

WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

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Congratulations to the Roger Herriot Award Winner!



The 2022 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics is awarded to Timothy Smeeding. Throughout his career, Tim has shown innovation, persistence, and creativity in improving key measures, making data sets more consistent and useful, and using statistical data to inform policy analysis. Since his early work as an ASA/Census/NSF Research Fellow working under Roger Herriot, Tim has improved the use of statistical data for policy in the areas of income, wealth, and transfer programs, collaborating with colleagues in academia as well as Federal statistical staff and in particular initiating Census Bureau work to value in-kind benefits. Further, along with colleagues, he developed foundational and sustained work on linked, comparable data sources for analysis of income and poverty over time and across countries, via the Luxembourg Income Study (<https://www.lisdatacenter.org/>), which he directed from its founding in 1983 to 2006 and whose market income measures and disposable income measures are used by OECD and other entities to analyze poverty and inequality. Finally, Tim has served on several panels convened by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Committee on National Statistics, including now chairing its current consensus study panel on the major income, consumption, and wealth statistics currently produced by U.S. statistical agencies.

Student Corner

A Wonderful Experience At JSM

As a statistician, the *Joint Statistical Meeting* (JSM) is one of the most anticipated events of the year. With the generous student travel grant offered by the *Washington Statistical Society* (WSS), I attended the JSM in Washington, D.C. in August 2022. JSM has provided a great opportunity to meet with other statisticians working in various research fields across the globe, and I was also happy to see some familiar faces from old times. This year over 600 sessions were planned in the conference. Though it's impossible to participate in every one of them, just by glancing over the conference program one can appreciate the extensive scope of statistical research development. During the meeting, I attended multiple sessions of interest to learn about how researchers have developed and applied novel statistical methodologies. I also presented my research work "Standardization of continuous and categorical covariates in sparse penalized regressions" in the poster session, in which I received some interesting questions and was introduced to some related works conducted by other researchers.

I was glad to attend the *Survey Research Methods Section Business Meeting* to meet with impressive people from the WSS and other winners of the WSS awards. It's great to get a view behind the curtain on how people are volunteering and collaborating to strengthen the community of WSS and get to hear the workshop and networking opportunities planned for the future. In addition, I was excited to join the GW alumni reception at the conference where I got to catch up with faculty and alumni. It's always inspiring to see the diverse career paths people have taken after graduation and their accomplishments.

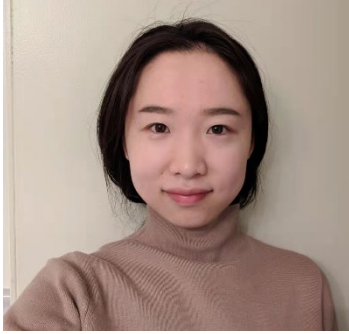
Finally, I would like to thank the WSS again for providing opportunities for graduate students to have their work recognized and to attend these informative conferences. Also, I would like to extend my gratitude to my PhD advisors Professor Qing Pan and Professor Yunpeng Zhao for their constant encouragement and academic advice.

Xiang Li

PhD in Statistics

The George Washington University

Washington Statistical Society Student Travel Award 2022 Winner



The Washington Statistical Society (WSS) are pleased to announce that Xiang Li is the winner of the 2022 WSS Student Travel Award. Xiang is a fourth-year graduate student at the George Washington University (GWU) with outstanding academic, research, internship, and extracurricular experience. Congratulations, Xiang!

Every year, the WSS is offering one student travel award to a student attending a statistics or related disciplines program at a school local to the DC-MD-VA-area. As part of the application, students submit an essay describing their interest in statistics, including projects, internships and/or assistantships, and other activities to help improve the field of statistics, such as teaching, mentoring, advising, collaborating, and service, and interest in attending and presenting at an American Statistical Association (ASA) meeting or conference. The award includes \$800 plus early-bird student conference registration to one ASA meeting or conference during the year of the award and a one-year student membership to the WSS.

This year, Xiang's application was among a number of strong applications and it was a close decision. Her work on standardizing continuous and categorical covariates in penalized regressions was submitted for publication to a peer-reviewed journal, and she will present it at the 2022 ASA's Joint Statistical Meeting and the 2022 ASA's Biopharmaceutical section regulatory-industry statistics workshop. Xiang developed an R package on classifications in high-dimensional data settings, and conducted research as a member of collaborative epidemiology project and during her internships with a government agency and a banking company. She has been serving the Statistics Department at GWU as the chair of the PhD student committee and the organizer of many events, such as the annual PhD application workshop, and is the recipient of the 2021 Scheuren Prize for service and leadership.

All of WSS congratulate Xiang Li on her hard work and dedication to the profession. We look forward to meeting her at future professional events and to reading her essay about her experience at the meeting/conference supported by the WSS student travel award to be published in the WSS 2023 Fall Newsletter.

Stay tuned for the 2023 WSS student travel award announcement to be published on the WSS webpage in the fall of 2022!

Congratulations to the 2022 winner, best wishes in the academic endeavors to the 2022 applicants, and good luck to the future applicants!

Andreea L. Erciulescu, PhD

Senior Statistician, Westat

Representative-at-large and Student Travel Award Committee Chair, ASA Washington

Statistical Society

Program chair-elect, ASA Survey Research Methods Section

WHAT'S NEW? EVENTS CORNER

Similar to last year, the quarterly newsletter will include personal interest stories and WSS news. Please mail the newsletter team at wss.editor@gmail.com to submit content for inclusion in the quarterly newsletter. All submissions for the quarterly newsletter should be sent by the first week of March, June, September, and December.

As in the past, please send all submissions for events to Vince Massimini at vince@massimini.us. Vince will forward most events to the WSS membership as he has done in the past.

However, the WSS Communications Committee also will send a monthly newsletter dedicated to informing and reminding members of upcoming events. All events provided to Vince by the 15th of the month will be included in a Special Edition of WSS News called the Events Corner which will be published at the start of the month. If the timing of your event is appropriate, the announcement will automatically also be included in the monthly newsletter (in addition to being sent out right away by Vince).

For all submissions, please remember that we need the What, When (check the day, date, and time zone), Where (including remote electronic info), Organizer and sponsor, Details/cost, and Registration/signup if necessary. An email or link for questions is also handy.

Washington Statistical Society

Board of Directors, Programs and Committees

WSS Board of Directors / Officers¹

Office	Name
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President-Elect	Jeff Gonzalez
Secretary	Brandon Sepulvado
Treasurer	Amy Lin
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Methodology Section Chair	Qing Pan
Representative-at-Large	Bev Pratt
Representative-at-Large	Sabrina Zhang
Representative-at-Large	Mike Jadoo
Representative-at-Large	Cameron McPhee

1) Note: all WSS Board of Directors/Officers are also voting members

Additional Voting Members

Office	Name
Past President	Mark Otto
Council of Chapters Representative	Taylor Lewis

Programs (non-voting members)

Program	Chair
Methodology Program, Chair ¹	Yan Li
Program Coordinators	
Short Courses	Danny Yang
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Open
Data Collection Methods	Open
Defense and National Security	Wendy Martinez
Economics	Michael Jadoo
Human Rights	Michael P. Cohen
Public Health and Biostatistics (Co-Chair)	Grant Izmirlian
Public Health and Biostatistics (Co-Chair)	Carolyn Carroll
Public Policy	Open
Data Science	Chris Marokov
Quality Assurance	Open
Social and Demographic Statistics	Open

¹ Methodology Section Chair Elect

Committee	Member
Communications Committee, Chair	see Board of Directors
Web Master	Chris Moriarity
WSS Newsletter Editor	Colleen Choi
Spotlight	Open
Employment Column Coordinator	Open
Electronic Mail Committee	Vince Massimini
Social Media Manager	Phil Kalina
Social Arrangements Committee	Leanna Moron
Social Arrangements Committee	Maura Bardos
Social Arrangements Committee	Jessica Hoehner
Student Representative Chair	Open
Student Representative ¹	Open
Quantitative Literacy Committee, Chair	Elizabeth Petraglia
QL Poster Competition	Sabrina Zhang
QL Poster Competition	Amy Lin
QL Volunteer Coord.	Dan Sherman
QL Science Fair Coord.	Jiashen You
Statistics Education Committee, Chair	Open
Committee Member	Heather Hoffman
Committee Member	Rachel Saidi
Committee Member	Robert Aronstam
Committee Member	Sareeta Carter Schmitt
Committee Member	Ashley Schreckengost
Committee Member	Mike Messner
Mentoring Committee, Chair	Benmei Liu
Committee Member	Open
Committee Member	Mark Otto
Committee Member	Jaki McCarthy
Diversity Committee, Chair	Michael Jadoo
Committee Member	Darryl Creel

¹ Note: up to one student representative per DC area University.

Membership Committee, Chair	John Czajka
WSS/SRMS Committee on ASA Fellows, Chair	Daniell Toth
Committee Member	Cynthia Clark
Committee Member	Sallie Ann Keller
Committee Member	Tom Krenzke
Committee Member	Jennifer Parker
Committee Member	Stephanie Shipp
Committee Member (President-Elect)	See Board of Directors
Financial Audit Committee	Chris Moriarity
Financial Audit Committee	Michael P. Cohen
Historical Committee, Chair	Open

Award Committees (non-voting members)

Award Committee	Member
Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Committee	Raji Sundaram
Curtis Jacobs Memorial Committee	Brian Sloboda
WSS' Gertrude Cox Award Committee, Chair (RTI)	Marcus Berzofsky
RTI Committee Member	Darryl Creel
RTI Committee Member	Phillip Kott
Committee Member	President
Committee Member	Past President
Committee Member	President-Elect
Hansen Lecture Committee, Chair	Brian Harris-Kojetin
Past Chair	Steve Cohen
Committee Member	Partha Lahiri
Committee Member	Jenny Thompson
USDA Committee Member	Linda Young
Westat Committee Member	Keith Rust
Herriot Award Committee (GSS)	
Shiskin Award Committee	

Committee Member	President
Committee Member	Past-President
Student Travel Award	Andreea Erciulescu

Open = vacant positions