



WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY

May 2003

Annual Election for Board of Directors

An election ballot for the 2003-2004 program year of the Washington Statistical Society Board of Directors is enclosed in the surface mail version of this issue. Biographical information on the candidates is also provided in this issue. Ballots must be received by Tuesday, June 3, 2003 to be counted. Results will be announced at the WSS Annual Dinner on Tuesday, June 10, 2003 (<http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss/wssdin03.pdf>).

Washington Statistical Society President's Invited Address

This year's Washington Statistical Society President's Invited Address is in memory of Charles (Chip) Alexander Jr. It will be held start at 3:00 p.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, 2003. The venue is the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center Rooms 1 and 2. A reception will follow.

The speakers are Graham Kalton of Westat and Cynthia Z.F. Clark of the U.S. Census Bureau. The title of Dr. Kalton's presentation is "Small Domain Estimates: Challenges and Solutions" and the title of Cynthia Z.F. Clark's presentation is "Tribute to Charles (Chip) Alexander Jr.: Chip's Contributions to the Federal Statistical System and Sample Survey Methods." The chair is Nancy M. Gordon of the U.S. Census Bureau and the organizer is Alan R. Tupek of the U.S. Census Bureau.

The abstract for the presentation on small domain estimates is as follows:

The continually increasing demand for timely estimates for small geographic and other domains presents survey statisticians with significant challenges. This talk will review possible solutions, including censuses and large-scale surveys, rolling samples, combining data across time and across surveys, methods for oversampling small domains, and statistical modeling methods.

WSS and Other Seminars (All events are open to any interested persons)		
May 7	Wed.	Insights into the OMB Clearance Process for Survey Information Collections
13	Tues.	Developing Information Quality Guidelines in a Political Environment
14	Wed.	Collecting Sensitive Data Using the 3-Card Method
20	Tues.	Computer-automated Constructive Data Mining with PcGets
June 9	Mon.	The Second Seminar on the Funding Opportunity In Survey Research

Also available on the World Wide Web at the following URL: <http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss>

Announcements

2003 Annual Dinner

The WSS Annual Dinner will be held Tuesday, June 10, at Bertucci's Brick Oven Pizzeria Restaurant in Clarendon, VA. Please see the enclosed flyer or visit <http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss/wssdin03.pdf> for details and a reservation form.

This is a great opportunity to join with friends, meet colleagues, and make new acquaintances!

All are invited. We look forward to seeing you there!

SIGSTAT Schedule: May 2003

May 14, 2003: SAS/IML Workshop 2.0
(<http://www.sas.com>)

SAS/IML Workshop is a graphical user interface and extension of SAS/IML software that enables you to explore data interactively using standard statistical graphics and tables. IML Workshop provides an integrated development environment for writing, debugging, and executing IML programs. IML Workshop also implements the IMLPlus programming language, which is an enhanced version of the IML programming language. IMLPlus provides new language features such as the ability to call SAS procedures and external C/Fortran/Java functions. IML Workshop requires a PC running the Microsoft Windows operating system.

SIGSTAT is the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the CPCUG, the Capital PC User Group, and WINFORMS, the Washington Institute for Operations Research Service and Management Science.

All meetings are in Room S3031, 1800 M St, NW from 12:30 to 1:30. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard's desk.

First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, hallahan@ers.usda.gov, and leave their name. Directions to the building & many links of statistical interest can be found at the SIGSTAT website, <http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/>.

Notice about Seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics

A new list of attendees of WSS seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics begins April 1, 2003 (the previous list will be discarded). If you plan to attend a seminar at BLS, you will need to do one of the following at least by noon 1 day ahead: (1) e-mail name, affiliation, and name of seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') or (2) call 202-691-7524 and leave a message with this information. Finally, bring a photo ID. NOTE: Once on the list, you need not contact BLS for subsequent seminars through June 27, 2003.

Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the Summer 2003 WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than June 10, 2003. E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@usda.gov.

Conference on Federal Statistics and Counterterrorism

In many ways, at many agencies, the federal statistics community is becoming a key contributor to the war on terrorism. But often our efforts are fragmented, and similar problems are being solved in different ways at different departments. To help us coordinate our efforts and pool our resources, the Washington Statistical Society is sponsoring a conference on statistical issues in counterterrorism. The conference will be held on May 29-30 at the National Academies building (500 Fifth Street NW, near the Judiciary Square metro stop).

The scientific program focuses upon cybersecurity, syndromic surveillance, biometric identification, risk analysis, game theory, record linkage, confidentiality, contaminant detection, and related topics. Speakers include John Bailar, Kathy Wallman, Bill Winkler, Larry Cox, Ed Wegman, Alan Karr, and other important members or partners of the Washington statistical community.

To obtain more information about the program, and details on how to register, please go to our link at the WSS website.

This conference is co-sponsored by the Committee on National Statistics at the National Academies, by the ASA Sections on Government Statistics and Risk Analysis, and by the ASA Committee on Statisticians in National Defense and Homeland Security.

Program Abstract

- Title:** **Insights into the OMB Clearance Process for Survey Information Collections**
- Speakers:** Brian Harris-Kojetin and Karen Lee, Office of Management and Budget
- Organizer:** Jonaki Bose, Bureau of Transportation Statistics
- Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 7, 2003, 12:30 - 2 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, conference room 3. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. A new list begins on April 1, 2003 and expires June 30, 2003. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Data Collection Methods Section, WSS; AAPOR-DC
- Abstract:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) requires that agencies submit proposed information collections to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) before imposing burden on the public. In this presentation the speakers will describe the relevant aspects of the PRA for agencies that conduct statistical surveys and note common misconceptions about what is required under the PRA. They will explain the process of an OMB review for surveys and highlight the information required for an OMB submission. Further, they will identify key subsections of the supporting statement, which include a justification of the need and utility of the collection and what additional information is required for collections that employ statistical methods. The speakers will discuss some of the common issues that arise in OMB reviews, and what agencies can do to address these issues. Finally, they will discuss some of the initiatives OMB is undertaking to review and update statistical standards and improve guidance to agencies, as well as what statistical agencies can do to assist OMB in the review of their department's collections and in improving the review process more generally.

Program Abstract

- Title:** Developing Information Quality Guidelines in a Political Environment
- Speaker:** Patrick E. Flanagan, Bureau of Transportation Statistics
- Discussant:** Jay Casselberry, Energy Information Administration
- Chair:** Eugene M. Burns, Bureau of Transportation Statistics
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, May 13, 2003, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Conference Room 9, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see Notice at the end of this announcement.
- Sponsor:** WSS Quality Assurance and Physical Sciences Section
- Abstract:** The "Data Quality Act" is a recent law in the United States requiring every federal agency in the U. S. Government to produce information quality guidelines. At the U. S. Department of Transportation, we wrote guidelines to comply with the Act, improve data quality, and create a consistency across our data systems. In the process of doing this, we encountered some realities of implementation that we had to address if we were to have a realistic chance of achieving the data quality goals. This presentation is about some of the choices we made and the tool we used to help make the choices.

Notice about Seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Program Abstract

- Title:** Collecting Sensitive Data Using the 3-Card Method
- Speakers:** Judy Droitcour, General Accounting Office
Nathan Anderson, General Accounting Office
- Discussant:** Fritz Scheuren, National Opinion Research Center
- Organizer:** Jonaki Bose, Bureau of Transportation Statistics
- Date:** Wednesday, May 14, 2003, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Room 9, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. Use the Red Line to Union Station. To gain entrance to BLS, please see Notice at the end of this announcement.
- Sponsor:** Data Collection Methods Section, WSS
- Abstract:** Collecting sensitive information on, for example, illegal immigration or elder abuse can provide important inputs to the policy process, but is challenging because of privacy issues and the potential for response bias.

The three-card method is a survey-based indirect estimation technique that assures absolute privacy of response. No one the interviewer, data analyst, principal investigator, or anyone else can ever know whether a respondent is in the sensitive category, based on his or her responses. Yet when all data are combined, an estimate of the proportion of individuals in the sensitive category is possible. This method was initially designed to: 1) avoid the "mind-boggling" procedures in a randomized response interview; 2) allow follow-up questions; and 3) estimate all answer categories, including the sensitive category, for the total population and major subgroups. The three card method was originally designed to estimate all categories of immigration status, including the sensitive illegal category. Recent developments include (1) separate estimation of visa overstays within the illegal immigrant category (as this group is of special interest in the post-9/11 environment), and (2) elder abuse (a topic of growing concern as baby boomers age).

The first paper (by Judith Droitcour) discusses the general method, estimation of visa overstays, and the variance associated with a three-card estimate. The second paper (by Nathan Anderson) will present a potential application in the area of elder abuse and plans for new work. Fritz Scheuren will discuss the presentations.

Notice about Seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Program Abstract

- Title:** Computer-automated Constructive Data Mining with PcGets
- Speaker:** Neil Ericsson, FRB
- Discussant:** Keith Ord, GU
- Moderator:** Charlie Hallahan, ERS/USDA
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, May 20, 2003, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- Place:** BLS Conference Center, Room 1 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see Notice at the end of this announcement
- Sponsor:** Statistical Computing Section
- Talk to be video-conferenced.
- Abstract:** Hoover and Perez (1999, *Econometrics Journal*) advocate a constructive approach to data mining. The current paper identifies four pejorative senses of data mining and shows how Hoover and Perez's approach counters each. To assess the benefits of constructive data mining, the current paper applies a data-mining algorithm (PcGets) similar to Hoover and Perez's to a dataset for Venezuelan consumers' expenditure. The selected model is economically sensible and statistically satisfactory; and it illustrates how data can be highly informative, even with relatively few observations. Limitations to algorithmically based data mining provide opportunities for the researcher to contribute value added in the empirical analysis.

Notice about Seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Program Abstract

- Topic:** The Second Seminar on the Funding Opportunity In Survey Research
- Organizer:** Research Subcommittee of the Federal Committee On Statistical Methodology (Robert Fay; robert.e.fay.iii@census.gov ; Monroe Sirken; mgs2@CDC.gov)
- Sponsors:** Washington Statistical Society and Washington DC / Baltimore Chapter of AAPOR
- Date/Time:** Monday, June 9, 2003, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (NOTE SPECIAL TIME)
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference and Training Center, Rooms 1, 2, and 3, Postal Square Building (PSB), 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington, DC. Please use First St., NE entrance (across from Union Station).
- Abstract:** In 1998, a consortium of 12 Federal statistical agencies in collaboration with the Methodology, Measurement and Statistics Program, National Science Foundation, and with the support of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology initiated a grants program to fund basic survey and statistical research oriented to the needs of Federal agencies. Reports of the principal investigators of the 4 research projects funded during cycle 1 of the Program in 1999 were featured at a first Funding Opportunity Seminar held in Washington during June 2001. The Second Funding Opportunity Seminar will feature the reports of principal investigators of the 4 projects that were funded in 2001, cycle 2 of the program:
1. "Bayesian Methodology for Disclosure Limitation and Statistical Analysis of Large Government Surveys" by Rod Little and Trivellore Raghunathan;
 2. "Visual and Interactive Issues in the Design of Web Surveys" by Roger Tourangeau, Mick Cooper, Reginald Baker, and Fred Conrad;
 3. "Robust Small Area Estimation Based on a Survey Weighted MCMC Solution for the Generalized Linear Mixed Model" by Ralph Folsom and Avinash Singh; and
 4. "Small Area and Longitudinal Estimation Using Information from Multiple Surveys" by Sharon Lohr.
- Federal agency statisticians and survey methodologists will be discussants at each session.

The Seminar agenda is on the following page.

If planning to attend, contact Pat Drummond by May 15, 2003: <Pdrummond@CDC.gov> or 301-458-4193. Also, by noon June 8 either e-mail wss_seminar@bls.gov or call 202-691-7524 and give your name, affiliation, and name of seminar attending. Finally, bring a photo ID.

Program Schedule

Program on the Funding Opportunity in Survey and Statistical Research Seminar

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20212

June 9, 2003

- 8:30 a.m.- Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. - Welcoming Remarks
Nancy Kirkendall, Energy Information Administration, DOE
- 9:05 a.m. - Session 1. Origins of the Funding Opportunity in Survey Research
Monroe Sirken, National Center for Health Statistics
- 9:30 a.m. - Session 2. Bayesian Methodology for Disclosure Limitation and Statistical Analysis of Large Government Surveys
Investigators: Roderick J. Little and Trivellore Raghunathan, University of Michigan
Discussants: Ramesh Dandekar, Energy Information Administration, DOE;
William Winkler, U.S. Census Bureau
- 10:30 a.m.- Break
- 10:45 a.m.- Session 3. Visual and Interactive Issues in the Design of Web Surveys
Investigators: Roger Tourangeau, Mick P. Couper, Reginald P. Baker, and
Frederick Conrad, University of Michigan
Discussants: John Bosley, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Cleo Redline, National Science Foundation
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch on your own
- 1:00 p.m - Session 4. Robust Small Area Estimation Based on a Survey Weighted MCMC Solution for the General Linear Mixed Model
Investigators: Ralph E. Folsom and Avinash Singh, Research Triangle Institute
Discussants: William Davis, National Cancer Institute
Phil Kott, National Agricultural Statistical Service
- 2:00 p.m. - Session 5. Small Area and Longitudinal Estimation Using Information from Multiple Surveys
Investigator: Sharon Lohr, Arizona State University
Discussants: Charles Perry, National Agricultural Statistical Service
John Eltinge, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- 3:00 p.m. - Break
- 3:15 p.m. - Session 6. Benefits and Challenges of the Funding Opportunity
Discussants: Fritz Scheuren, National Opinion Research Center
Brian Harris-Kojetin, Office of Management and Budget, OMB

Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) Confidentiality Seminar Series
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Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) Confidentiality Seminar Series

The May, June, and July seminars in the BTS series on confidentiality are listed below. The seminars in this series are open to all. The complete list of seminars and slides from earlier presentations are posted at http://www.bts.gov/confidentiality_seminar_series; please direct questions about the series to either Neil Russell (neil.russell@bts.gov) or Virginia de Wolf (virginia.dewolf@bts.gov).

May Seminar

Title : Statistical Disclosure at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

Presenter : Alvan Zarate, Confidentiality Officer, NCHS

Date/Time : Tuesday, May 20, 2003, 10:00 -11:00 a.m.

Location : US Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400-7th St., SW, Room 6200 (See Notice at the end of this announcement.)

Abstract : This seminar describes how statistical disclosure limitation methods are implemented at the National Center for Health Statistics. The roles that a Disclosure Review Board and a Confidentiality Officer play in a Federal statistical agency will be highlighted.

June Seminar

Title : The OMB's Interagency Confidentiality and Data Access Committee (CDAC)

Presenters : Jacob Bournazian, Chair of CDAC (2002-2003), Energy Information Administration, US Department of Energy, and Mark Schipper, CDAC Member, Energy Information Administration, US Department of Energy

Date/Time : Wednesday, June 11, 2003, 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

Location : US Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400-7th St., SW, Room 6244 (See Notice at the end of this announcement.)

Abstract : The activities of CDAC will be described. The presentation will highlight products created by CDAC members, including its "Checklist on the Disclosure Potential of Proposed Data Releases" and the auditing software for tabular products.

July Seminar

Title : Restricted Data Access: The Role of Research Data Centers (RDCs)

Presenters : Arnold Reznick, RDC Director, US Census Bureau, Wilbur Hadden, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), and Vijay Gambhir, RDC, NCHS

Date/Time : Wednesday, July 23, 2003, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Location : US Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400-7th St., SW, Room 6200 (See Notice at the end of this announcement.)

Abstract : The role that RDCs play in gaining access to confidential data at Federal statistic agencies is discussed. This seminar will review the practices of two agencies that have RDCs. The first speaker will describe the development of the RDCs at the Census Bureau. Then the RDC at NCHS will be described and the agency's remote access procedures for gaining access to confidential data will be highlighted.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) Confidentiality Seminar Series

Notice about BTS Confidentiality Series Seminars

The Department of Transportation's Nassif Building, 400-7th St., SW, Washington, DC, is located at the L'Enfant Plaza Metro Stop (follow signs to the Department of Transportation exit at 7th and D Streets, SW). All visitors should enter at the Southwest entrance. Please bring a photo ID (federal employees must have federal ID). Procedures differ depending on the employer:

For federal employees: Please show your federal ID to the guard at the Southwest entrance, go through security, and then proceed to the seminar room (the first number indicates the floor on which the conference room is located).

For non-federal employees: DOT security procedures require BTS to provide a list of attendees who are not federal employees prior to the seminar. Therefore, if you plan to attend the seminar and are not employed by the federal government, please provide your name, name of employer, and phone number to either Neil Russell (neil.russell@bts.gov) or Virginia de Wolf (virginia.dewolf@bts.gov) by COB of the week before the seminar, i.e.,

- Tuesday, May 13th for the May 20th seminar;
- Wednesday, June 4th for the June 11th seminar; and
- Wednesday, July 16th for the July 23rd seminar.

On the day of the seminar, please report to the Southwest entrance of the Nassif Building 15 minutes before the start of the seminar so that you can be escorted to the seminar room. That is, be in the lobby of the Southwest entrance at 9:45 am for the May 20th seminar, 11:45 am for the June 11th seminar, and 1:15 pm for the July 23rd seminar.

Announcements

New Section On Transportation Statistics Seeks Members

Promod Chandhok, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Washington, DC and The George Washington University, Washington, DC

This notice announces the tentative formation of the Section on Transportation Statistics of ASA. Temporary officers of the Section are Cliff Spiegelman and myself. Under the ASA Constitution, we need an expression of interest from 100 or more ASA members to form the Section and need to provide them an initial mailing list of Section members. A draft of the Section charter has been prepared and will be e-mailed on request. This announcement is for the purpose of adding names to our initial mailing list and for obtaining suggestions and comments. An organizational meeting of the Section will be held at the next ASA annual meeting—August 2003 in San Francisco—and will be announced in the program of the meeting.

The principal objective of the Transportation Statistics Section is to serve Association members with special interests in: (1) developing and applying statistical methods to problems in transportation, (2) analyzing transportation data, (3) collecting transportation data, and (4) formulating mathematical models, whether deterministic or stochastic, which describe and explain underlying mechanisms and modes of action of fundamental processes in transportation. This section will cooperate with the Transportation Research Board and other professional organizations in order to sponsor joint meetings and sessions at professional meetings.

If you are interested in possible membership in this section, please contact me at: promod.chandhok@bts.gov

Employment

As a service to local statisticians, *WSS News* provides notification of employment opportunities and description of those seeking employment here in the Washington, DC, area. Readers are encouraged to take advantage of this feature of the newsletter. The deadline for inserting notices is five (5) weeks before the publication date. Those interested should email or call Anne Peterson, at apeterson.ipr@verizon.net or (703) 979-1191.

Announcements

Journal of Transportation and Statistics Call for Papers Special Issue on Transportation Forecasting

The editors of the *Journal of Transportation and Statistics* are planning a special issue on Transportation Forecasting. We invite submissions relating to any mode of transportation, with an emphasis on forecasting models whose results would be of potential interest to policy makers. We are particularly interested in papers dealing with longer term forecasting, with an emphasis on safety, infrastructure, environmental or economic issues, but we will consider other areas.

All papers will be peer-reviewed. Please refer to the journal or to the Web page (<http://www.bts.gov/publications/jts/submit.htm>) for submission requirements. Please send one hardcopy or an electronic copy of your paper to either of the editors of this special issue, to whom all inquiries should also be directed. Authors planning to submit papers are encouraged to send an abstract to the editors by June 2, 2003. The cut-off date for accepting completed manuscripts is August 1, 2003. The tentative publication date of this issue of the Journal is mid-2004.

The editors of the Special Issue are:

Dr. Peg Young
Bureau of Transportation Statistics
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, SW (Room 3430)
Washington, DC 20590
Email: peg.young@bts.gov
Phone: 202/366-2483

and

Dr. J. Keith Ord
The McDonough School of Business
Georgetown University
Washington, DC 20057
Email: ordk@georgetown.edu
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REMEMBER

Mail your completed ballot to:

Andy White
7705 Brookville Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3933



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WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON
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May 2003

Annual Election for Board of Directors

Supplemental Issue

An election ballot for the 2003-2004 program year of the Washington Statistical Society Board of Directors was enclosed in the surface mail version of the May issue. The ballot was incomplete and biographical information on the candidates was missing. This supplemental issue contains the biographical information on all candidates and an additional ballot for the Methodology Chair Elect. Please mail both ballots to Andy White for tabulation.

Ballots must be received by Tuesday, June 3, 2003 to be counted. Results will be announced at the WSS Annual Dinner on Tuesday, June 10, 2003 (<http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss/wssdin03.pdf>).

The editor apologizes for the error.

Washington Statistical Society 2003 Elections
(candidate presentation order is randomized)

Two candidates for President-Elect (vote for 1):

JOHN L. CZAJKA is a Senior Researcher at Mathematica Policy Research, which he joined in 1978. A major focus of his research has been statistical uses of administrative records. This has included applications to census-taking, small area estimation, policy analysis, and the evaluation of survey estimates. He has directed numerous research projects for federal government agencies, including the Statistics of Income Division of the IRS, the Food and Nutrition Service, the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in DHHS, the Social Security Administration, and the National Center for Health Statistics. He has also served on two National Academy of Sciences panels: the Panel on Alternative Census Methodologies (1995-1999) and the Panel on Data and Methods for Measuring the Effects of Changes in Social Welfare Programs. In recent months he was the discussant at two WSS sessions on the Census Bureau's administrative records census evaluations, and he spoke at a workshop on small area estimates of health insurance. Through WSS and the ASA, he has served the local and national statistical communities since 1986. He was a member of the board of directors of the WSS from 1986 through 1993 and again from 1998 through 2000, first as co-chair of the social and demographic statistics program and later as the Society's representative to the ASA Council of Chapters. During that time he drafted the revisions to the WSS constitution to bring it into agreement with the new ASA constitution. He was elected an at-large member of the board in 1998. He was Secretary-Treasurer of the ASA's Social Statistics section from 1994 to 1995 and was an officer in the Government Statistics Section from 1999 through 2002, first as Program Chair and then Chair. He holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in government from Harvard.

ALLEN SCHIRM is an Associate Director and Senior Fellow at Mathematica Policy Research, and he has been a member of the WSS since moving to the DC area nearly 15 years ago. His principal research interests include small area estimation, fund allocation, census methods, and sample and evaluation design, with application to studies of food and nutrition and education and training policy. He has conducted program evaluations, statistical analyses, and other research for several federal agencies, including the Employment and Training Administration, the Food and Nutrition Service, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, the Policy and Program Studies Service of the Department of Education, and the Statistics of Income Division. Allen is an Associate Editor of *Evaluation Review* and has published in the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, the *Journal of Official Statistics*, *Survey Methodology*, and the proceedings of several sections of ASA. He is a member of the American Statistical Association/Section on Survey Research Methods Working Group on Technical Aspects of the Survey of Income and Program Participation. Allen has also served on three National Academy of Sciences, Committee on National Statistics panels: the Panel on Estimates of Poverty for Small Geographic Areas, the Panel on Formula Allocations, and the Panel on Research on Future Census Methods. He received an A.B., summa cum laude, in statistics from Princeton University and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

One Candidate for Secretary (vote for 1):

COURTNEY STAPLETON has worked as a Mathematical Statistician in the Planning, Research, and Evaluation Division of the U.S. Census Bureau for five years. She holds a B.S. in Statistics and Mathematics from Central Michigan University and a M.S. in Survey Methodology from the University of Maryland. Her research interests include questionnaire design, data collection methods, web survey research, and cognitive research methods. Courtney has presented her research findings at ASA and QDET conferences.

Candidates for Methodology Chair (Vote for One):

Tom Krenzke has worked in the survey methodology field since 1991. From 1991 to 1997, he worked in different areas of the U.S. Census Bureau, including the Economic, Decennial, and Demographic directorates. From 1997 to the present, he is employed as a senior statistician at Westat, a survey research company in Rockville, Maryland. For the past 3 years, he has co-edited the newsletter for the Survey Research Methods Section of the American Statistical Association. He continues to be interested in many aspects of survey methodology, including sample design, weighting and software development.

Wendy Rotz is a senior manager at Ernst & Young LLP. Prior to Ernst & Young, she was a mathematical statistician for the Statistics of Income Division at the Internal Revenue Service. Over 12 years she worked on issues of complex sample design and variance estimation in administrative records, tax, government, healthcare, surveys, litigation, large inventory systems, telecommunications, banking, employee evaluations, quality assurance, and the IRS Taxpayer Compliance Measurement Program. She has critiqued sample designs for regulatory agencies and reviewed the selection processes. Wendy has a master's degree in mathematics from Eastern Michigan University and the course work for a Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Maryland College Park. Her areas of research include sampling and variance estimation of rare events. By invitation of the Albany Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Wendy gave the plenary address, "Challenges of Statistical Consulting in a Big Five Accounting Firm," for the 2002 Conference on Applications in Statistics: What's Hot/What's Next. Wendy is a long-time member of ASA, WSS, and the WSS board of directors. Her contributions include: Chair, WSS Local Arrangements Committee; Chair, Curtis Jacobs Memorial Committee; current Chair, Quantitative Literacy for Maryland and D.C. (arranged the local WSS poster and best graduate presentation at Probability and Statistics Day competitions); member, ASA Committee on Applied Statisticians; and Council of Chapters representative on the 2003 Program Committee. She has served on the AICPA task force on Corporate Integrity Agreements and the Interagency Confidentiality and Disclosure Advisory Group. She received the WSS President's award in 1999.

Four Candidates for Representative-at-Large (vote for 2):

Jennifer Guarino is a Survey Methodologist with the Research Triangle Institute in their Washington, DC office. Prior to her tenure at RTI, she served as the Chief of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) branch at the Census Bureau, where she led projects related to survey methods and sample design. While at Census, she also spent three years working on design issues for the decennial census. She received a B.S. in Mathematical Sciences with a concentration in Statistics from Loyola College and a M.S. in Survey Methodology from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM) at the University of Maryland. She has been a member of ASA for 8 years, and was named a WSS Outstanding Graduate Student in 1999.

Judy Droitcour is Assistant Director, Applied Research and Methods, the U.S. General Accounting Office. Her interests include "cross design synthesis," indirect survey estimation techniques, and issues in record linkage and privacy. Earlier, Judy worked at the Social Research Group of the George Washington University, where she was project manager for the National Survey on Drug Abuse and conducted research on indirect methods of survey estimation. Her education includes a Ph.D. in sociology from George Washington University. She is currently serving as a WSS Social and Demographic Program Chair.

Jonaki Bose is a statistician at the Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) Office of Survey Programs. Prior to BTS, she was at the National Center for Education Statistics for about eight years, and was detailed at the Office of Management and Budget. Her education includes a Master of Science in Survey Methodology (statistical science emphasis) from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland. She is the Social Statistics Section program chair-elect for American Statistical Association's 2004 program committee, and is the chair for the Data Collection Section of the Washington Statistical Society. Her interests include disclosure review, nonresponse bias, and longitudinal surveys.

Thomas Mule is a statistician in the Decennial Statistical Studies Division at the US Census Bureau. Prior to joining Census, he was a statistician at Westat. Since 1999, he has served as secretary for WSS. His statistical interests include sample survey design, estimation and record linkage.



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