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John J Weber* (jweber13@gsu.edu), 555 North Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021, and Larry Lesser (lesser@utep.edu) and Dennis K Pearl (dkp13@psu.edu). Using Interactive Songs to Engage Students in Learning Introductory Statistics: Overview of NSF-Funded Project.

We discuss the benefits of the educational uses of song (e.g., Lesser, An, & Tillman, 2016) combined with a MadLibs-style activity (Trumpower, 2010) to engage statistics students. Our NSF-funded Project SMILES (Student-Made Interactive Learning with Educational Songs for introductory statistics) has created 21 songs containing lyrics focusing on vetted content objectives (e.g., from GAISE). Students complete MadLibs-style prompts to supply examples/context or conceptual information and receive immediate feedback on their entries. The results are high quality songs, with lyrics partially generated by students. Students can play the songs containing their inserted phrases and sing along with the displayed lyrics. A randomized experiment will assess how well this web-based, machine-run, auto-graded resource enhances learning and reduces anxiety. (Received September 20, 2016)