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Meredith Conroy TSSA Winter 2018

Meredith Conroy

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1. **Name and Department:**
MEREDITH CONROY, Political Science,
mconroy@csusb.edu, (909) 537-5414
2. **Quarter received:**
Winter 2018 Teaching Skills Study Award
3. **Name of Conference attended:**
rstudio::conf, February 2 & 3, 2018, San Diego, CA
conference website: <https://www.rstudio.com/conference/>
4. **Teaching Strategies Studied:**
The conference is focused on learning and teaching “R,” a free, open source, program for statistical analysis and data visualization. R is a free program, so by learning this program, students can continue to develop their skills once they leave our university. Currently, in class I rely on expensive programs like SPSS and STATA, to teach data analysis, which students are unable to afford.
5. **Impact on current teaching:**
Thus far, I have not incorporated the use of R into my courses. The learning curve is a little steep. I think I would need to teach an entire course on R, instead of just incorporating R into an existing political science course. What I have done, however, is I have incorporated data visualization skills days into my courses, but for now, I am still relying on SPSS. Therefore, the applications of data visualization I studied while at rstudio::conf have been useful.