

2026 Annual ASA Florida Chapter Meeting Schedule

March 6, 2026 (Friday) | 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

March 7, 2026 (Saturday) | 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Day 1: March 6, 2026 (Friday)

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Registration & Breakfast (Breakfast Provided)
9:00 AM - 9:10 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Opening and Welcome Remarks (Chair: Dr. Nan Hu) <u>Dr. Zoran Bursac</u> Interim Associate Dean of Research, Office of the Dean Professor and Chair, Department of Biostatistics Florida International University
9:10 AM - 9:50 AM	SIPA II Room 103	ASA Representative Address (Chair: Dr. Nan Hu) <u>Dr. Ji-Hyun Lee</u> Professor, Department of Biostatistics, University of Florida
9:50 AM - 10:00 AM		Coffee Break
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Invited Session I (Chair: Dr. Zoran Bursac)
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM		<i>"Machine Learning Models for Predicting 30-Day Readmission After Lung Cancer Surgery"</i> <u>Dr. Anshul Saxena</u> Technical Director, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning Department, Baptist Health South Florida
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM		<i>"Repackaging Statistics in an AI World"</i> <u>Dr. Gabriel Odom</u> Veterans Affairs
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	SIPA II Room 106 Courtyard	Student Poster Session (Chair: Dr. Nan Hu, Dr. Tan Li) Lunch Networking (Lunch Provided)
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	SIPA II Room 103	Keynote Address (Chair: Dr. Sneha Gulati) <i>"AI Safety"</i> <u>Dr. Natesh Pillai</u> Professor of Statistics, Harvard University
2:00 PM - 2:10 PM	Courtyard	Group photo
2:10 PM - 3:40 PM		Parallel Contributed Sessions
	SIPA I Room 100	Session 1 (Chair: Dr. Min Lu) Data-driven Modelling in Biostatistics

2:10 PM - 2:25 PM		<p><i>"Rolling for Success: Teaching Binomial Probability through Liar's Dice"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Radleigh G. Santos & Dr. Melissa Bianchi</u>, Nova Southeastern University</p>
2:25 PM - 2:40 PM		<p><i>"No Free Lunch for Unsupervised Dimension Selection in High Dimensions"</i></p> <p><u>Tianhao Liu</u>, University of Miami</p>
2:40 PM - 2:55 PM		<p><i>"Multivariate Random Forest-Based Clustering for Integrative Multi-Omics Analysis"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Wei Zhang</u>, University of Miami</p>
2:55 PM - 3:10 PM		<p><i>"Conserved Active Information"</i></p> <p><u>Yanchen Chen</u>, University of Miami</p>
3:10 PM - 3:25 PM		<p><i>"A Reproducible Multicenter Framework for Identifying and Validating Circulating microRNA Biomarkers of C-Peptide Decline in Type 1 Diabetes"</i></p> <p><u>Xuan Chen</u>, University of Miami</p>
3:25 PM - 3:40 PM		<p><i>"2026 South Florida Data Challenge Showcase"</i></p> <p><u>Diana Elizabeth Dancea</u>, Florida Atlantic University <u>Zihao Wang</u>, <u>Daniel Regalado Cardoso</u>, <u>Miguel Rocha</u>, <u>Jade Muyambo</u>, University of Miami</p>
	SIPA II Room 103	<p>Session 2 (Chair: Dr. Sunwoo Han & Dr. Florence George) Recent Advances in Statistical Methods</p>
2:10 PM - 2:25 PM		<p><i>"Importance of the Cure Threshold Metric in Lung Cancer Screening Guidelines and Statistical Challenges in Estimation"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Deborah Goldwasser</u>, Florida International University</p>
2:25 PM - 2:40 PM		<p><i>"Generalized Bayesian Inference for Dynamic Random Dot Product Graphs"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Joshua Loyal</u>, Florida State University</p>
2:40 PM - 2:55 PM		<p><i>"Compositional Regression Using Principal Nested Spheres"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Mymuna Monem</u>, Florida International University</p>
2:55 PM - 3:10 PM		<p><i>"Valuation of Parametric Index Insurance Contracts: An Extreme Value Approach"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Pablo Olivares</u>, Florida International University</p>
3:10 PM - 3:25 PM		<p><i>"Bayesian Modeling of Social Networks"</i></p> <p><u>Dr. Sepideh Mosaferi</u>, Florida International University</p>

3:25 PM - 3:40 PM		<i>"The Blessing of Dimensionality: Fitting High-dimensional Mixed-effect Models Through Synthetic Heterogeneous-effects LASSO"</i> <u>Dr. Shangyuan Ye</u> , Florida International University
3:40 PM - 3:50 PM		Coffee Break
3:50 PM - 4:40 PM	SIPA II Room 103	Special Invited Talk (Chair: Dr. B.M. Golam Kibria) <i>"Statistical Methods in Actuarial Reserving: Traditional and Modern Approaches"</i> <u>Jonathan Jannarone</u> & <u>Damon Fitzgerald</u>
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse	Optional Social Hour (Informal Networking)

Day 2: March 7, 2026 (Saturday)

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Breakfast (breakfast provided)
8:10 AM - 9:00 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Chapter Business Meeting: ASA Florida Chapter
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Invited Session (Chair: Dr. Shangyuan Ye) <i>"Advance Shrinkage and Estimation Techniques in Regression Analysis: Review, Simulation and Applications"</i> <u>Dr. B. M. Golam Kibria</u> Professor, Florida International University
9:50 AM - 10:00 AM		Coffee Break
10:00 AM - 10:35 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Invited Session (Chair: Dr. Florence George) <i>"Essential Skills for Graduates in the Age of AI"</i> <u>Sha Edathumparampil</u> , Chief Digital & Information Officer Baptist Health South Florida
10:40 AM - 11:50 AM	SIPA II Room 103	Contributed Sessions: Student Paper Competition Talks (Chair: Dr. Wensong Wu & Dr. Sepideh Mosaferi)
10:40 AM - 10:50 AM		<i>"Dynamic Prediction of Incident Dementia with Lewy Body Using Landmark-Based Survival Forests on Longitudinal Clinical Data"</i> <u>Mingkai Chen</u> , University of Florida
10:50 AM - 11:00 AM		<i>"Optimal Sampling for Generalized Racking Estimators to Address Data Quality in a Multinational Three Phase Study of Frailty Among People with HIV"</i> <u>Joshua Slone</u> , Vanderbilt University

11:00 AM - 11:10 AM	<p><i>"A Comparative Study of Robust and Improved Shrinkage Estimators Under Multicollinearity and Multiple Performance Criteria: Applications to Health Data"</i></p> <p><u>Nusrat Yasmin</u>, Florida International University</p>	
11:10 AM - 11:20 AM	<p><i>"3D Bayesian Reconstruction Model for Positronium Lifetime Imaging"</i></p> <p><u>Berkin Uluutku</u>, University of Central Florida</p>	
11:20 AM - 11:30 AM	<p><i>"A Regularized Hurdle Framework for Addressing Multicollinearity in Zero-inflated Count Data"</i></p> <p><u>HM Nayeem</u>, Florida International University</p>	
11:30 AM - 11:40 AM	<p><i>"Statistical Learning Does Not Always Entail Knowledge"</i></p> <p><u>Hilma Renata Gallegos</u>, University of Miami</p>	
11:40 AM - 11:50 AM	<p><i>"Variance-Guided Regression for Heteroscedastic Data"</i></p> <p><u>Sibei Liu</u>, University of Miami</p>	
12:00 PM	<p>SIPA II Room 103</p>	<p>Award Ceremony and Concluding Remarks (Closing of Meeting)</p>