WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

IN THIS ISSUE

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF WSS

It is a bit late to wish you all a Happy New Year, so I'll begin this letter by stating that WSS has a lot to offer for 2017!

January 31st was the first WSS seminar, entitled *Bayesian Analysis,* by Alyson Wilson of NC State. The connection to WSS was sponsored by the WSS Defense and National Security program area. Four upcoming seminars are listed on the WSS homepage, including a Sports Analytic Discussion, on February 16th, featuring Kevin Tenenbaum of the Baltimore Orioles and Daniel Stern of the Baltimore Ravens. This talk is organized by the WSS Statistics Education Committee along with the WSS Methodology Program. WSS student representative Arnold Saunders (GWU) will be chair. Gonzaga College High School kindly has donated use of its auditorium for this event. The first WSS short course of 2017, *Communicating Data Clearly,* by Dr. Naomi Robbins, is scheduled for April 21st.   I hope you can attend these and other WSS events. Details are in the newsletter and on the website.

Presidential Invited Address by John Thompson, Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, will be hosted by Mathematica on Tuesday, April 25th, from 12:30-2pm. We all have heard about big data, changes in society, and cost and confidentiality issues presenting both challenges and opportunities for data collection. The U.S. Census Bureau faces these on a massive scale in its demographic and economic surveys and census. I look forward to the talk and encourage you to put it on your calendar. Details will be forthcoming.

We welcome Jay Clark to the WSS board as a representative-at-large. Jay works at Westat and is filling an open seat. Representatives-at-large consider issues before the WSS board and have a voting role on the board. They often participate in WSS initiatives and activities. Feel free to contact Jay or our other reps-at-large, Mark Otto, Wendy Barboza, and Erin Tanenbaum, if you'd like to communicate on any issue to the board.

The 2016 Year finished off very well for WSS.   The 2016 Morris Hansen Lecture, featuring Nancy Bates of the U.S. Census Bureau, was held November 29th at the Jefferson Auditorium of the Department of Agriculture. It was attended by about 200 people, including members of the Hansen family, and was followed by a pleasant reception on the Whitten Building Patio. Details are posted on the website. Hope you can join us for the 2017 event at the end of this year.

The year-end Winter Social and Holiday Party occurred December 13th at the District ChopHouse & Brewery, in their Vault room. The event was attended by over 40 people, including at least seven presidents of WSS and two presidents of ASA (Barry Nussbaum and Jessica Utts). It was a pleasure to see many friends there. The ASA Committee on Chapters has provided $1000 to WSS as part of its Chapter Stimulus Program for 2016 in support of this event.

To close this letter, I want to make you aware of the several volunteer opportunities that are available for you to become involved in WSS. On the next page is information on these opportunities as well as a reminder that elections for WSS board positions are coming up. WSS Past-President Chris Moriarity is looking for candidates now. Please consider helping out and stepping up to support WSS.

Thanks very much and best regards.

~Mike Larsen, WSS President

OPEN VOLUNTEER POSITIONS IN WSS

Elected Positions
Elections for open board positions in WSS will occur this spring. Past President Chris Moriarity is gathering names of candidates now. The positions for which nominations are needed are President-Elect, Secretary, Representative-at-Large, and Methodology Program Chair. For the 2017 election, nominees for the President-Elect position will be accepted from the non-government sector. Please don't be shy about nominating yourself if you are interested!

Program Chairs
A WSS program chair works with the Methodology Section Chair, Pam McGovern, to organize seminars, panels, and courses and to help make WSS members aware through an email or item in the monthly newsletter of outside events in their areas of focus. Right now we have openings for program chairs in three areas: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Economics, and Public Policy.

Quantitative Literacy
The Quantitative Literacy Committee of WSS includes members who run the area poster competition, the Curtis Jacobs Award Competition, and workshops for local school teachers and judge at science fairs. The group needs a Quantitative Literacy Volunteer Coordinator to help recruit and organize WSS members to help with its various efforts. Please contact Dhuly Chowdhury on the board if interested.

Members' Spotlight
The Members' Spotlight feature in the newsletter presents a portrait of sorts of your fellow members. Tom Krenzke and John Finamore have been editors for this feature for a long time, but are stepping down. Wendy Barboza is continuing in this role. We would like a couple of volunteers to join in this effort as Members' Spotlight editors. Please contact Tom, John, or Wendy if interested.

Webpage
Jonathan Lisic and WSS past-president Chris Moriarity have been maintaining and improving the webpage. One major activity in the near future is preparing for the next WSS election. If you have some experience in web programming or are eager to learn through experience, then please consider volunteering to help with the WSS web page.

Mentoring
Mark Otto is leading the WSS effort to organize and run a mentoring program for members of WSS. There are two openings on the Mentoring Committee. The Mentoring Committee will be planning a new mentoring season for fall of 2017. Please contact Mark if you can help.

Please contact WSS President Mike Larsen (mlarsen@bsc.gwu.edu) if you have an interest in filling any of these vacancies.

Welcome New ASA Members!

The following new ASA/WSS members were identified in the most recent update of the WSS email list in January:

Emily J. Berg
Nicholas K. Beyeler
Christopher Adam Birster
Gary Bonnewell
Yanfeng Chen
Johnathan Child
Darina Chudnovskaya
Gregory Clark
Alexa Dibenedetto
Donna Ann Dietz
Min Feng
Douglas Friedman
Melinda Hess
Courtney Kennedy
Elliot Kim
Theresa Y. Kim
Valeriy Korostyshevskiy
Danya Murali
Marcela Delores Guerra Osorno
Amreeen Panjwani
Brett Patterson
Matthew Salomon
Mark Strayer
Hanyu Sun
Therri Usher
Maryann Warsi
Seneca Arvidson Widvey
Jingyuan Xie
Laura Yee
Kai Yu
Mingming Zhang
Chava E. Zibman
Stephanie Zimmer

Welcome to WSS!
Mike Larsen, WSS President
Chris Moriarity, WSS Past President
Linda Young, WSS President Elect

SEMINARS

Title: **Implementing the New OMB Cognitive Interviewing Standards and Guidelines**

Date/Time: **February 23, 2017, 10:00–11:30 am (ET)**

Speakers: Jennifer Madans & Kristen Miller, NCHS; Jennifer Edgar, BLS; Patty Goerman, Census; Bob Sivinski, OMB

Chair: TBD

Sponsor: WSS Methodology Section

Abstract: In October 2016, OMB issued
The Statistical Policy Directive No. 2 Addendum: Standards and Guidelines for Cognitive Interviews. This document provides seven standards for cognitive interviews conducted by, or on behalf of, the Federal government for statistical purposes, including the evaluation of a survey, instrument, or data collection method. These standards pertain to the design, conduct, analysis and publication of cognitive interview studies. Members of the FCSM Questionnaire Evaluation Methods Working Group that contributed to the new standards will present an overview of the development process, highlight key features of each standard, and discuss how these standards and guidelines are being incorporated at BLS, Census and NCHS. OMB will also describe how the standards will impact future cognitive interviewing clearance packages.

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 two days in advance of the seminar. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

WebEx: WebEx event address:

                    https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=mfce54a2e2f1db9d4c7f773702eaa2e07

For audio: Call-in toll-free number (Verizon): 1-866-865-9536 (US)

                    Call-in number (Verizon): 1-517-966-0857
                    (US) Attendee access code: 7441243

                    Note: Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx.

Title:	**rpms: An R Package for Modeling Survey Data with Regression Trees**
Date/Time:	**March 8, 2017, 12:00 – 1:30 pm (ET)**
Speakers:	Daniell Toth, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Chair:	TBD
Sponsor:	WSS Methodology Section

Abstract:

In this presentation, we introduce the R package **rpms** (Recursive Partitioning for Modeling Survey Data). The main function **rpms** fits a linear model to the data conditionally on variables selected through recursively partitioning. This application of recursive partitioning produces design consistent regression tree models of survey data with one-stage designs, accounting for any stratification and clustering, as well as unequal probability of selection. We test the properties of the algorithm using samples from a simulated population dataset and demonstrate it by modeling household level data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Expenditure survey. These applications demonstrate the easily interpretable structure and the ability of regression trees to handle large data sets with complex associations among the variables.

Location:

Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 9

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 two days in advance of the seminar. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

WebEx:

WebEx event address:
https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=mce6739c8bcff1244803ff27a74879dbe

For audio: Call-in toll-free number (Verizon): 1-866-865-9536 (US)
Call-in number (Verizon): 1-517-966-0857 (US)
Attendee access code: 744 124 3

Note: Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx.

Title:	**Human Trafficking Prevalence Estimation Methods in the United States: A Technical Evaluation**
Date/Time	**March 16, 2017** **12:30-2:00 pm**
Speaker:	Davina P. Durgana, PhD, is Senior Researcher and Statistician on the Global Slavery Index of the Walk Free Foundation.
Discussant:	TBA
Chair:	Theresa Harris, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program
Sponsors:	WSS Human Rights Statistics Program; ASA Statistics Without Borders; AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program; DC-AAPOR; Capital Area Social Psychological Association
Abstract:	This talk will summarize the collaborative efforts of the Walk Free Foundation and its partners to evaluate the technical and statistical merits of potential methods of estimating human trafficking prevalence in the United States. This presentation will solicit and encourage open discussion around the presented methods and will aim to foster a collaborative atmosphere of constructive criticism and feedback as the Walk Free Foundation and others formalize their recommendations for the best technical methods to estimate human trafficking at a national level in the United States. Some of the methods we will be discussing include Multiple Systems Estimation (MSE), Respondent Driven Sampling (RDS), and various online and phone-based survey methods.
Location:	American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), 1200 New York Avenue NW, Second Floor, Abelson/Haskins Meeting Room, Washington DC 20005-3928

Directions:　To register for the event and for event information, go to the website: https://www.aaas.org/event/human-trafficking-prevalence-estimation-methods-united-states-technical-evaluation.

Metro Accessible: Accessible from the Metro Center (Red, Orange, Silver, & Blue Lines) station. Take the Red, Orange, Silver, or Blue line to Metro Center and exit at the 12th and G exit. Walk one block north on 12th. The entrance to AAAS is on the northwest corner of 12th and H NW.

Parking: AAAS does not have visitor parking but there is pay parking in the area. We suggest using the Parking Panda app that locates parking in the vicinity (with costs of each place) and allows one to reserve. The entrance to AAAS is on the northwest corner of 12th and H NW.

Check in: Check in with the security desk in the lobby and take the stairs (or elevator) to the 2nd floor.

Brief Bio:　Davina P. Durgana, PhD is Senior Researcher and Statistician on the Global Slavery Index of the Walk Free Foundation. She was recently named the 2016 Statistical Advocate of the Year by the American Statistical Association and as a Forbes Top 30 Under 30 in Science for 2017 for her work on statistical modeling, human security theory, and human trafficking. She focuses on applying analytical models to understanding vulnerability, risk, and prevalence on the issue of human trafficking domestically and internationally. Dr. Durgana is also an Assistant Professor at SIT Graduate Institute in Washington, D.C. Her current work focuses on constructing human trafficking models and profiling vulnerability to this crime in the United States and around the world.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC

Title: **How to Avoid Some Common Graphical Mistakes**

Date/Time: **April 20, 2017**
         4:00-5:30 p.m.
         Informal reception to follow at East Street Café at Union Station

Speaker: Naomi B. Robbins, NBR

Chair: Kathleen Robens, Montgomery Blair High School

Sponsors: WSS Statistics Education Committee and WSS Methodology Section

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Rooms 9/10 (Please check board in case of change of room)

         BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

RSVP: 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 on Tuesday, April 18. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar.

Abstract: Good graphs are extremely powerful tools for communicating quantitative information clearly and accurately. Unfortunately, many of the graphs we see today are poor graphs that confuse, mislead or deceive the reader. This talk will describe a number of graphical mistakes and provide guidance for avoiding them.

         Note: The talk will be understandable to a wide audience, including high school and college students and faculty members, with only a knowledge of introductory statistics.

POC email: Carol Joyce Blumberg, cblumberg@gmail.com

         No remote access will be available for this seminar

CONFERENCE

FFC/2017: The 22nd Federal Forecasters Conference
The Potential for Big Data in Forecasting
Thursday, April 20, 2017

Big data coming from all sorts of new sources represents a new frontier in the data-driven analysis of social, physical, and economic trends. Clearly, there is potential for using big data to develop forecasts; however, many analysts are still more familiar with using traditional types of data and techniques to make forecasts and projections. As forecasters explore the potential for big data, there are important questions about the generalizability, specificity, and accessibility of these data and approaches that need to be answered. Please join us at the 22nd Federal Forecasters Conference where these and other forecasting questions will be discussed.

Location:
   Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference and Training Center
   2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
   Washington, DC 20212
Check-In: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Schedule: 9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
   (Plenary and concurrent session schedule to follow)
Register Online By:
   April 10, 2017
   https://www.eventbrite.com/e/federal-forecasters-conference-ffc2017-tickets-29076763382
   There is no charge for participation

Panelists:

Dr. Michael Horrigan, Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment, Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Dr. Krishna Rao, Director, Economic Product & Research of Zillow

Dr. Tara Sinclair, Associate Professor of Economics and International Affairs, The George Washington University and Senior Fellow at Indeed

SEEKING AWARD NOMINEES

The Gertrude M. Cox Award Committee is seeking nominees for
2017 Gertrude M Cox Award

- In memory of Dr. Cox (1900-1978), one of the founders of modern statistics, President of the American Statistical Association (1956)
- In recognition of early- to mid-career statisticians who have made significant contributions to areas of statistics in which Dr. Cox worked
- Sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society and RTI International

The award was established in 2003 through a joint agreement between the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and RTI International. The award annually recognizes a statistician in early to mid-career (less than 15 years after terminal degree) who has made significant contributions to one or more of the areas of applied statistics in which Gertrude Cox worked: survey methodology, experimental design, biostatistics, and statistical computing.

The award is in memory of Gertrude M. Cox (1900-1978). In 1945, Dr. Cox became director of the Institute of Statistics of the Consolidated University of North Carolina. In the 1950's, as Head of the Department of Experimental Statistics at North Carolina State College, she played a key role in establishing Mathematical Statistics and Biostatistics Departments at the University of North Carolina. Upon her retirement from North Carolina State University in 1960, Dr. Cox became the first head of Statistical Research Division at the newly founded RTI. She was a founding member of the International Biometric Society (IBS) and in 1949 became the first woman elected into the International Statistical Institute. She served as president of both The American Statistical Association (1956) and the IBS (1968-69). In 1975 she was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

The award is presented at the WSS Annual Dinner, usually held in June, with the recipient delivering a talk on a topic of general interest to the WSS membership before the dinner.

This award is made possible by funding from RTI International, and the recipient is chosen by a six-person committee - three each from WSS and RTI. This year's committee consists of WSS President Mike Larsen (co-chair), WSS Past President Chris Moriarity, and WSS President-Elect Linda Young; and Jill Dever, Phil Kott, and Karol Krotki (co-chair) from RTI. The award includes a $1,000 honorarium, travel expenses to attend the WSS Annual Dinner, and a commemorative WSS plaque. Past recipients, in chronological order: Sharon Lohr, Alan Zaslavsky, Tom Belin, Vance Berger, Francesca Domenici, Thomas Lumley, Jean Opsomer, Michael Elliott, Nilanjan Chatterjee, Amy Herring, Frauke Kreuter, Jerome Reiter, Jae Kwang Kim, and Bhramar Mukherjee.

Please email your nominations to Karol Krotki (kkrotki@rti.org) by **February 28, 2017** with a supporting statement and cv (or link).

If you have previously nominated a candidate and you wish that nomination to be reconsidered, please update the supporting materials.

ASA SPAIG Seeking Award Nominations to Recognize Successful Collaborations

The ASA SPAIG (Statistical Partnerships Among Academe, Industry, and Government**)** Committee is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the ASA SPAIG Award which was recently reinstated by the ASA Board of Directors. The SPAIG Award was established in 2002 to recognize outstanding partnerships between academe, industry, and government organizations, as well as to promote new partnerships among these organizations.

Have you seen great examples of collaboration? Are you part of an organization that has an effective partnership with another organization? Then we want your help. We want nominations that recognize excellence among collaborating organizations for the 2017 ASA SPAIG award.

Nominations are due by **March 1, 2017**. The winner will be recognized before the President's Invited Address at the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore, Maryland.

For more information on the award and the nomination form, please go to the award page on the ASA website: http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/Statistical-Partnerships-Among-Academe-Industry-and-Government-Award.aspx.

Additional information can also be found in the article in the January 2017 issue of Amstat News at: http://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2017/01/01/spaig-award/.

We look forward to your nominations!

The ASA SPAIG Committee

ASA
Statistical Partnerships Among
Academe, Industry & Government Committee
SPAIG

Nominations Sought for Julius Shiskin Award

Nominations are invited for the 2017 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics. This annual award, sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association, is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Contributions can be in development of new statistical measures, statistical research, use of economic statistics to analyze and interpret economic activity, development of statistical tools, management of statistical programs, or application of data production techniques.

The 2016 award recipient was John Abowd, Edmund Ezra Day Professor at Cornell University and currently Associate Director for Research and Methodology and Chief Scientist at the Census Bureau, for designing and implementing disclosure avoidance techniques that enable federal statistical agencies to greatly expand the availability of their data while preserving respondents' confidentiality and for his leadership at Cornell providing access to these data over the Internet.

This award was established in 1979 to honor Julius Shiskin who at the time of his death in 1978 was Commissioner of BLS. He earlier had served as Chief Statistician at the Office of Management and Budget and as Assistant Director at the U.S. Census Bureau. At Census he was instrumental in developing an electronic computer method for seasonal adjustment. At OMB he developed the policies that still govern the release of key economic indicators. At BLS he directed the comprehensive revision of the CPI, which included a new CPI for all urban consumers.

Nominations for the 2017 award are now being accepted. Individuals in the public or private sector from any country can be nominated. **Completed nominations must be received by March 21, 2017.** The award will be presented with an honorarium of $1000. A nomination form and a list of previous recipients are available from http://community.amstat.org/businessandeconomicstatisticssection/new-item/new-item.

For more information, please contact Thomas Evans, Julius Shiskin Award Committee Secretary, via e-mail at evans.thomas@bls.gov or call (202) 691-6354.

Roger Herriot Award

Roger Herriot was the Associate Commissioner of Statistical Standards and Methodology at the U.S. National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) when he died in 1994. Prior to his service at NCES, he also held several positions at the U.S. Census Bureau, including Chief of the Population Division. Soon after his death, the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association (ASA) along with the Washington Statistical Society (a chapter of ASA) established the Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics. The award is intended to recognize individuals or teams who, like Roger, develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data collection programs. Nominations are sought for the **2017 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career including:

- Dedication to the issues of measurement;
- Improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and
- Improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis.

The award is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals or teams at all levels within Federal statistical agencies, other government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions. As innovation often requires or results from teamwork, team nominations are encouraged. Team innovations often are more lasting, resulting in real paradigm shifts, not just one-off improvements. For an example, see the 1998 Herriot (team) award.

The recipient of the 2017 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association, and of the Washington Statistical Society. Roger Herriot was associated with, and strongly supportive of, these organizations during his career. The award consists of a $1,000 honorarium and a framed citation, which will be presented at a ceremony at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2017. The Washington Statistical Society may also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

Past Award Recipients:

1995 - Joseph Waksberg (Westat)
1996 - Monroe Sirken (National Center for Health Statistics)
1997 - Constance Citro (National Academy of Sciences)
1998 - Roderick Harrison (U.S. Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
1999 - Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNSTAT)
2000 - Donald Dillman (Washington State University)
2001 - Jeanne Griffith (OMB, NCES, NSF)
2002 - Daniel Weinberg (U. S. Census Bureau)
2003 - David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST)
2004 - Paula Schneider (U.S. Census Bureau)
2005 - Robert E. Fay III (U.S. Census Bureau)
2006 - Nathaniel Schenker (National Center for Health Statistics)
2007 - Nancy J. Kirkendall (Office of Management and Budget)
2008 - Elizabeth Martin (U.S. Census Bureau)
2009 - Lynda Carlson (National Science Foundation)
2010 - Katharine Abraham (University of Maryland)
2011 - Michael Messner (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
2012 - Paul Biemer (RTI International)
2013 - Exact Match Team (Social Security Administration, Census Bureau, and Internal Revenue Service)
2014 - Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics study; Abowd, Haltiwanger, Lane
2015 - Jennifer Madans (National Center for Health Statistics)
2016 - Thesia Garner (BLS) and Kathy Short (Census Bureau)

Nominations for the 2017 award will be accepted beginning in January 2017

Nominations for the 2016 award will be accepted beginning in **January 2017**. Nomination packages should contain:

Nomination packages should contain:
- A cover letter from the nominator that includes references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in Federal statistics. These contributions can be to methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of Federal statistics, and need not have been made by or while a Federal employee.
- Up to six additional letters in support that demonstrate the innovativeness of each contribution.
- A current vita for the nominee with current contact information. For team nominations, the vitae of all team members should be included.

The committee may consider nominations made for prior years, but it encourages resubmission of those nominations with updated information.
For more information, contact Dave Banks, Chair of the 2017 Roger Herriot Award Committee, at 919-684-3743 or banks@stat.duke.edu. **Completed packages must be received by April 1, 2017.** Electronic submissions to banks@stat.duke.edu in MS-Word or as a "pdf" file are strongly encouraged.

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award recognizes and encourages the mentoring of junior staff in the statistical community in Federal, State, or Local government. It is awarded annually to a supervisor, technical director, team coordinator, or other member of the Federal, State, or Local government statistical staff who is nominated by a supervisor and co-workers for his or her efforts in supporting the work and developing the careers of junior staff.

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award was established to honor Dr. Griffith, who died in August 2001 after working for more than 25 years in the Federal statistical system. Throughout her career, and especially in her latter senior management positions at the National Center for Education Statistics and the National Science Foundation, one of Jeanne's highest priorities was to mentor and encourage younger staff at all levels to learn, to grow, and to recognize and seize career opportunities as they came along.

The winning mentor(s) will be selected for his or her efforts in supporting the work and developing the careers of junior staff. Examples of typical mentoring activities include:

- Advising junior staff to help them create career opportunities, networking skills, and contacts for growth and development;
- Counseling junior staff and providing resources to help develop their technical writing, analysis, presentation and organizational skills and knowledge;
- Encouraging junior staff growth and career development through attendance and oral presentations at meetings with higher level officials, staffs of other agencies, professional associations, training courses, and conferences;
- Motivating junior staff and building self-confidence through feedback on their efforts, being a listener when that is needed, and creating a caring and supportive environment;
- Serving as a role model for junior staff through professional expertise, information and insights, balancing collegial and personal roles, and including everyone across rank, race, ethnicity, and seniority.

Nominations for the 2017 Award will be accepted beginning in January 2017. The nomination form and guidelines are available from the Government Statistics Section and the Social Statistics Section websites (see http://community.amstat.org/socialstatisticssection/awards/cosponsored/jeg)

Nominations are due by April 3, 2017 and the Award Committee will make its determination of the award winner by in May. The award will consist of a $1,000 honorarium, a citation, and a plaque, which will be presented at a ceremony arranged by the co-sponsors in June, 2017.

The nomination package must be mailed or emailed **no later than April 3, 2017**, to:
The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Committee
c/o The American Statistical Association
732 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1943
rick@amstat.org

If you have questions about the award, please contact **Rick Peterson** at rick@amstat.org or
(703) 684-1221, or the co-chairs of the Award Committee: **Brian Harris-Kojetin** at
bkojetin@nas.edu or Bill Mocovak at Mockovak.William@bls.gov.

Previous recipients of the Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award

Rich Allen (National Agriculture Statistical Service), 2003;
Beth Kilss (Internal Revenue Service), 2004;
Renee Miller (Energy Information Administration), 2005;
Martin O'Connell (U.S. Census Bureau), 2006;
Stephanie Shipp (National Institute of Standards and Technology at time of the award), 2007;
Rosemary D. Marcuss (Bureau of Economic Analysis), 2008;
Kevin Cecco (Internal Revenue Service) and Lillian S. Lin (Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention), 2009;
Deborah H. Griffin (U.S. Bureau of the Census), 2010;
Jenise L. Swall (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), 2011;
William Mockovac (Bureau of Labor Statistics) 2012;
Brian Harris-Kojetin (Office of Management and Budget) 2013.
J. Gregory Robinson (U.S. Census Bureau) and Kenneth Schoendorf (National Center for
Health Statistics) 2014.
Aldo "Skip" Vecchia (United States Geological Survey) 2015.
Diane L. Willimack (U.S. Census Bureau) 2016.

Sponsors of the Award

The Government Statistics Section (GSS) of the American Statistical Association manages the award. GSS would like to thank our co-sponsors:

- American Educational Research Association (AERA),
- Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS),
- National Opinion Research Center (NORC),
- Social Statistics Section, American Statistical Association,
- Washington Statistical Society, and
- Westat.

GSS also thanks the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy for its support and championing of this award.

Please contact Kevin Cecco at kxcecc00@gmail.com, if your organization would like to co-sponsor the award.

The Curtis Jacobs Memorial Prize For Outstanding Statistics Project

==> Deadline is Friday, May 26, 2017 <==

OPPORTUNITY

The Curtis Jacobs Award for outstanding statistics project is an opportunity for fun, experience, and recognition – great for college applications and teacher development. It aims to encourage middle school and high school students to gain an understanding of the design of statistical studies and their uses. One of the intents of the award is to bring awareness and reward to school teachers.

AWARDS

1st Place Awards (Middle School and High School Divisions)

Students	■ Cash prize of $100 per entry; ■ Complimentary invitation to Washington Statistical Society's annual dinner usually held in late June.
Teacher or Advisor	■ Invitation to American Statistical Association's (ASA) special Meeting Within a Meeting (MWM) with registration, commute, and meal expenses paid (up to a pre-set limit). Likely held in August 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland; ■ Complimentary invitation to the WSS annual dinner usually held in late June; ■ A plaque;
School	■ One-year free school membership to the American Statistical Association (ASA).

HELP AVAILABLE

To assist interested teachers, Washington area statisticians are available to visit interested classes to discuss types of projects and survey sampling. For more information on the Curtis Jacobs Award, teachers may contact Brian W. Sloboda   at bsloboda@email.phoenix.edu or Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov. An available source of information on surveys is the series of pamphlets: *What is a Survey? (*http://www.whatisasurvey.info/*)* published by the American Statistical Association.

Submitting a Project

Eligibility: The competition is open to students who attend a high school or middle school in the Washington, D.C. area who have not previously won the award. For students enrolled at a school, a school teacher or a school advisor needs to oversee the project. For students enrolled in home based learning, the instructor (parent or tutor) needs to oversee the project.

Rules: Students may work individually or in teams of up to four students. Subject matter is the choice of the participants. The students must collect original data and submit an approximately five-page typed report that includes an introduction, research questions or hypotheses, data collection and analysis methods, and conclusions. A copy of the data and questionnaire (or data collection form) must be enclosed with the project report. Individual schools are responsible for implementing informed consent policies involving data collection on persons younger than 18 years old. Entries become the property of the Washington Statistical Society and cannot be returned.

Types of Projects: The project should involve the design of a statistical study (preferably a survey) as a way of gathering information for making decisions, as a way to make comparisons among groups, or as a way of analyzing trends over time. **Note that science fair projects involving data collection and statistical analysis are often eligible for this competition; students are strongly encouraged to simply submit the associated report for a science fair project as an entry.** Two examples of data that students might collect are expenses associated with automobiles and money earned in part-time jobs held by classmates.

Steps: The steps involved in a typical project will include those found in many surveys or other statistical studies: define the objectives and the population of interest; determine an appropriate method of random sample selection and/or data collection approach; develop a questionnaire or data collection instrument; select a random sample and collect data; process completed questionnaires or data collection forms; analyze data and interpret results; and finally write a report.

Judging: Each entry will be judged according to the following criteria: creativity in the choice of topic and objectives; understanding of the steps needed to conduct a statistical analysis and how well those steps are executed; definition of the population; utilization of an appropriate sample selection methodology; thoughtfulness of the data collection (i.e., survey questions); analysis of the data and interpretation of study results; and the overall quality of the written report. Entries will be judged by members of the Washington Statistical Society.

Submitting a Project: The deadline for entry is <mark>Friday, May 26, 2017.</mark> To compete for the award, submit a pdf copy of the entry form (see reverse) and an approximately five-page typed report (with the questionnaire, if applicable, and the data attached) to: bsloboda@email.phoenix.edu or Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov.

Alternatively, submit a hard copy to:

Brian W Sloboda
Curtis Jacobs Entry
8710 Cameron Street, Unit 409
Silver Spring, MD 20910

After the submission deadline, an email will be sent confirming our receipt of your submission.

Background on the Curtis Jacobs Memorial Prize

The Curtis Jacobs Memorial Prize was established in 1991 to honor the memory of a former statistician of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Mr. Jacobs served as the chief statistician on many major Federal economic statistics programs, including the Consumer Price Index, which measures the rate of inflation in the American economy. The innovations he introduced are good examples of the practical uses of statistics and mathematics in improving the collection of data needed to inform public policy.

Curtis Jacobs Memorial Prize for Outstanding Statistics Project
2015-2016
Sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society
and the American Statistical Association

Entry Form
Please print clearly or type

Title of Project:_____

_____

Student name(s) on team: _____

_____

_____

Grade(s): _____

School: _____

_____

Address: _____

_____

Student/Parent email address: _____

School Teacher's name overseeing project:_____

Teacher's phone: _____

Teacher's email address: _____

Email completed form to bsloboda@email.phoenix.edu or Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov or mail to the address shown below.

Entries must be postmarked by the deadline date: **Friday, May 26, 2016**.

Brian W Sloboda
Curtis Jacobs Entry
8710 Cameron Street, Unit 409
Silver Spring, MD 20910

WSS MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

Washington Statistical Society
Member Spotlight
Introducing your fellow members and showcasing the diversity of the WSS membership

Meet WSS Member Carol House…

1. Where do you work and what do you do?
The Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) within the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.
Federal agencies, Congress, and other organizations come to the National Academies for scientific advice. When such advice is sought, the National Academies puts together a panel of experts from around the country to study and analyze the issues, and make recommendations. As a senior program officer in this organization, I direct projects that relate to statistics and/or measurement. My job involves ascertaining the different types of expertise needed in the project, and identifying and soliciting potential experts. I facilitate and provide guidance to the panel as it reviews the issues, assimilates the science, makes recommendations, and prepares a report. My projects have produced such reports as: "Measuring What We Spend: Toward a New Consumer Expenditure Survey"; "Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault"; "Measuring Research and Development Expenditures in the U. S. Nonprofit Sector."

2. What attracted you to your current position?
I retired from a wonderful career with the National Agricultural Statistics Service. It was not my intention to seek a second career. However, I have found this position and it has allowed me to use my expertise in measurement, and at the same time look at measurement issues from the needs of a wide variety of subject matter areas. It keeps the work fresh and exciting.

3. Finish this sentence: "I joined WSS …"
when I first worked as a statistician. Originally, I heard from colleagues about some of the WSS seminars and attended because I was interested in the topics. I quickly learned this was also a way to meet other statisticians and began to network beyond my agency. I believe it was important to the success and happiness in my career to be a part of a broader statistical community.

4. What is the most interesting statistical project you have worked on recently?
The **American Opportunity Study** (AOS) is conceptualized to create an intergenerational panel using existing data to study such important topics as occupational, social and economic mobility, as well as the effectiveness of social programs and policies. This will be done by developing the necessary linkages, at the person level between decennial censuses, important survey data such as the American Community Survey, and applicable administrative data, all within the Census secure administrative record data environment and in partnership with the existing and developing linkage infrastructure at the Census Bureau. The AOS is currently focusing on the 1990 census records because children in 1990 are now entering the workforce. Individual names were never captured electronically on the 1990 census, and we have examined the feasibility of scanning and optically reading these names from 120,000 reels of microfilm. At this point in the project, we have demonstrated the feasibility of this effort and are moving toward an operational phase.

5. What skills are most important for the next generation of statistics professionals?
Data are more abundant than ever before. However, the existence of data does not imply the existence of quality information. The next generation will need to work even harder than we did to help transform data into quality information. They will have to be able to work flexibly within a wide array of subject matters and with multiple sources of data. These sources will be overwhelming in quantity (in some cases), minimal in quantity (in some cases), and of varying degrees of quality (in most cases). Future statisticians will have to have excellent skills in listening, communicating, working within teams, data processing, and statistical modeling – just to name a few.

6. What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?
My initial major in college was aerospace engineering. I wanted to work in the space industry. However, the U.S. landed on the moon while I was an undergraduate and NASA had no other long term plan on the horizon. The job market was not good for aerospace engineering and I switched to mathematics, and later to statistics. I made a good choice, but still have a lot of interest in space travel.

7. What is your favorite song/artist/genre?
I have been a Leonard Cohen fan since I was in high school, and he is still my favorite. He passed away this year.

8. What is your favorite vacation spot?

We took a small boat (National Geographic) cruise in Alaska, and then spent a week hiking in Denali National Park. It would be pretty hard to beat this as a vacation, and I highly recommend it!

9. How do you spend your free time away from work?

I have grandchildren and I enjoy spending time with them. I enjoy movies and needlework. I also create Japanese flower arrangements (Ikebana), and have exhibited my arrangements on a couple of occasions.

10. Have you had any great career mentors? If so, what made them great?

The three most important mentors in my career were all WSS members: Charles Caudill, Richard Allen, and Barry Ford. Each of them was an excellent statistician, so I trusted and relied on their expertise and advice. In return, each had confidence in my ability, gave me interesting assignments, and supported my growth. They provided the right balance of guidance and independence, keeping me learning, moving in the correct direction, and having ownership in my work.

SPOTLIGHT A WSS MEMBER!

Washington Statistical Society's Spotlight on Members Program

The WSS Board of Directors has established a program to highlight members who have made or are making notable contributions to the work of their organization or their professional field of expertise. We know that WSS members are doing interesting work in the fields of statistics, survey methodology, and the social sciences. Through this program, we hope to spotlight the accomplishments of our fellow WSS members.

This is our first request for nominations, to be featured in an upcoming issue of WSS News. We are interested in featuring members at all levels of the employment spectrum including recent graduates, mid-career employees, and those seasoned veterans.

Please feel free to nominate more than one person or a team working together. You may also nominate yourself as well. The nominees must be members of the WSS and not currently affiliated with the Board.

Please provide us with the following information about your nominee or nominees.
1. Your name, email address, and telephone number
2. Name or names of nominee(s)
3. Organizational affiliation
4. Job title
5. Their contact information including email address and telephone number
6. A brief narrative describing the reasons for your nomination
7. A photo of the nominee, although not required, would be great be greatly appreciated

Please submit your nominations or direct any questions to, Wendy Barboza (Wendy.Barboza@nass.usda.gov), member of the WSS Board.

We look forward to hearing from you.

WORKSHOPS & SHORT COURSES

JPSM Short Courses

Leveraging New Technologies for Understanding Attitudes and Behaviors
MARCH 8-9, 2017
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC
Presented by Michael W. Link
Payment and Registration Due February 22, 2017
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=030817

Introduction to the Federal Statistical System
MARCH 29, 2017 (1-Day Course)
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC
Presented by Brian A. Harris-Kojetin and Hermann Habermann
Payment and Registration Due March 15, 2017
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=032917

Nonprobablity Survey Samples
APRIL 14, 2017 (1-Day Course)
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC
Presented by Courtney Kennedy
Payment and Registration Due March 31, 2017
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=041417

Introduction to Survey Estimation
MAY 1-2, 2017
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC
Presented by David Morganstein and Sunghee Lee
Payment and Registration Due April 17, 2017
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=050117

WSS Short Course
Communicating Data Clearly

April 21, 2017
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Dr. Naomi Robbins

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Conference rooms 1-3, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC

Communicating Data Clearly describes how to draw clear, concise, accurate graphs that are easier to understand than many of the graphs one sees today. The course emphasizes how to avoid common mistakes that produce confusing or even misleading graphs. Graphs for one, two, three, and many variables are covered as well as general principles for creating effective graphs. This short course will cover principles and methods of effective graphs. It is software agnostic and does not include software training.

About the Instructor:
Naomi B. Robbins is a seminar leader and consultant who specializes in the graphical display of data. She trains corporations and organizations on the effective presentation of data. She also reviews documents and presentations for clients, suggesting improvements or alternative presentations as appropriate. She is the author of *Creating More Effective Graphs* who recently served as Chair of the Statistical Graphics Section of the American Statistical Association. Dr. Robbins received her Ph.D. in Mathematical Statistics from Columbia University, M.A. from Cornell University, and A.B. from Bryn Mawr College. She had a long career at Bell Laboratories before forming NBR, her consulting practice.

Course Schedule:

8:15 - 9:00   Coffee, breakfast, and check in
9:00 - 9:25   **Introduction**
                          Introductions
                          Pie chart/dot plot quiz
                          What we mean by an effective graph

9:25 – 9:55	**Limitations of some common graph forms**

Pie charts
Charts with pseudo-3D effect
Stacked bar charts
Difference between curves
Area or bubble charts
Gauges
Donut charts

9:55 - 10:05	Break

10:05 – 10:35	**Human perception and our ability to decode graphs**

Sequential vs. pre-attentive processing
Gestalt laws
Cleveland's hierarchy

10:35 – 11:15	**Newer and more effective graphs in one and two dimensions**

Dot charts
Order in charts
Logarithmic scales
Box plots
Jittering
Strip plots
Smoothing
Sparklines
Bullet graphs
Time series
Four ways to plot time series
Components of a time series
Month or cycle plots

11:15 – 11:25	Break
11:25 – 11:55	**Newer and more effective graphs in three or more dimensions**

Trellis Displays
Scatterplot matrices
Mosaic plots
Parallel coordinate plots
Linked micromaps

11:55 – 12:15	**Plotting Likert and other rating scales**

What is wrong with most of the ways rating scales are plotted now?

12:15 - 1:15	Lunch (provided)
1:15 - 2:30	**General principles for creating effective graphs**

Visual clarity
Clear understanding of what is graphed

2:30 - 2:40	Break

2:40 – 3:20   **Scales**

          Must zero be included?
          When to use logarithmic scales
          Scale breaks
          Using two different scales (double-Y axes)

3:20 – 4:00   **Choosing colors for graphs**

          ColorBrewer color schemes
          Color Vision Deficiencies
          Simulating how those with color vision deficiencies will see figure
          Consideration of reproduction

4:00 - 4:10   Break

4:10 – 4:30   **Turning tables into graphs**

          Obesity example

4:30 – 5:00   **Before and after examples**

          Q&A

Advance registration:

          In addition to your RSVP here, please go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wss-short-course-communicating-data-clearly-tickets-31258112857 to register and pay for the class. Online registration will close on April 17, 2017; earlier if the course fills up.

Registration Fee:

Full-time students (at most 8): $52.24 advance, $72.24 at the door
WSS members: $164.99 advance, $184.99 at the door
All others: $216.24 advance, $246.24 at the door

Contact person:

Yang Cheng, 301-763-3287, yang.cheng@census.gov

FELLOWHSIP OPPORTUNITIES

2017 Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship

Support for Work Towards a Career in Government Statistics

Apply by April 1, 2017!

The Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship (WJSS) was created to honor the memory of a founding member of the GSS and a long-time contributor to federal statistics. Dr. Smith's federal career spanned four decades and included positions in the Office of Economic Opportunity, where he was responsible for the operational start-up of the Job Corps and evaluation of manpower development programs; the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in what was then the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, where he oversaw the policy research data center and directed the Income Survey Development Program (the predecessor to the Survey of Income and Program Participation); and the Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, where he directed energy modeling and data systems development and provided oversight of the Department's surveys of energy consumption in multiple sectors. After retiring from the federal government in 1983, Dr. Smith continued to play a role in federal statistics from the private sector, first as a visiting senior fellow at Mathematica Policy Research and then at Synectics for Management Decisions, Inc., before founding Harris-Smith Research, an operations research/management science consulting group, with Carl Harris. In 1997 Dr. Smith established the independent, nonprofit Harris-Smith Institutes to provide statistical research and a range of other services to other nonprofit organizations and governmental entities. He served as president of the organization until his death at the age of 75, in May 2000.

The WJSS was established by the GSS in 2001, with several other organizations recognized as Founding Sponsors. These include the Social Statistics Section (SSS) of ASA, which joined the GSS in 2005 as a primary sponsor of the award; the Caucus for Women in Statistics; the Washington Statistical Society; and both Mathematica and Synectics. In addition, upon its disbandment in 2002, The Harris-Smith Institutes donated a substantial sum to the scholarship fund, which achieved a milestone in 2004 by reaching $25,000, sufficient to establish an endowment through the ASA.

The WJSS is intended to encourage young statisticians to consider a career in government service. The WJSS Award provides funding of $1,000 to be used in ways that will advance the recipient's exposure to or experience with the application of statistics to problems relevant to any level of government. Past winners have used their awards to attend the Joint Statistical Meetings or other professional conferences; to take short courses or college classes on topics related to data analysis, measurement, or data quality; and to support aspects of their

continued public policy research. Funds may be used for travel, board, tuition or registration fees, or for the purchase of books, software, data sets, or other supporting materials for research projects.

The WJSS is targeted at students and others early in their careers who show an interest in government statistics. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent level of education. Membership in the GSS, SSS, or the ASA is not required. Applicants are asked to submit a proposal for the activity to be funded and to complete an application form (found on the GSS website at http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt) and provide two letters of recommendation.

Materials should be emailed to Jenny Guarino: jenny.guarino@dot.gov

Alternatively, applications can be mailed to:
Jenny Guarino
US Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

The application deadline for this year's award is April 1, 2017.

Members of the 2017 Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship Committee are:
Jenny Guarino (Chair), US Department of Transportation
Dudley Poston, Texas A&M University
Kevin Konty, NYC Department of Health

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:
- Relevance of the proposed activity to government statistics,
- Quality of the proposed activity,
- Innovation/ingenuity of the proposed project,
- Feasibility of completion of the activity,
- The applicant's career stage,
- and past performance as reflected in the letters of recommendation.

The award winner will be announced in May of 2017. All applicants will be notified by e-mail.

2017 ASA/NSF/BLS Fellowship Program

Are you interested in expanding your research to new and interesting domains? Are you doing research that could benefit the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)? If so, consider applying for our Research Fellow Program!

The program's main objective is to facilitate collaboration between academic scholars and government researchers in fields such as statistics, mathematics, economics, survey methodology, behavioral science, and other related fields. Research Fellows have unique opportunities to expand their awork to address some of the difficult methodological problems and analytic challenges BLS faces. Fellows are funded to conduct research at the BLS headquarters in Washington, DC, use BLS data and facilities, and work closely with BLS staff.

There is more information available on our website at http://www.bls.gov/osmr/asa_nsf_bls_fellowship_info.htm or in our brochure at http://www.amstat.org/careers/pdfs/ASANSFBLSFellowshipProgram.pdf.

Proposals are due January 2, 2017 with final decisions anticipated around April 15, 2017.

Fellowship applicants should have a recognized research record and considerable expertise in their area of proposed research. Applicants must submit a detailed research proposal, which will be evaluated on the applicability of the research to BLS programs, the value of the proposed research to science, and the quality of the applicant's research record. Applicants do not need to be U.S. Citizens, but they must be employed by a U.S. institution of higher learning or a non-profit institution (IRS code 501(c)(3) entity) and are expected to retain their position for the duration of the fellowship. U.S. Government employees are not eligible.

We encourage interested researchers to contact us before submitting a proposal, so we can provide assistance in tailoring the proposed topic to best utilize your skills and interests in addressing BLS issues.

The BLS coordinates our Research Fellow Program in cooperation with the American Statistical Association (http://www.amstat.org/) (ASA), under a grant from the National Science Foundation (http://www.nsf.gov/) (NSF).

Please contact Jeffrey Gonzalez (Gonzalez.Jeffrey@bls.gov) if you have any questions and please feel free to share this announcement with any colleagues who may have interest in the Fellowship Program.

GET INVOLVED!

Washington Statistical Society: Science fairs!

As you may know, the spring season brings science fairs to the region. The fairs showcase the talent and aspirations of the remarkable students in our schools. The Washington Statistical Society has traditionally provided invaluable community support to these important events by nominating and sending delegations of official judges, who serve as representatives of our profession.

WSS is issuing a call for volunteer judges for the five regional sciences fairs of 2017. Our judges work as a team at each fair to identify science projects that demonstrate excellence in investigation or use of statistical methods. **Every year, our junior high and high school students eagerly look forward to the opportunity to share their statistical expertise**, and our judges have always valued this rewarding experience.

washstat.org/science_fairs

Please take a moment to consider this important community service on behalf of the profession! We greatly appreciate your consideration and support of this important WSS community service.

If you are interested in serving as a WSS judge at one or more of the science fairs below, please contact Frank Yoon by email or phone.

FYoon@us.ibm.com   917-267-7562

All fairs take place on Saturday.

Northern Virginia Regional Science and Engineering Fair
Wakefield High School, Arlington, VA; March 4, 2017, 8:30 AM - 12 PM

DC STEM Fair
Dunbar High School, Washington, DC; March 11, 2017, 9 AM-1 PM

Prince George's Area Science Fair
Charles Herbert Flowers High School, Springdale, MD; March 18, 2017, 8:30 AM

Fairfax County Regional Science and Engineering Fair
Robinson Secondary School, Fairfax, VA; March 18, 2017

Montgomery County Science Fair
Food and Drug Administration White Oak Campus, Silver Spring
March 18, 2017, 9:30 AM-5 PM

Frank Yoon, WSS Science Fair Coordinator

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PROGRAMS, AND COMMITTEES

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	Carolyn Carroll	(202) 320-8709	carolyn@stattech.com
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Quality Assurance	Michael Yang	(301) 634-9492	Yang-Michael@norc.org
Social and Demographic Statistics	Promod Chandhok	(202) 366-2158	promod.chandhok@dot.gov
Statistical Computing	Xin He	(301) 405-2551	xinhe@umd.edu
Student Representative	Arnold Saunders		arnold_saunders@gwu.edu

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Committee	**Member**	**Telephone**	**E-mail**
Quantitative Literacy	Dhuly Chowdhury	(301) 770-8234	dchowdhury@rti.org
Short Courses	Yang Cheng	(301) 763-3287	yang.cheng@census.gov
WSS Newsletter Editor	Colleen Choi		wss.editor@gmail.com
Electronic Mail Committee	S.V. (Vince) Massimini	(703) 983-5893	svm@mitre.org
Employment Column Coordinator	Lisa Faustlin	303-396-5164	faustlin@yahoo.com
Financial Advisor and Audit Committee	Jonaki Bose	(240) 276-1257	jonaki.bose@samhsa.hhs.gov
	Keith Rust		RUSTK1@westat.com
Historian	Dwight Brock	(301) 517-4026	dwightbrock@westat.com
Social Arrangements Committee	Ranjana Kohli	(202) 552-6456	RKohli@mathematica-mpr.com
Video Conferencing	Dan Gillman	(202) 691-7523	gillman.daniel@bls.gov
Communications	Phil Kalina	(703) 725-6600	phil@philkalina.com
Web Master	Jonathan Lisic		washstat.webmaster@gmail.com
Curtis Jacobs Memorial Committee	Brian Sloboda	(202) 693-5904	Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov
Quantitative Literacy Poster Competition	Barnali Das	(301) 279-4593	barnalid33@gmail.com
Quantitative Literacy Volunteer Coordinator	VACANT		
Quantitative Literacy Workshop Coordinator	Mark Otto	(301) 497-5872	Mark.Ot2o@GMail.Com
Quantitative Literacy Science Fair Coordinator	Frank Yoon	(609) 945-6616	FRANK.YOON@TRUVENHEALTH.COM

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	John Dixon	(202) 691-7516	dixon_j@bls.gov
	Timothy Kennel	(301) 763-6795	timothy.l.kennel@census.gov
	Adam Safir	(202) 691-5175	safir.adam@bls.gov
	Fritz Scheuren	(202) 320-3446	scheuren@aol.com
Herriot Award Committee	(Gov Sec Rep) Al Gottschalck	(301) 763-5883	alfred.o.gottschalck@census.gov
	(Soc Sec Rep) David Banks	(919) 684-3743	banks@stat.duke.edu
	(WSS Rep) Mary Batcher		marybat1@verizon.net
WSS Committee on ASA Fellows	(Chair) Polly Phipps	(202) 691-7513	Phipps.polly@bls.gov
	Van Parsons	(301) 458-4421	vlp1@cdc.gov
	Cynthia Clark	(703) 556-8825	czfclark@cox.net
	Jill DeMatteis	(301) 517-4046	jilldematteis@westat.com
Shiskin Award Committee	(Chair) Robert Parker	(301) 467-7677	parkerrobertp@aol.com
	(Sec) Thomas Evans	(202) 691-6354	Evans.thomas@bls.gov
	Paul Bugg		paul_bugg@omb.eop.gov
	Connie Citro		ccitro@nas.edu
	Carol Corrado		Carol.corrado@conference-board.com
	Dennis Fixler		dennis.fixler@bea.gov
	Michael Horrigan		horrigan.michael@bls.gov
	Charles Hulten		hulten@econ.bsos.umd.edu
	William Bostic		William.g.bostic.jr@census.gov
	John Ruser		ruser.john@bls.gov
	Brian Bucks		brian.bucks@cfpb.gov

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	Morgan Earp	(202) 691-7387	earp.morgan@bls.gov
	Steven H. Cohen	(301) 634-9330	cohen.steveh@gmail.com
	(USDA Rep) Linda Young	(703) 877-8000 x100	mark_harris@nass.usda.gov
	(Westat Rep) Keith Rust	(301) 251-8278	keithrust@westat.com
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	(WSS Rep) Mike Larsen	(301) 881-9260	mlarsen@bsc.gwu.edu
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FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR

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Email items to wss.editor@gmail.com.

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