



Newsletter

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Message from the Incoming Section Chair

Don Jang



Dear SRMS Members,

It is an immense honor to assume the role of chair for our esteemed section, following in the distinguished footsteps of past leaders. I am deeply grateful for the invaluable support and guidance provided by Brady West, Jean Opsomer, and Tony An. Their leadership has laid a robust foundation for my tenure, and I am dedicated to continuing their legacy by prioritizing the needs and aspirations of SRMS members.

My primary objective as chair remains aligned with the goals set by my predecessors: to address the diverse needs of our members. One key focus area is nurturing a strong pipeline for the next generation of SRMS members. Building upon the groundwork laid by previous chairs, we are actively fostering a more inclusive environment for student involvement. Student representatives now regularly participate in our monthly executive meetings, and we are diligently exploring ways to further enhance student engagement within SRMS gatherings.

Moreover, in this era of evolving research data pipelines, collaboration emerges as a cornerstone of our approach. SRMS is steadfast in its commitment to enhancing survey practices and amplifying comprehension of survey methods in the context of multifaceted research datasets derived from diverse sources. To achieve this, fostering proactive collaborations with other sections and interest groups, such as Text Analysis and Record Linkage, becomes pivotal. Through these partnerships, we aim to ensure the relevance of SRMS amidst emerging topics and evolving research methodologies.

None of these aspirations can come to fruition without your invaluable contributions, dear SRMS members. I extend an open invitation to each of you to share your suggestions, ideas, and aspirations. Your input is instrumental in shaping SRMS as a driving force in this dynamic research era. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me; I am eager to collaborate and collectively pave the way for a future where SRMS remains at the vanguard of statistical innovation and excellence.

Warm regards,

Don Jang

SRMS Chair

Message from the Outgoing Section Chair

Brady T. West



Wow, this year has absolutely flown by! I have very much enjoyed my time serving as the chair of SRMS, and I'm thankful for the hard work and commitment of all of the other section officers, both new and old, who have assisted me during this year. I trust that everyone has enjoyed their interactions with SRMS this year, and the section is certainly in excellent hands moving forward.

With this message, I wanted to recap some of our major accomplishments in 2023, and share some thoughts about important section activities moving forward. First, in review:

1. At JSM 2023, SRMS sponsored six invited sessions, nine topic-contributed sessions, eight contributed sessions, six roundtables, and 18 poster and/or SPEED entries, all on a variety of interesting topics, in addition to co-sponsoring a variety of other sessions. We also had a lively and well-attended SRMS business meeting where we celebrated our accomplishments and gave away two books (courtesy of CRC Press). Our scientific program at JSM is as strong as it has ever been!
2. Regarding the review of invited session proposals, the SRMS section officers formalized a new procedure for review, and this procedure has now been included in the SRMS officer handbook.
3. We brought back SRMS section awards for the [best poster presentations](#) sponsored or co-sponsored by SRMS. Thanks to the assistance of a large number of volunteer poster presentation judges (17!), we recognized two winners of this award: one for the non-SPEED sessions, and one for the SPEED sessions.
4. We made one [student travel award](#), and I hope that more students of survey research methods will take advantage of this funding opportunity in 2024 (more on this below).

5. Together with the GSS and SSS sections, we once again recognized five winners of the jointly-sponsored [student paper competition](#), and these individuals were all able to present their work at JSM. We received 15 submissions to this competition this year.
6. We dedicated a lot of effort to making participation in SRMS easier for students, working with two student representatives who sat on the board of executive officers to increase our social media presence and continue to make students aware of SRMS opportunities.
7. We executed a survey of the SRMS membership to gauge interest in having access to AAPOR webinars, and given the results, we ultimately renewed our agreement with AAPOR to make recordings of past AAPOR webinars available free-of-charge to SRMS members. In return, AAPOR members will have access to the recordings of SRMS webinars.
8. We offered three SRMS-sponsored webinars that ended up being very popular and lucrative for the section. Either the [recordings or materials of these webinars](#) will be made available on the SRMS website.
9. In addition to adding a new SRMS webmaster to the executive committee, we worked with a student volunteer to review and update our [JSM Proceedings website](#), which is truly unique among sections in terms of its scope and history.
10. We began work on a more formal plan for recruiting potential sponsors of SRMS activities. These efforts will continue in 2024 (more on this below).
11. We made electronic copies of JSSAM available to all SRMS members for free.
12. We honored three SRMS members as new [ASA Fellows](#) (Tony An, Marcus Berzofsky, and Booil Jo), and awarded Tony An the [SRMS Outstanding Service Award](#). Congratulations!
13. SRMS agreed to sponsor both BigSurv23 and the 2024 ICES VII Conference.
14. We received one submission for a continuing education course at JSM 2024 that SRMS agreed to sponsor.

Now, some thoughts on section activities moving forward:

1. I really hope for a continued group effort to get more students involved and engaged in section activities. There are a lot of good students of survey and data science out there right now, and I'm sure that they have a lot to offer to SRMS. This is a great opportunity for students to make connections with seasoned professionals in our field, and I hope that the entire section can commit to the recruitment of students, along with creative ideas for how to keep them engaged with SRMS and ASA more generally. Raising awareness of the student travel awards for JSM is a simple step in this direction.

2. SRMS is in good shape financially, but continued efforts to think about fundraising and sponsorship opportunities will surely benefit the section in the long run.

3. I'm glad that we have a good working relationship with AAPOR right now, and I hope that we can continue this relationship moving forward.

4. I'm a big fan of all of the work that we have done on the SRMS website, and we need to continue promoting this as an important member resource. The free access to both JSSAM and AAPOR webinar recordings should also be heavily emphasized as unique and valuable member benefits!

To conclude, I'm once again thankful for the dedicated efforts of so many friends and colleagues to make this a very successful section of ASA. It has been my pleasure to serve, and I look forward to continuing to do so.

I wish everyone the best for a happy and healthy 2024, and I will look forward to seeing everyone around!

Best Regards,

Brady

Updates from the Education Officer

Julia Soulakova

A big thank you to **Dr. David Marker** for presenting the SRMS webinar “*Accounting for Bias in Big Data*” in October of 2023. Dr. Marker is a senior statistician who retired after 37 years at Westat. His early research was on small area estimation. Over the last four decades Dr. Marker has been working on statistical issues in quality improvement. David collaborated with almost every U.S. government department, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Census Bureau, and Environmental Protection Agency, among many others. He recently served as co-chair of the ASA’s Anti-Racism Task Force. He is a Fellow of the ASA and American Academy for the Advancement of Science, and an Elected member of the International Statistical Institute. Moreover, he received a Founders Award at the 2022 Joint Statistical Meetings.

The webinar was organized and hosted in collaboration with Rick Peterson from ASA. The webinar was offered to the SRMS and ASA community as well as to non-members of the ASA. During the webinar, David discussed statistical issues arising in analysis of administrative data sources. Specifically, he addressed the question of whether large sizes of non-probability samples overcome potential biases, provided several examples illustrating the limitations of Big Data collected using non-probability sampling, and discussed the potential usefulness of a wide range of electronic health records data sets like All of Us and IQVia. The webinar was attended by 50 participants!



JSM 2024 Information from the SRMS Program Chair

Pushpal Mukhopadhyay



Happy New Year!

We have started planning for the 2024 Joint Statistical Meetings. The Survey Research Methods Section has four allotted invited sessions, and we are sponsoring the following invited sessions as the primary sponsor:

- **Bayesian Dependent Data Models and Machine Learning for Official Statistics and Survey Methodology.** The four speakers in this session will focus on recent advances and applications of Bayesian dependent data models such as the spatial and spatio-temporal models and machine learning for official statistics and survey methodology.
- **Combining Probability and Non-Probability Data: Considerations, Methods, and Applications.** The five speakers in this session will introduce various considerations and methods for combining probability and non-probability data and discuss a range of applications for these approaches.
- **Challenging Aspects of Small Area and Survey Research.** The four speakers in this session will focus on modern issues in small area estimation (SAE) such as the use of SAE for Diversity, Racial Equity, and Inequality (DREI) research, privacy preservation, and synthetic data generation in the SAE context, improving the quality and scope of auxiliary information for SAE by coupling administrative data with probability samples, and improving SAE accuracy and precision by the use of non-probability samples alongside probability samples and administrative data.
- **Innovative Statistical and Machine Learning Methods for Survey Data.** The four speakers in this session will discuss the recent advances in applications of machine learning methods in survey statistics.

The deadline for topic-contributed sessions has already passed, and the JSM program committee will be scheduling those sessions. Please stay tuned!

SRMS Awards at JSM 2023

SRMS would like to once again honor the outstanding winners of our awards at JSM 2023.

Joint SRMS / GSS / SSS Student Paper Award Winners:

- **Yuke Wang**, Georgia State University; *“Bayesian Jackknife Empirical Likelihood-based Inference for Missing Data and Causal Inference Problems”*
- **Rahul Singh**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; *“Causal Inference with Corrupted Data: Measurement Error, Missing Values, Discretization, and Differential Privacy”*
- **Elizabeth Bersson**, Duke University; *“Optimal Conformal Prediction for Small Areas”*
- **Yi Zhang**, Harvard University; *“Safe Policy Learning under Regression Discontinuity Designs with Multiple Cutoffs”*
- **Melody Huang**, University of California, Berkeley; *“Sensitivity Analysis for Survey Weights”*

All student paper award winners presented their promising work in a topic-contributed session jointly sponsored by the three sections, and were awarded \$1,000. Congratulations to the winners!

SRMS Student Travel Award

- **Chengpeng Zeng**, Iowa State University.

SRMS Poster Awards

- **Timothy Van Blarcom and Liam Spoletini**, D3 Systems; *“Machine Learning Applications to Survey Quality Control and Fraud Detection”* (non-SPEED session).
- **Harold Gomes**, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; *“Generalized Estimating Equations for Interpretable Coefficients of Trends, Seasonality & Covariates”* (SPEED session).



Left to right: Brady West (2023 SRMS Chair), Timothy Van Blarcom, Liam Spoletini, Harold Gomes, Andreea Erciulescu (2023 SRMS JSM Program Chair)

Thanks to all of the SRMS poster judges: Elizabeth Petraglia (Westat), Hans Kiesl (Regensburg University), Justin McIllece (BLS), Nathan Cruze (NASA), Vladislav Beresovsky (BLS), Yan Wang (UCLA), Cynthia Bland (RTI), Wei Zhang (University of Arkansas), Don Jang (NORC), Trijya Singh (LeMoyne College), Snigdhansu Chatterjee (University of Minnesota), Jon Rao (Carleton University), Lu Chen (USDA NASS), Darcy Steeg Morris (U.S. Census Bureau), Brady West (University of Michigan), Daniell Toth (BLS) & Evrim Oral (LSU Health Sciences Center).

And congratulations to the student winners of the Chapman Hall / CRC Press \$150 book voucher raffle at the SRMS JSM business meeting!



Nominate Deserving ASA Fellows

SRMS Fellows Committee

Each year the ASA selects members to be honored as ASA Fellows. Everyone is encouraged to identify friends and co-workers who would be strong candidates. ASA started receiving nominations for the 2024 class of ASA Fellows on its website on October 1. The deadline for submitting nominations is 11:59 PM EST, March 1, 2024. To be eligible, a candidate must have been a member of the ASA for the most recent 3 years (from March 1, 2021 to February 29, 2024). 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>.

The SRMS Fellows Committee plays the role of helping to facilitate the ASA Fellow nomination process by identifying worthy SRMS candidates and finding people to spearhead their nomination. This year the committee has identified four candidates, helping to identify nominators for two candidates and serving as nominators for other two candidates.

If you have a suggestion on who should be nominated, or would like to nominate an SRMS colleague but have questions about how to proceed, please feel free to contact any committee member:

Kristen Olson (University of Nebraska) – Chair

Brady West (University of Michigan, taking over for Kristen Olson in 2024)

Mary Mulry (U.S. Census Bureau)

Craig Hill (RTI International)

Nominations Sought for the 2025 Waksberg Award

The journal *Survey Methodology* has established an [annual invited paper series](#) in honor of the late Joseph Waksberg to recognize his outstanding contributions to survey statistics and methodology. Each year a prominent survey statistician is chosen to write a paper that reviews the development and current state of an important topic in the field of survey statistics and methodology. The paper reflects the mixture of theory and practice that characterized Joseph Waksberg's work.

The recipient of the Waksberg Award will receive an honorarium and give the 2025 Waksberg Invited Address at the Statistics Canada Symposium, expected to be held in the autumn of 2025. The paper will be published in an upcoming issue of *Survey Methodology* (targeted for December 2025).

The author of the 2025 Waksberg paper will be selected by a four-person committee appointed by *Survey Methodology* and the *American Statistical Association*. **Nominations of individuals to be considered should be sent by email before February 15, 2024 to the chair of the committee, Denise Silva (denisebritz@gmail.com).** Nominations should include a CV and a nomination letter. Nominations will remain active for five years.

2024 Waksberg Award

M. Giovanna Ranalli

The 2024 recipient of the [Waksberg Award](#) is Richard Valliant, Research Professor Emeritus, University of Michigan and Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland. Professor Valliant will give the Waksberg Invited Address at the Statistics Canada Symposium in 2024 and write a paper planned for publication in the December 2024 issue of *Survey Methodology*.

The journal [Survey Methodology](#) established in 2001 an annual invited paper series in honor of Joseph Waksberg to recognize his contributions to survey statistics and methodology. Each year, a prominent survey statistician is chosen to write a paper that reviews the development and current state of an important topic in survey statistics and methodology and reflects the mixture of theory and practice that characterized Joseph Waksberg's work. Joseph Waksberg was a giant in survey sampling for nearly seven decades, beginning at the U.S. Census Bureau in 1940 and then moving to Westat in 1973 where he served as Chairman of the Board from 1990 until his death in 2006. The award includes an honorarium made possible by a grant from Westat.

The author of the 2024 Waksberg paper was selected by a four-person committee -- M. Giovanna Ranalli (Chair), Jae-Kwang Kim, Kristen Olson, and Denise Silva -- appointed by Survey Methodology and the American Statistical Association.

JSSAM Year in Review and All Digital Access in 2024

Kristen Olson

As we start 2024, the Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology (JSSAM) takes a look back at the past year. In 2023, JSSAM:

- Published 54 articles, including 22 survey methodology papers, 23 survey statistics papers, and 6 applications papers which bridge the two sections;
- Included contributions from 165 distinct authors from 98 institutions and 13 countries;
- Featured a special issue on Recent Advances in Data Integration, guest edited by Joe Sakshaug and Beka Steorts; and
- Selected our first two “editor’s choice” articles: “Preferred Reporting Items for Complex Sample Survey Analysis (PRICSSA)” by Andrew B. Seidenberg, Richard P. Moser, and Brady T. West and “Hansen Lecture 2022: The Evolution of the Use of Models in Survey Sampling” by Richard Valliant.

One big change for 2024 has to do with how you will receive your copies of JSSAM. To help save paper and control printing costs, JSSAM access will be all-digital in 2024. To stay up-to-date on the latest articles from JSSAM, sign up for table of contents alerts and new article alerts from Oxford University Press. To get electronic notifications, click on Alerts (<https://academic.oup.com/my-account/email-alerts>) on the JSSAM webpage (<https://academic.oup.com/jssam>), sign in or create an account, and add JSSAM to your new issue & advance article alerts! You can also follow JSSAM on Twitter, Mastodon, Facebook, and BlueSky.

SRMS Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Darcy Steeg Morris and Wendy Van de Kerckhove

The SRMS newsletter is published twice a year in mid-January and in mid-July, typically posted on the [SRMS website](https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodssection) (<https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodssection>), and shared on ASA Connect. All 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 mid-June 2024. 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 the newsletter's publication date);
- 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 Darcy Steeg Morris (darcy.steeg.morris@census.gov) and Wendy Van de Kerckhove (WendyVanDeKerckhove@westat.com), either in the body of an email or in a Microsoft Word attachment. We cannot accept PDFs.

Your SRMS Officers for 2024

Chair: Don Jang

Chair-Elect: Eric Rancourt

Past-Chair: Brady T. West

Treasurer: Rebecca Andridge

Secretary: Martha McRoy

2024 JSM Program Chair: Pushpal Mukhopadhyay

2024 JSM Program Chair-Elect: Chris Moriarity

Publications Officer: Hanyu Sun

Education Officer: Julia Soulakova

Section Representatives: Kristen Olson and Andreea Erciulescu

Contact information can be found at

<http://ww2.amstat.org/sections/officers.cfm?txtComm=SSRMS>.

Newsletter Editors: Darcy Steeg Morris and Wendy Van de Kerckhove

Website Editor: Maura Bardos

Student Representative(s): Stephanie Morales and Ulrich Kemmo Tsafack

ASA Staff Liaison: Rick Peterson

SRMS Mission Statement



SRMS has over 1,100 members, of which over 100 are based outside of North America. The Survey Research Methods Section is for American Statistical Association members who research survey methodology or employ survey methods as a prime tool of investigation. Some areas of special interest are:

- ❖ Design and execution of sample surveys;
- ❖ Analysis and presentation of survey data;
- ❖ Statistical inference from survey data;
- ❖ Publication of developments and findings in survey research;
- ❖ Standards of design, estimation, and reporting of surveys;
- ❖ Promotion of uniform survey terminology;
- ❖ Use of survey research procedures and findings to inform public policy, including relations between public and private agencies in the design, conduct, and presentation of findings of surveys; and
- ❖ Ethics relating to the conduct of survey research and to respondents and potential respondents.

Member Benefits

- ❖ Contributing a community and platform within the broader statistical community for sharing and discussing survey research, methodology, as well as emerging opportunities in our field;
- ❖ Being connected with the ASA survey research methods community and receiving an invitation to the annual section business meeting;
- ❖ Representing the survey statistics community and showing solidarity and support to the survey research profession;
- ❖ Accessing the SRMS email listserv and newsletter including career and learning opportunity announcements;
- ❖ Accessing the online edition of [*Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology \(JSSAM\)*](#) for free;
- ❖ Participating in SRMS member-only discounts for webinars and short courses;
- ❖ Receiving [AAPOR member pricing](#) on most webinars (contact [AAPOR](#) to register for live webinars);

- ❖ Viewing all the [2016-2022 AAPOR webinars](#) for free (email [Brady West](#) to request access privileges to be applied to your personal AAPOR account);
- ❖ Accessing all the SRMS [JSM](#) proceedings, the [ICES](#) proceedings, the [Hard to Reach \(H2R\)](#) proceedings among others at the section's [proceedings website](#);
- ❖ Supporting free student membership, student conference travel awards, and student paper awards.

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 apply to be a [member of the ASA](#); make sure to select “Survey Research Methods” from the “Choose Your Section(s)” list.
- If you are already an ASA member or renewing a membership, [login to your member's only page](#) to add SRMS membership by clicking on “Add Additional Chapter or Section.”

For more information on SRMS resources, member benefits, and much more, check out the SRMS website at <https://community.amstat.org/surveyresearchmethodssection/home>.

SRMS Sponsorship Opportunities

As research data pipelines continue to evolve, SRMS is committed to help promote the improvement of survey practice and the understanding of survey methods in the context of creation of research datasets based on multiple data sources. SRMS will continue to provide benefits to members with networking opportunities, webinars, information sharing, and conferences. SRMS is also committed to support graduate students and early career SRMS members to maintain a healthy pipeline of next generation SRMS members. Are you interested in helping SRMS to achieve these goals? Please consider becoming a 2024 SRMS Sponsor and getting valuable exposure for your organization.

SRMS Sponsorship Options

- **SRMS Webinars.** \$500 with the following benefits:
 - Two (2) free registrations (via a promo code that will be shared with the sponsor).
 - Acknowledgement of the sponsorship in all announcements about each webinar and at both the beginning and end of each webinar.
- **JSM Mixer and Business Meeting:** \$6000 (single sponsor) with the following benefits:
 - Acknowledgement of the sponsorship at the business meeting (including written acknowledgement on the agenda sheet).
 - Inclusion of a sponsor poster inside the business meeting room.
 - Acknowledgement of the sponsorship in the SRMS newsletter (will be in January 2025) after the JSM.
 - One page of job postings / organization advertisements in the SRMS newsletter all year long.
- **SRMS Friends:** \$1000 with the following benefits:
 - Acknowledgement of sponsorship in the SRMS newsletter all year long.
 - One page of job postings on the SRMS newsletter all year long
- **General Donations.** Any amount with the following benefits:
 - Acknowledgement of sponsorship in the next SRMS newsletter.