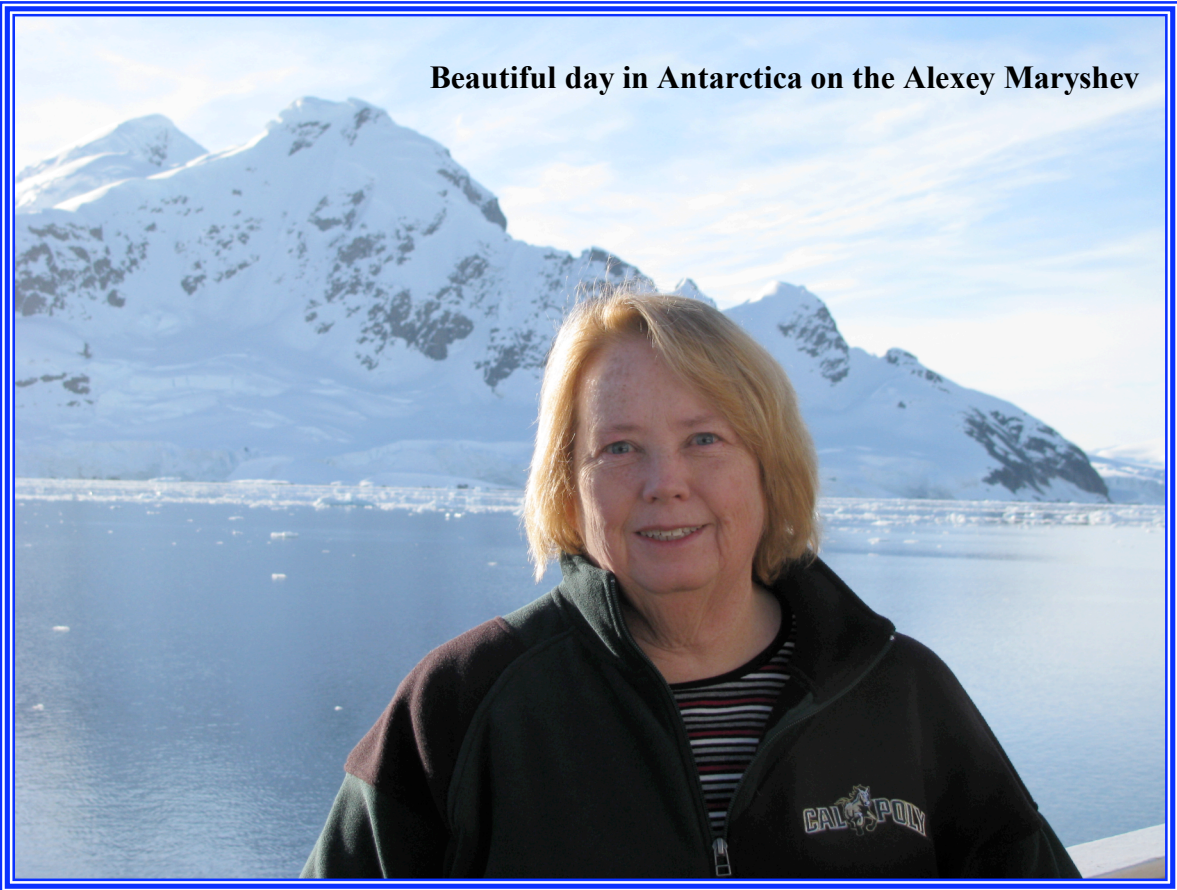
Mike

P.S. Watch out for lurking Bayesians!

Mike Shaughnessy



**Beautiful day in Antarctica on the Alexey Maryshev**



Roxy,

Never did I expect that our common interest in Advanced Placement Statistics would result in two amazing trips--first to India over Christmas week, 2004, and then to Argentina and Antarctica for Christmas, 2008. Finding a compatible inveterate traveler who wants to wander to the same ends of the earth that I do has been a wonderful gift. Congratulations on your Lifetime Achievement Award. No one deserves it more than you do!

Pat Murphree









Congratulations, Roxy! My crystal ball was foggy all those years ago when we started collaborating on our first book together. So I had no idea just how big a player you would become in the national and worldwide statistical communities. How impressive! It is a pleasure to be associated with someone who has made such significant contributions to statistical education.

Jay Devore

Jay

I have known Roxy for the last 35 years, since she came into the Ph.D. Program in Applied Statistics at the University of California, Riverside. I was her graduate advisor during her successful completion of this program in 1978. She was always an excellent statistician but in the last decade I have seen her in a new light. Since 2003, I have been a participant of the AP Statistics Reading and I saw first hand how popular she was and what she had contributed to the success of AP Statistics. We have met regularly afterwards and I have admired her contributions to the field of statistics in general.

D.V. Gokhale

Roxy has made a significant contribution to statistics education through her involvement as the Chief Reader of the AP Statistics Program. With resounding success, she was instrumental in bringing together educators of statistics from four venues, high schools, community colleges, undergraduate colleges and research universities. She has presented a role model to all of her successors in this regard.

Her dedication and organization skills, combined with her sense of humor make her an ideal educator. I give her my heartiest congratulations for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the U.S. Conference on Teaching Statistics.

## Congratulations Roxy!

You are truly deserving of a reward such as this. I know that this award is primarily given for all the work you have done nationally for the statistics community in general and statistical education in particular. Many people are more aware of your large number of accomplishments in this area. I am most thankful and proud of all your work and accomplishments at Cal Poly.

Your accomplishments over the years have built quite an impressive resume. From the time you came onto the Cal Poly campus in the late 1970's, you proved yourself to be an outstanding faculty member, first in the Computer Science and Statistics Department, and, starting in 1984, in the new Statistics Department. Your work in the classroom, your development of curriculum, and your very active participation in departmental affairs were all exemplary. During my years as Statistics coordinator of the joint department, and then my six years as chair of our new department, yours was always the voice of reason, and you were always the person who was first to volunteer to take on some undesirable task or serve on some thankless committee.

As the chair of the department from 1990 to 1996 you oversaw a time of physical relocation of our department, and financial stress within the university. Even though you had some faculty member sniping at your decisions, you persevered on a path that I believe made the Statistics Department a better department. Your work for the last thirteen years as Associate Dean of COSAM has benefited the college, our department, and the university. You have truly been an outstanding colleague!

I must say at times I am amazed that a person who let her dog barf on the shoes of her new boss within her first couple months in her new position was able to overcome such a negative start and excel in so many ways.

Congratulations again! I truly feel very privileged to know you, consider you a good friend, and to have been your colleague for so many years.

Jim

The first time I met Roxy I remember being (pleasantly) surprised by her unusually fine sense of humor. Somehow, I wasn't expecting such a well-known statistician and educator to also be funny. As I've gotten to know Roxy I've learned to expect the unexpected. She's a world traveler who has visited all 7 continents and bought jewelry on every one of them (while I'm sure she had some trouble in Antarctica, I've no doubt that even there she found very good gems at very good prices). She will go anywhere, whether or not she has just undergone surgery. She can talk learnedly about the fine points of judging ice-skating competitions. She can even impress a room-full of AP Teachers with her Garage Band skills. Most impressive of all: she can tell the difference between diet Coke and diet Pepsi from about 10 feet away, just by the sounds they make dropping out of the vending machine.

Rob Gould



Roxy,

Congratulations! I have very much enjoyed our work and travels together. One of the stories my partner Greg loves to tell is about his friend Roxy, an eminent statistician, who at the end-of-conference banquet in Salvador, Brazil, grabbed a tower of plates amidst the chaos of the buffet so that we could finally obtain food. One of my own favorite memories is meeting you for the first time at a JSM poster session where you were kind, generous, and supportive of trying to use more real data in my classes.

-John

John Holcomb





Roxy,

I am so excited that you are receiving the USCOTS award. In my book, you have always and continue to be 'awe-inspiring'. I still vividly remember the first year of the AP Statistics reading in 1997 when in my role as a table leader you were my reader in NJ (I like to tell folks I trained the future CR - SMILE). Joking aside, I can't thank you enough for the inspiration, confidence, and trust you have given me throughout the years as I have devoted my career to the field of statistics education. It is truly amazing what you have accomplished and given graciously to others and to advancement of statistics education. Your passion is contagious. I appreciate your expertise, kindness, and most important, your special friendship. You are the best!

Georgia Chris

PS Didn't want you to confuse me with Iowa Chris





It has been my very great honor and privilege to know and work with Roxy. I actually remember when I first became aware of her. Her publisher had sent books to be distributed to participants at an AP Statistics workshop in Houston; one of them was the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Devore and Peck. I leafed through it and was immediately entranced. Real life examples of statistics! Actual data! Sources! I also remember when I met her at her first AP Statistics reading. (Roxy, I was the one bubbling over with star struck incoherence.) After that my memories are an incoherent and wonderful jumble of learning statistics from a colleague, co-author, and friend.

When speaking of statistics education it is impossible to imagine an award that Roxy does not richly deserve, and difficult to understand there is one she has not already garnered. Of course, a Lifetime Achievement award does sound like one that takes a little while. Fortunately there is absolutely nothing in this Lifetime Achievement award that absolves Roxy of the responsibility of continuing to be Roxy far into the future!

The only problem I can see in Being Roxy is illustrated in the picture below. I would like to offer to Roxy a sincere and kind suggestion, an attempt to convey a perfecting amendment to her otherwise stellar personality. Roxy, I know you will accept this in the spirit it is given: you don't have to be so serious all the time -- lighten up once in a while!

-- Chris



Roxy,

Congratulations on your award! It is well deserved.

You have been a very important part of my life as a statistics teacher. It started in 1999 when I was an acorn and you were Chief Reader (aka the wielder of Awesome Power). Needless to say, I was in "awe".

Then, you encouraged me as I became a table leader and after my first training session (if you remember, I had the top 5 "things overheard at the reading"). Somehow you found it in your heart to recommend that I come back :=)

I also have benefited greatly from using your book. It really helped me understand statistics at a conceptual level. I am sure it was all due to you, and not that high school person you let on the cover!

Finally, thanks for answering my countless questions over email, lunch at the reading, or wherever I can find you. You have been a wonderful teacher, resource, and friend.

Josh

May 20, 2009

Tel 740/427-5069  
Fax 740/427-5573  
Homepage: [math.kenyon.edu](http://math.kenyon.edu)

Dear Roxy,

Congratulations on winning the 2009 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award! You deserve this award for your teaching, scholarly writing, editing, mentoring, and service to our profession. Your contributions are immeasurable by our standard metrics. You have provided textbooks, rubrics, exams, activities, and numerous other resources for teachers in every state and around the world. More importantly, you have given your time to help good teachers at all levels become better teachers.

On a personal note, I remember the first time we met at an AP Statistics Reading. One evening during that week we watched a College World Series baseball game. I don't remember who was playing, but I recall drawing tickets in the van on the way to the game to decide on the seating arrangements. By the luck of the draw, awe the beauty of chance, we were paired together. We were probably the only two people in Rosenblatt Stadium eating hot dogs and talking about teaching, statistical methods, software, etc.

When I returned to Kenyon after that reading, several of my colleagues asked me why I continued to spend a week of the summer grading AP Exams. Without any hesitation, I told them that a reading is the only place where I could sit beside a legendary textbook author and get advice on how to become a better teacher. The funny thing is that you never told me exactly how to improve, but you provided crystal clear rationales for why you do things the way that you do in your textbooks and in your classroom. Your ability to teach without lecturing is a remarkable characteristic.

I still think about you every time that I present the concept of power to my students because you told me about your demonstration where you overlaid two normal distributions on old transparencies and then shifted the distributions to illustrate how the power increases or decreases under different alternatives. Essentially, you were showing your students an applet, long before applets were invented. I could go on with numerous other examples, but the point is that you have made many of us better teachers with your excellent stories.

As you passed the torch and the "AWESOME POWER" to me as Chief Reader, you provided numerous words of wisdom. I sincerely appreciate all of the tips you provided over the phone, via e-mail, at dinners, and even after dessert when we found a quiet place in the Chauncey Conference Center. Following two legends is never an easy task, but I will never forget the valuable advice you provided on numerous occasions.

Your patience and caring attitude have made a lasting impression on your students, including me. Your career has been stellar, and this award is one small token of appreciation for the impact that you have had on the lives of those of us who have been fortunate to work with you.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to relax in your beautiful Sedona home for many years after your retirement. You have found a beautiful location, and I appreciate your willingness to let us relax and enjoy the gorgeous red rocks.

Sincerely,



Bradley A. Hartlaub

I first met Dr. Roxy Peck through my work with the American Statistical Association in the late 1990's. Almost immediately her strong leadership abilities became apparent, as well as her generosity in contributing her time and expertise to enhance the field of statistics education. Dr. Peck meets each of her responsibilities and challenges with quiet steadfastness and a natural grace. Through the years, I have benefited enormously from her wisdom and encouragement, always imparted with the greatest humility. Along with so many others, I express my deepest gratitude for her friendship and for the countless contributions she has made.

Judy Dill

Dear Roxy:

Jeff Witmer

Hearty congratulations on your Lifetime Achievement Award! I'm not sure how someone so young could win a "lifetime" award, but then it was a group of statisticians who made the selection, so maybe there was some data censoring involved.

My family will always think of you as the "statistics tour organizer," whether it is Joel remembering jumping off a bridge in Africa, Kyle catching a piranha on the Amazon, or Merrilee buying jewelry in Brazil. We will also think of you as hostess in absentia, as we recall pleasant days hiking in Sedona.

You are certainly deserving of this high recognition. I regret that family obligations will keep me from being in attendance for the presentation of the award, but I'm sure that I'll see you soon to congratulate you in person.

Mindful of the truth that  
To Teach is to Learn Again,  
I send you my warm regards,

Jeff



Dear Roxy,

Congratulations on your well-deserved reward.

What with your awesome power, did they really manage to keep it a secret?

It's been wonderful working with you on AP Statistics. Although, sometimes it was touch and go. I'll never forget the morning in Nebraska after a difficult day before, when you came in, buried your head in your arms on your desk, and murmured, "And now they've gone and given the readers daggers!"

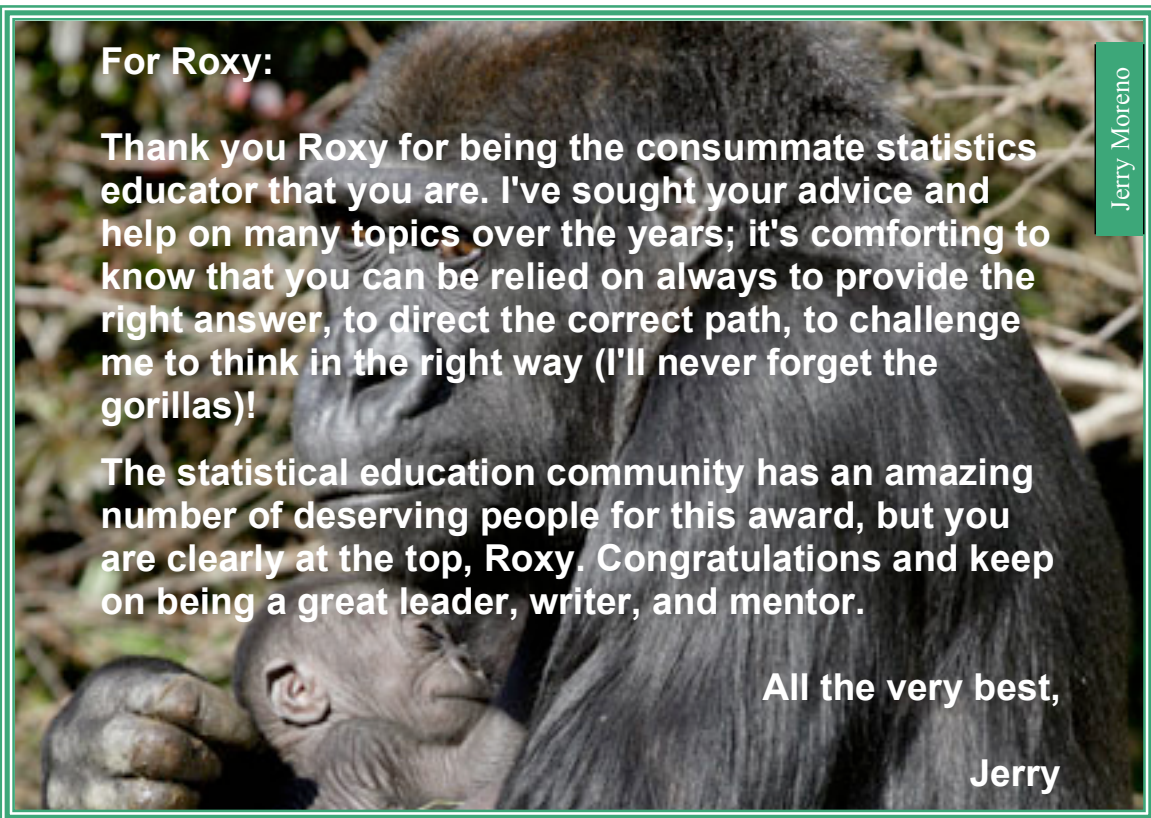
We should try working together on something entirely different some day.

Ann Watkins

Best wishes,

Ann





Jerry Moreno

**For Roxy:**

**Thank you Roxy for being the consummate statistics educator that you are. I've sought your advice and help on many topics over the years; it's comforting to know that you can be relied on always to provide the right answer, to direct the correct path, to challenge me to think in the right way (I'll never forget the gorillas)!**

**The statistical education community has an amazing number of deserving people for this award, but you are clearly at the top, Roxy. Congratulations and keep on being a great leader, writer, and mentor.**

**All the very best,**

**Jerry**



Roxy has been a wonderful friend, teacher, colleague, and role model. She has given generously of her time to help high school teachers improve and increase their statistical knowledge and understanding. I have had the opportunity to learn from Roxy in several summer sessions at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. Her thoughtful, constructive criticism and patience in helping me understand some of the subtleties of statistics were much appreciated. I also had the good fortune to be a member of an NCTM writing group with Roxy. In addition to contributing great ideas and activities to this effort, Roxy offered valuable direction and advice to move us toward getting the task completed. And of course, Roxy's work for AP Statistics has been extremely valuable to many high school teachers and students. The fact that she would return to help with AP grading when she could be spending time in Sedona makes a clear statement about her dedication to this program.

I am sure that I speak for many other high school teachers in expressing appreciation for the many things the woman with "awesome power" has done for us.

Thank you, Roxy!

Gloria

Roxy,

You are an inspiring leader in statistics educators and I am one of the huge number of your devoted followers.

Thank you for all you have done for statistics education at all levels.

With great admiration and affection,

Joan

Joan Garfield





Hi, Roxy-

Congratulations on being selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award. It is well deserved. Wow, what can I say about you with respect to a lifetime of achievement?



Do we begin with the gorilla in the room? Everyone still talks about that wonderful presentation. And I'm looking forward to "Just Say No To..." this year. Now one bit of advice that I have not heard you say is "friends don't let friends extrapolate." That's one of mine, and I'd be proud to have you incorporate it one day into something that you talk about.

How about "Awesome Power" as the Chief Reader for AP Statistics? I miss the days when the reading was small and you had "awesome power." Heck, you even paired me up with Mary Mortlock, which was almost asking for trouble. Instead, per usual, you knew that we'd be darn good at our jobs and have fun doing them. The years I spent doing AP Statistics readings with you were wonderful.

I remember when I was visiting CalPoly for my dissertation and hung out at your house for a bit before a group of us went to dinner. I was so fortunate to be welcomed into the statistics education community by you and all of the regular characters. You in particular show me the potential of what I can do if I set my mind to it. And you're a dog lover to boot!



You have accomplished so much thus far in the statistics education community. It seems funny to write a tribute to someone who I know has so much more to offer us all. It's like the Lifetime Achievement Award looks back at what you have done and not towards the future. Or perhaps it says that we know you will continue to do wonderful things in the statistics education community. And we do.

All my best and congratulations!

Jackie

Carolyn Crockett

Dear Roxy,

Congratulations on receiving the USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award. I'm guessing you'd like to think of it more as the "Lifetime Achievement 'so far' Award"!! You are a most deserving recipient! While I was searching for a clever quote, I found one by Charles Kuralt that is befitting this tribute. He was quoted as saying, "Great things are not accomplished by those who yield to trends and fads and popular opinion." You have certainly proven this to be true. Your truly "great things" have been the result of your creative genius, your thoughtful care, your determination, and your curious nature! I feel privileged to have witnessed, on so many occasions, your ability to accomplish great things through your writing, your coaching, your enthusiasm, your curiosity, your belief in your own ideas, and your genuine goodness as a person.

It was my pleasure to be your editor for over 10 years and it is truly my honor to pay tribute to you now, my friend. You are a treasure!

Warm regards,  
Carolyn



*Richard L. Scheaffer*  
*907 North West Twenty First Terrace*  
*Gainesville, Florida 32603*

Telephone: (352) 378-1996

E-mail: rls907@bellsouth.net

May 15, 2009

Dear Roxy,

Congratulations on being chosen as the recipient of the 2009 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award, a much deserved honor. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with you over the years on statistics education projects and to be aware that we were, in effect, on the same team even while our efforts took different tracks.

There are so many specifics that could be recounted were space and time (and my memory) not so limited. One of the most outstanding ventures, and one close to my heart, was your taking over the leadership of AP Statistics and leading it to exciting new heights in both numbers and quality. Who could have envisioned that the program would be so successful? Thank you for your dedication to that program and your contributions to its success.

Then there is GAISE, even now just coming into its own as the prime resource for many who are revising K-12 mathematics curricula to include statistics. CAUSE is fast becoming the center of statistics education activity for undergraduate programs, and you were of great help in getting this center (or whatever its called) off the ground. Your service on many committees, boards, review teams, advisory groups, and so on has taken great amounts of time and energy, I am sure. I am also sure that sometimes it seemed like wasted energy, but all those efforts help build toward the goal of sound statistics education for everyone, beginning in elementary school. Thanks for sticking in there!

I recall that, some years ago, the Southern Regional Committee on Statistics dedicated one of there summer sessions to my work. You were one of the invited guests and flew across the country for that one meeting. I was both impressed and very pleased. You helped make that a special day, and one I still remember vividly. Thanks for being there.

I hope that your day at the 2009 USCOTS will have been surprising but wonderfully exciting, and that you will take time to look back on you many accomplishment with joy and a sense of fulfillment. But, you are not through yet so do not even think about slacking off!

With Best Regards and Fond Remembrances,



Dick Scheaffer

My friendship with Roxy began from our work on the ASA/NCTM Joint Committee, along with several special projects stemming from the ASA or NCTM. It was an incredible honor to have someone so gifted and so well respected throughout the country (and beyond!) as a friend. Roxy never let me know whether or not she thought my suggestions for the Joint Committee, or my suggestions for articles we wrote or lessons we developed for various publications were brilliant or dumb – she simply listened to my ideas, provided feedback, and then helped me learn new ideas and insights. From **Paul Molitor’s Hitting Streak** to **Abby’s Kennels** to **A Statistical Study of Generations** to **Welcome to Oostburg**, Roxy helped me work through these ideas, guided my writing, and generated accurate reflections of statistical investigations. In the end, each of these lessons (and actually several others) was a genuine contribution to high school mathematics and statistics classes. (Yes, I recognize the bias in that statement!)

Roxy is patient, reflective, ambitious, brilliant, and genuinely eager to assist teachers, students, and the leadership of ASA, NCTM, and obviously many other associations and organizations. I am truly honored to have been able to cross paths with Roxy and to learn from one of the best in the field. And, along the way, I met a good friend and someone who always personally responded to my e-mails even when the initial response was often an auto reply that indicated she “will get back to you later!”



Roxy has had an enormous and lasting impact on statistics education in the U.S. and around the world. Her textbooks have reached thousands of teachers and hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of students. Her service as Chief Reader of the AP program in statistics, during a crucial stage of the program's development, is legendary. Her editorial work on the latest edition of SAGTU is helping to popularize statistics among students of all ages. She has given memorable and effective presentations on statistics education to myriad audiences in all corners of the globe, providing teachers with innovative and thought-provoking ideas for teaching statistics and prodding them to identify the "gorilla" that students must not miss. Her service to the profession, particularly her advocacy for K-12 education in statistics, has been extremely important and selfless.



The most remarkable thing is that Roxy accomplishes all of this, and much more, with absolute grace and humility. One example stands out in my mind: At the end of a particularly long day of reading AP exams in Lincoln, Roxy stood by the door to personally thank every person, by name, who had contributed to the effort that day. Perhaps unknowingly, she revealed that the secret to her much-admired "awesome power" is her awesome niceness.

-- Allan

Dear Roxy,

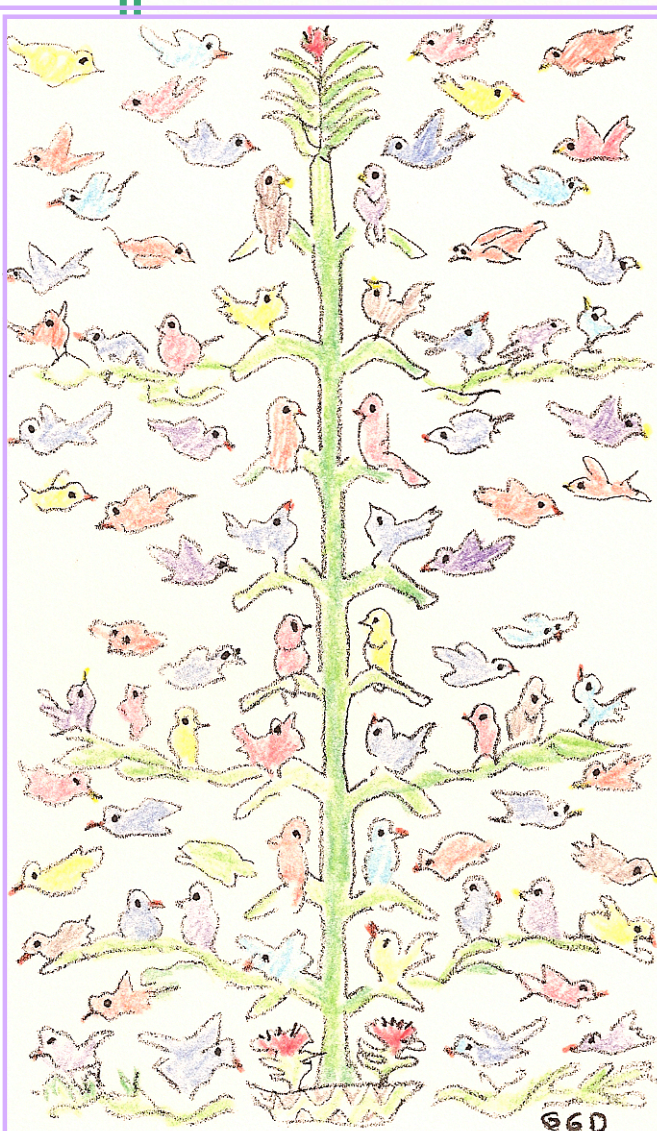
From the first AP Stat grading session in New Jersey to the latest revision of the DP and POD texts, you have inspired us with your vision, determination, and intelligence. You have mentored and encouraged us with your wicked wit and good humor.

Congratulations on your selection as the recipient of the 2009 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award.

In peace,

*Gretchen*

Gretchen Davis



Birds of a Feather





Roxy,

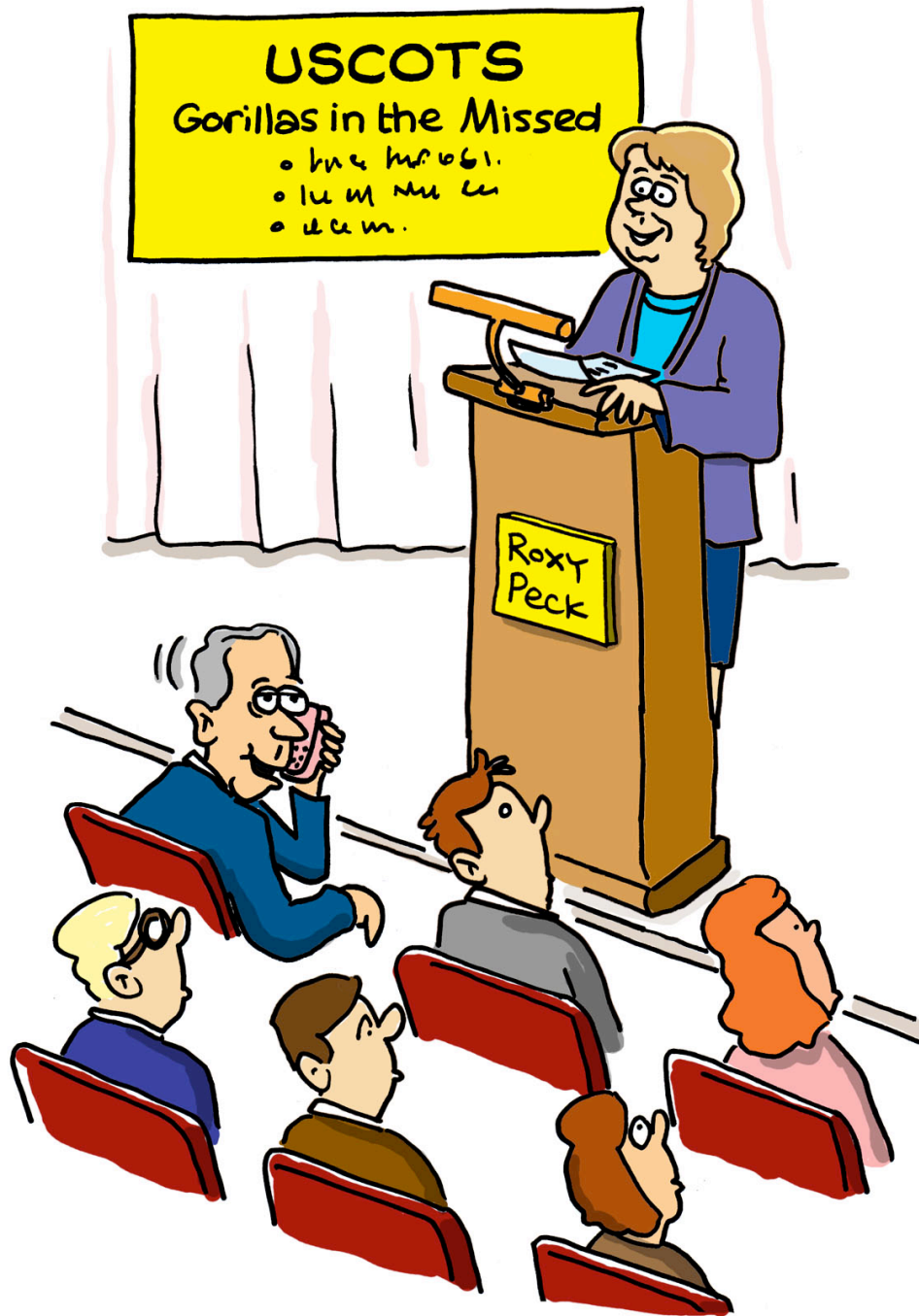
Over time I have found:  
Your humor is renowned.  
You're usually travel-bound.  
Your talks astound.  
Your insights are profound.  
Your friends abound.  
Your advice is sound.  
That because you're around,  
Statistics Education gains ground.  
...and that I can not write poetry.

Dennis Pearl

--Dennis



CAUSE Activists Meeting March 26, 2003 Columbus, OH



**“It’s Michael Apted - get  
Sigourney Weaver on the line  
I have an idea for another movie”.**





**The CAUSE/USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award** in statistics education is a biennial award presented at the U.S. Conference On Teaching Statistics to an individual who, over an extended period of time, has made lasting contributions with broad impact to the field of statistics education.

The award committee is made up of the Director of CAUSE, the Chair of the CAUSE Board of Directors, the Chair of the USCOTS Program Committee, and all past winners. The 2009 committee (Dennis Pearl, Jessica Utts, Deborah Rumsey, George Cobb, and Joan Garfield) presented the award to Roxy Peck on June 26th, 2009 in Columbus, Ohio.