Background

At the 2017 winter meeting, the COSGB discussed creating a survey to assess Section health. The goal was to identify areas where Sections might improve and provide help to Sections if needed.

The initial survey was administered online at the end of 2017. As the COSGB examined the results, the goal of the survey evolved. Rather than information for the COSGB, the results of the survey were to be shared with COS Representatives at JSM and made available to sections. To this end, a summary report was prepared and shared at the 2018 JSM. In addition, the COSGB decided to administer the survey annually and use it as a replacement for the (required) Section Annual Report.

After the 2018 JSM, a committee reviewed and revised the survey. The revised survey was administered at the end of 2018. We have prepared a summary of the results to be shared during JSM at the COS Representatives meeting. The summary report will also be posted on the ASA Communities web site, along with a copy of the spreadsheet containing the “raw” data from the survey. We plan to make some minor edits to the survey but hope to have a version that can be used annually with no or minimal changes. We are also hoping to standardize the format of the summary report to be presented at JSM.

Our ongoing plan is to replace the Section Annual Report with the survey. All Sections and IGs are required to complete the survey. The survey will be administered online at the end of every year, but we encourage the Sections to take advantage of the time together at JSM to review the questions, assess the current state of the Section and draft preliminary answers. We will prepare a summary report to be posted at the ASA Communities web site along with the raw data from the Survey. These items will be kept online so that we have an historical record that Sections can access if they desire.
Overall, how does the Section's Executive Board rate the Section's performance in 2018?
If your Executive Board graded Section performance at Good or below, please explain why and how the COSGB can help your Section perform better:

- (1) Provide assistance with the development of webinars we can place on our website; (2) Provide assistance with setting up a bank account for SAIG funds to use for registration and travel costs for our 2019 JSM Invited Session panelists; (3) Provide suggestions for aligning with other ASA Sections and Special Interest Groups with shared memberships. The deficiency in 2018 was reaching out and securing memberships in SAIG from non-ASA and non-ASA affiliated members (e.g., U.S. state sampling specialists providing samples for sales and tax audits, abandoned and unclaimed property tax audits, and federal income tax sampling specialists. Expanding our membership to current and prospective non-ASA members is our top priority for 2019.

- Help us advertise our online learning sessions.

- Need to improve communications with the Section membership and better promote their participation in Section activities.
Cell plot of responses to Yes-No questions (questions and Section names truncated, ordered by number of yes’s and with IGs at end)

Blue = Yes
Red = No
Black = Blank

Section Name

Sponsor any invited and/or topic contributed sessions at the JSM?
Submit a full slate of officers for 2019 elections?
Keep and distribute executive meeting’s agendas and minutes?
Executive board communicate to members through ASA community?
Members communicate with other members through ASA community?
Reach out for feedback from members (at JSM other meetings, email)?
Hold a member mixer at ASA sponsored conferences, including JSM?
Activities or resources for board members for smooth yearly transition?
Offer Student Awards?
Participate in or coordinate any activities with other sections?
Submit articles to Amstat News to inform members of section activities?
Conduct public relation activities for awareness of the section or ASA?
Have a mentoring program for its members?
Make other forms of recognition and awards for its members?
Do any other types of outreach activities?
Conduct public relation activities for awareness of the section or ASA?
Use social media to communicate with your members?
Communicate with your members in another ways, not listed above?
Have any other activities for meetings or networking?
Committee (or other) to solicit member nominations for ASA Fellow?
Organize and/or sponsor non-ASA sponsored conferences?
Conduct any new member recruitment activities?
Publish a Newsletter for its members?
Organize and/or sponsor ASA sponsored conference other than JSM?
Have a specific "welcome new members" initiative?
Publish a Newsletter for its members?
Conduct any new member recruitment activities?
Committee (or other) to solicit member nominations for ASA Fellow?
Submit a full slate of officers for 2019 elections?
Keep and distribute executive meeting’s agendas and minutes?
Executive board communicate to members through ASA community?
Members communicate with other members through ASA community?
Reach out for feedback from members (at JSM other meetings, email)?
Hold a member mixer at ASA sponsored conferences, including JSM?
Activities or resources for board members for smooth yearly transition?
Offer Student Awards?
Participate in or coordinate any activities with other sections?
Submit articles to Amstat News to inform members of section activities?
**Comments for questions with many no answers and for which a written comment was requested.**

1. Most Sections do not offer volunteer recognition awards. The new service award may be a step in that direction.

2. Did your Section offer other continuing educational activities for its members not included above? If you answered 'Yes', what was it?
   - Workshop short courses
   - Tutorials at DATAWorks workshop

3. Did your Section offer any other additional leadership development and mentoring activities? If you answered 'Yes', what were they?
   - We presented a webinar for people interested in the Pharma Industry as programmers and analysts
   - JSM roundtable on career advancement
   - Individual Mentoring
   - We offered a “Professional Development Luncheon” at ICHPS that was geared towards mentoring
   - Our mentorship program is designed to be mutually beneficial. Some of the topics are related to leadership.

4. Does your Section have a nominating committee (or other efforts) to solicit member nominations for ASA Fellow? If you answered 'Yes', how many of your Section members were nominated, through your Section’s efforts, in 2018?

   0 (8 Sections)
   1 (2 Sections)
   3 (2 Sections)
   5 (2 Sections)
   10 (1 Section)
5. Did your Section make other forms of recognition and awards for its members? If you answered 'Yes', what other forms were offered?

- Coordination with ISBA on announcing dissertation awards, some years featuring them in sessions at JSM
- We created rewards for webinar presentations outstanding paper at JSM
- We offer awards for best contributed presentation and best contributed poster awards however, this is open to everyone and not just members.
- “The Statistical Computing and Graphics Award" (awarded bi-annually).
- Initiated a poster award this year
- Tried to encourage recognition through our website.

6. Did your Section offer Member Awards of other types? If you answered 'Yes', what kinds of other awards did your Section present?

- In 2018, we recognized a member for significant contributions to the Section A bi-annual award together with the Section on Computing
- Outstanding teaching award
- The SPES Award and JWM best presentation awards
- We oversee the Waller Education awards and offer two presentation awards at JSM (we further developed the judging rubrics this year)
- HPSS Long-Term Excellence Awards and one HPSS Mid-Career Award
- Early Investigator and Distinguished Achievement Awards
- Distinguished Achievement Award
- Mantel lifetime achievement award
- GSS co-sponsors the Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award, the Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship, and the Roger Herriot Award. GSS sponsors the Pat Doyle Award.
- The new Leo Breiman awards for senior and junior statisticians. Student travel award
The COSGB finds it helpful to tell Sections about other activities that we may not routinely ask each Section about. What other activities is your Section doing that were not mentioned above, or for which you would you like to provide more details about something exciting that your Section is doing?

- Our Section members have started and help to run several sports clubs on their campuses. This is an opportunity for recruiting new members and promoting research activities in sports statistics.

- We did the first of what should be an annual conference call with officers of both Computing and Graphics – the Sections have a historical excellent and close relationship.

- We appreciated the chance to have a table with the Stat Ed Section at JSM.

- Contacting Federation of Tax Administrators and the Multistate Tax Commission about SAIG sessions on audit sampling at the organizations’ annual meetings during the summer of 2019.

- Harold Jennings, who is charge of audit sampling for the MTC is a panelist for our JSM 2019 Invited Session on the history of statistical auditing.

- We are holding biannual Section Symposia. The first was in 2018 and the second will be in 2020.

- We were just approved as a Section in October 2018. We are excited about our 2019 conference.

- In 2018 we drafted our innovation award, and greatly increased our social media participation.

- The TSHS has a resources portal, a repository of datasets and associated teaching materials. It now has 11 datasets with documentation. We also have a dedicated TSHS blog at https://tshsblog.wixsite.com/main/blog

- (i) Hold an annual Data Challenge Expo (joint with the Section on Statistical Graphics and the Government Statistical Section); (ii) Completely revise and update the Charter of the Section on Statistical Computing (first update since 1996) – out for member approval during the general ASA elections in 2019!

- We set up our microsite and will continue to improve it and add content. We are collecting links to videos and recordings of historical interest, along with resources such as books, articles, and teaching aides. We will send this list to the ASA Community and ask for additional inputs. We held our first election for officers starting in 2019. Survey monkey was used for voting. We solicited ideas for invited and topic-contributed sessions at JSM 2019. We have at least two
invited sessions and one TC session. The Executive Board agreed to sponsor all memorial sessions at JSM, which we did for 2018. We posted instructions on how to join the IG for both ASA and non-ASA members. We forged relationships with history groups in other societies. There will be a history session at the ISI World Congress and the 2019 IG Chair Amanda Golbeck will be speaking in the session. Amanda has been working with RSS, and the IG was given the chance to provide inputs to a revised History of Statistics timeline. Also, the 2018 crossword puzzle we developed has been posted online by Significance magazine. We developed 4 postcards showing famous statisticians in history, which were handouts at JSM. We had our first annual mixer and open meeting at the JSM 2018, where we solicited ideas for JSM 2019 and future IG activities. We also worked closely with the AHMC – Archive and Historical Materials Committee – throughout the year. The Chair of the AHMC is on our executive board and participated in meetings.

- We have reached out to the NIMH Program Officers about Power Calculation recommendation for NIH grant applications.

- The other activities are: (i) ICHPS as a conference is a high-quality, well attended conference. This is a big effort for HPSS. (ii) Science communication workshop offered for free to all ICHPS attendees is a new thing; (iii) Career panel and networking event was a mentoring effect for students and early career investigators. Also, the collaboration with Academy Health – outreach to PCORI. We also conducted the Joint NISS-Merck-HPSS Workshop (Session 2 upcoming in late 2019) and have several members in AcademyHealth Methods sessions leader roles.

- At our Section organized conference, SMI, we hosted a hackathon for the first time in 2018. This was very successful and we plan to expand on this in next year's conference and moving forward, especially as a way of engaging younger members.

N/A

- We are planning our third Seasonal Adjustment Workshop (tentatively scheduled for November 2019) in partnership with BES and WSS. The keynote speaker Jonathan Wright at BLS. We co-sponsored a CE course on hot deck imputation for sample surveys at JSM (with SRMS), taught by Dr. Rebecca Andridge (OSU) and Jenny Thompson. They will repeat the course this spring in DC for the WSS and have been invited to teach it at the upcoming ICES-VI conference in 2020. The Data Exposition continues to attract enthusiastic participation and elicit interesting and innovative results.

- We co-sponsored the highly successful BigSurv conference and we hope to do the same with ICESVI.

- We evaluated the TSIG needs and opportunities. Accordingly, we are recruiting new members and reaching out to other ASA Sections for cooperation, and educating young statisticians on Transportation Statistics.
Finally, is your Section is planning for 2019, is it expecting to take on any new activities or initiatives? Please describe.

• A goal for 2019 is to discuss new promotional activities at our JSM business meeting and select at least one new promotional initiative to pursue before 2020.

• (1) Develop 2019 joint sessions and meetings with organizations that serve state and federal sampling professionals (Federation of Tax Administrators, Multistate Tax Commission, Institute of Professionals of Taxation, Council on State Taxation, IRS). (2) Develop webinars available on the SAIG website that address audit sampling questions and issues raised by our members. (3) Create a nomination committee for SAIG officers, send out ballots and elect officers for 2020. (4) Coordinate with other ASA Sections and Special Interest Groups to offer joint sessions at future JSM and ASA-associated organizations. (5) Expand membership by promoting SAIG to potential constituents.

• We are planning on adding webinars.

• We are discussing the possibility of launching a webinar series.

• We would like to expand to give student awards in 2019.

• Topic contributed session at JSM, presentations on QC at other scientific meetings, publications and webinars related to QC.

• Award first student paper competition winner at JSM 2019.

• This year we are planning to reach out to universities around our officers, particularly in data science.

• We are also creating a community award for innovation in programming and analysis.

• We intend to host additional webinars in 2019 and to proceed with fellow and award nominations.

• Yes, we have a newly formed Outreach Committee. We have also been considering expanding out into YouTube.

• Yes, our Section is co-sponsoring three Continuing Education (CE) courses in 2019, something we haven’t done for many years.

• Some plans for 2019 include preparing handouts and postcards for our JSM booth/table, soliciting resources (links, classroom materials) from members and posting on our microsite, soliciting members from the broader ASA community (e.g., send message to ASA Connect that
we exist and how to join), continuing to work with history groups in other societies (especially the RSS and ISI), and encouraging members to submit articles on history of statistics to TAS and other journals.

1) Fellowship program for one HS teacher and one two-year college teacher per year. Hope to solicit first slate of nominations Spring 2019 for kick off June 2019

2) Form learning communities. Identify 4-5 community leaders to lead discussion groups of areas where members want additional training/retraining. Year 1 will focus on topics on data science.

3) Outreach to non ASA Sections involved in data science, including SIGCSE

- We hope to finally create an award or two to show recognition of members with extraordinary scholarly achievement and/or service to the Section. We will also increase our effort to recruit new members and to engage them in the Section’s various activities.

- We expect to continue expanding our outreach efforts, collecting additional data from our membership, and possibly considering a name change.

- No, but this is something we are discussing for the future with ideas including mentoring, outreach, communication, website, webinars and others. It would be helpful to be able to learn from other Sections about their activities and initiatives for 2019.

- Look into Fellow nominations, send out Section awards

- One goal we've had for a while is to extend our reach to other types of imaging. Right now many members focus on medical or neuroimaging, because that's where the Section grew up from. We are brainstorming ideas to involve other types of imagers as well.

- Our major initiative is to implement more targeted outreach and provide more accessible deliverables to state and local government Section members. We are proposing a series of webinars combined with a virtual workshop as a possible outreach idea. Our secondary initiative is to interest students in government statistics. We are considering hosting a dedicated mentoring roundtable (following ENV) at JSM.

- We are working to create better web presence and/or a newsletter.

- Increased webinar program, in collaboration with other organizations.

- We are currently collaborating with the Mental Health Statistics Section to develop a webinar. This will be the first webinar offered by the Biometrics Section.

- Recruiting new members, educating students and young statisticians on Transportation statistics, working with other ASA full Sections.
Potential Action Items

1. COSGB add documentation in the ‘Officers Handbook’ on setting up and maintaining bank accounts in general, in partnerships with other organizations, for conferences and special events, etc.
2. COSGB add a ‘communications’ template to the ‘Officers Handbook’ and add more communications to the Section Officers Calendar in the handbook.
3. COSGB add a template on advertising to the handbook.

Observations

1. Sections that rated themselves as ‘Excellent’ distinguished themselves from other Sections by these 3 traits.
   a. Mentoring program for members
   b. Communicated with members outside of their website and/or social media
   c. Had a specific welcome new members initiative
2. Sections that did not rate themselves as ‘Excellent’ or ‘Very Good’ differed from other Sections by these 3 traits.
   a. Limited participation or coordination activities with other Sections.
   b. Limited to programs, workshops and/or webinars on leadership, career development and/or mentoring.
   c. Limited awards recognition for members.