

1106-A5-1911      **Robin Lovgren\*** ([robin.lovgren@belmont.edu](mailto:robin.lovgren@belmont.edu)), 1900 Belmont Boulevard, Nashville, TN 37212.  
*Tying Statistics to the Real World – Group Projects using Linear Regression.*

We introduce the Least-Squares Regression Line early in the semester right after measures of center and spread of the data. The students form groups and choose topics based on their interests. They present several ideas for projects and discuss how each idea might be developed. They research data and narrow their focus to one idea for which they can provide bivariate data. They work through the project in stages through the semester culminating in a final group PowerPoint presentation. This is done with detailed and progressive instruction and with a rubric designed to guide the students' research while minimizing the time spent grading. The students improve their learning in the area of finding, using, and analyzing real data while also learning teamwork and presentation skills. Top student presenters are invited to present at the university's Science Undergraduate Research Symposium. The project can easily be converted to fit a traditional elementary statistics course, or a linked course. (Received September 15, 2014)