

AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
SECTION ON GOVERNMENT STATISTICS (GSS)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Joint Statistical Meetings
August 8, 2005
Minneapolis, MN
Minutes

Those attending were (listed alphabetically):

Name	Position
GSS Executive Committee	
Wendy Alvey	COPAFS Representative 2005-2006
Chet Bowie	2005 Chair
Michael P. Cohen	2006 Program Chair
Steve Cohen	Chair-elect-elect
John Czajka	COPAFS Representative 2004-2005
John Hall	Secretary-Treasurer 2005-2006
Brian Harris-Kojetin	Program Chair 2005
Robert Lussier	Publications
Dan Kasprzyk	COS Representative
Patricia Melvin	Newsletter
Robie Sangster	2007 Program Chair
Nathaniel Schenker	Past Chair
Stephanie Shipp	Chair-elect

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 AM. New members Robbie Sangster, Stephanie Shipp and Steve Cohen were introduced
2. Minutes. The group discussed the minutes of the March 10, 2005 Executive Committee meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion received a second and passed on a voice vote.
3. Treasurer's Report. The treasurer's report for 2005 was discussed. The balance as of June 30, 2005 was \$16,585.32. The 2006 proposed budget needs to be submitted by September 15, 2005. Nat Schenker and John Czajka made suggestions on preparing it. John Hall will prepare draft of the 2006 budget and circulate it to members of the committee by August 15.
4. Council of Sections. Dan Kasprzyk reported. Topics covered in his report included Strategic Initiatives, The ASA Survey Review Committee (SRC), JSM Invited Sessions, JSM Luncheon Round Tables, Continuing Education (CE) proposals, Volunteers for ASA Committees, and The Task Force on Professional Recognition. The ASA is still seeking proposals for Strategic Initiatives. Some comments on some of these topics that

were made by Dan and other members of the Executive Committee: the SRC needs to review all proposed surveys of ASA members; the number of ISM Invited Sessions is increasing, and the COS is supposed to allocate more of these to sections; luncheon round tables at JSM have become too costly (next year they may cost \$40.00). Ideas mentioned to replace the luncheons include “coffee round tables,” and having lunches provided by sources other than the hotel; logistic problems with alternatives include the fact that non-lunch times compete with paper sessions. ASA President-elect McNulty is looking for volunteers for committees; comments were offered that people have volunteered in the past and not heard anything back; there will be a meeting of the Task Force on Professional Recognition tonight at 6:30 PM.

5. Joint Statistical Meetings JSM 2005 Program. Brian Harris-Kojetin and Michael Cohen reported. Brian stated that the GSS has five invited sessions, two of which are from open competition. There will also be 12 topic contributed paper sessions, 2 topic contributed panels and 3 regular contributed sessions. Michael briefly discussed the luncheon roundtable sessions. The round table today is sold out, the one for Tuesday may be cancelled and the one for Wednesday has 6 persons enrolled.
6. JSM 2006 Planning. Michael Cohen reported that GSS was allocated 3 Invited Paper sessions.
7. Publications. Robert Lussier and Pat Melvin reported. GSS has had something in every issue of Amstat News for several months. We went over the schedule of writing assignments for the October 2005 to September 2006 issues of Amstat News. The GSS Newsletter is now electronic and is prepared monthly. There have been several problems with transmission; going electronic has been a learning process. ASA limits the size of the transmitted document but the complete document is on the ASA website. A question was raised whether the burden of a monthly newsletter is too much. The issue of JSM proceedings was brought up and the sense of the Committee is that we still want them.
8. COPFAFS. John Czajka reported. He noted that GSS is never represented on the COPFAFS Board of Directors because our representative is never qualified—this is because we only have a 2-year term.
9. John Czajka raised an issue not on the agenda. He stated that the dues structure of GSS is such that students receive no discount on either GSS only or joint GSS-SSS membership. (GSS charges \$5.00 for everyone and joint GSS-SSS membership is \$6.00, which includes \$5.00 for GSS and \$1.00 for SSS). John noted that ASA only charges \$1.00 for processing either a single or joint membership.

In order to increase student participation John offered a motion:

That student dues would be assessed at cost to GSS, both for GSS membership and for the GSS share of joint GSS-SSS membership.

Stephanie Shipp seconded the motion. The motion passed on a show of hands.

10. Nominations for 2007 section officers. Nat Schenker reported that nominees are needed for Chair, Program Chair, and Secretary Treasurer. He wants to involve younger members. Chet Bowie stated that he would announce at the GSS Business Meeting that Nat needs help with nominations.
11. 2005 Awards. Chet Bowie reported. The Wray Jackson Smith Award will be announced at the GSS Business Meeting. The Roger Herriot Award will be presented on Wednesday.
12. ASA Fellows. Chet Bowie reported that four members of GSS will be recognized as Fellows this year.
13. The GSS Business Meeting is to be held on Tuesday, August 19, 5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m. in the Minneapolis Convention Center.
14. No items of New Business were raised. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.