

Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP L1, MAA Session on Using Real-World Data to Illustrate Statistical Concepts, I

1003-L1-343 **Barbara A. Wainwright*** (bawainwright@salisbury.edu), Salisbury University, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science, 1101 Camden Ave., Salisbury, MD 21801. *Using Real-World Data to enhance the Statistical Thinking of Students in Various Disciplines*. Preliminary report.

The use of real data in statistics courses helps to make the material much more relevant and interesting for students. The speaker will discuss various data sets that she uses in a variety of statistics courses. The presenter will share one of the laboratory experiences used in the course for Mathematics and Computer Science majors. In this lab, students explore web sites and report on various aspects of the data found at these sites. Throughout the general introductory course, a data set from the Minitab library is used to illustrate measurement scales, descriptive statistics, and various inferential statistical procedures. This data set and how it is used will be discussed. Elementary education students teamed with mathematics majors to complete projects involving regression modeling of education data. The data (web sites) that these students used and some of their findings will also be presented. In-service teachers returning to take their first course in statistics also made use of real data through course projects. Some of these projects will also be shared. As an example, teachers collected sample data and compared their data (from the local school boards) to national data obtained from the web. (Received September 10, 2004)