

ABSTRACT

A Conversation on Science, the People Who Make It Work, and Leadership

We often celebrate the exceptional—the standout individuals, the high-profile discoveries, the headline-making science. But real progress usually depends on something quieter: steady, thoughtful work by teams of professionals who rarely make the spotlight. As a biostatistician, collaborator, and team scientist, I've seen how statistical thinking shapes research and improves patient care—not through grand gestures but through consistent, collective effort. In this talk, I'll push back on the idea that only the extraordinary drive change. I'll share stories from my own path and reflect on how science and leadership are built from everyday contributions. Now, as ASA's 2025 President, I hope to help strengthen our community, advance our field, and highlight the power of the people who make it all work.