Message from the Incoming Section Chair

Kennon R. Copeland

Greetings and welcome to 2019.

The mission of the Section on Survey Research Methods is to promote the improvement of survey practice and the understanding of survey methods by encouraging both theoretical and applied research on survey-related topics and by disseminating information on survey methods. We survey researchers accomplish this mission through sharing methods and findings from our work (e.g., presenting at JSM/workshops/and
seminars, submitting articles for publication), professional learning, participation, and dialogue (e.g., taking advantage of one or more of the opportunities offered by SRMS specifically and the ASA in general, engaging on questions and topics of interest on SRMSNet Listserv, socializing at the SRMS business meeting at JSM), educating and mentoring students and recent graduates in the survey research field, consulting with researchers and data users, and identifying and contributing to new areas of advancement (e.g., adaptive/response design, internet-enabled devices) and paradigm shifts (e.g., expansion of and access to administrative data, decreasing response rates) that directly affect our field.

One paradigm shift of importance in my opinion is the trend toward greater use of non-probability survey data and organic data such as that from social media, which have gained traction due to factors such as reduced costs, extensive sample/data, and timeliness. Rather than assuming this a passing fad or attacking all use of such data, I believe we as a field should work toward how to ensure appropriate use, such as development of weighting methods for integration with probability survey data and estimation models which incorporate probability survey data. We should also work toward guidelines for appropriate use, caveats, interpretation, and error measurement. While such efforts have begun (talks at professional conferences, AAPOR report on non-probability samples), I plan to encourage and hold more conversation and efforts on this topic this year, and hope many of you will participate and offer your expertise and ideas.

The success and future of SRMS is also advanced through the inclusion of students and young professionals in the section. To aid in this effort, SRMS sponsors travel, student paper, and poster awards for the JSM and the E.C. Bryant Scholarship for an outstanding graduate student in survey statistics. SRMS members participate in ASA formal mentoring efforts and engage in informal mentoring of junior colleagues as well. Please do what you can this year to encourage students, recent graduates, and colleagues who are not current members to join and become active in SRMS. If you have any suggestions for the SRMS Council to consider in this regard, please let us know.

Thanks to the 2018 members of the SRMS Council for their efforts, accomplishments, and time during the past year, with a special thanks to the outgoing Council members. I am honored to have been elected SRMS chair and look forward to working with the 2019 Council this year. I remind everyone that SRMS works to achieve its objectives through the efforts of volunteers, not only those serving on the Council, but also those who respond to calls for help such as to assist in judging the JSM poster contest and chairing JSM sessions. Please consider offering your skills, talents, and time when asked or, even better, proactively.

I hope to hear from many of you about your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions. Please feel free to contact me at copeland-kennon@norc.org.
Report from the Outgoing Chair
Karol Krotki

Fellow Committee,

Happy New Year, SRMS members! It has been a privilege to serve as chair of the Survey Research Methods Section for 2018. Many people contribute to section activities, and I’d like to take this opportunity to recognize our section’s achievements and some of the people who made it all possible.

Of course, our main highlight of the year was the Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver. Program Chair Stas Kolenikov and Program Chair Elect Asaph Young Chun put together an excellent program with SRMS sponsoring a large number and variety of sessions and round tables. Of note were 80 poster presentations, some in the form of speed sessions. This is clearly becoming a preferred mode of presentation. We also gave out 4 student travel awards, 7 poster/speed-poster awards, and 5 student paper awards (jointly with GSS and SSS). We also offered one course: Applications of Hot Deck Imputation to Survey Data (Rebecca Andridge and Jenny Thompson).

We congratulate our members who were recognized for special achievements: Five section members were named ASA fellows in 2018: Michael Davern, Donsig Jang, Kristen Olson, Richard Sigman, and Zhigiang Tan. Ying Han was awarded the Edward C. Bryant Scholarship and John Eltinge presented the Deming Lecture. ASA Founders awards were given to Daniel Kasprzyk and Alicia Carriquiry.

Several accomplishments and developments:
• We now have a financial balance that is within the recommended guideline of twice our annual budget (more details in the Treasurer’s report).
• We had to move our Proceedings files to a separate server. Tony An and Pushpal Mukhopadhyay went far the call of duty in orchestrating this move.
• On the education front, for the future we are leaning toward webinars rather than traditional courses at JSM. James Wagner is already working with Morgan Earp to collaborate with organizations such as AAPOR and other ASA Sections to plan for and coordinate webinars.

I would like to recognize the work and support of all members of the SRMS Executive Committee who kept the section running in 2018. Treasurer Steven Pedlow monitored our financial flows,
kept us fully informed with detailed monthly reports, and prepared the 2019 budget. Secretary Safaa Amer took detailed and copious minutes as a record of committee meetings. Publication Officer Tony An took care of announcing our section activities in the Amstat News and online. Education Officer Rebecca Andridge helped to organize a course at JSM 2018. Council of Sections Representatives Julia Soulakova and Jamie Ridenhour attended Council of Sections meetings, serving as intermediaries between SRMS and ASA, our mother ship. Past Chair Elaine Zanutto provided support throughout the year and Chair-Elect Kennon Copeland is preparing for a busy 2019. I also want to thank Rick Peterson, the ASA staff liaison who has provided critical help with various critical day-to-day details.

Finally, I want to acknowledge other section members who are not elected section officers but who volunteer their time year after year to help SRMS. Pushpal Mukhopadhyay kept the Section website up to date and oversees the publishing of the SRMS JSM proceedings online. Dan Liao and Elizabeth Petraglia publish the biannual (January and July) newsletter, an important task that keeps our memberships informed of the section activities.

Looking forward, special thanks are due to Morgan Earp, incoming Chair, for putting together an excellent candidate slate for 2019 elections. Darcy Morris is taking over as Treasurer from Steven Pedlow who has already worked with Darcy in the transition process. James Wagner is replacing Rebecca Andridge as the Education Officer and has started planning for next year. Steven Pedlow, continuing his service to SRMS, agreed to serve as Publications Officer, taking over from Tony An. Julia Soulakova ran for, and was elected to serve one more term as Council of Sections Representative (2019-21).

Thanks also to everyone for participating in section activities and contributing to our community. Hope to see everyone at JSM 2019 in Denver!
Report from the Outgoing Treasurer

Steven Pedlow

There are currently 1,326 members of the Survey Research Methods Section. The current dues for members is $8, $3 of which goes towards the Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology, provided to all Section members through the dues. This is a quarterly journal targeted to our Section for only $3/year!

The current balance of the SRMS is $39,657.33, which is where the American Statistical Association wants the Section balances… roughly two times our annual budget (we have averaged just over $20,000 in expenses from 2013-17).

At the end of 2013, the SRMS had a record high balance of $101,163.48. This meant that our balance was five times our annual budget. ASA guidance is clear: “Sections with more than twice their annual budget in reserves should strongly consider additional services to section members” (ASA New Section Officers Orientation). Over the past five years, the Board has increased our spending in service to the section members and reduced our balance.

Now that our balance is in line with ASA recommendations, the Board will be looking to be more budget-neutral. With that said, the goal of the Section is to use our budget to benefit the largest number of section members to the maximum possible. If you have ideas, please share them with the Board and consider running for a section office in the future. This is your Survey Research Methods Section!
Report from the Outgoing Publication Officer

Tony An

As my role of being the SRMS’s publication officer concludes, I would like to report some good news regarding our section’s publication and communication.

To modernize the section’s communication, I created a twitter account for the section with the handle @srmsasa that has been thriving over the last couple year. Please follow our twitter account https://twitter.com/srmsasa for timely announcement, news, and updates.

Thanks to our dedicated Web master Pushpal Mukhopadhyay, our section’s web site has finally migrated to the ASA’s community web site: https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodsssection/home.

One popular and prominent service the section provides to our members is the “JSM Proceedings, Survey Research Methods Section.” It had been hosted by the ASA since the day I created the web site more than a decade ago. However, in last October, we got the eviction notice due to changes in security and regularity policies. We had to find a new home quickly for our proceedings and hopefully to make it work seamlessly to our members. I am happy to report that
I successfully found a new home at Google Cloud Platform for our proceedings with very low rent (at most a cent or two per day) and completed the new construction in November. I chose the Google Cloud Platform based on its cost effectiveness and continuation outlook, because we certainly do not want to make another move any time soon and create unnecessary stress to our future section officers.

To access the proceedings page, you can simply click on “Proceedings” on the top of our section’s new homepage, and it will lead you to the proceedings Web site that looks familiar to you. However, if you have book-marked our old proceedings address, please update it with the new address http://www.asasrms.org/Proceedings/index.html.

It has been a privilege to serve you and I wish you a very happy new year!
SRMS is seeking webinar topics! If you have an idea for a webinar that you would like to see being offered, or an idea for a webinar that you’d like to give, then please submit it to SRMS Education Officer, James Wagner (jameswag@umich.edu).

Informal proposals are welcome. We are happy to discuss your idea and determine if a more formal proposal is warranted.
JSM 2019
Asaph Young Chun

JSM 2019 will be one of the most rigorous programs that SRMS has prepared thanks to creative and innovative inputs by SRMS membership! Keep your input coming for the remaining programs of JSM 2019, including regular sessions and posters for which a number of awards will be offered. Submission deadline is February 4, 2019; please plan ahead and submit earlier than the deadline, as the website tends to get heavily loaded.

So far, the section has put six invited sessions on the program, including the two invited sessions we won in the open competition of invited proposals for the JSM 2019:

- The multiple adaptations of multiple imputation (Monday 7/29 8:30am)
- Evolving survey inference in the big data era: Challenges and opportunities (Monday 7/29 2pm)
- State-of-the-art Inferential Approaches for Non-Probability Samples (Wednesday 7/31 8:30am)
- Small Area Estimation: “Producing Estimates for Small Areas from Sampled Data” (Thursday 8/1 10:30am)
- Total survey errors in the combination of probability and nonprobability samples (Wednesday 7/31 2pm)
- Multinational, Multiregional, and Multicultural Surveys (3MC): A Burgeoning Sub-discipline in Survey Research Methods (Sunday 7/28 2pm)

We also have 9 topic contributed sessions, which are:

- Big Survey Meets Big Data: Integrating Administrative Data into the American Community Survey
- Inference with non-probability sample through data integration
- Cryptocurrency Surveys: Challenges and Results from Central Banks
- Connecting Parallel Universes
- Providing Access to Useful Data while Preserving Confidentiality
- Propensity Score Methods to Conduct Observational Studies Using Complex Survey Data
- Adaptive Survey Design: Recent Advances and New Potential
- Small area estimation with relaxed modeling assumptions
- Address-based Frame Enhancement: Recent Experience and Developments
Each year the ASA selects up to 62 members to be honored as Fellows. We believe there are more SRMS members who are deserving of this recognition. Everyone is encouraged to identify friends and co-workers who would be strong candidates. Anyone can be nominated by getting the application from https://www.amstat.org/fellows/nominations/index.cfm. The deadline for applications is 3:00 AM EST, March 1, 2019.

The role of the SRMS Fellows Committee is to help facilitate this process by identifying worthy candidates and finding people to spearhead their nomination. The committee members are Mary Gray, Jay Breidt, Jill Dever, and Ruth Ann Killion. To be eligible, a candidate must have been a member of the ASA for the most recent 3 years (as of March 1, 2019). Deserving candidates have been active professionally, whether through publications, involvement in the ASA, or other activities. More details can be found at http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/ASA-Fellows.aspx

If you have a suggestion on who should be nominated, or are willing to help nominate someone but have questions about how to proceed, please feel free to contact any committee member.
JSM 2018 Award Winners
Asaph Young Chun

JSM 2018 was a strong conference for SRMS. In the technical program, we had 3 invited sessions, 1 invited panel, 11 topic contributed sessions, 1 topic contributed panel, 10 contributed paper sessions, 2 contributed poster sessions and 3 pairs of SPEED sessions. We co-sponsored another 16 invited sessions and 12 topic-contributed sessions together with other sections and ASA committees. We offered 2 roundtables and 1 continuing education short course.

At the business meeting, we congratulated winners of the multiple awards that the section gives, including the recipients of the 2018 JSM Student Travel Awards (names released in the July 2018 Newsletter), the 2018 JSM SRMS Student Paper Awards (names released in the July 2018 Newsletter), and the Poster Award Winners.

Poster Award Competitions

At the conference, we held a poster competition among the poster presenters. The winners in the traditional poster category are:

- Research on Combination of Probability and Nonprobability Samples—Michael Yang, NORC; Edward Mulrow, NORC at the University of Chicago; Nada Ganesh, NORC at the University of Chicago; Vickie Pineau, NORC at the University of Chicago

Left to right: SRMS Student Travel Award winners Giovanni Nattin, Crystal Shaw and Jonathan Mendelson.
The winners in the SPEED poster session category, based on both the five minute oral presentation and the interactive poster component, are:

- "You're Not from Around Here, Are You?": How Regional Accent Affects Survey Cooperation — Matt Jans, ICF; James Dayton, ICF; Matt McDonough, ICF
- Imputation of Small Number of New Questions in the Large Survey — Di Xiong, UCLA SPH; Yan Wang, Field School of Public Health, UCLA; Honghu Liu, UCLA
- Combining Probability and Nonprobability Samples for Population Inference — Jill A Dever, RTI International
- Record Linkage as a Decision Problem — Alan Karr, RTI International
- Generalized Estimating Equations for Social Network Data — Miles Ott, Smith College; Bjorn Westgard, HealthPartners; Brian Martinson, HealthPartners; Michael Maciosek, HealthPartners
- The Problem of Analytic Error in Secondary Analysis of Survey Data: What We Know, and What We Need to Do About It — Brady T. West, University of Michigan; Joe Sakshaug, University of Manchester
The section would like to thank the poster competition judges: Christine Wells (UCLA), Christopher Moriaritty (CDC), Hans Kiesl (Regensburg University of Applied Sciences), Harold Gomes (BLS), Jamie Ridenhour (RTI), Julia Soulakova (University of Central Florida), Karol Krotki (RTI), Martha McRoy (Pew Research Center), Renee Ellis (Census), Richard Sigman (Westat, retired), Samantha Elizabeth Robinson (University of Arkansas), Steve Cohen (NORC), Yixin Wang (Columbia University).
17th Annual Robert Ferber and Seymour Sudman Dissertation Awards

During a ceremony at the Survey Research Laboratory on the Urbana campus, three doctoral students were honored for the quality of their work utilizing survey research methodology. The two winners of the 2018 Robert Ferber and Seymour Sudman Dissertation Awards received $2,500 awards and plaques commemorating their achievement. Two other students received honorable mention certificates and $300. Drs. Ferber and Sudman, in whose memory the awards were established, were eminent scholars at the University of Illinois in the field of survey research.

The winners are (left to right): Cassandra Nikolaus, Ryan Stock, and Peter Ondish (Jessamyn Perlus is not pictured).
**Ryan Stock**, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science, is the winner of the Robert Ferber Dissertation Award. His advisor is Trevor Birkenholtz, and his dissertation is: *Encircling the Sun: Shedding Light on the Gender Dimensions of Dispossession and Resistance at Solar Parks in Rural India*. Expanded energy production and concomitant rising CO2 levels are seen as necessary to help raise India’s 363 million poor out of poverty. In efforts to slow rising emissions and scale up energy generation, the Government of India launched the 2010 Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission. Many of the projects are ground-mounted solar parks. Enclosing these marginal spaces for solar park development is of particular concern to poor and rural Indian women who use these spaces for fuelwood foraging, fodder and grazing livestock. Herein lies the paradox: UN-linked climate mitigation schemes (i.e., solar parks) are designed with methods to empower women. However, these solar parks likely reproduce uneven power relations at the local scale. This dissertation research is a comparison study of two solar parks in India.

**Cassandra Nikolaus**, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, is the winner of the Seymour Sudman Dissertation Award. Her advisors are Brenna Ellison and Sharon M. Nickols-Richardson, and her dissertation, *Prevalence and Consequences of Food Insecurity among College Students* focuses on further understanding experiences of food insecurity, the lack of sufficient and nutritious food, among U.S. college students. The proposed work will evaluate and compare the different methods of assessing food insecurity. This will allow us to identify the most precise methods for identifying students who are experiencing food security challenges. Further, we will be able to understand how food insecurity experiences may impact their sleep patterns, stress levels, academic progress, diet quality, and overall well-being. Ultimately, this will assist us in efficiently and effectively helping students in need.

**Peter Ondish**, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Psychology, received the Robert Ferber Honorable Mention. His advisors are Dov Cohen and Chadly Stern, and his dissertation is entitled *Ideological Differences in the Use of Social Class Categories to Organize Society*.

**Jessamyn Perlus**, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Educational Psychology, received the Seymour Sudman Honorable Mention. Her advisor is James Rounds, and her dissertation is entitled “*On Very Thin Ice”: Impostor Phenomenon and Careers of Women Graduate Students*. Past winners of the Dissertation Awards can be viewed at: [http://www.srl.uic.edu/ferbersudman/recipients.htm](http://www.srl.uic.edu/ferbersudman/recipients.htm).
Now Accepting Applications for Edward C. Bryant Scholarship

Applications for the Edward C. Bryant Scholarship are now being accepted. Each year, an outstanding graduate student in survey statistics is awarded the Edward C. Bryant Scholarship to help support the student's graduate education. The application deadline for the 2019 award is March 1, 2019. The award will be presented at the 2019 Joint Statistical Meetings at Denver, CO.

Westat established the Edward C. Bryant Scholarship Trust Fund in 1995 to honor its cofounder and chair emeritus. Under Bryant's leadership, Westat, an employee-owned statistical firm established in 1961, has grown into what is now one of the world's leading statistical research corporations serving federal, state, and local governments, as well as businesses and foundations.

Graduate students in survey statistics are encouraged to apply for the scholarship. For more information, including application instructions, see http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/Edward-C-Bryant-Scholarship-for-an-Outstanding-Graduate-Student-in-Survey-Statistics.aspx

Congratulations to Ying Han, University of Maryland-College Park, for winning the 2018 Edward C. Bryant Scholarship for an excellent academic record and contributions to survey statistics.

Dipankar Bandyopadhyay, Virginia Commonwealth University
Chair, Edward C. Bryant Scholarship Committee
ASA SPAIG Award Nominations Open

Have you seen great examples of statistical partnerships and collaborations? Are you part of an organization that has an effective partnership with another organization? Then we want your help.

The ASA’s Statistical Partnerships in Academe, Industry, and Government (SPAIG) Committee is seeking nominations for the SPAIG Award. The award is distinct from other ASA awards in that it recognizes outstanding cross-sector collaborations between academe, industry, or government organizations, while also recognizing the key individual contributors. The award will be presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in July 2019 in Denver, Colorado.

Instructions and Nomination Form
For more information and instructions, please visit the ASA SPAIG Award website. To submit a nomination, complete the online nomination form and upload supporting documents by March 1, 2019.

Questions
Please contact the SPAIG Committee at SPAIGAward@gmail.com.

We look forward to receiving your nominations!

Thank you,
The ASA SPAIG Committee
SRMS Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Dan Liao and Elizabeth Petraglia

The SRMS newsletter is published twice a year in January and in July, typically posted on the SRMS website https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodsections/programs/newsletter and shared on ASA Connect. All the SRMS members are welcome to submit items that may be of interest to other SRMS members for publication in the newsletter.

The deadline for submissions to the July newsletter is in mid-June and the deadline for submissions to the January newsletter is in mid-December every year. Any submissions received after the deadline may not be accepted.

The SRMS newsletter could include:

- JSM-related materials;
- Announcements of upcoming conferences, seminars, webinars, or short courses (taking place after mid-January 2019);
- Summaries of recent events or awards involving SRMS members (pictures always appreciated!).

Other types of submissions are also welcome! All submissions are subject to review by the newsletter editors and by the SRMS Executive Committee, and may be edited for length and/or clarity.

Please email any submissions to Dan Liao (dliao@rti.org) and Elizabeth Petraglia (elizabethpetraglia@westat.com), either in the body of an email or in a Microsoft Word attachment. We cannot accept PDFs.
Your SRMS Officers

Chair: Kennon Copeland
Chair-Elect: Morgan Earp
Past-Chair: Karol Krotki
Treasurer: Darcy Steeg Morris
Secretary: Safaa Amer
2019 JSM Program Chair: Asaph Young Chun
2019 JSM Program Chair-Elect: Yang Cheng
Publications Officer: Steven Pedlow
Education Officer: James Wagner
Section Representatives: Julia Soulakova, Jamie Ridenhour
ASA Staff Liaison: Rick Peterson

More information can be found at http://ww2.amstat.org/sections/officers.cfm?txtComm=SSRMS.

Newsletter Editors: Dan Liao and Elizabeth Petraglia
SRMS Mission Statement

SRMS has over 1,300 members, of which over 100 are based outside of North America, and is one of the largest ASA Sections. The SRMS mission is to promote the improvement of survey practice and the understanding of survey methods by encouraging both theoretical and applied research on survey-related topics, and by disseminating information on survey methods.

Areas of interest for the Section include all that employ survey methodology as a focus or as a prime tool of investigation. Of special interest are:
- Theoretical foundations of sampling;
- Sample design and estimation;
- Nonsampling errors and data collection methods;
- Analysis and presentation of survey data;
- Education of the public and students on the importance of scientific survey research;
- Publication and dissemination of survey research findings; and
- Ethics related to survey conduct and standards for survey practice.

Not a member yet? Here is how you can join:
- If you are not an ASA member, go to the membership page of the ASA and fill the application at [www.amstat.org/membership/index.cfm?fuseaction=becomeamember](http://www.amstat.org/membership/index.cfm?fuseaction=becomeamember) Then sign up for the SRMS section as part of your membership.
- If you are already an ASA member, just call customer service at 1-888-231-3473 to add SRMS membership.

The SRMS has produced material and resources that are available on our website including:
- The “What is a Survey?” series for non-specialists, free of charge
- The SRMSNET Mailing List
- List of other related associations
- Survey Analysis Software (under Links and Resources)
- Universities and Laboratories
- …and much more.

For more information, including links to specific officers, check out the SRMS website at: [https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodssection/home](https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodssection/home) (note updated link) or there is also a link from the ASA website at [www.amstat.org](http://www.amstat.org).