

1035-K1-1909 **Sarah L Mabrouk*** (smabrouk@frc.mass.edu), Framingham State College, 100 State Street,
P.O. Box 9101, Framingham, MA 01701-9101. *Where Does Data Come From?? The Class!*

When students think of statistics, they tend to think of doing calculations. In addition to learning about the calculation of statistics and the presentation and analysis of data, students need to understand from where and how one obtains data. Real-life research involves the collection of data, understanding when one has a representative sample, when one's survey will produce meaningful responses, and when one's experiment or study is designed in an appropriate and significant manner. Experiencing the collection of data and the creation of samples of different types, reflecting on differences and similarities, and considering the creation of survey questions, analyzing them for possible bias and pondering the responses that these questions could produce helps students to make connections between the data that they obtain and the concepts and the methods for data analysis about which they learn. Experiencing this process, even on a small scale, helps students to understand what is involved in research and statistical analysis. In this presentation, I will discuss how the students in the class serve as the experimental units to be sampled and surveyed and whose responses become some of the data they then analyze, summarize, and present as the statistician. (Received September 20, 2007)