

WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

TIME FOR WSS ELECTIONS!

Annual Election of Board Members for WSS

Every spring since the Washington Statistical Society was formally organized in 1926, the members of the Society are asked to vote for members who will represent them on the Board of Directors. The slate of candidates who have generously volunteered to stand for election for the 2012-2013 year is included in this edition. We urge you to exercise your right to vote and chose the candidates that you believe will best serve the Society.

After having served on the Board for three years, it is very clear to me that the WSS as a volunteer organization is steered by the good efforts of those people who are willing to serve either as elected members or appointed members to various committees. I would like to thank each of the candidates for running for office despite the many other responsibilities they have.

I would also urge each of you to consider whether you could serve the statistical community in the Washington area by volunteering for some activity with the WSS. If you are willing to serve in any capacity, please email the incoming President Keith Rust at KeithRust@westat.com and let him know. There are always a host of activities that need volunteers.

All members eligible to vote, those who have paid their WSS dues as of March 31, 2012, should receive an email with instructions on voting electronically around May 1, 2012. Voting will be open until May 25, 2012. Please vote.

-- Past-President and Chair of the Nomination Committee

J. Michael Brick

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2012 WSS Election Candidates

The 2012 WSS election will be held online. Instructions on voting will be sent to members by email. Below are the candidates for this year's election. All WSS members are urged to vote once the balloting begins on May 1. Voting will close on May 25. The results will be announced by early June.

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT (SELECT ONE)

Nancy Bates, Census Bureau

Nancy Bates is the Senior Researcher for Survey Methodology at the U.S. Census Bureau. She has spent over twenty years in survey methods research working as a survey methodologist and survey statistician. Nancy currently works on a variety of research projects including survey measurement issues within the GLBT community, public opinion around Census's use of administrative records, and data collection and analysis of survey paradata. Nancy is currently the Co-Chair of the 2012 International Conference on Hard-to-Reach Populations. She has a B.A. in public administration and M.A. in applied sociology both from the University of Oklahoma. Nancy has served previously as a Representative-at-Large board member of the WSS. She is a member of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology and an Associate Editor for Journal of Official Statistics. She has published in journals such as Survey Methodology, Survey Practice, Journal of Economic and Social Measurement and Journal of Official Statistics.

To better understand the current needs and issues of the WSS, Nancy would use her in-coming year as President-elect to re-acclimate herself to the Society, Board, and members. She will make it a priority to support and encourage WSS seminars and other educational offerings as a way to keep WSS members abreast of recent developments in statistical methods and applied survey research. She is also interested in strengthening ties with local university students pursuing careers in the statistical and social survey sciences.

Eileen O'Brien, EIA

Eileen O'Brien is the Team Leader of Buildings Surveys Statistics in the Office of Energy Consumption and Efficiency Statistics at the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). Prior to serving at EIA, Eileen worked as the lead survey methodologist on housing surveys and censuses in the Statistical Research Division of the Census Bureau (1998-2005) and on environmental and economic surveys at the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA (1987-1998). She received her Masters from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland in 1996. Her research interests include the role of sociolinguistics in understanding the influence of respondent-interviewer interactions on survey participation and data quality; methods to measure and reduce interviewer error; and the role of organizational and employee behaviors on response processes in business surveys.

Eileen is committed to increased interagency coordination of federal information collections and research to ensure system integrity, budget efficiency, and reduction of respondent burden. A member of the American Statistical Association (ASA) and Washington Statistical Society (WSS) since 1994, she has participated in interagency working groups with WSS members to improve survey methods (the Interagency Response Error Group, the Interagency Group on Establishment Nonresponse, and the Interagency Household Survey Nonresponse Group) as well as conducted several collaborative research efforts across agencies. She organized and supported joint WSS/DC-AAPOR workshops and seminars while serving as Program Chair then President of the DC Chapter of the American Association of Public Opinion Research (DC-AAPOR). Eileen is completing her third term on the Survey Review Committee of the ASA.

CANDIDATES FOR METHODOLOGY PROGRAM CHAIR (SELECT ONE)

Julie Gershunskaya, BLS

Julie Gershunskaya is a statistician at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. She received her doctoral degree from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland-College Park under the direction of Partha Lahiri. Her research interests include survey sampling, robust estimation and identification of influential observations in complex surveys, small area estimation methods, mixture models.

Dan Liao, RTI International

Dan Liao is a research statistician at RTI International. Prior to joining RTI in 2010, she received her doctoral degree from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at University of Maryland. She has also worked for National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and the Gallup Research Center. Her survey research interests include multi-phase survey design and estimation, combining survey and administrative data, latent class analyses, calibration weighting, editing and imputation, and regression diagnostics for complex survey data. Dan is an active member of the American Statistical Association and WSS. She has served as chair for contributed and invited sessions in national statistical meetings.

CANDIDATES FOR REPRESENTATIVE-AT-LARGE (SELECT TWO)

Safaa Amer, NORC

Safaa Amer is a multi-lingual Senior Statistician and Project Director at NORC for the past 8 years (soon to join RTI). Dr. Amer has a wide-range of experience in statistical analysis, complex survey sampling, impact evaluation, missing data analysis and imputation, and data mining. Her work included data analysis, complex survey design, advanced sampling, design and implementation of impact evaluation studies, questionnaire design, defining survey data requirements and quality control procedures; programming using statistical software. She has been also involved in analyzing survey operations problems; conducting literature reviews and research to adapt surveys to international contexts; developing new sampling techniques and

definitions specific to the international community; developing and refining training material; training and building international statistics and survey research capacity; communicating with Institutional Review Boards and Ethics committees locally and internationally, conducting respondent disclosure risk analysis to protect respondents confidentiality; preparing reports for management and project directors. Her experience includes both quantitative and qualitative analysis in interdisciplinary studies across a wide range of countries.

In addition, Dr. Amer is an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University and has held several academic positions. Dr. Amer is a member of several national and international Statistical Associations. She has refereed several papers for international journals and contributed in several graduate level theses.

John Finamore, NSF

John Finamore is a survey statistician at the National Science Foundation's National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES). In this position, he serves as the project officer for the National Survey of College Graduates and oversees the statistical and survey methodological research agenda for the Human Resources Statistics Program within NCSES. Prior to NCSES, Mr. Finamore spent 14 years as a Mathematical Statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau working on sampling, weighting, and variance estimation issues for multiple demographic surveys. His research interests include survey sampling, mixed-mode survey design, examining the impact of data collection mode on survey response and survey estimation, and nonresponse bias analysis.

Mr. Finamore holds a B.S. in Mathematics from James Madison University and a M.S. in Statistics from the University of Connecticut. He previously held the position of WSS Treasurer (2004-2006) and currently serves as the Publications Officer for the ASA Survey Research Methods Section (SRMS).

Donsig Jang, Mathematica Policy Research

Donsig Jang is director of the department of Statistical Services at Mathematica Policy Research. He has about 20 years of experience in survey sampling and statistical research, directing and implementing the statistical applications required by many Mathematica projects. His primary research interests include nonresponse bias analysis; survey quality measures; paradata; integrated and streamlined survey data processing; multiple frame estimation; disclosure avoidance methods; and variance estimation. He has published several peer review journal articles and given about 40 presentations at conferences, workshops, and other meetings. He has also referred for the Journal of Official Statistics, Survey Methodology, Statistics in Medicine, and Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference. He has served as an adjunct professor in the Department of Statistics at George Mason University and George Washington University for past several years. He has a Ph.D. in statistics from Texas A&M University.

Brian W. Sloboda, US Dept of Labor

Brian W. Sloboda is an economist in the Assistant Secretary of Policy in the US Department of Labor, where he moved recently from his position as a pricing economist at the US Postal Service (USPS). Prior to USPS, he was an economist in the Bureau of Transportation Statistics in the US Department of Transportation examining the role of national accounts and transportation as well as doing some forecasting work. He was an economist at the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the US Department of Commerce in the Industry Economics Division (IED) doing the benchmark input-output model of the US. Brian is also a board member for the Federal Forecasters Consortium (FFC). In addition, he served as president, vice president, and treasurer for the Society of Government Economists (SGE). He has served as a referee for numerous peer-reviewed journals, i.e., Journal of Transportation and Statistics, Journal of Regulatory, Economics, Annals of Regional Science, Transportation and other journals. He also was one of the guest editors for the Annals of Regional Science.

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER (SELECT ONE)***Jane Li, Westat***

Jane Li is a senior statistician at Westat. She holds a Ph.D. in Survey Statistics from the the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland. During her Ph.D. study, she had completed internships at the National Center for Health Statistics, the National Cancer Institute, and Mathematica Policy Research. She has experience in many aspects of survey research, including sample design, nonresponse adjustment, imputation, variance estimation, and data confidentiality and disclosure prevention. She was Treasure of the Washington Statistical Society in 2008-12.

SEMINARS

Title: **Introduction to Statistics without Borders; and Discussion of the Global Citizen Year Project**

Speakers: Gary Shapiro, Chair Statistics Without Borders; and Shari McGee
Chair: Steve Pierson, Director of Science Policy, American Statistical Association

Date & Time: **Wednesday, May 9, 2012 / 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.**

Location: New Offices of Mathematica-MPR, 1101 First Street NE, 12th Floor, Washington DC 20002, near L Street, north of Union Station

To be placed on the attendance list for webinar and phone viewing, please RSVP to Bruno Vizcarra at bvizcarra@mathematica-mpr.com or (202) 484-4231 at least 1 day in advance of the seminar (in-person attendees do not need to RSVP). Provide your name, affiliation, contact information (email is preferred) and the seminar date. Once on the list, you will be provided with information about webinar and phone viewing. For those who choose to attend in person, Mathematica is located at 1100 1st Street, NE, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20002. If traveling by Metro, take the Red Line to either the New York Ave Station or Union Station. From the New York Ave Station, follow signs to exit at M Street out of the station and walk 1 block west on M street and 2 blocks south on 1st Street (the building will be on your right). From Union Station, walk north along 1st Street for about 4-5 blocks until you reach L Street (the building will be on your left after crossing L street). If traveling by car, pay parking is available in the building parking garage, which is located 1 block east of North Capitol on L Street NE. Once in the building, take the elevators to the 12th floor and inform the secretary that you are attending the WSS seminar. Please call Mathematica's main office number (202 484-9220) if you have trouble finding the building.

Sponsors: WSS Human Rights Program, DC-AAPOR, and Capital Area Social Psychological Association

Abstract:

1. Introduction to Statistics Without Borders

Gary Shapiro, Chair Statistics Without Borders

Gary will briefly discuss the mission and current status of Statistics Without Borders (SWB), an all-volunteer Outreach Group of the American Statistical Association that provides services in the area of international health. He will then briefly discuss a few of the projects that SWB has and

is working on. This talk will serve as an introduction to the main presentation by Shari McGee, on work SWB did for the organization Global Citizen Year.

2. Discussion of Global Citizen Year Project

Shari McGee, Lillian Park, and Geoffrey Urland

The Global Citizen Year (GCY) project consisted of data analysis of the year abroad survey, categorizing open-ended responses and further analysis of key questions chosen by the GCY group to evaluate participant satisfaction with the year abroad program. The statisticians also helped GCY calculate its Net Promoter Score (NPS), a management tool used to determine the loyalty of an organization's customers (in the case of GCY, students). The NPS is highly regarded as a more effective measurement alternative to traditional customer research. Shari's presentation will focus on this work, the outcome, and the lessons learned.

For further information contact Michael P. Cohen at mpcohen@juno.com or 202-403-6453.

Title: **2012 President's Invited Seminar:
State of the Statistical System**

Speakers: Katherine Wallman, Chief Statistician, OMB

Chair: by Jonaki Bose, WSS Presiden

Date & Time: **Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

Location:

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center, Room 7
To be placed on the seminar 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. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station

Sponsor: Washington Statistical Society

Abstract:

Katherine Wallman serves as Chief Statistician at the United States Office of Management and Budget. She provides policy oversight, establishes priorities, advances long-term improvements, and sets standards for a Federal statistical establishment that comprises more than 80 agencies spread across every cabinet department. She will be discussing the various challenges that the current federal statistical system is facing, what works and what we should be thinking about.

NOTE: Video conferencing will **not** be available.

Title: **Evaluating the Environmental Protection Agency's Leadership Development Workshops**

Speaker: Eduardo S. Rodela, Ph.D., Program Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Office of Human Resources/Leadership Development Institute

Chair: Mel Kollander

Date & Time: **Monday, June 11, 2012 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center.
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. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: WSS Agriculture and Natural Resources Section

Abstract: Eduardo will discuss the training evaluation strategy for the Environmental Protection Agency's Leadership Development, Excellent in Supervision Module One workshops. He will describe how he uses Kirkpatrick's four levels of evaluation as the foundation for training evaluation. While he will describe Kirkpatrick's four levels, Eduardo will emphasize Level Three evaluations that focus on "critical behaviors" learned by Module One participants during the workshops. The four levels are: (1) customer satisfaction, (2) learning, (3) critical behaviors, and (4) outcomes. Eduardo also drew on the work of Robert Brinkerhoff to generate the questionnaire portion of the evaluation protocol.

The evaluation protocol is a multi-method approach to collect program data; the protocol specifies the use of questionnaires, focus groups, and individual interviews with workshop participants. In addition, plans are currently being drawn to involve participant supervisors' feedback to generate data regarding training participants' behavioral changes.

Point of contact: esrodela@cox.net

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS



Public SEMINAR

The Future of Social Science Data Collection

Friday, May 11, 2012 • Keck Center of the National Academies

500 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC • Room 100

- 2:00 pm **Light refreshments**, 1st floor prefunction space
- 2:30 **Welcome** (Lawrence Brown, CNSTAT Chair and University of Pennsylvania)
- 2:35 **Development at the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office**
(Katherine Wallman, Chief Statistician)
- 2:45 **The Future of Social Science Data Collection**
— Roger Tourangeau (CNSTAT Member; Westat)
— Nancy Bates (U.S. Census Bureau)
— Art Kennickell (Federal Reserve Board)
— Reg Baker (Market Strategies International)
- 4:05 **Floor discussion**
- 4:30 **Reception**, 3rd floor atrium
- 5:30 **Adjourn**

Abstract: Declining survey response—what we know and don't know about it, and the costs and benefits of methods to improve response—is a topic of critical interest to the statistical and research communities. The Russell Sage Foundation is sponsoring a CNSTAT panel to recommend a research agenda on survey response; to date, the panel has hosted two workshops that provided a wealth of information. The panel chair, *Roger Tourangeau*, will present an overview of the panel's purview and some of the things it has learned to date. *Nancy Bates* (panel member) will report on recent top-level initiatives to take the Census Bureau's survey game to a new level with regard to data collection technology, collection and use of paradata (including survey costs), multi-mode data collection, and responsive design. *Art Kennickell* (panel member) will present his views on the importance of interviewers in the data collection process. *Reg Baker* (presenter to the panel) will report on experience with on-line nonprobability samples and their problems and uses. There will be ample time for floor discussion and questions on these central topics for the future of social science data collection.

Event: **Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS 2012)**

Date: **May 21-23, 2012**

Hosts:

United Nations European Commission Economic Commission for Europe
Statistical Office of the Conference of European Statisticians European
Union (Eurostat)/Organization for Economic Cooperation and
Development (OCED) Statistics Directorate
Location: Offices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington, D.C.

Description:

The Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems will be held at the Offices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, D.C., United States, from May 21 to 23, 2012, starting at 9.30 a.m.

The Meeting is primarily intended for IT managers from statistical organizations and other specialists responsible for the coordination, planning and management of complex projects in statistical information processing.

The work program of the meeting will consist of the following substantive themes:

- Architecture
- Streamlining statistical production
- Innovation
- Collaboration

Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome to participate in the meeting. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa.

Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of the United States of America in the country in which the participant resides, with a reference to the Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems.

The statistical offices and international organizations are asked to inform

the UNECE secretariat whether their organization intends to participate at the meeting and/or submit a contribution on the topics mentioned above.

Please send a short abstract and indicate the topic to which the paper will refer as well as participant(s) name(s) and their contact data.

Participants are requested to fill in the Conference registration form, which will be available in Word format on the website <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2012.05.msis.html>.

It should be sent to the UNECE secretariat by **March 31, 2012** (as indicated on the form) so that it may be processed well in advance of the meeting.

Event: **Fourth International Conference on Establishment Surveys**
Date: **June 11–14, 2012**
Host: Survey Methods for Businesses, Farms, and Institutions
Location: Sheraton Centre Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada
Description:

The ICES series of conferences serves an important role in the world of survey methodology. Few other conferences focus on methods and applications for establishment surveys.

The first three conferences held in 1993, 2000 and 2007 were successful, with more than 400 attendees per conference. The conferences covered a spectrum of survey methods for businesses, farms, and institutions. The fourth conference will continue along this path. Examples of potential topics include the following:

- Updating business registers
- Sample design challenges
- Questionnaire design for establishment surveys
- Collecting data electronically from establishment surveys
- Issues of multi-mode data collection
- Factors that affect establishment survey participation
- Generalized survey processing systems for establishment survey
- Measuring nonresponse bias
- Variance estimation
- Advances in disclosure protection
- Efficient use of administrative data in establishment surveys
- New directions in establishment surveys

Information:

(website) www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012,
(email) ices4@amstat.org.

Event: **Summer Conference Preview/Review 2012
Call for Abstracts**
Date: **June 21-22, 2012**
Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC
Description:

DC-AAPOR and WSS are teaming up to bring you a sample of the many amazing talks taking place this year at the National conferences. We know that you can't travel to every conference, so we want to give you the opportunity to join your local colleagues, share the ground-breaking work that you are doing, and hear what they have been presenting in far-off locales.

We are seeking speakers who will be presenting at the following 2012 conferences:

- AAPOR: http://www.aapor.org/AAPOR_Annual_Conference.htm
- JSM: <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/>
- ICES: <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012/index.cfm?fuseaction=main>
- Field Directors: <http://www.ifdtdc.org/default.htm>
- Other related Survey Methodology conferences.

Please submit your abstracts (that have already been prepared, submitted and accepted to a 2012 Survey Methodology-related conference) by **midnight (EST) April 30, 2012** to DCAAPORconference@gmail.com.

Please include the following with your submission:

- Title
- Abstract (no longer than one page)
- Conference your talk has been accepted to
- Co-authors and/or co-presenters
- Length of talk

Registration for this two-day conference will be open to everyone, but speakers will get approximately half-off the cost of their registrations (\$65 instead of \$125). Students also will get approximately half-off their registration fee, so students who are speakers get to register for free! We hope that this will especially encourage students to submit their abstracts and join us.

Registration will open at the beginning of May. Stay tuned for details!

Expected Schedule for the 2012 Conference

(Subject to change based on submissions.)

Registration: Thurs, June 21 and Fri, June 22: 8:30 – 9:00

Conference: Thurs, June 21 and Fri, June 22: 9:00 – 4:30

Social: Thurs, June 21: 5:00-7:00

Event: **32nd General Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW)**

Date: **August 5-11, 2012**

Host: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Location: Royal Sonesta Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts

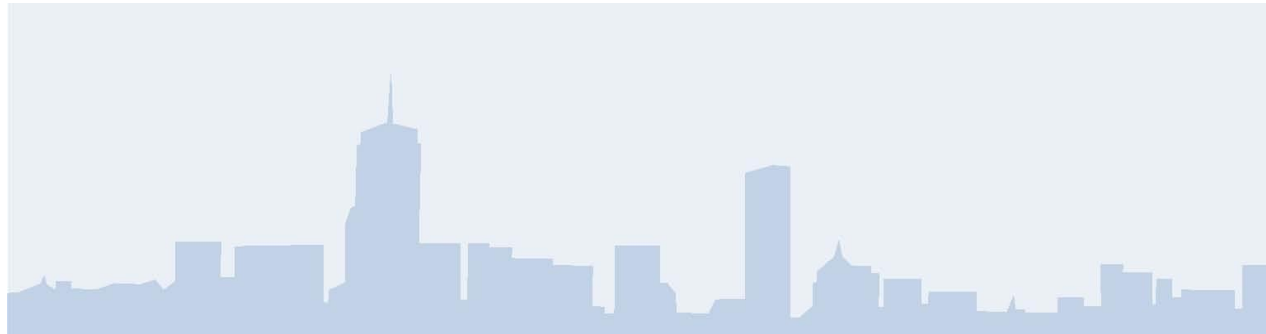
Description: See next page

Registration: Is now open

Information:

(website) www.iariw2012.com,

(email) IARIW2012@bea.gov



SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for the 32nd General Conference of the IARIW

**WHEN
WHERE**

AUG. 5-11, 2012

Royal Sonesta Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts

- Improved measures of economic welfare •
- Lessons learned from the financial crisis •

The conference provides a forum for statistical officials and experts from around the world to share information and ideas on how to develop new economic indicators that will help address some of the most important challenges confronting the global economy.

For more conference information and access to the program please visit www.IARIW2012.com



Event: International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations
Date: **October 31–November 3, 2012**
Location: Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center,
 New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.
Description:

H2R|2012

Survey Methods for Hard-to-Reach Populations

The H2R 2012 conference will bring together survey methodologists, sociologists, statisticians, demographers, ethnographers, and other professionals from around the world to present new and innovative techniques for surveying hard-to-reach populations. Addressing both the statistical and survey design aspects of including hard-to-reach groups, researchers will report findings from censuses, surveys, and other research related to the identification, definition, measurement, and methodologies for surveying and enumerating undercounted populations.

<p>Just Announced! Short Courses Social Media Research Methods Respondent-Driven Sampling Designing and Developing Instruments Across Cultures and Languages</p>	<p>Identifying, Defining, and Measuring the Hard-to-Reach (H2R) Defining H2R populations Measuring undercounts for H2R groups Improving measurement with administrative records Sampling H2R populations</p>
<p>Techniques and Methodologies Recruitment methods Targeting the H2R Use of social marketing and outreach campaigns Overcoming language and literacy barriers Use of community-based organizations Dealing with complex living and housing situations Tracking and tracing H2R populations</p>	<p>H2R Subpopulations Racial minorities Immigrant populations Indigenous populations Highly mobile and migrant populations Homeless and refugee populations Sexual minorities Populations affected by natural disasters Populations in zones of armed conflict Stigmatized populations Linguistic and cultural minorities</p>

Additional information is available on conference website or by email.

Website: www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012
Email: H2R2012@amstat.org.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Forthcoming Info-Metrics Institute Training/Tutorial Workshops (Classes)

May 14-18 (Monday-Friday), 2012

Microeconometrics with focus on Panel Data and Discrete Choice: Theory and Practice

(*Bill Greene*, NYU and Info-Metrics Associate)

May 29-June 2 (Tuesday-Saturday), 2012

Data Mining and Information: Theory and Practice

(*Teddy Seidenfeld*, Carnegie Mellon and Info-Metrics Associate)

This tutorial will include a one day on causal statistical inference (by *Richard Scheines*, Carnegie Mellon and Info-Metrics Associate) and a one-day tutorial on graph-theoretic signaling games (by *Kevin Zollman*, Carnegie Mellon).

July 9-10 (Monday-Tuesday), 2012

A Special Two-Day Tutorial on the Foundations of Info-Metrics

(*Amos Golan*)

Registration is now open. Space is limited. To register or for more information on these courses and how to register, please visit our Info-Metrics Summer Program web page:

<http://www.american.edu/cas/economics/info-metrics/econometrics.cfm>

or contact Aisha Malik at info-metrics@american.edu

Short Courses Sponsored by JPSM

Course and registration information for all JPSM-sponsored short courses listed below are available at www.jpsm.org/shortcourses.

COGNITIVE INTERVIEWING: A HANDS-ON APPROACH

June 28-29, 2012 at Washington Marriott at Metro Center, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **June 14, 2012**

Graduate Courses at Johns Hopkins University/Applied and Computational Mathematics (ACM) Program

Classes will be offered in the summer 2012 semester online or at locations in the Baltimore–Washington area (Howard and Montgomery Counties, Maryland).

Subject to meeting admission criteria, a non-degree candidate may register as a special student to take one or more courses to enhance mathematical and statistical skills. These courses are scheduled at times convenient for the working adult. Registration and general information is at ep.jhu.edu. Information specific to the ACM Program is at ep.jhu.edu/graduate-degree-programs/applied-and-computational-mathematics.

Further information related to academic requirements and course content is available from Dr. James Spall, Program Chair (240-228-4960). Courses offered in summer 2012 are listed below. Detailed information for all courses listed below is available at the course webpages ep.jhu.edu/course-homepages/.

625.201 General Applied Mathematics (This online course is designed for students who wish to take a refresher course in calculus and elementary differential equations; this course does not count for graduate credit)

Instructor: Cleon Davis
Time & location: 05/29/2012 – 08/03/2012 online
Prerequisites: Differential and integral calculus.

625.403 Statistical Methods and Data Analysis

Instructor: Barry Bodt
Time & location: 05/29/2012 – 08/03/2012 online
Prerequisite: Multivariate calculus.

625.409 Matrix Theory

Instructor: Daniel Rio
Time & location: Tuesdays, 4:40 – 7:55 p.m., 06/05/2012 – 08/21/2012, Montgomery County Campus (Rockville, MD)
Prerequisite: Multivariate calculus.

625.436 Graph Theory

Instructor: Jason DeVinney
Time & location: Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:00 – 7:40 p.m., 06/04/2012 – 07/18/2012, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)
Prerequisite: Linear algebra.

625.703 Functions of a Complex Variable

Instructors: J. Miller Whisnant and Michael Weisman
Time & location: Wednesdays, 5:00 – 8:05 p.m., 05/30/2012 – 08/15/2012, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)
Prerequisite: Real analysis and ordinary differential equations.

625.714 Introductory Stochastic Differential Equations with Applications

Instructor: John Burkhardt

Time & location: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:20 – 10:00 p.m., 06/05/2012 – 07/17/2012,
Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Multivariate calculus and a graduate course in probability and statistics.
Exposure to ordinary differential equations.

625.725 Theory of Statistics I

Instructor: Mostafa Aminzadeh

Time & location: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30 – 7:35 p.m., 05/29/2012 – 07/05/2012,
Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Multivariate calculus and a graduate course in probability and statistics.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Thursday, May 10, 2012 Washington Academy of Science Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

The Academy's Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet is one of the premier events of the year, featuring:

- **A program** that typically includes a world class speaker. This year we will have Dr. David Hunt of the Smithsonian Institution's Anthropology Department talking about the science of Mummies.
- **An awards ceremony** that on more than one occasion has anticipated a later Nobel prize (Note: Bob Groves will be a recipient for Social and Behavioral Sciences and Rod Little for Mathematics and Computer Sciences)

For registration information, see

<http://www.washacadsci.org/Banquet/Reservation%20Form2012.pdf>

For additional information, contact Michael P. Cohen at mpcohen@juno.com or 202-403-6453. Mike is the WSS representative to the Academy.

WSS VOLUNTEERS AS SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES

2012 WASHINGTON REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIRS

WSS Volunteers judged at four regional science fairs in March 2012. March 3, 2012 our Northern VA judges were Michael Fay (lead judge), Mark Otto, Jurate Landwehr and Jennifer Pegegoy. They awarded first prize to Tyler Laredo of Washington Lee HS and second prize to Valentina Lohr of Williamsburg HS. March 17 there were three regional science fairs. Montgomery County judges were Michael Messner (lead judge), Michael Proshan, Ruey-Pyng Lu, John Rogers, and Laura Lee Johnson. They awarded first prize to James Shepherdson of Blair HS and second prize winners were Pavleen Thukral of Poolesville HS and Ron Yutin of Roberto Clemente Middle School. Prince George's Area Science Fair judges were Promod Chandhok (lead judge), Kathy O'Connor, Arnold Reznek and Lorie Wijntjes. First prize winner was Youcef Moumena of Eleanor Roosevelt HS and second prize winners were Alexan Miner of Oxon Hill HS and Jaelyn Gibbs of Greenbelt Middle School. Fairfax Science and Technology Fair judges were Sidney Schwartz (lead judge), Shail Butani, Bill Cleveland, Justin Smith and Jeff Bailey. First prize winner was Yash Bhatnagar of Thomas Jefferson HS and second prize winners were Darwin Li and Andrea Li, both also from Thomas Jefferson HS.

First prize winners received \$100 and a one-year subscription to Significance Magazine. Second prize winners received a book titled Statistics: A Guide to the Unknown by Roxy Peck and a one-year subscription to Significance Magazine. The books were donated by Cengage Learning of Boston MA. At each science fair honorary awards were given to up to ten students. All prize winners received award certificates (8X10 certificates).

WSS has always judged at the DC STEM fair in the past, and our judges were prepared to go this year as well, however this year DC had a new format (announced at the last moment) which made it logistically difficult for us to participate. Hopefully we will be able to participate again next year. Also in the past, for many years, Gallup very generously donated \$1000 per year to help us fund our first prize winners (in those years we gave our first prize winners \$150 each) and our numerous magazine subscriptions (we were also giving magazine subscriptions to the schools). Last year Gallup informed us that they could no longer afford to fund our science fair endeavor, so we are looking now for new corporate supporters.

Respectfully submitted by
Gloria Gridley
WSS Science Fair Coordinator

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Council of Chapters Representative

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Methodology Section Chair

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WSS Program Chairs**Methodology**

Charles Day (240) 276-2306 charles.day@samhsa.hhs.gov

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Mel Kollander (703) 642-8079 mellk@erols.com

Barry Nussbaum (202) 566-1493 nussbaum.barry@epa.gov

Mike Fleming (202) 366-0183 cfleming0@cox.net

Phil Ross (301) 530-8998 ross@statlogic.net

Data Collection Methods

Grace O'Neill (202) 586-6485 Grace.O'Neill@eia.gov

Chris Blakely (301) 763-1722 clisztian@gmail.com

Defense and National Security

Wendy Martinez (540) 284-1032 martinezw@verizon.net

Economics

Linette Lanclos (202) 720-2641 Linette399@yahoo.com

Human Rights

Michael P. Cohen (202) 232-4651 mpcohen@juno.com

Public Health and Biostatistics

Grant Izmirlian (301) 496-7519 izmirlian@nih.gov

Carolyn Carroll (202) 320-8709 carolyn@stattech.com

Public Policy

Michael L. Cohen (202) 334-3765 mcohen@nas.edu

Jennifer Park (202) 395-9046 Jennifer_E_Park@omb.eop.gov

Quality Assurance

Amrut Champaneri (202) 366-5998 amrut.champaneri@dot.gov

Alan Jeeves (202) 366-4194 alan.jeeves@dot.gov

Social and Demographic Statistics

Judy Droitcour (202) 512-9145 droitcourj@gao.gov

Promod Chandhok (202) 366-2158 promod.chandhok@dot.gov

Statistical Computing

Charlie Hallahan (202) 694-5051 hallahan@ers.usda.gov

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Ari Houser (202) 434-3861 ahouser@aarop.org

Other Board Members:**Quantitative Literacy**

Jill Montaquila (301) 517-4046 jillmontaquila@westat.com

Short Courses

Brian Meekins (202) 691-7594 meekins.brian@bls.gov

WSS New; Editor

Colleen Choi wss.editor@gmail.com

Electronic Mail Committee

S.V. (Vince) Massimini (703) 983-5893 svm@mitre.org

Employment Column Coordinator

Anne Peterson (703) 504-9483 apeterson@insightpolicyresearch.com

Financial Advisor and Audit Committee

Stuart Scott (202) 691-7383 scott.stuart@bls.gov

R. Clifton Bailey (703) 893-8719 clifton.bailey@wap.org

Historian

Joseph Conklin (202) 586-6664 joseph.conklin@eia.gov

Social Arrangement; Committee

Chris Cumiskey (301) 704-4576 ccummiskey@rti.org

Yasmin Said (301) 538-7478 ysaid99@hotmail.com

Video Conferencing

Dan Gillman (202) 691-7523 gillman.daniel@bls.gov

Video Librarian

Phil Kalina (703) 725-6600 phil@philkalina.com

Web Master

Dan Jacobs (301) 405-6383 jacobs@mdsg.umd.edu

Curtis; Jacobs; Memorial Committee

Tom Krenzke (301) 251-4203 tomkrenzke@westat.com

Quantitative Literacy Poster Competition

Barnali Das (301) 279-4593 barnalidas@westat.com

Science Fair Coordinator

Gloria Gridley (301) 762-2618 gridleyg@aol.com

Quantitative Literacy Workshop Coordinator

Mark Otto (301) 497-5872 mark_otto@fws.gov

Membership Committee

John Czajka (202) 484-4685 jczajka@mathematica-mpr.com

Adam Safir (202) 691-5175 safir.adam@bls.gov

John Dixon (202) 691-7516 dixon_j@bls.gov

Fritz Scheuren (202) 320-3446 scheuren@aol.com

Timothy Kennel (301) 763-6795 timothy.l.kennel@census.gov

Herriot Award Committee

Jill Dever (202) 974-7846 jdever@rti.org

John Dixon (202) 691-7516 dixon.john@bls.gov

Jill Montaquila (301) 517-4046 montaqji@westat.com

WSS Committee on ASA Fellows

Marilyn Seastrom (202) 502-7303 marilyn.seastrom@ed.gov

Randy Curtin (301) 458-4172 lrc2@cdc.gov

Cynthia Clark

Fritz Scheuren (202) 320-3446 scheuren@aol.com

Shiskin Award Committee

Robert Parker (301) 467-7677 parkerrobertp@aol.com

John Greenless (202) 484-4685 greenless.john@bls.gov

Steven Paben (202) 691-6147 paben.steven@bls.gov

Maurine Haver maurine@haver.com

Paul Bugg paul_bugg@omb.eop.gov

Charles Hulten hulten@econ.bsos.umd.edu

Connie Citro ccitro@nas.edu

Thomas Mesenbourg

David Findley david.findley@ieee.org

Karen Pence karen.pence@frb.gov

Dennis Fixler dennis.fixler@bea.gov

Hansen Lecture Committee

Ron Fesco (202) 512-7791 fesco@gao.gov

John Czajka (202) 484-4685 jczajka@mathematica-mpr.com

Connie Citro (202) 334-3009 ccitro@nas.edu

Mark Harris (703) 877-8000 (ex 100) mark_harris@nass.usda.gov

Don Malec

Keith Rust (301) 251-8278 keithrust@westat.com

Gertrude Cox Award Committee

Keith Rust (301) 251-8278 keithrust@westat.com

Karol Krotki (202) 728-2485 kkrotki@rti.org

J. Michael Brick (301) 294-2004 mikebrick@westat.com

Marcus Berzofsky (919) 316-3752 berzofsky@rti.org

Jonaki Bose (240) 276-1257 jonaki.bose@samhsa.hhs.gov

Phillip Kott (301) 468-8281 pkott@rti.org

FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR

Items for publication in the **June, 2012** issue of WSS NEWS will be accepted thru the **15th** of the preceding month.

Email items to wss.editor@gmail.com.

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