



WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

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WILL YOU JOIN US!



The Washington Statistical Society

cordially invites you to the

Cox Award Presentation

Dr. Elizabeth A. Stuart

Professor of Mental Health, Biostatistics, and Health Policy and
Management, and Associate Dean for Education,
Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

*Learning what works in populations for public health and public policy: The
role of statistics (and statisticians)*

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Speaker event commences at 4:00 PM

RTI International

701 13th St NW Suite 705, Washington, DC

- and -

WSS Annual Dinner

Dinner commences at 6:00 PM

Clyde's of Gallery Place, Piedmont Room
707 7th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

The Gertrude M. Cox Award is co-sponsored by RTI International

REGISTRATION

All are encouraged to attend both events regardless of WSS membership status.

Please register for each event you will be attending.

For the Cox Award Presentation, registration is free. The registration deadline is midnight on Monday, June 26. Register online at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-cox-award-presentation-tickets-34633639147>

For the Annual Dinner, advance registration is required. The dinner cost is \$60 for WSS Members, \$70 for nonmembers, \$30 for full-time students and children under 18. The online registration deadline is noon on Monday, June 26, earlier if the Piedmont Room seating capacity of 130 is reached. For registration with payment by check, mail name(s)/check(s)/phone and email contact information by Friday, June 23 to: Ranjana Kohli, Mathematica, 1100 First Street NE, Floor 12, Washington, D.C. 20002.

1. Online registration at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-wss-annual-dinner-tickets-34622104647>
2. Follow instructions in the online registration form to pay by credit card or PayPal (if you have a PayPal account). Note: it is only necessary to supply a name for each registration, address is not required.
3. After completing registration, and allowing some time for processing, please confirm that you have received your ticket(s) by email from Eventbrite. Please contact Ranjana Kohli (RKohli@mathematica-mpr.com) if you do not receive your ticket(s).

BUFFET DINNER MENU

Salads (V,G)

Clyde's Seasonal Salad
Caesar Salad

Entrees

Seasonal Vegetarian Pasta (V)
Pan Roasted Salmon (G)
Herb Roasted Chicken (G)

Sides (V)

Parmesan Garlic Roasted Potatoes
Quinoa and Mushroom (G)

Dessert

Assorted Petit Pastries

Beverages

Sodas, Iced Tea
Hot Tea and Fresh Brewed Coffee
Host Bar

(V) denotes vegetarian food items
(G) denotes gluten free food items

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF WSS

Congratulations! WSS Members Elected as Fellows of the American Statistical Association

We are pleased to announce that eight members of the Washington Statistical Society were recently elected as Fellows of the American Statistical Association. ASA Fellowship is a broad recognition of an individual's contribution to the field of statistics, the statistical profession, and the ASA. Congratulations to each of our new Fellows, who continue the tradition of strong WSS representation among those elected as Fellows. These new Fellows will be honored at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore.

- Michelle C. Dunn, National Institutes of Health
- Cathy Ann Furlong, Integrity Management Services, Inc.
- Joe Fred Gonzalez, National Center for Health Statistics
- Ron S. Jarmin, U.S. Census Bureau
- Thomas R. Krenzke, Westat
- Jennifer D. Parker, National Center for Health Statistics
- Katherine J. Thompson, U.S. Census Bureau
- Daniell S. Toth, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The WSS Committee on ASA Fellows works to identify members who are deserving of this honor and coordinate the preparation and submission of WSS nominations. Everyone is encouraged to identify colleagues who would be strong candidates. It is never too early to get the nomination process started. Please contact committee chair Polly Phipps at phipps.polly@bls.gov with suggestions for nominees or questions about the process.

– Mike Larsen
WSS President 2016-17

– Cynthia Clark
– Jill DeMatteis
– Van Parsons
– Ruth Pfeiffer
– Polly Phipps
WSS Committee on ASA Fellows 2016-17

2017 WSS Election Results

The WSS election closed on May 18. A total of 300 ballots were cast; 299 electronic, 1 paper. The new members of the WSS Board for the 2017-2018 term are:

President-elect: Tom Krenzke, Westat

Representatives-At-Large: Theresa Kim, Ph.D., UMD, 2017, & Lisa Mirel, National Center for Health Statistics

Methodology Section Chair-elect: John Abowd, U.S. Census Bureau

Secretary: Will Cecere, Westat

I extend my thanks to all of the WSS members who agreed to be nominees, and to the WSS members who provided nominations. I want to give special recognition to Jonathan Lisic, who was the main architect of this year's election system. Jonathan's efforts allowed WSS to administer the election for the first time since 2013. WSS thanks Westat for kindly administering the 2014-2016 WSS elections, free of charge.

I extend my congratulations to all of the new 2017-2018 WSS Board members.

Chris Moriarity, Past-President

Welcome to new ASA/WSS members

The following new ASA/WSS members were identified in the most recent updates of the WSS email list in March and April:

Shayrea Cade
Devi Kalyani Chelluri
Chen Chen
Isaac K. Dompreeh
Khoa Dong
Ethan Ertel
Harold Levi Gomes
Timothy Graham
Scott F. Grey
Adriana P. Hernandez
Philip Jarrett
Alicia Lloro
Rhoderick N. Machezano
Tejesh Pradhan
Tom Stefanick
Timothy Trudell

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

CONFERENCE



Call for Presentation and Poster Session Abstracts Summer Conference Preview/Review 2017

**Hosted by the DC-Baltimore Chapter of the American Association for Public
Opinion Research and
the Washington Statistical Society
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC**

July 24, 2017

We know you can't travel to every conference, so DC-AAPOR and WSS are teaming up once again to bring you a sample of exemplary presentations (both talks and posters) taking place at this year's national and international conferences. At the 2017 Summer Conference Preview/Review, you will get the opportunity to share your work, hear what others are doing, and connect with colleagues.

We are currently seeking presenters (both talks and posters) who presented or will be presenting at the following 2017 conferences:

- American Association for Public Opinion Research Conference
- Joint Statistical Meetings
- European Survey Research Association Conference
- International Field Directors and Technologies Conference
- International Total Survey Error Workshop
- International Workshop on Survey Nonresponse
- Women in Statistics and Data Science Conference
- World Association for Public Opinion Research Conference
- Other survey methodology conferences

We also invite speakers whose papers were accepted but who were unable to present.

Please submit abstracts that have already been prepared, submitted, and accepted to a 2017 conference. If you would like **to submit a presentation or poster for consideration**, please fill out the following form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017summerconferencesubmission>. Submissions close on June 16th. Individuals will be notified of acceptance decisions by June 23rd.

Registration for the conference will open **June 23rd**, and **early-bird registration will end July 13th**. Registration is open to everyone, and presenters receive a discount. Registration prices are as follows:

- Presenters:
 - Students - \$25.00
 - Everyone else - \$40
- Early Bird (on or before July 13th):
 - Student/Retirees - \$35.00
 - DC-AAPOR and WSS Members - \$50.00
 - Non-Members - \$85.00
- Late Registration (after July 13th)
 - Student/Retirees: \$60.00
 - DC-AAPOR and WSS Members: \$75.00
 - Late Non-Members: \$100.00

For questions, please contact the conference chairs:
Paul Scanlon pscanlon@cdc.gov
Pam McGovern pam.mcgovern@nass.usda.gov

CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNER!

Katherine Wallman to Receive 2017 Julius Shiskin Award



Katherine Wallman, recently retired after 24 years as U.S. Chief Statistician at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), has been selected to receive the 2017 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics. The award recognizes unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy.

Ms. Wallman is recognized **for strengthening the independence of U.S. statistical agencies; expanding confidentiality protection; improving the quality and usability of official statistics; increasing collaboration among the statistical agencies; and improving the reliability and comparability of official statistics throughout the world.**

Her service as the U.S. Chief Statistician has greatly contributed to the development of all types of statistics, to the effective management of statistical programs, and to improving users understanding of official statistics. In addition to strengthening the independence of U.S. statistical agencies by issuing new Statistical Policy Directives, expanding confidentiality protection with new legislation, and improving the reliability and comparability of official statistics throughout the world, she has defended the budgets of economic and demographic statistics programs, and has championed the training of the future leaders of the federal statistical system. Under her successful leadership, Ms. Wallman directed important cross-agency projects, a major accomplishment given that each of the main U.S. statistical agencies report to their parent cabinet level agencies -- agencies that often had different views on the importance of those projects. Ms. Wallman unified this decentralized system through her forward-looking vision and leadership; her ability to build respect and trust at all levels of the agencies, OMB, and the White House; and her grace, charm, good humor.

Ms. Wallman is the 45th recipient of the Award; she will be honored at events hosted by the three sponsors of the award: the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Section of the American Statistical Association.

The independence of U.S. statistical agencies was greatly strengthened under her leadership by the introduction of two new Statistical Policy Directives. Directive No. 1, "Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units," which was issued in December 2014, is based on the National Academy of Sciences "Principles and Practices for a Statistical Agency," and provides

OMB's endorsement of these practices, which include requirements for Departments to allow their statistical agencies to operate independently. Directive No. 4, "Release and Dissemination of Statistical Products Produced by Federal Statistical Agencies," which was issued in March 2008, is modeled on Statistical Policy Directive No. 3, which covers the release and dissemination of the principle economic indicators. It directs agencies to follow procedures to protect the integrity and independence of other statistical products. Ms. Wallman strongly supported the Directive No. 3, which requires advance public notification of release dates, timely preparation of news releases, and restrictions on pre-release access. The new Policy Directives have enabled statistical agencies to operate independently and to provide the public with assurances that the products of these agencies will be objective and reliable.

As a result of the effort led by Ms. Wallman, the "Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002" was enacted. The Act, known as CIPSEA, greatly enhanced the confidentiality of the official statistics and allowed limited data sharing of business information. This Act provided all statistical agencies confidentiality provisions similar to those for data collected by the Census Bureau under Title 13 and allowed limited data sharing of business information among the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). After its passage, Ms. Wallman worked with these agencies and the Council of Economic Advisers to enact additional legislation ("Data Synchronization") that would permit the Census Bureau to share selected business tax information with BLS and BEA and led to further improvements in the quality of economic statistics.

To improve the quality and usability of federal economic statistics, Ms. Wallman led the development and implementation of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which was adopted in 1997. This accomplishment required cooperation among U.S. statistical agencies, as well as with Canada and Mexico. She established an organizational structure to develop the system for the United States and led the successful negotiations with the other countries. NAICS fundamentally changed the way economic activity was classified, recognized the growing importance of services, and provided a framework for measuring the 21st Century economy. It also made U.S. economic statistics close to fully comparable with those of Canada and Mexico to the great benefit of users in the three countries. Ms. Wallman in 2002 also championed development of the North American Product Classification System (NAPCS), a comprehensive market based framework for classifying goods and services. She facilitated efforts of BEA, BLS, and the Census Bureau, as well as the statistical offices of Canada and Mexico, to collect product data in the Economic Census that met the needs of business and academic users, and also met the needs of the Producer Price Index program and the National Accounts. The Census Bureau is planning to implement NAPCS products for all sectors in the 2017 Economic Census.

Ms. Wallman increased agency collaboration through her leadership as chair of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) and through her direction of the OMB-sponsored Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM). The ICSP, recognized in legislation in 1995, consists of the heads of the principal statistical agencies and is OMB's main vehicle for coordinating cross-cutting statistical work, for exchanging information about agency programs and activities, and for obtaining advice and counsel for OMB on statistical matters. In the past year, topics included data systems modernization, alternative sources for official statistics, supporting the new Commission on Evidence-based Policymaking, training the workforce for the future federal statistical system, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act, and Federal Statistical Research Data Centers. The ICSP meets monthly and, under her direction, has worked effectively to implement OMB statistical policy decisions and to improve federal statistical programs. The FCSM, founded in 1975, also assists OMB in carrying out its role in setting and coordinating statistical policy. It

informs and advises OMB and on the need for and content of methodological and statistical policies, and promotes and supports cooperative research across agencies on issues relevant to federal statistics. It also publishes Statistical Policy Working Papers and proceedings from FCSM seminars and conferences, which provide a forum for statisticians across federal agencies, as well as users of federal statistics, to engage on opportunities and issues affecting the federal statistical system's ability to meet its mission.

In addition to her many contributions to the U. S. statistical system, Ms. Wallman also demonstrated her leadership and considerable diplomatic skills to update and harmonize the international statistical system as U.S. representative to international statistical organizations. She served as chair of the UN Statistical Commission during 2004 and 2005; as chair of the Conference of European Statisticians, UN Economic Commission for Europe, from 2003 to 2007; and as a vice chair of the Statistics Committee, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, from 2009 to 2011. One example of her leadership was the adoption by the Statistical Commission of the "Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics," which was an important step for many countries in establishing and improving statistical services, and in supporting the independence of statistical offices. She also helped lead projects ranging from updating the System of National Accounts to updating the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts.

Prior to becoming Chief Statistician, Ms. Wallman served for more than a decade as the first Executive Director of the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS), where she was an early supporter of the Joint Program for Survey Methodology (JPSM) and the Census Bureau's Research Data Centers. Her continued support of the JPSM enabled the inclusion of short courses in economic statistics, as well as degree programs in statistical and survey methods that are central to the functioning of agencies producing economic statistics. The JPSM probably would not exist without her leadership and effective urging for funding across the agencies.

Ms. Wallman twice received the Presidential Meritorious Executive award, the OMB Robert G. Damus Award, the Population Association of America's Excellence in Public Service Award, and the American Statistical Association (ASA) Founders Award. She is an elected fellow of the ASA and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She served as ASA president and is a founding member of the International Association for Official Statistics. She received a B.A. from Wellesley College.

Prepared by:
Robert P. Parker
Chair, Julius Shiskin Award Selection Committee
<Parkerrobertp@aol.com>

May 15, 2017

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 Will Cecere...

Where do you work and what do you do?

I am currently a Senior Statistician in the statistical group at Westat and have been here for almost four years after working 8 years for the National Agricultural Statistics Service. I primarily work on sampling and weighting activities but try to do some Small Area Estimation and other modeling when I get a chance. I have enjoyed working on a variety of projects in transportation, education, Veteran's affairs, and health.

What attracted you to your current position?

I was initially impressed with the collection of senior statisticians as a great group to learn from and the management organization. The more I learned about it and talked with people that worked there, I felt it was a great fit for me from both a technical and personality standpoint.

Finish the sentence: "I joined WSS to..."

keep connected to friends and former colleagues in addition to meeting new statisticians. I had been attending seminars prior to being a member but I felt it would be better to be an active participant in the community. So far, it has been the best avenue to stay professionally connected in the area.

Why did you join the statistics profession?

I had always loved math growing up but felt it would be difficult to make a career in pure mathematics once I got to college. I had a particularly influential undergraduate advisor at Virginia Tech named Michelle Marini who convinced me that statistics was the way to go. I had always loved many of the sciences in school but could never decide which one I liked best. I think that statistics is a great option for someone who would like to dip their hand in many fields of science.

What other profession would you like to attempt?

I was very close to majoring in music performance. I had spent much time growing up playing the Viola. I participated in orchestra and chamber music settings and attended several music festivals in preparation for a

career in music. I think I saw a more stable career path in the statistics profession but I still enjoy playing on occasion as an amateur.

If you could have dinner with 3 people from history, who would they be?

After a recent family trip to Italy, I was pretty enamored by the works of the great artists and architects from the renaissance period. I would have to pick the underrated Filippo Brunelleschi for his invention of linear perspective, Raphael Sanzio for clarity of composition and, of course, Michelangelo Buonarroti for his mastery of the human form.

What was the last book that you read?

The Origin of Science and the Science of Its Origin. This was a fascinating read from a physicist named Stanley Jaki, who spent the later part of his career as a historian and philosopher of science. He took an interesting approach to his studies by examining past cultures and diagnosing why modern science arose when and where it did.

What is your favorite vacation spot?

I've always been a big fan of the National Park Service. Among my favorites that I have visited would be the Grand Tetons, Zion, and Yosemite National Parks for their hiking, camping, and general grandeur.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I have two daughters, ages 2 and 9 months. Almost all of my spare time is spent with them and my lovely wife. We enjoy musical activities, hiking, and trips to the beach.

Have you had any great career mentors?

I have been fortunate in having help from many great individuals. Phil Kott and Jaki McCarthy were very helpful to me when I worked at NASS and encouraged my work there. I was fortunate enough to work with Malay Ghosh when he was a contractor with NASS and he offered a great balance of teaching and independent exploration. He also helped guide me to Westat. Finally, David Morganstein at Westat has been very helpful with career guidance the last few years.

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 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.

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PROGRAMS, AND COMMITTEES

Voting Members			
Office	Name	Telephone	E-mail
President	Mike Larsen	(301) 881-9260	mlarsen@bsc.gwu.edu
Past President	Chris Moriarity	(301) 270-3416	cdm7@cdc.gov
President-Elect	Linda Young	(352)281-6469	Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov
Secretary	Darcy Miller	(202) 690-2562	Darcy.Miller@nass.usda.gov
Treasurer	Jill Dever	(202) 974-7846	jdever@rti.org
Representative-at-Large	Mark Otto	(301)497-5872	Mark.Ot20@gmail.com
	Jay Clark	(240) 453-2762	jayclark@westat.com
	Wendy Barboza	(202) 720-4503	Wendy.Barboza@nass.usda.gov
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Council of Chapters Representative	Dhuly Chowdhury	(301) 770-8234	dchowdhury@rti.org
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Economics	VACANT		
Human Rights	Michael P. Cohen	(202) 232-4651	mpcohen@juno.com
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Student Representative	Arnold Saunders		arnold_saunders@gwu.edu

Non-voting Members – Committees and Other Board Members			
Committee	Member	Telephone	E-mail
Quantitative Literacy	Dhuly Chowdhury	(301) 770-8234	dchowdhury@rti.org
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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

Non-voting Members – Committees and Other Board Members			
Committee	Member	Telephone	E-mail
Membership Committee	John Czajka	(202) 484-4685	jczejka@mathematica-mpr.com
	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
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Shiskin Award Committee	(Chair) Robert Parker	(301) 467-7677	parkerrobertp@aol.com
	(Sec) Thomas Evans	(202) 691-6354	Evans.thomas@bls.gov
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	John Ruser		ruser.john@bls.gov
Brian Bucks		brian.bucks@cfpb.gov	

Non-voting Members – Committees and Other Board Members			
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Hansen Lecture Committee	Barry Graubard	(202) 276-7316	graubarb@mail.nih.gov
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	Jill Dever		
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	Kathleen Robens	(301) 915-5757	Kathleen_c_robens@mcpsmd.org

FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR

Items for publication in the **August, 2017** issue of WSS NEWS will be accepted thru the **30th of the preceding month.**

Email items to wss.editor@gmail.com.

The authors are responsible for verifying the contents of their submissions. Submissions requiring extensive revisions on length and/or contents will be returned. Announcements with track changes will not be accepted.

Please submit all materials as an attachment in **MS WORD** or **plain text**. Submissions in any other format will be returned.

PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR ITEMS IN PDF OR IN THE BODY OF AN EMAIL.