ANALYTICS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Hello Analytics Community Practice Members,
The ACP is a large growing community of members from all different departments. This month we wanted to shout out one our members Janet Tuber for her involvement in the community and share a little bit about her. Additionally, we wanted to highlight a unique visualization game that was created in Tableau. October has brought the nice weather and a new list of data and analytics related events happening this month that are completely free to attend!

ARTICLES

Janet Teuber

Role at UofSC: Analyst, Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Analytics

What role does Analytics play in your office?

Analytics has become a major part of what our office publishes, both externally and internally to support decision-making at all levels of the university administration.

What role does analytics play in higher education, and what advents/technologies do you see on the horizon?

Analytics is critical to the administration's ability to understand the current state of many facets of the university and compare that state to the past. The analytics tools available to us makes it much easier to understand trends in enrollment, retention, graduation, class size, spending, instruction delivery, and, in turn, to project where those trends may take us in the future. Analytics also make it possible to take a high-level view across regions, countries, even continents to better understand what works and where we are headed. I am not so visionary as to see what's coming, but clearly analytics will play an ever-increasingly important role in decision-making and policy-making in higher education.

Favorite data visualization and/or analytics tools and why?

Tableau is the one data visualization tool that I have used. It is an industry leader in data visualization, so it's pretty easy to find resources for honing your technique. Other analytical tools I use are SQL, Cognos and Excel. I like SQL for its flexibility, and Excel for ease of use in some of the basic tasks of lookup and aggregation.

In your job, are you limited on tool and/or programming languages?

As a group we try to stick with a tool set in which we all have skills:
- SQL, SAS, EXCEL, Tableau, and Cognos.

If you have used other analytics tools in the past, how do they compare to your current environment? I've not used other analytics tools.

How did you learn about the ACP? I was working with Jonathan Poon in this office when he was involved at the time it was first organized. I learned of it through him.

What other reporting software are you interested in learning? I'm mostly interested in developing my Tableau skills.

What/who inspires you? Jonathan Poon (Associate Director of USC Institutional Research) inspires me. He brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the projects we take on in OIRAA.

Book recommendations (work related or not): I am reading Once I Was You: A Memoir of Love and Hate in a Torn America by Maria Hinojosa, journalist and 2022 Pulitzer Prize winner. It's her autobiography about her experiences growing up in the US, first as the daughter of Mexican immigrants, then as a young journalist with a multi-cultural perspective.
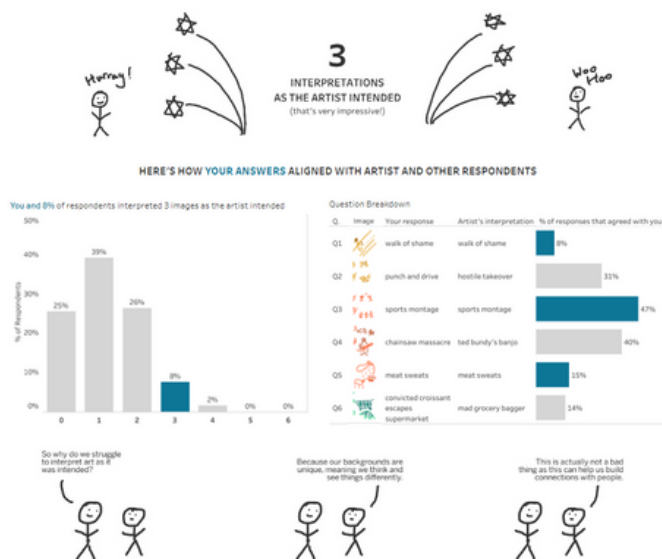
VIZ OF THE MONTH

The visualization of the month was created by Will Sutton a Consultant at The Information Lab in London. He was able to create a user friendly game utilizing Tableau! As the user of his dashboard you will guess what the artists intended interpretation was of some really odd art doodles . Once you guess and submit your answers, the program will get return a bunch of analytics about how you performed in the game versus other users.

Result Example

Results of one user they got 3 out of 6 of the art interpretations correct. Which then returned bar graphs that explained that they were in the 8% of users who were able to guess three questions correctly, majority got 1 correct. It also will return a lot more analytics so be sure to check out Suttons dashboard and see if you can get be one of the first to get all 6 correct!

Click here to play

4

EVENTS

THIS MONTH ALL LISTED EVENTS ARE FREE TO ATTEND!!

VISUAL ANALYTICS: BEST PRACTICES, SHARING & COLLABORATION

OCT. 13TH @11 - 12AM

LOCATION: Tableau Virtual Event

You will see how visual and cognitive science explain what makes data visualization so deeply satisfying. Why does a collection of bars, lines, colors, and boxes become surprisingly powerful and meaningful? How does fluid interaction with data views multiply our intelligence?

[Register now](#)

TEACHING DATA LITERACY

OCT. 19TH @1:10 - 2:00PM

LOCATION: University Libraries Virtual Event

In this session, participants will learn about resources available from University Libraries that can help teach undergraduates and graduate students how to read, work with, and communicate with data.

This workshop is an elective session for a certificate of completion in Fostering Proactive Learning Environments.

[Register now](#)

ESTABLISHING SERVER MAINTENANCE BEST PRACTICES

OCT. 20TH @10:00 - 11:00AM

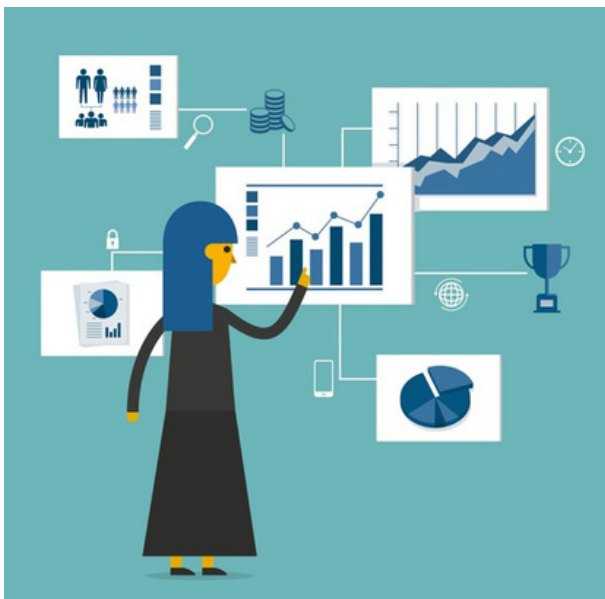**LOCATION:** Tableau Virtual Event

This intermediate Tableau Success Connector Session outlines the best practices for Tableau Server maintenance. This session is specifically designed for working professionals who are currently Tableau Server Administrators, BI CoE Leads, Project Managers, Product Owners, and all those who have prior experience in deploying enterprise applications.

[Register now](#)

COMMON PROBLEMS IN TABLEAU

OCT. 20TH @4:00 - 5:00PM

LOCATION: Tableau Virtual Event

This Tableau held virtual event has two speakers. One speaker will identify troubles with Tableau and the other speaker will explain how to avoid certain issues in Tableau that people commonly run into. It also will include a Q/A and networking portion at the end of the hour.

[Register now](#)

INTRODUCTION TO TABLEAU: VIRTUAL

OCT. 24TH @2:00 - 3:00PM

LOCATION: University Libraries Virtual Event

Good data management practices can help ensure that your research data are findable, accessible, and re-usable long-term. In this session, learn useful tips to help you manage your data. Topics include best practices for file management, documentation, storage, preservation, and more.

[Register now](#)

INTRODUCTION TO TABLEAU: IN PERSON

OCT. 24TH @4:00 - 5:00PM

LOCATION: Thomas Cooper Library L104

This is the same event as Introduction to Tableau: Virtual but taught in person.

Instructor: Kristina Schwoebel

[Register now](#)

Please also create an account prior to the workshop here: https://public.tableau.com/en-us/s/

CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMUNITY

Did You Know?

The new ACP **Microsoft Teams Site** is a great way to spread the word about coming events and opportunities! In an effort to reduce email traffic, we encourage you all to send communications via the Microsoft Teams Site. All events shared will also be included in the newsletter, which will continue to go out via the listserv.

As always, the following links and email addresses can be used for the specified purposes:

- To contact the list owner: ANALYTICS-request@LISTSERV.SC.EDU
- Click here to join the Analytics Community of Practice

Please send us visualizations suggestions for the viz of the month!

If you would like to suggest a visualization for next months viz of the month be sure to share it with us at any of our communication channels! The visualization can be something you created, a coworker, or something you found.