A Tribute to Rob Gould
Recipient of the 2019 CAUSE-USCOTS
Lifetime Achievement Award
from the
Statistics Education Community

2019
USCOTS

EVALUATING
EVIDENCE

To the USCOTS 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award in Statistics Education Committee:

We are deeply honored to nominate our colleague, Rob Gould, for the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award in Statistics Education. This letter of nomination, and the attached letters of support, detail the myriad contributions Rob has made to statistics education. We note at the onset that Rob's impact has been incredibly broad: from high school to community colleges to undergraduate to the larger international statistics and data science communities. His work has had lasting impact and has been recognized by his becoming a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2012.

Rob has taught in the Department of Statistics at UCLA for 25 years. Rob is one of the foundational members of the department, and he has been the driving force behind statistics education at UCLA since 1994 (when he, and it, were in the Department of Mathematics). Since the creation of the Department of Statistics in 1998, he has been the Vice Chair of Undergraduate Studies. He has overseen all issues for the UCLA undergraduate program, including, but not limited to, major and minor requirements, curriculum design and updates, the adequate offering of service courses, the overall quality of undergraduate instruction, and developing innovative new approaches to teaching and evaluation. To reflect his sterling contributions to the University, Rob was appointed Lecturer with Security of Employment (equivalent to being granted tenure within the University of California system) in 2014, which is a very rare appointment at UCLA and an unambiguous measure of how Rob is recognized by the department and the university. Since that time, Rob has continued his excellent leadership of undergraduate statistics education and expanded his work into new areas.

Rob's contribution to undergraduate statistics education is profound. In 2005, and then again in 2010, Rob was on the writing team for ASA's Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE). He has also been involved with a variety of efforts for introducing statistics and mathematics faculty to GAISE and helping the faculty put them into practice in their teaching.

In 2011, Rob recognized that undergraduate students needed opportunities to work with data beyond the classroom, and he organized the first DataFest. Rob reached out to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and designed the first DataFest around a dataset of 10 million records on reports for every arrest in Los Angeles from 2005 to 2010. This was likely the largest and most complex dataset participating students had ever worked with. In addition to convincing students that this was a valuable (and fun) way to spend their weekend, Rob also recruited faculty, graduate students, and area data professionals to participate in the event as mentors. The event was a huge success, both in terms of what the students accomplished in the 48 hours and also in terms of building a community. To say DataFest has turned into an international phenomenon is an understatement. What started out as a small event with 30 participants at UCLA quickly grew into an international success. Since 2016 ASA has formally sponsored the event, and in 2018 there were 39 sites with over 3000 students from 70 institutions participating. The expansion of the program did not happen by chance. Rob has worked tirelessly to curate and prepare interesting datasets and to support organizers, both informally and, later, as part of his role on the ASA's DataFest Steering Committee. In addition to supporting all events in real time during the 6-week window that DataFests take place each spring, Rob also maintains "DataFest in a Box" (a set of organizational documents to help faculty running a new DataFest get organized) and runs an annual informational webinar and meeting at JSM for organizers.

Rob's leadership at UCLA extends beyond his work in the undergraduate program. The eleven lecturers in the Department of Statistics at UCLA work as a coherent unit under the able direction of Rob. The emergence of data science and analytics and the ubiquitous use of statistical ideas have required our discipline to quickly adapt both our teaching and research. In addition, UCLA has increased the number of undergraduate and graduate students as well as expanded the courses and training offered. In this environment, much is asked of our lecturers. They are on the front lines of the changes. In particular, their course material and pedagogy must change to meet new opportunities. They work together to improve teaching, they are actively engaged in research on statistics education, and they contribute substantially to extracurricular activities such as DataFest, Statistics Club, and Bruin Day. Rob is the founder, developer and leader of the lecturer corps and his contributions can best be appreciated in the context of that role.

Rob is also a great mentor to graduate students in the department. He has not only provided myriad opportunities for them to gain teaching experience at various levels, but also inspired many to pursue careers in statistics education. His mentorship strikes the right balance between providing the structure to get started and giving the freedom to develop one's own style. His careful but adventurous style for putting into practice the best and newest in statistics pedagogy rubs off on to graduate students, and downstream effects of this can be seen in the successful academic careers of his mentees.

Not only has Rob had a profound impact on undergraduate statistics in four-year institutions, he has also been heavily involved working with both high schools as well. He has also been involved with the bridge between high school and college through grading AP Statistics exams and Chairing the Joint Committee of National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the ASA. He is also currently serving on the 2017-2020 GAISE K-12 report writing team. Arguably, however, his biggest contribution to statistics education at the high school level is through his work with Mobilize and the LA Unified School District (LAUSD).

The Mobilize Project was a large NSF-funded grant awarded to UCLA. Rob took over the project in 2012, focusing the project on data science education rather than computer science, and solidifying its commitment of teaching students to think critically and constructively with data. Mobilize has developed high-school curricula for data science and successfully launched a new course, *Introduction to Data Science* (IDS), which is currently taught in approximately 30 classrooms in the LAUSD and is expanding to other school districts. One challenging problem that the project has addressed relates to groups of students who are unable to meet the Algebra II requirement for entrance into the Cal State and UC Systems. IDS satisfies this requirement and advances students, including those traditionally underrepresented in STEM, toward college.

Rob is also a leader in statistics and data science education at the community college level. His textbook, *Introductory Statistics: Exploring the* World *Through Data* is aimed at community college students and supports a modern curriculum which is accessible to students at community colleges. In May 2018, Rob organized the ASA Two-Year College Data Science Summit, which merits special examination. This summit brought together 72 educators, researchers and practitioners in statistics, mathematics, data science, and computer science. The primary goal of the summit, which brought together faculty from two-year colleges and four-year colleges and representatives from industry and government, was to produce curricular guidelines to assist two-year colleges in establishing and maintaining data science programs. He was also one of the lead authors for the summit report.

As a lifelong researcher in statistics education, Rob has regularly worked hard to disseminate his research and to promote exchange of ideas. His impressive list of publications spans a wide array of statistics education journals as well as international teaching conference proceedings. Beyond his own work, Rob has been instrumental in providing venues for his colleagues to gather and learn from each other, which has been invaluable for the statistical community. His roles are too numerous to list, but some of the most important and recent positions include organizational and editorial leadership positions at the Statistics Research in Teaching and Learning conference, International Conference on Teaching Statistics 9 and 10, International Association of Statistics Education Roundtable, and International Census at Schools Workshop.

In addition to his incredibly strong achievements in statistical education, Rob is a fantastic lecturer, always clear, organized and intelligent. Some sample student evaluations from just the past couple years include *"His instruction was not only one of the most engaging at UCLA but probably the most inspiring"*, *"I think Prof. Gould was able to achieve this effect on me because of his genuine enthusiasm, which was very contagious, and thoughtful layout of the course"*, and *"I am so glad to have crossed paths with Prof. Gould. Without exaggeration, I wouldn't be where I am today without him"*.

There is so much more we, and the writers of the letters supporting this nomination, could say about the magnitude and the impact of Rob's contributions to the field of statistics education at various levels. Given the exceptionally compelling evidence we have presented in this nomination packet, and many other accomplishments of Rob that we couldn't fit into the page limit, we hope that the committee will join us in its strongest support for this nomination.

Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel
Duke University / RStudio

Mark S. Handcock
UCLA

Johanna Hardin
Pomona College

Rob,

Congratulations from the members of the ASA/AMATYC Joint Committee! We appreciate the generous amount of time, energy, expertise, and inspiration that you have provided during your years of service on the Committee – and your willingness to continue to be a valued resource.

Mary

I am honored to have crossed paths with Rob and to have have worked together with him to create Introduction to Data Science--one of the first data science courses ever created for high school students. Rob's passion for statistics education is unparalleled. He is one of the most compassionate people with whom I've ever worked. He truly cares about his colleagues and is always willing to lend a helping hand. Without his leadership and guidance, the work of bringing statistical and computational thinking to high school students would not be the success it has become. I am grateful to Rob for inspiring me to become equally passionate about statistics education.

Suyen

Dick De Veaux

Rob is the best and totally deserving of this honor. As a colleague he is always a "go to" guy. Not only is he knowledgeable, energetic and passionate, but he's always willing to lend a hand and get the job done. He's fantastic to work with and I look forward to our next project.

Mahtash Esfandiari

Hi Rob,

As you are already aware, you are my dearest colleague and a friend of a lifetime.

On the academic side, you have done so much for the advancement of teaching and research in statistics education not only for our department but also for the national and international statistics community.

you have earned my utmost respect over time and I think that the UCLA Department of Statistics would not have been so highly recognized for the success of the teaching faculty and the prestige that we have achieved among our colleagues in the College of Letters and Science.

From a professional perspective, you have always been supportive of my ideas, the novel things I wanted to do, my teaching, all the steps I had to go through during the last two decades.

you are an integral part of my life and I really care for you, respect you, and you have a special spot in my heart.

You have helped me feel at home and develop a feeling of belonging to UCLA; an institution which I love and I am proud to be a part of, and a place that helps me give back to the community.

There are many knowledgeable people in academia. What makes you special is your passion for teaching, your love of family, giving back to the world, having an interest in many dimensions of life including music, reading, cooking, and more important than all caring for other people. Bottom line y**ou are a very RARE OVERLAP OF MANY WONDERFUL ATTRIBUTES.**

I can go and on. But, I need to leave room for others.

You mean the world to me and I feel blessed to have you as a colleague, and a friend.

Wishing you all the best in the years to come and looking forward to our collaboration and friendship.

You make your family, your friends, your colleagues, and your students proud.

Wishing you all the Best,

Mahtash

Rob,
Congratulations, on this well-deserved award reflecting your substantial contributions to stats educations over the past decades … Ivo

Ivo Dinov

2007 SOCR Workshop

Rob,

Thank you for serving as the chief scientific program committee chair for the 2012 IASE Roundtable in Cebu City, Philippines. I consider this conference to be one of the most important conferences of my career. The connections that I made with people and the topics that were debated amongst this small group of statistics education professionals has shaped who I am as an educator. Thank you.

Megan

Megan Mocko

Dear Rob,

Congratulations on being named the recipient of the 2019 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award in Statistics Education. Thank you for everything that you've done, and continue to do, for AMATYC. You have generously shared with us your time, expertise, and connections on many occasions. Because of your efforts, we've had numerous conference presentations and webinars that have impacted the way that we teach and the way that our students learn statistics. Your leadership on the Two-Year College Data Science Summit provided two-year college faculty and administrators with recommendations and resources to help create new data science degree programs.

Congratulations on your well-deserved award.

Julie Hanson, Chair of the AMATYC Statistics Committee
Kate Kozak, President-Elect of AMATYC

Julie Hanson & Kate Kozak

Rob - Congratulations on your Lifetime Achievement Award! It is an honor to see you work with students from all over California during the ASA DataFest.

Thank you for your dedication to our community.

Barbara

Barbara Impellizzeri

ASA DataFest
APRIL 24-26 | UCLA

Dear Rob,

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor! Thank you for your extraordinary contributions to statistics education, and more broadly to educational opportunities for disadvantaged students. I don't think it's an exaggeration to say that you have had or will have a positive impact on hundreds of thousands, or even millions of lives through your work with DataFest, the LA public schools, community colleges, UCLA students, and more. You are an inspiration for the rest of us!

With admiration,

Jessica (Utts)

Jessica Utts

Rob, it's hard to even begin to describe how instrumental you have been in my life. Your patience as my advisor is unparalleled and I will forever be grateful for all of your help in getting me to finish my degree. I can't think of a more deserving mentor to receive this prestigious award! Many congratulations!
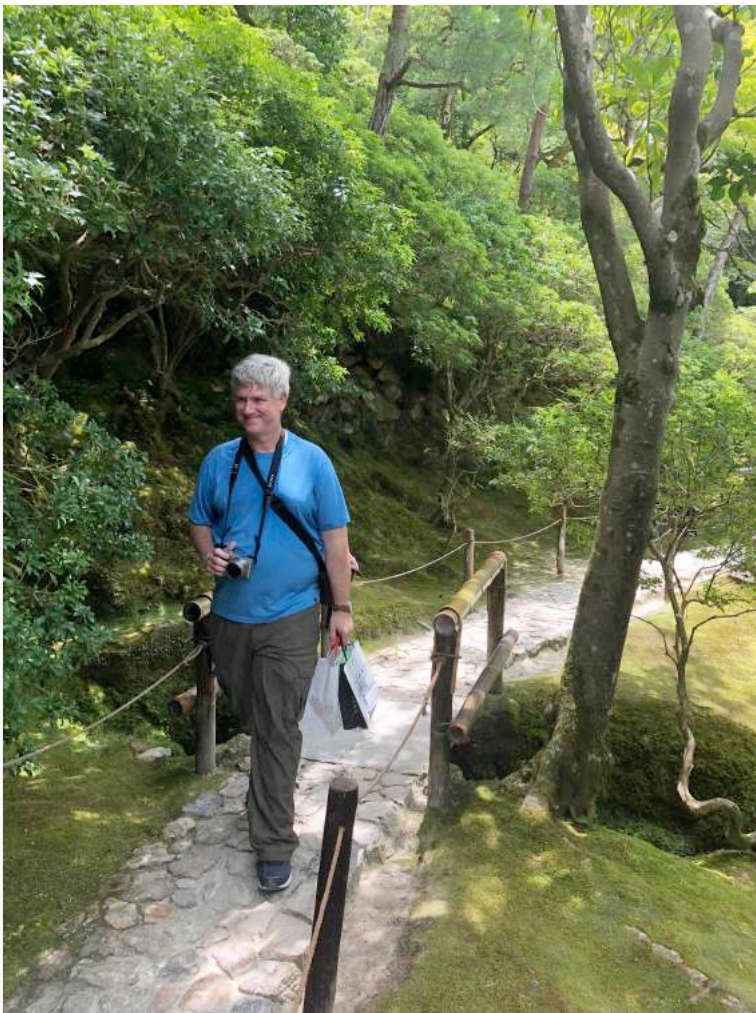
Terri

Teerri Johnson

Congratulations Rob!

This is a well-deserved award. Over the past 15 years (yikes! that long?!?!), I have to thank you for being a wonderful mentor and colleague, my Go-To data person, and a forward-thinking colleague that, I believe, pushed the field of statistics education forward. In my opinion, your greatest contribution to the field of statistics education is your forward-thinking ideas. As one example of many, you have been an advocate for using non-traditional data in the K-12 curriculum at a time where not many people are yet talking about doing so.

You think "outside the box" and I am thankful that I get a chance to work with you closely. Thank you for everything you have done for me over the years! Again, congratulations!

Sincerely, Anna

Anna Bargaagliotti

"On our quest to meet up in as many capitals as we can, Rob always floored me with his ability to find the nicest things to visit and the nicest souvenirs."

-Frauke Kreuter

Congratulations to my dear friend Rob! Countless hours of joint joy with explorations, lectures and good food. Thank you, Rob. I am fortunate to know you.

Best,
Frauke

Frauke Kreuter

"Never ending conversations with Rob about food and wine demonstrate the breath of his interests and the depth of his knowledge. No fear in trying new stuff."
-Frauke Kreuter

"Three of the many things I love about Rob: Fantastic teacher with vision and the right amount of enthusiasm and scrutiny to move us all forward."
-Frauke Kreuter

Rob, remember when we first met in October 2001 at the CBMS conference in Washington DC, a conference promoting the newly written Mathematics Education of Teachers (MET) document? We had never spoken to each other and we were asked to present together for the only statistics education session. What a memorable conference. It was held a month after 9/11 and I elected to drive 10 hours due to my fear of flying. However, most important for being memorable, I gained a dear friend, confidant, and colleague – your loyalty and devotion to putting up with my craziness and my asking you favors to work on statistics education projects has been admirable. Wow – it has been 18 years. You have meant so much to my family and to my career. There are so many wonderful memories we have shared but my favorite has to be in 2015 when we were in NZ at the same time for work and we were able to spend some time with friends exploring Waiheke – the 'wine' island. You convinced me to purchase this 'pricey' handmade tapestry so I might remember the birds of NZ that I loved seeing and hearing during my 6 months living in NZ. You were correct that I would always treasure that tapestry. Rob, you are a gift to Statistics Education and an inspiration to your fellow statistics educators! You truly represent the spirit of this SPECIAL Lifetime Achievement Award – what an amazing ambassador for the award! Don't forget to speak 'southern' when accepting the award – 'all y'all'.

'Georgia' Chris

Chris Franklin

With Chris & Kim on the Bainbridge Ferry

GAISE "2" writing team

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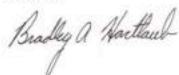Homepage: math.kenyon.edu

May 4, 2019

Dear Rob,

Congratulations on winning the 2019 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award! I don't recall the exact year we met, but I certainly remember that it was during an AP Statistics Reading. Oh, that takes us back to the good old days when every reader got to know every other reader, even though we came from all over the country to grade exams!

You have helped students and teachers from all over the country, actually all over the world, become better analysts. The time you spent with each person teaching statistical methods, illustrating tricks, and pointing out important nuances could be quantified, but the impact you have had on them and their peers, clients, and students certainly cannot.

My wife Sherri and I took a 15,000 mile trip across the country last fall to see our beautiful national parks with her father. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity, and we had a blast. However, as I think back on the great time we had along the Pacific Coast, I have to tell you that I have never been able to figure out how you spend so much time working at the keyboard while the weather and sights outside are so beautiful.

I will not be able to attend USCOTS this year to celebrate your extraordinary accomplishments, but I will definitely be thinking about you! As we head towards the later stages of our careers, I hope you continue to find projects that are enjoyable and exciting. This is about the time in every sabbatical where I really start to miss my students. I never miss the grading, but I genuinely miss the day-to-day interactions with students and faculty members who keep me on my toes. I hope your experiences with students continue to be rewarding. You have made and are continuing to make a difference in statistical education. Keep up the great work.

Cheers,

Bradley A. Hartlaub

Bradley A. Hartlaub
Professor of Mathematics and Statistics

Dear Rob,

Congratulations on winning the Lifetime Achievement Award! It is particularly fitting that you are receiving a clock because…

1) When we schedule calls, we each have challenges figuring out the time of day in other parts of the country (Sedona is particularly tricky), and

2) Over the years, no matter what coast (or continent) you were on or what time zone you were in, you always made time to be of help to me, to my students, and to our colleagues. Count me among the hundreds of people who have benefited from your work and friendship.

Best wishes,

Brian

Brian Kotz

Rob,

 When told of your lifetime achievement award, I had two simultaneous reactions. 1) Immediate joy that you are being recognized for your groundbreaking contributions to the evolution of statistics education and pioneering of the data science landscape. 2) As joyful as I was, I was equally humbled and entirely honored to contribute to the celebration of you! In our work together, you continually inspired and challenged the publishing norms surrounding our day to day, resulting in thoughtful and provocative pedagogy for this generation of statisticians and data scientists. You constantly inspired and challenged me – paving the way toward genuine awe and amazement for the data deluge that surrounds us. Put plainly, Rob, I approached my career with passion for learning and wonder – you have been a primary driver toward realizing that aspiration. But, more than that, you bring so much humanity, humor, and humility to the tireless work you do and the people fortunate enough to work with you. It has been such an honor to know you and to be a small (albeit very small) part of this most-deserved achievement.

Soak it in! My warmest wishes, Suzy

Suzy Bainbridge

Rob has taken the lead in championing the role of statistics in data science. Not only has he continued to vociferously state that statisticians all *do* data science, but through DataFest every year he gets undergraduate students excited about working with large data sets to answering complicated and interesting problems. I am so grateful for the DataFest experience he provides for the dozen students from Pomona who attend each year. Congratulations, incredibly well deserved, and thank you, Rob!!!

-Jo

Jo Hardin

DataFest at IPAM

Amelia McNamara

You so clearly deserve the Lifetime Achievement Award. You've achieved an enormous amount! The undergraduate program in statistics at UCLA produces phenomenal students, and you deserve much of the credit for that. Every time I run into a graduate out in the wild I'm impressed. Then, TISE, your textbook, DataFest, Mobilize... The list just goes on and on. Personally, I don't know where I would be without you. Certainly, I wouldn't have my PhD and be a professor. When you got involved in Mobilize we were under water, particularly me. I don't know how anyone let a graduate student shoulder so much responsibility for a grant, but I was floundering. Your leadership turned something that could have easily failed into something I think we're all proud of. Having your input on my dissertation was priceless. Again, I don't know what would have happened to me without you. I appreciate all the time you took to read my drafts and give me detailed feedback even before it became clear you could officially co-advise me. Every time I mention I got my PhD from UCLA the first thing out of someone's mouth is, 'so do you know Rob??' It has opened so many doors for me, and I'm eternally grateful. This award is a small acknowledgement of the work you've done, but I hope you're able to feel how deeply you've shaped the field and the people in it.

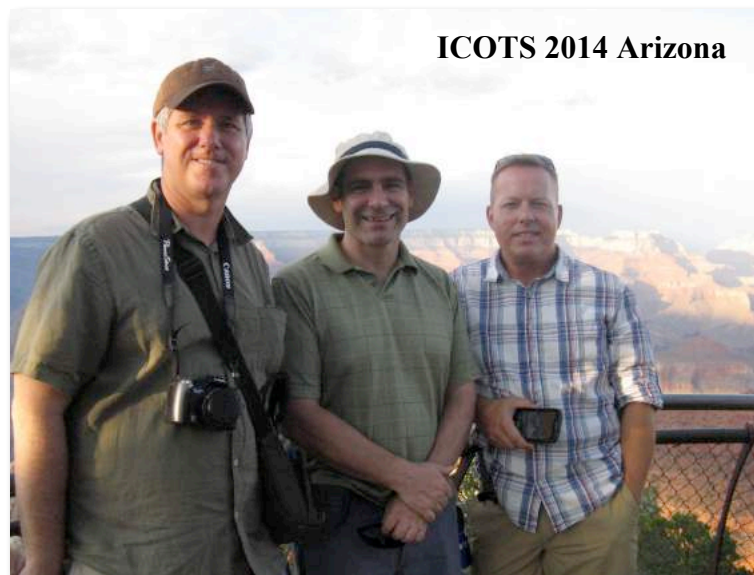Love, Amelia (PhD, 2015).

Jan de Leeuw

Twenty-five years ago, in 1994, the Statistics Division in the Department of Mathematics made the wise decision to hire Rob, right after he finished his PhD. Twenty some years ago, in 1998, the newly formed Department of Statistics made the wise decision to make Rob Vice Chair in charge of undergraduate education. He has been Vice Chair ever since, and the new department has hugely benefitted from his energy, expertise, and guidance. About five years ago, in 2014, UCLA wisely decided to give Rob security of employment, ladder faculty status, and Academic Senate membership. I was involved in all three of these decisions, and I consider them to be among the wisest ones during my tenure as Director and Chair.

Dear Rob,

I think we first met at an AP Stat Reading in the early 2000s, but I know we were friends by the time I was program chair for Stat-Ed in 2002! My life, as well as my husband Greg's, have been enriched with you in it. You have been a wonderful colleague from whom I have learned so much regarding how students learn AND what students should learn. I have especially fond memories of visiting UCLA to give a statistics education colloquium and acting as an adviser, with Brian Jersky and Mary Mortlock, to your NSF-sponsored project on introductory statistics course redesign.   Additionally, you have been such a wonderful friend who has been a joy to travel with. Whether it is drinking wine at Movia in Slovenia or in Paso Robles, you always know how to live La Dolce Vita. Even though you are receiving this well-deserved honor, you are too young to be done yet! I look forward to wonderful curriculum innovations and culinary excursions to come!

-John

John Holcomb

ICOTS 2006 Brazil

ICOTS 2010 Slovenia

ICOTS 2014 Arizona

Ben Baumer

The first thing that happened when I met Rob Gould was that we had whiskey together. I am proud to say that I liked Rob just as much as that whiskey, and my feelings haven't changed since. The importance of his leadership on the ASA DataFest cannot be overstated. The simple but powerful idea behind it continues to shape the curricula of statistics and data science programs across the country.

-Ben

Katie Makar

I have worked with Rob in several collaborative leadership roles – especially in the past 5 years (ICOTS9 proceedings co-editor, ICOTS10 IPC, SRTL11 organisation and 2018 Springer Stats Ed Research Handbook).

What I love about Rob is his "youthful" energy, positive outlook, curiosity, calm and open heartedness. Rob is knowledgeable and yet keen to learn more. He is always straight to the point and has a subtle but wicked sense of humour. He's incredibly busy, but always manages to get things done and fearless in taking up and leading new directions in the field. His work on Big Data with schools has been instrumental in bridging research and practice in our SRTL research community. What a beautiful soul!

Katie

Rob,

You've continuously inspired me to take an expansive view of statistics. I find I sometimes develop tunnel vision in thinking about my small class of students here at Reed, but then I'm reminded of something that you told me in grad school, "The modal statistics course is taught at a two-year college by a mathematician". I continue to be amazed at how you're able to address the challenges of statistics education on such a broad scale: at four-year universities, two-year colleges, and beyond in secondary and primary education.

Your expansive view has included not just *who* we teach and *how* we teach, but also *what* we teach. Your early call for statisticians to engage with the challenges of messy contemporary data was instrumental in giving our profession a leadership role in the discussion around data science education. I expect to be grateful for this contribution of yours for the rest of my career.

Although you were not my Ph.D. advisor, I'm proud to consider you my mentor. You've always been generous with your ideas and opportunities for young statisticians to contribute to the cause of statistics education. I feel fortunate to have stumbled into a graduate program where you were on the faculty and grateful to have made a friend with whom I can share joyful moments: in Los Angeles, in Istanbul, in Heber City, and here in Portland.

--Andrew

Andrew Bray

Rob is an inspirational colleague for all of us here at UCLA Department of Statistics and beyond. His passion about Statistics Education is unparalleled. His ideas and contributions to the undergraduate curriculum have made the Statistics major a force to be reckon with among the Physical Sciences majors at UCLA. He has encouraged and helped faculty to develop and teach a variety of courses (core and electives). Rob continuously seek to enhance and improve the teaching of our courses and its real world applications.

I have been at UCLA since 2000, and I still remember the first time I met Rob when he picked me up from the hotel for my interview at UCLA. Rob made me feel very welcomed and comfortable during my first few moments at UCLA. He is still the person I consult with on many issues, and I am grateful to have him as a colleague and a friend.

Thank you!

Nicolas

Nicolas Christou

I have enjoyed many wonderful discussions with Rob over the years on things statistical, educational, musical, artistic, and aesthetic. But perhaps one of the things I have enjoyed the most is our common enjoyment of single malt Scotch whisky. Whenever we are at the same conference or function, we find time to go out and sample what the local establishments have on their shelves, alternating who buys the whiskies from one occasion to the next (although I believe we have lost track of whose turn it is). One of the most memorable occasions was at ICME 10 in Copenhagen. We changed things up and met at an Irish Pub, deciding to sample "good" Irish whiskies instead of our usual single malt Scotch. We asked the bartender for a recommendation, which he made, and it turned out he played a trick on us as what he poured was some of the most horrible swill either of us had ever tasted! Fortunately, that experience has not dissuaded us from carrying on the tradition, and I look forward to future whisky tastings with Rob.

Bob

Bob delMas

SRTL 2013 Farewell

Rob—

It has been nearly 15 years since I first made your acquaintance on Joan Garfield's NSF-funded AIMS project circa 2005. You were an advisor on that grant and I, a simple research assistant, was in the final stages of my PhD program. While I don't recall having dinner when we first met, we very well might have—knowing you and Joan the probability of that is asymptotic to 1.

The summer of 2007, at the SRTL conference in Warwick, England and at ISI in Lisbon, is where the dinners started in my head. My wife will never forget the late night dinner we all enjoyed in Lisbon in which Rolf Biehler ate snails. For me, breaking bread (and enjoying libations) has been an integral and treasured part of both our personal and professional relationship. Do you remember the dinners we had at the JSM in Seattle (2006) and Vancouver (2010) working on CATALST? Or the fantastic dinner we ate at the Slanted Door in San Francisco after a CATALST advisory meeting? What about the two times we had our crumbs swept up and napkins re-origamied each time we left the table at Addison in Del Mar?

Food aside, it is hard to put in words how much your engagement and friendship has meant to me. It has been my privilege to work with you from those early days of CATALST to helping you with TISE. Your creativity, knowledge, optimism, and warmth have inspired not only the way in which I think about and teach statistics, but also my whole identity as a professional in statistics education. You are a role model *par excellance!* Couple that with the brilliant (and erudite) book, television, or music recommendations you mystically conjure up and it is clear it has been my extreme good fortune to call you a colleague and a friend.

Yours in Beautiful Soup
—Andy

SRTL 2013 Split Rock Lighthouse

Joan Garfield

Congratulations on this well deserved award. I have had the great pleasure of watching your career grow over the years and seeing how much you have contributed to Statistics Education. You have chaired or served on important committees, started a journal, written seminal articles, and served as a bridge between the statistics world and the statistics education research world. I treasure the experiences we have shared together: being acorns at our first AP stats reading, having long talks over great dinners in Madison at the early Tinkerplots meetings, riding bicycles and eating raw herring in the Netherlands, having long philosophical talks about the CATALST project, and enjoying great meals in LA, San Diego, DC, and Paris. I am sorry my retirement has meant seeing you less often, but in July I will toast our friendship and this great award!

2006 CAUSE meeting

Jeff Witmer

Rob,
Hearty congratulations on the well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award. Your energy, vision, commitment, and accomplishments have been evident for many years, so it is fitting that CAUSE recognize all that you have done.

What can I saw about Rob Gould? Rob is a terrific statistics educator who says "Tinkerplots" in the most excellent way. Far more than that, I was fortunate enough to watch Rob teach his own students and spark passion in them. I have seen Rob be a vital contributor to AP Statistics to USCOTS to JSM to every meeting that I am in with Rob. Rob brings both the voice of reason and fun to all that he in involved in.

I feel fortunate to call Rob my friend. Rob was supposed to be my roommate on safari at ICOTS 2002, but back surgery prohibited me from attending. I missed spending that time with Rob, but he guaranteed me that my back appreciated me not going on safari. I remember when Rob first saw my house in Columbus, Ohio--he was shocked at the low price of real estate in Columbus (who doesn't want to live in Columbus?.

I cannot recall a time before Rob Gould in statistics education, and I know that we as a community are so fortunate to know that Rob will be a vital contributor for many years to come.

Rob, congratulations! May this award remind you how much you are appreciated in far more ways that I can express in words.

My best- Jack

Jack Miller

Rob,

Congratulations on this well-deserved achievement! I have learned so much through our collaborations. You have helped me develop a voice and clarity of vision that are invaluable when I talk about the introductory statistics course with my community college colleagues. I have also appreciated the book recommendations and the introduction to the L.A. culinary and art scene. Congratulations and best wishes!

Rebecca Wong

Congratulations Rob!

Thank you for leading, inspiring, and generally brightening up the statistics education scene nationally, but especially around Los Angeles, where for over twenty years the action has revolved around you. DataFest continues to boost student participation in statistics. You have been most generous in advising local students interested in statistics as a career. And I love using your textbook!
Ann

Ann Watkins

"Congratulations, Rob! So proud of you! This couldn't have come to a more deserving person! Bravo!"

Linda Zanontian

2019 DataFest

2016 Commencement

Allan Rossman

Congratulations, Rob on this very well-deserved honor. You have made a profound impact on statistics education not only in California and in the U.S. but around the world. Even more impressive is that your contributions range from high schools to two-year colleges to undergraduate level to graduate programs. Even more impressive still is that your most long-lasting impact is in the arena of data science, which is not what you signed up for when your career began. To cite just two examples, your article on "Statistics and the Modern Student" is a classic on the must-read list for any statistics educator, and your pioneering work to develop DataFest has blossomed spectacularly in its far-ranging impact on the profession. I also great appreciate your humility and humor, two virtues that are not always associated with academics with your quantity and quality of accomplishments. Thanks for all of your efforts on behalf of statistics educators and citizen statisticians, and I wish you much continued success and happiness.   --- Allan

St Mary's workshop 2006

Jane Margolis

I am a qualitative researcher at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, and I had the honor of working as a co-PI with Rob Gould for a couple of years on our NSF funded UCLA project, Mobilize. I cannot say enough about how Rob Gould is an extraordinary educator in every way possible!!! He is passionate about his subject (data science), and about teaching and learning. Rob also stands out as an educator, scholar, who is able to cross boundaries and work with other disciplines (not the easiest thing to do).   As for so many students and teachers, Rob is really the person who introduced me to the world of data science and showed me the fine art of making data science and statistics thought-provoking, relevant, simulating, and fun!

There is no question about Rob's mission/passion about equity and bringing data science knowledge to all students. What else can explain his willingness, patience, dedication, commitment to extend himself to work with our local school district, LAUSD, the second largest in the country, and to help drive the work with surrounding school districts, creating a new course for high school students, and helping educate the teachers and administrators about the importance of all students learning data science. I am elated that Rob Gould is being acknowledged for the remarkable educator that he is. He is also an individual with the highest integrity. Maybe there is some justice still left in the world.

Nick Horton

I'm writing to congratulate you on being named this year's recipient of the CAUSE Lifetime Achievement Award. I can't think of anyone more deserving. Your engagement in so many initiatives over your career have had a dramatic and positive impact on the profession. We first interacted through your work as the Chair of the ASA's Section on Statistics Education, but I've seen the benefit of your long-term leadership as founding editor of Technology Innovations in Statistics Education, through the Park City Mathematics Institute's Data Science Guidelines, your active involvement with both the ASA/NCTM Joint Committee on Curriculum in Stats and Probability and the ASA/AMATYC Joint Committee, your leadership and long-term service on the ASA Advisory Committee on Teacher Education, your involvement with ICOTS and SRTL, the research and professional development aspects you have shepherded through the Mobilize Project, and your dogged and effective leadership of the NSF-funded Two Year College Data Science Summit.   I've personally benefited from your wisdom, guidance, and mentoring throughout my career. I know that you've done the same for countless others. We're all thankful for all that you've done and all that you continue to do. Congrats again!

Nick Horton

Rob, this is a much deserved recognition of all you have done for the teaching and learning of statistics over the course of many years, and for your ongoing dedication to statistics students and statistics teachers everywhere. Cheers to you, Rob. Congratulations!"   Mike

Mike Shaughnessy

Rick Schoenberg

Dear Rob, congratulations on this award! It could not go to a better or more well-deserving person. Over the 21 (gasp) years I have known you, you have been an amazing colleague and friend, and your dedication to statistics education is extraordinary. You are not only an amazing teacher and have not only spoken at conferences and workshops and written articles on statistics education, but you have also proposed courses in our department, selected textbooks for use in our courses, hired and supervised our lecturers and TAs, wrote your own excellent undergraduate textbook, started and edited *JES*, acted as Vice Chair for years and years. And I haven't even mentioned *DataFest!* I'm probably leaving out tons of your other contributions to statistical education too. I am so pleased to hear you are getting this award and am proud to have you as a colleague and good friend. I hope we can continue to work together and talk about statistics and politics and classical music and whatever else for many more years. Yours, Rick Paik Schoenberg

p.s. One of favorite Rob Gouldisms was from around 2000 when I was struggling with some bad teaching evaluations, and I remember you told me the goal should not be to please all the students, but rather to have the students who say you're too hard balance out the students who say you're too easy. Here's to balanced education!

2005

Every field has heroes who push their field to new heights and I'm proud to say that Rob is one of mine. He is an inspiration for demonstrating what is possible in studying statistics and statistics education. I will never forget sitting in meetings with him and the continual awe I would feel as I learned just how deep his well of knowledge is. Three cheers to you, Rob, for your lifetime achievement award. A personal thank you as well for teaching me how to be a statistics education researcher myself. It is by your example that I hope to make even a fraction of the impact that you've had.

Yours,

James

James Molyneux

It has been a great privilege and honor to have Rob as a friend, mentor, and colleague. His positive impact on my career (and fine dining) is undeniable. Working with him closely on DataFest for the last nine (!!!) years has been a pure joy, despite the ups and downs of the process. I am ecstatic that Rob won the CAUSE/USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award, even though I am sure he has a lifetime full of achievements ahead of him. Rob - I am looking forward to many more years of collaborations and can't wait to see you in Edinburgh when you visit! Thank you for all you do for statistics education, for your students, your mentees, and teachers all over the world.

Best,
Mine

Mine Cetinkaya-Rundel

Congratulations on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award! You have made so many important contributions to the statistics education community.

Over the years you have proven to be a great collaborator and I have really enjoyed working with you on projects almost too numerous to mention. From INSPIRE to co-authoring the book for NCTM to the Two-Year College Data Science project, it seems like our professional lives have been intertwined for many years, and I have learned so much from working with you.
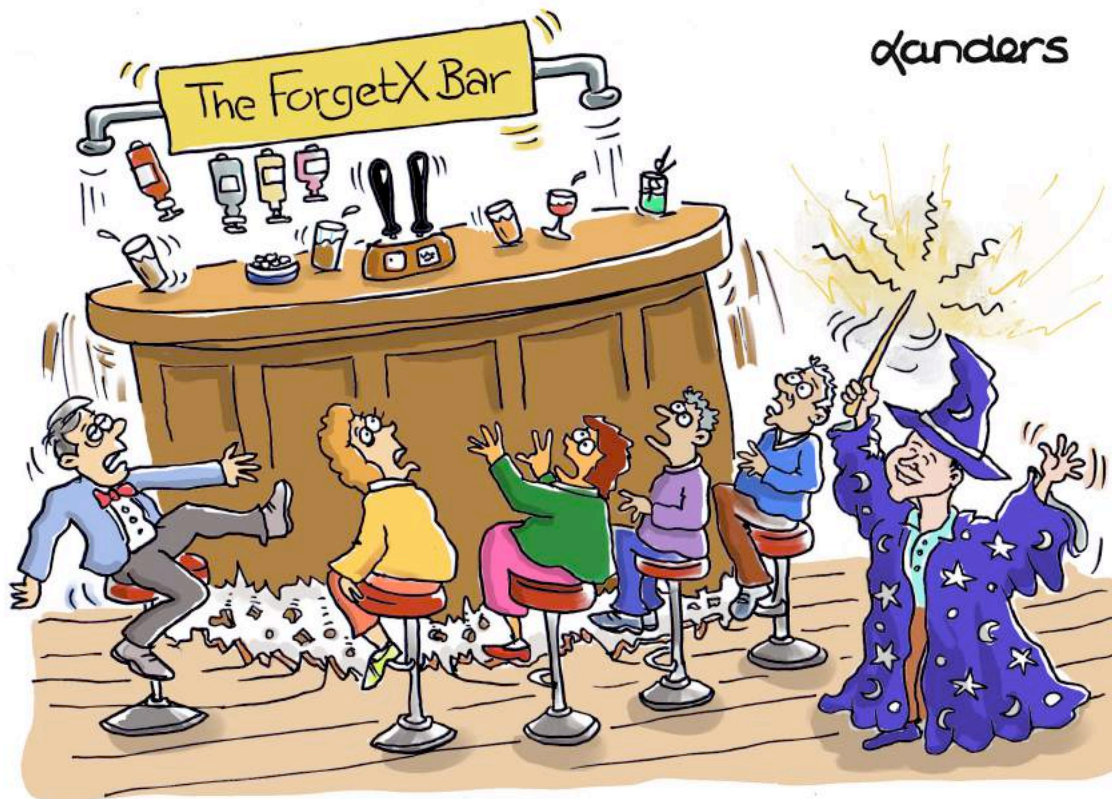
My big question is how did we get to be so old??? Here is the picture that you put in the tribute book that Dennis made for me in 2009. Even though it violates my 50-foot rule, I am including it just to prove that we have been working together since we were both young(er)!

While I HAVE enjoyed working with you, what I didn't realize when I first met you is what a fabulous travel partner you are! Someone who is easy-going, has a great sense of humor, is a foodie, likes to shop, loves classical music, and who also loves international travel is a rare find. We have eaten amazing food and shopped together in places as far flung as Hong Kong, Prague, Sedona, Winslow Arizona and the Hopi Reservation! Can't wait to find out what the next destination will be.

Thanks for being a great colleague, friend and travel partner!

"Rob Gould once again raises the bar for statistics education."

To the Wizard of DataFest

Preaching beyond the choir
as with INSPIRE.
Serving AMATYC
with SCHEMATYC.
Mentor and advisor
and Mobilizer.
So clearly wise
creating TISE.
LA schools in compliance -
In teaching Data Science -
and too,
because of you,
students show their best
at DataFest.
Most important, in the end,
Everyone will call you friend.

Dennis Pearl

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 selected past winners. The 2019 committee (Dennis Pearl, Allan Rossman, Chris Franklin, Danny Kaplan, Mike Shaughnessy, and Ann Watkins) presented the award to Rob Gould on Friday May 17th, 2019 in State College, Pennsylvania.