GSS Executive Board Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2019 – 12pm

Attending: Elizabeth Mannshardt, Wendy Martinez, Tara Murphy, Marilyn Seastrom, Jenny Thompson, Michael Yang

Regrets: Michael Davern, Jeffery Gonzalez, Jenny Guarino, Jennifer Parker

Next Meeting Date: Mon Mar 25 or Fri Mar 29 at 11:30 or noon? (Elizabeth hard-stop at 12:45 both days)

Budget
• JSM Business Meetings (Executive Committee breakfast and Member Business Meeting)
  • Elizabeth received an email from JSM requesting input for GSS’s JSM meetings. The form is due to ASA April 1. Elizabeth will reply with Tuesday as the first choice (breakfast Tues AM, business meeting Tues PM) and Monday as our second choice for day.
  • Elizabeth received an email from Trudy with SSS asking if GSS and SSS should coordinate meetings this year. The business meetings conflicted at JSM last year. Elizabeth will reply to Trudy letting her know our meetings are planning to be held on Tuesday of JSM and it is our understanding their meetings are on Monday so there shouldn’t be a conflict.
  • Elizabeth shared we need to tell JSM what we want to order and how much we want to spend by April 1st. Sometime in April JSM will share menu for what can be purchased with that amount.
    • Marilyn warned the deals that run a certain dollar amount per person are more expensive than a la carte. They will also overestimate how much food is needed for the person count.
    • Last year a la carte was used and there was still so much food leftover from the breakfast and business meeting.
      • Board suggested only offering coffee/beverages for the breakfast to save money.
      • Tara will look through board minutes to create 2019 budget to determine how much was budgeted for JSM food.
        • Some of the budgeted amount may be set aside for the Seasonal Adjustment workshop.
  • Need to confirm time and place of the meetings with ASA before the program is available. Last year, the email submission was lost. Because of this, GSS did not get their first choice of dates or meeting location for the business meeting.

Newsletter
• Draft ready for distribution soon. Elizabeth is aiming to send to the board prior to sending out to rest of GSS community. She will email it out this week to the board, but there’s no obligation to read through it. She plans to send out to rest of community the end of this week or over the weekend.
  • Board agreed Elizabeth will send email to GSS list and to GSS/SSS joint section list. This may cause members on both lists to receive duplicate emails, so Elizabeth will look into deduping the list prior to sending.
  • Once the email goes out, Elizabeth will post the newsletter to the website.
  • Everything that others have requested to include have been included in the newsletter.
  • Newsletter includes winners from last year’s Data Expo. Wendy will provide Elizabeth the names of those pictured from last year’s Data Expo and give information on this year’s Expo. Wendy mentioned that there were quite a few entries this year: 15-20
  • Seasonal Adjustment Workshop is set for November 20th. Elizabeth will add a save the date to the newsletter and the website. Jenny T will send email regarding Keynote Speakers.
Website
- There have been many additions/edits to the website.
- Board should check their info on GSS Executive Officers page to ensure the listing accurately reflects their contact details.
- Elizabeth added information about the Virtual Workshop, without specifically saying “virtual”. She mentioned partnership with SSS. These are described as Webinars on the website and in the newsletter.
  - Jenny Thompson wants to actively publicize SSS’s co-sponsorship, as SSS was very excited to partner with GSS on the workshop. She will review Elizabeth’s wording.

Awards
Co-sponsorship and form committees
- Elizabeth reached out to other Section Chairs and has updated the newsletter and website. She will updated our awards matrix with the new contacts.
- Will need to solicit input for candidates for the awards. This will be included in the newsletter.
- Pat Doyle Award: Selection committee should be the 3 GSS Chairs (Current, Past, Elect)

Activities
Virtual Workshop proposal sent to ASA
- Jenny T. thinks a program committee should be put together for the workshop to include members from SSS and possibly SRMS.
- Elizabeth, Jenny T., and Urban Landreman (Hennepin County Public Health Department, MN; state and local government liaison) will represent GSS on the program committee.
- Recommendation is to include one board member from SSS, as well as the individual SSS emailed to Jenny.
- Rick should be involved in the discussions since it’s a webinar and he can give insight on what can and can’t be done.
- Committee call will be sent the last week of March.
- We won’t know from ASA until April 2nd about the grant (volunteer initiative proposal).
- There are two committed speakers at this point.

JSM GSS activities:
- The JSM Program Committee is in the midst of finalizing the program. They will have an in-person meeting March 1 and 2. The GSS has been allocated three roundtables, as well as the following:

5 Invited Sessions:
1. 218048 – Challenges and Breakthroughs in Analyzing Big Survey Data
2. 218121 – Developing Multi-Purpose Imputed or Synthetic Data for Official Statistics
4. 217960 – Data Fabrication and Falsification: Protecting the Credibility and Impacts of Surveys
5. 217995 – Learning from the Past – A History of Censuses

6 Topic-Contributed Sessions:
1. 218371 – Improving Data Collection: Challenges in Survey Practice
2. 218301 – Differential Privacy Research and Applications at the U.S. Census Bureau
3. 218321 – Assessing the Quality of Integrated Data
4. **218309** – Statistical Data Editing Modernization
5. **218332** – Time Series in Government and National Statistics
6. **218328** – Statistical advances in population research in the developing world

**6 Regular-contributed Sessions:**
1. Using and linking auxiliary and administrative data
2. Issues in frame quality and accuracy assessments
3. Innovations in and applications of imputation
4. Evaluating and reducing nonsampling errors in surveys
5. Expanding data utility – issues in disclosure and modeling
6. Applications in the analysis of survey data

- The rest of the abstracts submitted to the program will be slated for SPEED and POSTER sessions.
- Elizabeth will include the invited and topic-contributed sessions in the newsletter. Wendy can provide an estimate for the number of entries for the data expo challenge. She believes it’s around 15-20 abstracts.
- Wendy shared the NYC’s Housing Department created a website specifically for the ASA data challenge and will be sending individuals to JSM. This is thanks in part to an employee who is a member of GSS and wants to get more local governments more involved. Marilyn mentioned needing to invite them to the business meeting at JSM.

**COS Items**
- We will need to review our charter this year. Jennifer P. will take a look at what we have and circulate questions over the next few months and we can decide if we need changes. It’s not due until the end of the year so if there are things that we want to change it will be brought up at our in-person meeting at JSM.

- ASA Award for Outstanding Section Service: ASA will begin giving awards for outstanding section service. Each year, 1/3 of all sections will be able to select someone for the award. Our section will be eligible to select a winner for these awards in 2020. Elizabeth believes the deadline for this year is March 31st, based on Council of Chapters deadline for similar award – not certain it applies to COS
  - Jenny T shared this is a new award, so there is no list of previous winners. This is a COS initiative.
  - Jenny shared COS thought of this award to recognize individuals who have a record of strong service for a Section, which makes the focus quite different from other ASA awards. This can be given to the person who writes the newsletter each year or mails everything for the section, for example.
    - The Pat Doyle award is for outstanding service to GSS. Some sections don’t have awards like this. Pat Doyle nominations are a good place to start for this award nominations.
    - With this information, the three chairs may be best to form the award committee.
  - Jenny shared slides last year with the board regarding this award. Jennifer P. might have more updated information.
  - Board requests Jennifer P. to share more information with the board, regarding deadlines, etc. as well as any information provided by ASA/COS
  - Input can be requested from ASA fellows committee, but that committee is a bit too far set from GSS to know and select individuals.
• On Feb 1, Jennifer P. sent an email with a proposal for a new Interest Group named Text Analytics. She received a couple of comments, primarily related to overlap with current sections and groups (e.g. statistical computing). She’ll be sending comments to ASA Wednesday, February 27.
• If there’s any additional comments, share with Jennifer P. prior to Wednesday.
• A section is comprised of only ASA members, while interest groups can include ASA and non-ASA members. Sections are allocated a certain number of invited and topic-contributed sessions at JSM, while interest groups are allocated one topic-contributed session apiece and can compete for invited sessions. An ASA member must head the interest group.
• Elizabeth found it hard to find information on interest groups on the ASA website and will bring this up with ASA.

Officers
Chair: Elizabeth Mannshardt
Chair-Elect 2019: Jenny Thompson
Past Chair: Marilyn Seastrom
Secretary/Treasurer 2019-2020: Tara Murphy
COS Rep 2019-2021: Jennifer Parker

Program Chair 2019: Jeffery Gonzalez
Program Chair-Elect 2019: Michael Yang
Publications Officer 2018 & 2019: Jenny Guarino
COPAFS: Wendy Martinez
COPAFS: Michael Davern