Robin H Lock* (rlock@stlawu.edu), Dept. of Math, CS and Stat, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY 13617, and Ivan Ramler and Choong-Soo Lee. Web Tools to Help Students Get Individualized Datasets on a Common Theme. Preliminary report.

One challenge in having students do individual or group projects in a statistics course is finding suitable data. We may have students choose their own data, but that generally requires considerable guidance to find good data sources, get the data processed into a usable format, and be sure that the data characteristics are appropriate for the goals of the project. As an alternative, we might provide students with a good, appropriate dataset, but then they might all be working on the same data and lose a sense of ownership that one gets from being the first to analyze a particular dataset. A third approach is to have students work on individual datasets that have a common theme and structure. For example, we might have students each pick a favorite TV show, find ratings for past episodes, and see how ratings compare between different seasons; or get data on homes for sale in their hometown and build models to predict selling prices. Wouldn't it be nice if there were readily accessible tools that make it easy for students to obtain such individualized datasets and also tools to help an instructor deal with assessing projects where everyone is using a different but similarly structured dataset? We'll discuss examples of such tools in this session. (Received September 20, 2016)