

# ASA<sup>+</sup> Government Statistics Section

JOIN GSS IN DENVER AT JSM 2019!



[Photo Credit](#)

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## GSS 2019 Activities

GSS has an exciting program for JSM 2019, sponsoring over two dozen Invited and Topic Contributed Sessions, two roundtables, and multiple Contributed, Speed, and Poster sessions – [download the JSM app](#) to ease navigation. Be sure to look for the GSS Best Student Paper Award session!

Join old friends and colleagues – and meet new ones! - at the GSS Business Meeting and Mixer with the GSS Award Ceremony on Tuesday evening. GSS will be honoring the achievements of several of our members as well as recognizing Data Expo and student award winners.

GSS is excited to announce a series of cutting edge, emerging topics to be offered as a Virtual Workshop with ASA's Professional Development series and jointly sponsored by ASA's Social Statistics Section. Also save the date for the 2019 SAP and 2020 ICES VI conferences.

GSS invites members and the community to the  
GSS Business Meeting and Mixer with the GSS Awards Ceremony



**GSS BUSINESS MEETING AND MIXER  
AND  
AWARDS CEREMONY**

**Tuesday 7/30 @ 5:30 - 7:00 PM.**

**H-Capital Ballroom 5**

**Hyatt Regency Hotel at Denver Convention Center**

*Awards to be presented at the GSS Business Meeting and Reception at JSM*

**Pat Doyle Award** A tribute to Pat's dedication to the statistical field and to GSS. The award is given to a person who contributes to the GSS in a way that leaves a lasting impact on GSS and ASA.



**2019 Pat Doyle Awardee: Shelly Martinez, OMB**

Shelly was the primary force behind the legislation that formed the Commission on Evidence Based Policymaking, served as the Executive Director for the Commission, played a major role in seeing the Commission's report to fruition, and had a significant role in promoting the legislation that resulted in the Foundations of Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018. Shelly's key role in these activities make her a deserving recipient of the 2019 Doyle Award.

**Jeanne E Griffith Mentoring Award** – recognizes and encourages the mentoring of junior staff in the statistical community in federal, state, or local government.

**2019 Griffith Awardee: Sharon Boivin**, National Center for Education Statistics Although Sharon's permanent home is at NCES, her talent as a mentor evidenced itself within NCES, and also in recent assignments to the Commission on Evidence-based Policymaking and OMB's work on creating a Federal Data Strategy. For example, while working on the Federal Data Strategy, Sharon recruited and onboarded nearly 40 part-time team members from across 18 federal departments and agencies. Sharon's mentoring played an important role in this successful process.



**GSS 2019 Executive Board**

Elizabeth Mannshardt (EPA) – Chair  
Katherine (Jenny) Thompson (Census) – Chair-Elect  
Marilyn Seastrom (DOE) – Past-Chair  
Tara Murphy (NASS) – Secretary/Treasurer  
Jeffery Gonzalez (BLS) – Program Chair  
Michael Yang (NORC) – Program Chair-Elect  
Jenny Guarino (USDOT) – Publications Officer  
Jennifer Parker (CDC) – Council of Sections Rep  
Michael Davern (NORC) – COPAFS Representative

**GSS Election Results**

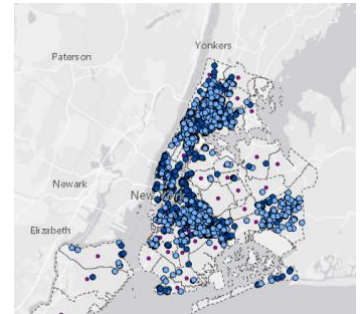
Chair-Elect 2020  
-Michael Messner (EPA)  
Program Chair-Elect 2020  
-William Cecere (Westat)

## GSS Student Awards and Competitions

Winners will be highlighted during the SRMS, GSS, and SSS Business Meetings at JSM

### Data Challenge Expo 2019

Three ASA Sections (Computing, Government, and Graphics) are proud to sponsor the Data Challenge Expo 2019. The data set for the Data Challenge Expo 2019 is the New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey. We had a great turn-out for the data challenge this year! Contestants will present their results first in 5-minute oral speed presentations on Sunday, July 28 at 2:00pm in CC-501 (Session 218689). Attendees and judges will then have a chance to chat one-on-one with the contestants during the e-poster session at 4:00 PM in CC-Hall C (Session 218756). Organizers thank the New York City Housing Office for providing the data, and Elyzabeth Gaumer for her support.



### Best Student Papers Awards

Awarded by the ASA Consortium of GSS/SSS/SRMS. Tues 7/30, 10:30am–12:20pm CC-504

- *Polling bias from undecided voters in recent US Presidential elections* - **Joshua Bon**, Queensland University of Technology; Timothy Ballard, U of Queensland; Bernard Baffour, Australian National University
- *Complementing the power of deep learning with statistical model fusion: Probabilistic forecasting of influenza in Dallas County, Texas, USA* - **Marwah Soliman**, UT at Dallas; Yulia Gel, UT at Dallas; Vyacheslav Lyubchich, University of Maryland
- *Predicting interviewer effects using paradata* - **Sharan Sharma**, University of Michigan; Michael Elliott, UM
- *Reinforced designs for observational studies of treatment effects: Multiple instruments plus control groups as evidence factors* - **Bikram Karmakar**, University of Pennsylvania; Dylan Small, UoP; Paul Rosenbaum, UoP
- *Accounting for survey design in Bayesian disaggregation of survey-based areal estimates of proportions* - **Marco Benedetti**, University of Michigan; Veronica J. Berrocal, UM

### New ASA Fellows

**Kate Crespi**, University of California Los Angeles

**Mulugeta Gebregziabher**, Medical Univ. of South Carolina

**Craig Hill**, RTI International

**Cynthia Rudin**, Duke University

*Please join GSS in congratulating our members who are new ASA Fellows!*



## GSS Program at JSM

**Look for JSM app available mid-July!** Download iOS or Android, or use the html5 version:  
<https://ww2.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2019/jsmapp.cfm>

GSS Program Chair 2019: [Jeffrey M. Gonzalez](#); GSS Program Chair-Elect 2019: [Michael Yang](#)

### GSS Invited Sessions

Sun, 7/28, 2:00 - 3:50PM (CC-505)-**Challenges and Breakthroughs in Analyzing Big Survey Data**  
 Mon, 7/29, 8:30 - 10:20 AM (CC-607) - **The multiple adaptations of multiple imputation**  
 Mon, 7/29, 8:30 - 10:20 AM (CC-705) - **Administrative Income Data, Survey Data and Inequality**  
 Mon, 7/29, 10:30 AM - 12:20 PM (CC-702) - **Government cybersecurity research: Statistical challenges and opportunities**  
 Mon, 7/29, 10:30 AM - 12:20 PM (CC-101) - **Developing Multi-Purpose Imputed or Synthetic Data for Official Statistics**  
 Mon, 7/29 2:00 - 3:50 PM (CC-603) - **Evolving survey inference in the big data era: Challenges and opportunities**  
 Tue, 7/30, 2:00 - 3:50 PM (CC-501) - **Achieving Adequate Representation When Surveying Rare Populations**  
 Tue, 7/30, 2:00 - 3:50 PM (CC-703) - **Official Statistics at the Crossroads: Data Quality and Access in an Era of Heightened Privacy Risk**  
 Wed, 7/31 10:30 AM - 12:20 PM (CC-205) - **Data Fabrication and Falsification: Protecting the Credibility and Impacts of Surveys**  
 Wed, 7/31 2:00 - 3:50 PM (CC-603) - **Total survey errors in the combination of probability and nonprobability samples**  
 Thu, 8/1, 8:30 - 10:20 AM (CC-207) - **Learning from the Past – A History of Censuses**  
 Thu, 8/1, 10:30 AM - 12:20 (CC-603) - **Small Area Estimation: “Producing Estimates for Small Areas from Sampled Data”**

**GSS Topic Contributed Sessions** include the GSS Student Paper Competition Winners, Improving Data Collection: Challenges in Survey Practice, Differential Privacy Research and Applications at the U.S. Census Bureau, Assessing the Quality of Integrated Data, Statistical Data Editing Modernization, Time Series in Government and National Statistics, and Statistical advances in population research in the developing world.

**GSS Roundtable** - *Combining Probability and Nonprobability Samples for Estimation and Synthetic Data as an Alternative to PUMS: Challenges, Success, and Issues.*

### JSM Mentoring

**ASA Guided Networking** with Past ASA President Sally Morton hosted by ASA Committee on Career Development – Sun 7/28 2pm

**Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program** Jul 28 – Jul 31. Celebrating 10 years of mentoring, networking, leadership and skills development, community growth, and ensuring a diverse profession  
<https://community.amstat.org/cm/s/events/dwmp/dwmp2019>

**GSS Mentoring Round table** - Designed to engage young professionals and students and encourage diverse participation. **GSS Mentors:** ASA President-Elect Wendy Martinez, (BLS) ASA Past-President Barry Nussbaum (retired EPA), Deputy Director and Professor Stephanie Shipp (UVA). Sponsored by GSS.

## GSS 2019 INITIATIVES AND CONFERENCES

GSS aims to bring the government statistics community professional development opportunities

**Virtual Workshop Professional Development** This fall, GSS and SSS are organizing a series of **FREE** virtual workshops on **Usage of Blended Data and Combining Alternative Source Data: Methods, Challenges, and Considerations in the Era of Big Data** as part of the [ASA's Professional Development \(PD\) Series](#). These workshops are aimed for audiences who may not be able to travel to conferences but are interested in continuing education opportunities. The virtual workshop consists of a series of 1-hour webinars followed by a virtual participation in a group discussion and possible set of activities using data and code provided by the presenter. Each virtual workshop component is designed to educate on one aspect of blended data from an acknowledged expert in the field, with a focus on applications to surveys and censuses (demographic and establishment).

**Overview** – presented by Frauke Krueter, Director of Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland



**How Rare is Rare? The Importance of Model Validation** - presented by Professor Aric LaBarr, North Carolina State University's Institute for Advanced Analytics.



**Interpretability vs. Explainability in Machine Learning** - presented by Professor Cynthia Rudin, Duke University



**Introduction to Big Data and Machine Learning for Survey Researchers** – presented by Trent Buskirk, Novak Professor of Data Science, Bowling Green State University

**Differential Privacy** - Matthew Graham, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

Full abstracts and bios: <https://community.amstat.org/governmentstatisticssection/events>

## Upcoming 2019 GSS Sponsored Conferences

### Seasonal Adjustment Practitioners Workshop

**November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.** Organized by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, SAPW is a one-day conference for public employees (and others) actively involved in seasonal adjustment and related time series methods. This is your opportunity to share experiences in producing seasonal adjustments; give details of interesting time series estimation problems and possible solutions; discuss best practices in seasonal adjustment, time series modeling, or benchmarking; share lessons learned, tips, and shortcuts; present applied research in the practice of time series estimation. **Featured speaker: Professor Jonathan Wright**, Department of Economics, Johns Hopkins University. Look for a call for papers/presentations and registration information. Contact: [esmd.seasonal.workshop@census.gov](mailto:esmd.seasonal.workshop@census.gov)

### International Conference on Establishment Statistics 2020

**New Orleans, Louisiana, June 15-18, 2020.** Continuing in the tradition of ICES-I to ICES V, ICES VI will explore new areas of establishment statistics, as well as reflect state-of-the-art methodology, promoting discussion of a broad range of issues related to the statistics of businesses, farms, or institutions. Participants come from academia, government statistical agencies, private businesses, statistical associations, and other sectors with an interest in international best practices in conceptualization, design, data collection, analysis, and dissemination. <http://ww2.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2020/>