PhilaSUG newsletter

Fall 2003 Meeting Announcement

Agenda	**PhilaSUG Fall Meeting** **AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals** **1800 Concord Pike** **Wilmington, DE 19850**
12:15-1:00	Registration, Posters and boxed lunch
1:00-1:10	Welcome from Joe Waldron, Executive Director of US Dev IS Applications
1:10-2:00	Incorporating SAS® Output into Microsoft® Office Applications, Vince DelGobbo, SAS
2:00-2:30	SAS System Viewer 8.2, Harpreet Sahni
2:30-2:50	Break, Posters, and refreshments
2:50-3:35	Making Remote Processing Less Remote, Chris Moriak
3:35-3:45	Open Forum
3:45-4:00	QC.SAS – A Validation Tool, Brian Shilling
4:00-4:25	Using SAS Drug Development as a Report Management Application, Barry Cohen
4:25-4:30	Closing Remarks

Posters will be on display throughout the meeting. Authors will be present alongside their posters during registration and the break for questions and discussions.

Abstracts and bios are found later in the newsletter.

PhilaSUG Fall 2003 Meeting
Wednesday, November 19, 2003

The Philadelphia Area SAS Users Group Fall Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 19, 2003 at 1:00 PM, and will be hosted by AstraZeneca at their US headquarters located in Wilmington, Delaware**.** A map, driving and parking instructions are available later in the newsletter.

Because of increased security and site construction, you are asked to arrive early. Please bring picture identification. Guards will accept visitors starting at noon. A box sandwich lunch will be available from noon until 1 PM, but no food will be allowed into the auditorium. Registration will begin at 12:15 PM and the meeting will commence at 1 PM. If you haven't already paid your dues for 2003 here's **a tip** – to breeze through registration – bring the completed registration form found in the back of this newsletter to the meeting. Dues for the year are still $20. There are no other fees for attending PhilaSUG meetings. We will accept cash, but a check is preferred. Please do not mail in your registration beforehand, as this creates unnecessary paper work. Receipts will be available at the registration desk. For less writing, and greater legibility, it is suggested you attach a business card and either a check (made out to PhilaSUG) or cash. Employees of AstraZeneca, our host for this meeting, will be given courtesy admission, but we do request that they register for mailing list purposes. If you are a student and present a current matriculation card, fees will be waived.

In order to gain access every attendee, including AstraZeneca employees, must complete the security sign-in form. AstraZeneca requires that you do

this by Nov. 13th. This form can be found by clicking on the "security" link on our home page. If you do not have web access send an email message TO: registrar@PhilaSUG.org with the SUBJECT: Security, and with the body of the message containing your name and company affiliation.

Driving Instructions

Parking Instructions: (See the Fairfax Campus map on the next page) When traveling South on Route 141 (New Murphy Road) pass the first light at the visitor entrance, proceed under the pedestrian Bridge and then the vehicular bridge, to the second traffic light. Make a right turn into the employee entrance. Be prepared to show picture identification at the guard shack. Turn right after the guard shack and right again, across the vehicular bridge to the South Campus Parking Garage. After Parking, proceed to the Bus Pickup Area. If you are arriving on Route 141 North, you may not make a left turn at the entrance. Proceed to the next light where you may make a U-turn.

From Philadelphia Airport: Take I-95 South for about 25 miles to Delaware Exit 8, Concord Pike/Route 202 North. Follow Route 202 North about ½ mile to Route 141 South (Murphy Road). Turn left on Route 141 South. Continue with Parking Instructions above.

From Eastern Pennsylvania: From the Pennsylvania Turnpike Plymouth Meeting / "Mid-County" exit, (Interchange 25), follow I-476 ("Blue Route") South to I-95 South. Proceed south on I-95 into Delaware. Take Delaware Exit 8, Concord Pike/Route 202 North. Follow Route 202 North about ½ mile to Route 141 South (Murphy Road). Turn left on Route 141 South. Continue with Parking Instructions above.

From Valley Forge/Great Valley Area/West Chester: Follow Route 202 South into Delaware. Driving South on Route 202, it is approximately 3 miles South of the Pennsylvania-Delaware state line and approximately 1 mile North of the city limits. Pass the employee entrance on Route 202. Turn right at the intersection of Route 202 (Concord Pike) & Route 141 South (Murphy Road). Continue with Parking Instructions above.

From Western Pennsylvania: Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike to the Downingtown exit (Interchange 23). Follow Route 100 South to the West Chester Bypass, then take Route 322 East to Route 202 South into Delaware. Turn right onto Route 141 South. Continue with Parking Instructions above.

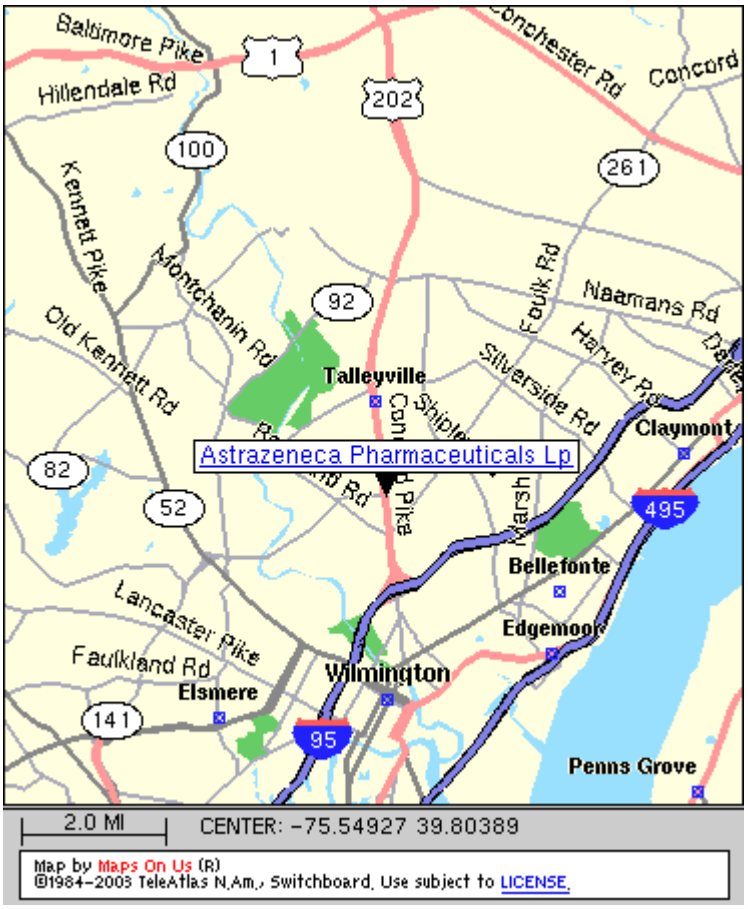
From New Jersey: Take the NJ Turnpike and cross the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Continue on the thruway and follow signs marked I-95 North, Wilmington, Philadelphia, to Exit 8 marked Concord Pike, 202 North, West Chester, PA. Drive North about ½ mile on Route 202 (Concord Pike). Turn left onto Route 141 South (New Murphy Road). Continue with Parking Instructions above.

Alternate directions from New Jersey: Take I-295 to Commodore Barry Bridge; cross bridge and follow signs marked I-95,Wilmington. Proceed on I-95 to Exit 8 marked Concord Pike, 202 North, West Chester, PA. Drive North about ½ mile on Route 202 (Concord Pike). Turn left onto Route 141 South (New Murphy Road). Continue with Parking Instructions above.

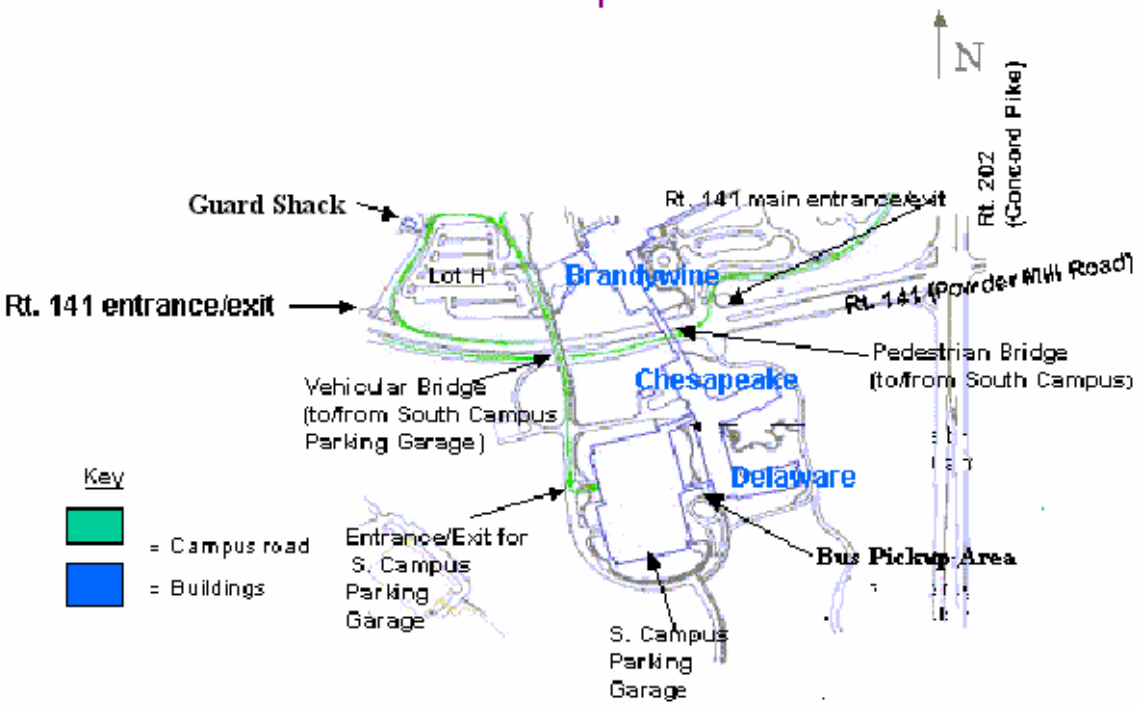
From the South: Take I-95 North to Exit 8 marked Concord Pike, 202 North, West Chester, PA. Drive North about ½ mile on 202 (Concord Pike). Turn left onto Route 141 South (New Murphy Road). Continue with Parking Instructions above.

Directions to Meeting Site

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, 1800 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19850, Tel: 302.886.3000



Fairfax South Campus



About Our Host

AstraZeneca
life inspiring ideas

AstraZeneca is a major international healthcare business engaged in the research, development, manufacture and marketing of prescription pharmaceuticals and the supply of healthcare services.

It is one of the top five pharmaceutical companies in the world with healthcare sales of over $17.8 billion and leading positions in sales of cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, oncology, anesthesia (including pain management), central nervous system (CNS) and respiratory products.

AstraZeneca PLC is headquartered in London with its U.S. headquarters located in Wilmington, Delaware. In the United States, AstraZeneca is a $9.3 billion healthcare business with more than 12,000 employees.

Future Host Sites Wanted

We continuously seek host sites for future PhilaSUG meetings. There is not a lot of work involved, and it is a great way to put your company on the local SAS map. We need your help with this. If your company would like to host a meeting, within reasonable geographic proximity to Philadelphia, PhilaSUG would be grateful if you would contact Barry Cohen (610) 649-8701 or E-mail President@PhilaSUG.org

Presenters Wanted

You are invited to be a Presenter - PhilaSUG constantly seeks individuals who wish to participate actively in our meetings by presenting various SAS topics in the form of delivered papers or posters. This is a great way to share your knowledge with others, to brush up your presentation prior to delivery at NESUG or SUGI or some other major conference, and to gain confidence as a speaker. If this is of interest to you, please use the online abstract submission form found on our web site. Presentations can be from a few minutes to 50 minutes.

The deadline for our next meeting is January 4, 2004

E-mail Announcements

PhilaSUG-L is a low volume, announcement-only e-mail notification service provided free of charge to all members who wish to subscribe. In order to sign up for this service, you need only send a blank e-mail message to: PhilaSUG-L-subscribe@onelist.com. Note that you can subscribe as many times with as many different e-mail addresses as you wish to have the e-mail sent to; e.g., home and office.

Our Thanks

Our thanks to all the people at AstraZeneca whose help made this meeting possible. Our thanks also to SAS, who provided assistance including a speaker and the newsletter mailing.

PhilaSUG Executive Committee

Barry Cohen, President	(610) 649-8701
John Cohen, Membership	(302) 886-7083
Diane Foose, Secretary	(610) 917-7168
Robert Schechter, Web Master	(302) 885-5201
Ellen Brookstein	(484) 679-2488
Max Cherny	
Lee Dodoo	(610) 834-5695
Timothy Kelly	
Jessica Lam	(484) 865-2633
Russell Lavery	
Robert Nicol	(215) 775-5813
Randy Noga	(609) 274-5219
Caryn Reape	(215) 328-2216
Terek Peterson	(610) 627-9436
Perry Watts	

The PhilaSUG Executive Committee meets on an occasional basis, about six times per year. We invite you to become a member. It's a fun and effective way to broaden your SAS horizons.

If you have questions about PhilaSUG, desire to become active on the Executive Committee, or wish to submit any articles, abstracts, etc. please E-mail us at mailto:Executive.Committee@PhilaSUG.org

PhilaSUG Web Site

Our site on the World Wide Web always contains the latest information concerning upcoming meetings, SAS training and seminars, links to SAS related hot topics, and local SAS job opportunities.

Visit us regularly at: http://www.PhilaSUG.org

Future Meetings and Events

Next PhilaSUG Meeting

March 10, 2004 Hosted by Philadelphia University

SUGI 29 MONTRÉAL
SAS® USERS GROUP INTERNATIONAL
MAY 9–12, 2004

PharmaSUG '04
May 23-26 San Diego

November 14 - 17

NESUG
BALTIMORE 2004

Paper Abstracts

Incorporating SAS® Output into Microsoft® Office Applications

Vince DelGobbo, *SAS*

With the ubiquity of the Microsoft® Office suite of products, you often need to incorporate SAS® data and analytical results into the products Excel or Word. But transferring data from SAS to these Office applications can be difficult, especially when the SAS System is installed on a non-Windows platform such as OpenVMS™, UNIX® or OS/390®. This paper provides techniques for integrating the analytic processing power of the SAS system, irrespective of platform, with Microsoft Excel and Word. The use of the Output Delivery System (ODS) is discussed as well as techniques you can use to correct some common formatting problems encountered when the SAS output is included in Excel or Word. Finally, the use of the SAS/IntrNet® Application Dispatcher to build real-time Office-based query and reporting applications will be covered.

Vince DelGobbo is a Senior Systems Developer in the Web Tools group at SAS. The Web Tools group is responsible for developing the SAS/IntrNet Application Dispatcher, SAS Stored Processes and other new Web-and server-based technologies. He is the developer for the HTML Formatting Tools and the SAS Design-Time Controls, and is currently part of the team developing other new Web- and server-based technologies. Vince has been a SAS Software user since 1982, and joined SAS in 1992.

SAS System Viewer 8.2 – A Great tool for Data Managers to browse SAS Datasets

Harpreet Sahni, *AstraZeneca*

The SAS System Viewer 8.2 is a freely distributed application, available at SAS web site, for viewing and printing files that were created by the SAS System. The Viewer provides a quick and convenient way for Non-SAS savvy people as well as for SAS programmers to view the contents of SAS outputs files without invoking the entire SAS System, or even having the SAS System installed on the computer. The SAS viewer can be used to open SAS Data Set, Catalog, Transport, JMP®, HTML and all text based files.

This paper covers the key features of SAS viewer for browsing SAS data sets, such as

- Read only access to dataset
- opening a large data set by predefining the number of observations retrieved
- copying a data set and pasting into Microsoft Excel
- selecting columns to be displayed
- displaying the variable names as well as labels at the same time
- filtering and simple queries
- advanced features like downloading data sets using FTP from another host

This paper also covers some of the limitations of SAS viewer and work-arounds. Overall it's a great tool for browsing data sets and doing simple ad-hoc listings.

I have been with AstraZeneca for six year and currently am a Sr CDM Programmer. I have a diverse technical background including SAS, Oracle, Visual Basic, Front Page and HTML. I come from India and have a MS in Physics and Computer Science. I enjoy learning new technologies and applying them in solving business problems.My hobbies include learing to play piano,trying food from different countries and watching Indian movies.

Making Remote Processing Less Remote,

Chris Moriak, *AstraZeneca*

Remote processing can be an extremely efficient method for submitting SAS® code. Utilizing the CPU resources of remote servers like UNIX from a PC can substantially reduce run-time, as well as free up one's own PC to perform other tasks. Unfortunately, most programming books either ignore this topic of using remote processing or relegate their discussion to the client-server connection rather than the basics for using it.

This paper presumes one already has a remote server connection and will focus on methods and tips for using remote processing in an interactive session for SAS® Version 6.12. For this paper, the author uses a PC to UNIX connection. The concepts, however, can be applied to other platforms. Topics include useful methods for uploading and downloading data, formats, macros, and macro variables. It will also discuss various pitfalls that can occur when working between two platforms.

Chris Moriak is a Sr. Statistical Programmer at AstraZeneca where he supports clinical trials and regulatory submissions. He previously worked as a SAS programmer for Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals and Oxford Health Plans. His expertise includes the macro language and creating generic utility programs. Chris has presented several papers and posters at past NESUGs.

QC.SAS – A Validation Tool

Brian Shilling, *AstraZeneca*

This presentation will discuss SAS code that was written to automatically read in all of the SAS logs in a specific directory, and scan the logs for any keywords requested by the user. It will then print a report of all of the logs checked, and keywords found, or a message that all of the log lines were clean.

Brian Shilling is currently Principal Statistical SAS Programmer/Analyst at AstraZeneca LP. He has been a member of the Pharmaceutical Industry SAS User Group Executive Committee for 5 years, a frequent presenter for PharmaSUG and Barnett International, and currently holds adjunct faculty status at Philadelphia University where he teaches the SAS Programming Certification Course. He is also in the process of co-authoring a book for SAS Institute's Books by Users program with Carol Matthews..

Using SAS Drug Development as a Report Management Application

Barry R. Cohen, *Planning Data Systems, Inc.*

Many statisticians and statistical programmers in the pharmaceutical industry will first come to know SAS Drug Development as a product that addresses their regulatory-compliance issues (auditing, versioning, and security) as they develop their on-going analysis programs, data, and documents for NDA filings. However, the product provides a full, flexible processing environment that can be used in other ways. In this paper, I examine standard features of SAS Drug Development that allow it to serve as a Web-enabled report management application for a library of SAS-based report programs. Such an application could cover typical functions such as: report program loading; report parameter solicitation; report program selection and execution; and report output file viewing.

Barry Cohen is a system developer, President of Planning Data Systems, Inc, and a SAS Alliance Consulting Partner. Mr. Cohen provides services to a variety of industries, including a focus in the pharmaceutical industry. He is a co-founder and President of the Philadelphia SAS Users Group. Mr. Cohen is an accomplished author and invited speaker at SAS and other conferences. His current professional focus is on the architecture of Web-enabled applications in SAS environments.

Posters

Another Way to Create Data Definition Files

Han Zou, *AstraZeneca*

Reviewing clinical data can be a very complex and time-consuming process for both sponsor and the FDA reviewer. According to the Guidance for Industry on Providing Regulatory Submission in Electronic Format - NDAs item 11, Data Definition Files (data dictionary) should describe each SAS data set being submitted to the FDA by providing the following: Variable Name, Label, Type, Codes/Decodes, and Comments (ie, Variable Derivation). Producing this Data Definition File often becomes a complicated, error prone process when the pressure of ensuing time lines are approaching. To avoid these pitfalls, AstraZeneca has taken the approach of developing Data Definitions as analysis data sets are being created. Our tool, %XLSDFN, is helping SAS programers at AstraZeneca create and edit Data Definition Files in a timely fashion. %XLSDFN implements SAS Macro, SAS Export/Import, SAS ODS, and Microsoft Excel and Word in order to create, update, and produce final Data Definition Files on an ongoing basis, alleviating the stress of "last minute" production.

Han Zou received her B.S. in Computer Science from IUP in May, 1992, and her M.S. in Software Engineering from Penn State in August, 1997. Between 1993 to 1997, she worked for RPR as an IND IS systems programmer. She worked for Merck as a senior statistical programmer from late 1997 until the end of 2000. Currently, she works for AstraZeneca as a principal statistical programmer.

Exploratory Analysis of Survey Data

Ian Duling, *AstraZeneca*

Valuable information can be derived from sample survey data that is collected on a sample of observations, which are selected, from the population of interest using a probability-based sample design. The complex multistage probability sample design used in a survey like the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) improves the precision and controls costs of survey data collection, but makes analysis more complex in order to obtain unbiased estimates.

Understanding the design of the questionnaires and the flow of data collection based on conditional responses to initial interview questions can be challenging. How this conditional logic influences the structure of the resulting datasets has a direct impact of the ease of identification, extraction and unbiased interpretation of responses to questions. Statistical inference to the entire population, requires the use of sample weights due to the differential probabilities of selection, i.e. the oversampling of certain subsets of the population.

This discussion will relate specific examples of the author's use of SAS® software to identify correlated variables within survey data and the generalization of population characteristics.

Ian has worked as a Statistical Programmer/Analyst using SAS software for 18 years in the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare industries. He is currently working in support of Epidemiological research at AstraZeneca. He has presented at PhilaSUG meetings once before. He has an MS CIS degree from LaSalle University.

Automation of Clinical Trial Laboratory Data Acquisition using the SAS® System and DDE

Balakrishna Dandamudi, *SFBC New Drug Services*

Clinical SAS programmers receive clinical trial laboratory data from external sources, such as centralized laboratories, in non-SAS file formats e.g. excel work books. Before beginning production data transfer, one needs to complete a test transfer to verify the completeness and accuracy of the data transfer. Once the test transfer is successful the transfer of production data begins. There may be one transfer or multiple transfers, depending on the clinical trial.

This paper discusses on an approach in building and using specialized SAS program modules in order to automate the process of reading clinical laboratory data from excel workbook into SAS using SAS/BASE and DDE. This approach minimizes the manual intervention.

In particular I will detail a program that can readily be modified to create laboratory dataset, normal range dataset and formats catalog based on the specifications and data provided in an excel workbook with multiple datasets found in multiple excel sheets.

DDE is a viable option for importing or exporting data to or from MS Excel for those users who have SAS/BASE only.

Balakrishna Dandamudi has been the Clinical Data Programmer with SFBC New Drug Services since start of 2002. Previously, he worked as consultant programmer with Clinical Research Organizations. He has more than 7 years programming experience and some of his current responsibilities are clinical trial database set-up, Clinical Data Review programming, Laboratory data processing and coding of drugs and adverse events.

Philadelphia Area SAS User Group (PhilaSUG)
Membership Form

To speed through registration please complete (preferably type) this form and return it to the registration desk of any PhilaSUG meeting (do **NOT** mail it). Checks should be made payable to PhilaSUG. Our membership year runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

This is a __ new, __ renewal or __ update / correction.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

_____

City: _____ STATE: ____ Zip: _____
Day Time Phone Number: ( ) _____ - _____

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(Be sure to clearly distinguish a dash from an underscore)

For updates / corrections, please list your old / incorrect information below:

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