DENVER, CO (PRWEB) August 5, 2008— The American Statistical Association (ASA), the nation's preeminent professional statistical society, has named the winners of its 2008 Founders Award, given to ASA members who have rendered distinguished service to the association. The award winners will be honored tonight at the Presidential Awards Session at the 2008 Joint Statistical Meetings at the Colorado Convention Center here.

About the American Statistical Association The American Statistical Association (ASA), a scientific and educational society founded in Boston in 1839, is the second oldest continuously operating professional society in the United States. ASA held its first annual meeting in 1840 with 10 people in attendance. For more than 160 years, ASA has been providing its 18,000 members serving in academia, government, and industry and the public with up-to-date, useful information about statistics. The ASA has a proud tradition of service to statisticians, quantitative scientists, and users of statistics across a wealth of academic areas and applications. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the association's web site (Amstat.org) or call 703.684.1221.

Selection criteria for the Founders Award include service over an extended period of time and in a variety of leadership roles, including chapter, section, committee, officer or editorial activities, in which effective service or leadership was provided within ASA or on behalf of ASA to other organizations. Two awards were presented this year; the 2008 winners are:

Linda Young, University of Florida, for extraordinary leadership of the ASA as vice president and as chair of the Council of Sections, Chair of the Section on Statistics Education and Chair of the Section on Statistics and the Environment, as well as leadership of many other statistical societies including service as president of the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometric Society (ENAR) and chair of the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS); for outstanding contributions to leadership and scholarship in statistical methods research, particularly for agricultural, ecological, environmental and public health studies and in editorship of the Journal of Agricultural, Biological and Environmental Statistics.