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23 FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR
First, I am grateful to the WSS members who so readily agreed to be nominated, and to the WSS members who provided nominations. Thanks to Tom Mule and Darcy Miller who served on the nominating committee. The efforts of WSS Webmaster Chris Moriarity were invaluable to facilitating the election via the website, and thanks to colleagues at Westat who supported the election process, namely Kavitha Acharya and Alex McIntosh.

The WSS election closed on May 29 and total of 392 ballots were cast. Below are the newly elected members of the WSS Board for the 2018-2019 term.

**President-elect:** Eileen O’Brien  
*(Energy Information Administration)*

**Treasurer:** Dhuly Chowdhury  
*(RTI International)*

**Communications Officer:** Leanna Moron  
*(Child Trends)*

**Methodology Program Chair-elect:** Nick Beyler  
*(2M Research Services)*

**Representatives-At-Large:**  
Nick Hart  
*(Bipartisan Policy Center)*

**Michael Messner**  
*(Environmental Protection Agency)*

I extend my congratulations to all of the new 2018-2019 WSS Board members.  
~ Tom Krenzke, President-elect
June 27, 2018

The Washington Statistical Society
cordially invites you to the

Cox Award Presentation

Dr. David Haziza
Full Professor, Département de Mathématiques et de Statistique, Université de Montréal

Weighting in Surveys: An Overview
- and -

Annual Dinner

Speaker event commences at 4:00 PM
RTI International
701 13th St NW Suite 750,
Washington, DC

Dinner commences at 6:00 PM
Clyde’s of Gallery Place
707 7th Street NW, Washington,
DC 20001
Piedmont Room

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

Salads (V)
Mixed Green Salad, Caesar Salad

Entrees
Seasonal Vegetarian Pasta (V), Pan-Roasted Salmon, Herb Roast Chicken

Sides (V)
Parmesan Garlic Roasted Potatoes
Asparagus

Dessert (V)
Assorted Petit Pastries

Beverages
Sodas, Iced Tea, Coffee
Cash Bar

(V) denotes vegetarian food items
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 25. Register online at: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-cox-award-presentation-tickets-46737198218](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-cox-award-presentation-tickets-46737198218)

*For the Annual Dinner*, advance registration is required. The dinner cost is $60 for WSS Members, $70 for nonmembers, $30 for WSS Members within five years of their degree, and $10 for full-time students and children under 18. The online registration deadline is midnight on Sunday, June 24, earlier if the Piedmont Room seating capacity of 130 is reached.

1. Online registration at: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wss-annual-dinner-tickets-46595361982](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wss-annual-dinner-tickets-46595361982)
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 Linda J Young (Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov) if you do not receive your ticket(s).
WELCOME NEW ASA/WSS MEMBERS

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

Andrea Barbo
Tatiana Dyachenko
Jingxian Huang
Martha Rozsi McRoy
Alexandra Michel
Mary E. Rudis
Eduardo Antonio Trujillo Rivera
Gerald White

Welcome to WSS!
Linda Young, WSS President
Mike Larsen, WSS Past President
Tom Krenzke, WSS President Elect
CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS!

Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Selection Committee is pleased to announce this year’s awardees:

**Carol Gotway Crawford, Director,**
Center for Design, Methods and Analysis,  
Applied Research and Methods (ARM) Team,  
U.S. Government Accountability Office

and

**Howard Hogan,**
Chief Demographer, U.S. Census Bureau

This recognition is awarded annually to a supervisor, technical director, team coordinator, or other member of federal, state, or local government statistical staff for his or her efforts in supporting the work and developing the careers of junior statisticians.

A ceremony to officially present the award and to celebrate the recipients’ accomplishments is scheduled for Wednesday, July 11th, at 5:15 pm in the Janet Norwood Conference and Training Center (JNCTC) at BLS (2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE). Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

Please RSVP to Stella Godbolt (Godbolt.Stella@bls.gov) by noon on Tuesday July 11th; we need your name and affiliation for the list at the guard station.

We recommend taking Metro to Union Station. If driving, parking is available at Union Station and nearby garages. Please allow time to pass through security.

Direct any questions to Bill Mockovak at Mockovak_W@bls.gov. We hope you can attend.
Gertrude M. Cox Award
David Haziza

The Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and RTI International are pleased to announce that David Haziza, Full Professor, Département de mathématiques et de statistique, Université de Montréal has been chosen as this year’s recipient of the Gertrude M. Cox Award.

Since obtaining his PhD in 2005 (Carleton University), David has contributed substantially to the statistical profession, specifically in the area of survey statistics. His contributions have significantly advanced the science and methods available to survey statisticians and practitioners, by addressing important open issues in survey estimation and inference. His primary focus has been on nonresponse adjustments (weighting, imputation), but he has also worked on problems in variance estimation, robust and doubly robust estimation, and design. His work has appeared in both traditional survey outlets as well as in general statistics journals, indicating its broad appeal and high quality. In addition to his academic position, David actively collaborates with Statistics Canada, thus giving him a wide perspective on survey problems and solutions. Finally, his active participation in both the French- and English-speaking statistical communities represents yet another contribution he makes to the international statistical profession.

David will deliver the Cox Award Talk at the downtown DC office of RTI International on the afternoon of June 27, 2018, immediately preceding the WSS Annual Dinner (see page 2 to 4 for details).

Weighting in Surveys: An Overview

Surveys are widely used by a variety of professions and disciplines including but not limited to national statistical offices (NSO); environmental, behavioral, and social sciences; and polling market research firms. Typically, the aim is to estimate finite population parameters, which are those describing some aspect of the finite population under study. Most often, the data collected are stored in a rectangular data file, each row corresponding to a sample unit and each column corresponding to a survey variable. Made available on the data file is a column of final weights. This set of weights constitutes a weighting system. The idea is to construct a single weighting system applicable to all survey variables. The typical weighting process involves three major stages. The presentation will provide a critical overview of the various stages involved in a typical weighting process used by NSO’s.
The Gertrude M. Cox award was established in 2003 through a joint agreement between the Washington Statistical Society and RTI International for the purposes of recognizing statisticians in early to mid-career (roughly no more than 15 years after terminal degree) who have already made significant contributions to statistical practice.

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.

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. The award includes a $1,000 honorarium, travel expenses to attend the Cox Award presentation/WSS Annual Dinner, and a commemorative plaque containing the WSS logo. Past recipients have been 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, Bhramar Mukherjee, and Elizabeth A. Stuart.
Barry Bosworth, Senior Fellow in the Economics Studies Program and Robert V. Roosa Chair in International Economics at the Brookings Institution, and Danny Pfeffermann, Director of Israel’s Central Bureau of Statistics and Professor of Statistics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel and the University of Southampton, UK, have been selected to receive the 2018 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.

Dr. Bosworth is recognized for conducting research using key federal government statistical programs to study topics such as capital formation, saving, and productivity growth, and for advising the Statistical agencies to improve these programs. Professor Pfeffermann is recognized for collaborating with statistical agencies around the world to improve several major programs such as time series small area estimation, estimation of mean square error of seasonally adjusted and trend estimators, and modeling of complex survey data, accounting for informative sampling and nonresponse.

Bosworth and Pfeffermann become the 46th and 47th recipients of the Award; they will be honored at events hosted by the three sponsors of the award: the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics (NABE), and the Business and Economics Section of the American Statistical Association.

~Robert Parker
Chair, Julius Shiskin Award Selection Committee
May 15, 2018
parkerrobertp@aol.com
Get Involved!

Triple-A & S Needs You!

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) needs STEM professionals to assist K-12 teachers in the DC metro area during the 2018-19 school year. The details of the collaboration are worked out between the teacher and the volunteer, and may involve giving demonstrations, assisting in lab experiments, lecturing on special topics, assisting with homework, etc. The hours are flexible, and volunteers attend a one-day orientation session before being assigned to schools. To see how volunteers are assisting their teachers, view the video clips at www.stemvolunteers.org. If you care about K-12 STEM education and have time to share your knowledge with students and teachers, please send a note to bcalinge@aaas.org with your home address, or call 202-326-6629.
Meet WSS Member Dan Kasprzyk...

Where do you work and what do you do?
I am a Senior Fellow at NORC at the University of Chicago. I worked for 30 years in the Federal government at agencies such as the National Security Agency, the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the Department of Health and Human Service, the Social Security Administration, the Census Bureau, and the National Center for Education Statistics. I then worked in the private sector for Mathematica Policy Research and, finally, for NORC at the University of Chicago. I retired about 4 years ago; however, I continue to lead a small NORC project for the National Center for Education Statistics. I also consult occasionally for NORC on projects and proposals. Being retired is quite enjoyable, but I do enjoy remaining active in the statistical community – even if it is a limited activity.

What attracted you to your current position?
After leaving government about 15 years ago, I worked in the private sector - the last five years with NORC. I went to NORC as the Director for the Center for Excellence in Survey Research. The working environment, the professionalism of the staff, the strong corporate interest in survey methods, and high quality data collection operations all contributed to my attraction to this position.

Finish this sentence: “I joined WSS to…”
meet other statisticians in the Washington DC area and gain a broad understanding of public and private sector applications of statistical methods. My interest in WSS evolved from two different groups of statisticians. First, the statistics faculty at the George Washington University, where I was a graduate student early in my career, strongly encouraged membership and participation in the WSS. Second, I co-authored a section of an early Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Working Paper. This gave me the opportunity to meet a number of senior level federal statisticians, all of whom were active in WSS. Their example, particularly the late Maria Gonzales, motivated me to want to be a member of the organization. Finally, WSS members organized a large number of interesting seminars and short courses. WSS professional development opportunities were important to me and my career. I wanted to be part of a professional society that worked hard and well for its members.

What was your first job?
My first professional position, after graduating with a Master’s Degree in Mathematics from Michigan State University, was as a Cryptologic Mathematician at the National Security Agency (NSA). The NSA is an organization that has an extremely strong staff of mathematicians and computer scientists. I was fortunate to have had an opportunity at the NSA to be a member of a rotational assignment program that allowed me to work in different offices before being permanently assigned to an office. The experience was very worthwhile, but I came to the conclusion that the social sciences disciplines were a better fit for my interests. Consequently, I changed jobs and began working as a staff member for the Income Survey Development Program, the predecessor research and testing program for the Survey of Income and Program Participation in the Department of Health and Human Services.

What was the most interesting statistical project you have worked on recently?
About 4 years ago I was asked to be part of a team that included Paul Biemer (RTI) and Dennis Trewin (formerly, Australian Bureau of Statistics) to evaluate statistical programs at Statistics Sweden. Using a quality evaluation approach called ASPIRE (A System for Product Improvement Review and Evaluation), developed by Biemer, Trewin, and Statistics Sweden, we evaluate and provide recommendations annually to ten major statistical programs at Statistics Sweden. The review of statistical program includes both demographic as well as economic programs. During a two-week period, the review team meets with senior staff associated with the program for presentations, discussions, and questions about progress toward achieving reductions in total survey error. A formalized quantitative assessment along with recommendations are made and presented to the Statistics Sweden Director General, who has been very receptive toward finding resources to make quality improvements. This aspect has been very satisfying and rewarding.

What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?
Because of a course in the history of cinema taken many years ago, I would like to attempt being a writer about cinema and explore and interpret the many aspects of
film making. I still recall dissecting a single scene in a silent movie many years ago and being amazed at the complexity of the staging, camera movement and point of view. It is fascinating to me.

What is your favorite local restaurant?
I love La Ferme, a French restaurant in Chevy Chase Maryland, for a quiet, classic, well-prepared meal with excellent service. My wife, Ann, and I have never been disappointed.

What is your favorite song/artist/genre?
I like most music, but I prefer jazz dating from the bop period to fusion with artists such as John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Clifford Brown, Sonny Rollins, Dexter Gordon, and Freddie Hubbard. I am in awe of listening and hearing the creativity and genius of professional musicians, in general, and jazz artists, in particular. And wish I had that talent.

What is the last book you read?
I read *The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every Presidency* by Chris Whipple – an informative historical review of presidential chiefs of staff since Richard Nixon. I liked the book very much since it provided examples of successes and failures in trying to manage the time and agenda of recent presidents.

Have you had any great career mentors? If so, what made them great?
I have been very fortunate to have worked with some very exceptional people during my career. They served as role models for their professionalism, hard work, persistence and dedication - -the late Roger Herriot stands out for his creativity and willingness to test new ideas; and Graham Kalton for his clear thinking practical approach to statistical problems and for his preciseness in thought and in writing.

What is your greatest accomplishment?
This seems almost trite and I certainly cannot take sole credit, but I am very proud of having a happy marriage of 48 years, 2 adult children who are good, responsible people (I am biased) who care about others. I am proud of and enjoy my 2 grandchildren and one on the way who remind me of the energy and inquisitiveness of children. I am very fortunate to have good friends and colleagues in WSS and the American Statistical Association.

What is your favorite daily ritual?
Being mostly retired, I now have an opportunity to do what I never found much time for when I was in the full-time labor force. After I get up in the morning, I make a pot of coffee, turn on some music, and actually read much of the daily newspaper. This is wonderful and highly recommended!!!
Meet WSS Member Dave Hubble...

Where do you work and what do you do?
I am a Senior Statistician/Associate Director at Westat in Rockville, Maryland, where I have been working for the past 11 years. Prior to Westat, I worked at the Census Bureau for over 23 years. I mostly work on the development (researching and planning), implementation (sampling, imputation, and weighting), and dissemination of results across a number of project surveys. The subject matter of these projects are quite varied, ranging from educational assessment (NAEP), teacher and principal opinions, to prevalence measures of smoking, substance use and other risky behaviors. Most of these projects involve meetings with clients/sponsors and coordinating tasks and activities of other statisticians with operational and programming staff.

What attracted you to your current position?
Having worked in the public sector for over two decades, I was interested in exploring the working environment in the private sector. Besides an expansion in the subject matter associated with such a transition, I also wanted to experience an alternative organizational structure. That was to transition from a naturally very hierarchical structure that comes with a layered public organization with significant external oversight, such as the Census Bureau, to an organization that was much “flatter” in structure and working relationships, such as Westat.

What is the last book you read?
“Washington: A Life” by Ron Chernow, author of Hamilton (which I also read). I’ve read several “Founding Fathers/Brothers” type books over the years and find them most compelling. I’m always wondering whether the United States just happened to get lucky to have had several truly uniquely enlightened individuals all making critical contributions to the founding of our country in a fairly narrow, but most extremely trying of

What advice would you give to someone entering the statistics profession?
From my personal experience, I greatly benefitted from starting out in a position that exposed me to the wide variety of components in the planning, development, sampling, fielding, processing, imputation, weighting, and variance estimation of survey data. So, when starting out, if faced with options, consider ones that will provide the broadest experience from which future paths can be explored and built.

What was your first job?
Excluding manual summer jobs, my first “statistical” job was traveling to various Boston area hospitals and reviewing emergency room logbooks for injuries to children. This included subsequent extracts from the collection and coding of outcomes. As a side note, I decided not to file a lawsuit for being hired because I was a male. Leadership later informed me of this fact as the otherwise all-female data collection team was running into perceived territorial resistance from all-women run medical records offices at hospitals. I never had a problem.

Finish the sentence: “I joined WSS to…”
be able to give a presentation and receive one of those coveted WSS coffee mugs (though it sadly smashed just last year). Related to that, the seminars offered a great way to meet and hear what other statisticians were doing in the DC and Federal statistical arena.
times, or whether with the passage of time we have nostalgically embellished their qualities. I lean towards the former and hope it can happen again in my lifetime.

**What is your favorite vacation spot?**

It will change, but right now, it is Priest Lake, ID (in the northern panhandle). Over the last few years, my siblings and our families have gathered at the end of June in several lakeside, somewhat rustic cabins for a week of fishing, boating, hiking, eating (and drinking), and reminiscing around a nightly camp fire (with s’mores, of course). The lake, surrounding mountains, and weather are so pristine that we are constantly in awe.

**How do you like to spend your free time away from work?**

In bygone days, it was playing indoor and outdoor soccer (football to the rest of the world). Now I’m relegated to watching the beautiful game on television, which fortunately has grown significantly in coverage in recent years. Racquetball has stepped in to replace soccer as my current best option to get some aerobic exercise besides boring pieces of stationary equipment.

**What is your greatest accomplishment?**

Can I take credit for kids and grandkids? If so, then Steve, Eric, Sam and Max are clearly my greatest accomplishments.

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

I have told many colleagues over the years, I just thank my lucky stars that my first supervisor and later my branch chief and assistant division chief at the Census Bureau was Charles (Chip) Alexander. I didn’t quite realize it at the time, but he was serving as everything one would hope for in a mentor. He encouraged my professional involvement in meetings—work and otherwise, conference participation, etc. He emphasized the importance of understanding others’ responsibilities and perspectives, and the need to do all things well with good spirit and humor. He always gave his time freely, including occasional long early evening conversations in the parking lot before heading home. I miss those times, as Chip left us too soon.
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) or Natalia Weil (NataliaWeil@westat.org).

We look forward to hearing from you.
## WASHINGTON Statistical Society Board of Directors, Programs, and Committees

### 2017-18 Board of Directors, Committees, and Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
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### Non-Voting Members – Programs

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<tr>
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