

**GSS Business Meeting Minutes**  
**August 1st, 2017 (5:30pm – 7:00pm)**  
**JSM Room 306**

**Welcome/Introductions**

- Executive board attendees: Darcy Miller, Marilyn Seastrom, Michael Davern, Michael Hawes, Jenny Thompson, Gina Wolejko

**Newly Elected Officers**

- President Elect: Elizabeth Mannshardt
- Program Chair-Elect: Jeffrey Gonzalez

**2017 JSM Program (Michael Hawes and Gina Wolejko)**

- Michael reported that GSS sponsored almost 40 sessions, excluding the round tables. GSS sponsored (or co-sponsored) 13 invited sessions, which is much higher than normal. He thanked the ASA team for allocating extra sessions. The downside is that a lot of sessions were booked in the same time slot.
- He thanked everyone for volunteering to chair.
- Gina reported that there were 3 roundtables. She urged attendees to think about sessions for next year.

**2016 Data Challenge (Wendy Martinez)**

- There were 13 contestants. We co-sponsor with statistical graphics and computing. This year, they paid for the award.
- Computation statistics plans to publish an article about the contest and winners.
- Wendy Martinez is proposing that in odd years we organize, and in even years, they organize. She proposed this at the statistical graphics and computing board meeting.
- Stas suggested reaching out to statistics and data mining section to help co-sponsor.
- Winners are:
  - Student Level Award
    - First Place: Nathan James
    - Second Place: Joyance Meechai
    - Third Place (tie): Mingzhao Hu, Robert Garret
  - Professional Level Award: Gaurav Sharma

**2017 Student Paper Competition (Gina Wolejko)**

- There were 11 or 12 papers submitted. Last year, there were 20+ submissions. This is co-sponsored with social statistics section. Three winners were at the social statistics business meeting.
- Winners are:
  - Claire Bowen
  - Olivia Aviles
  - Maria Resa
  - Maricela Cruz

- Rachel Nethery

### **Awards (Marilyn Seastrom)**

- Jean Griffith Mentoring Award – Winner: Cynthia Ogden
- Roger Herriot Award – Winner: John Eltinge
- Ray Jackson Smith Award – Winner: Sarah Tan (Cornell)
- Pat Doyle Award - Winner: Jennifer Parker

### **Conference Requests (Marilyn Seastrom)**

- ICES VI
  - GSS was asked to underwrite the ICES VI conference which is being planned for 2020 in North America. The board voted to approve GSS support for the ICES VI conference.
- Big Data Meets Survey Science
  - Seed money is being requested for an international conference on big data in survey science. The conference is hosted by the European Survey Research Association and is being held October 25-27 2018 in Barcelona, Spain.
  - The best papers from the conference will be published in the Wiley Survey Methodology Series.
  - The executive board is not clear on the financial structure or what the cost/benefit is. The buy in cost is \$3,000-\$10,000. There is not a contract to review. The board needs to request more information on the financial structure and the conference from Stas Kolenikov. **Action Item: Marilyn will follow up with Stas.**
- Seasonal Adjustment Workshop
  - GSS co-sponsored the workshop with BES last fall. It was well attended, and another is being planned for April 2018. GSS provided \$500 for the last workshop. BES will match whatever GSS contributes. The board discussed contributing but did not settle and vote on a contribution level.

### **Council of Sections (Jenny Thompson)**

- The council of sections (COS) is planning a survey of the sections to assess what sections are doing for their membership and how sections can be more useful to membership.
- GSS is looking for webinars, podcasts and workshops and would like input from federal, state, and local government perspectives.
- GSS was asked to provide promotional bullets to ASA to increase outreach. ASA rewrote them; Jenny found errors and corrected them.
- ASA is trying to figure out how to respond to negative publicity on federal statistics. This is an opportunity for GSS to get involved. If you have ideas, please reach out to Jenny.

### **Treasurer's Report (Darcy Miller)**

- Darcy reported that there are not any expenses listed for this year (beginning January 1, 2017). She expects charges to roll in for JSM and awards soon.
- She reported that our balance is \$14,262, and we are down \$6401 from last year. GSS has been carrying a higher balance than normal, so GSS decided to increase awards last year and spent more at 2016 JSM than the previous year. Our current balance is back to traditional levels.
- Overall membership has dropped slightly, this is due to the decrease in free memberships.

#### **Other (All)**

- Michael Hawes notified the board that the FCSM will be hosting a conference on disclosure avoidance at BLS on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The conference is free to attend. Michael forwarded the call for proposals, which is closed at the time of the minutes being finalized.
- The annual conference emphasizes policy and research in alternating years. There is a proposal to host the conference every other year and combine policy and research into the same conference; FCSM would then support more specialized topics between the general topic conference years.
- Brian Harris Kojetin mentioned that many ASA members are not members of any ASA sections. ASA is trying different tactics to motivate people to join sections; this JSM there were ribbons passed out to section members to wear on their badges.
- JOS will be hosting workshops on adaptive design in D.C. and Europe following a JOS Special Issue on Adaptive design to be published in September. There may be an opportunity to co-sponsor the workshop in D.C.
- There will be a symposium on statistical inference supported by ASA and held in Bethesda. It will be building on the ASA's statement on p-values.

#### **GSS ASA Fellows (Wendy Martinez)**

- GSS has established a 3 member committee to receive and cultivate nominations. Members will be Wendy Martinez (3 year term), Nancy Bates (2 year term), and Jill DeMatteis (Montaquila) (1 year term). Moving forward, all terms will be 3 years. The committee will be soliciting nominations soon. The committee is also responsible for nominating new committee members.

**Meeting adjourned ~ 7:00pm**