

MINUTES OF THE SECTION ON GOVERNMENT STATISTICS  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
ASA HEADQUARTERS

December 1, 2005

Those attending were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position with GSS or ASA</u>
Wendy Alvey	COPAFS Representative 2005-2006
Chet Bowie	Chair
Michael P. Cohen	2006 Program Chair
Steve Cohen	Chair-Elect-Elect
John Czajka	COPAFS Representative
John Hall	Secretary-Treasurer
Brian Harris-Kojetin	2005 Program Chair
Dan Kasprzyk	COS Representative
Robert Lusier (by phone)	Publications Officer
Patricia Melvin	Newsletter Editor
Nathaniel Schenker	Past Chair
Stephanie Shipp	Chair-Elect
William Wong	Assistant Editor Amstat Online
Monica Clark	ASA Sections Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm. (Bill Smith could not attend, so there were no remarks from him.)

New Officers. Steve Cohen and Robie Sangster were welcomed.

Minutes. The minutes of the August 8, 2005 Executive Board Meeting were approved with minor corrections.

There was a discussion of COPAFS (see also below) and membership on its Board of Directors (BOD). John Czajka stated that one has to serve on COPAFS for at least three years to be eligible to be on its BOD, and that our representatives are never on COPAFS that long. Some members wondered if we ever wanted to have someone on the COPAFS BOD.

Dan Kasprzyk suggested that we get the names of ASA Fellows in the minutes. John Czajka moved that this be done. Dan Kasprzyk seconded. Passed on a voice vote. Monica Clark agreed to send the list to John Hall.

In keeping with the above motion, the minutes show that the 2005 ASA Fellows who are members of GSS are Susan Schecter and Iris M. Shimizu.

Treasurer's Report. We need to do a year-end reconciliation of the budget and expenses. For the 2006 budget, there was a question about page charges. John Czajka stated that 2006 would be the last year we would get them. Monica Clark noted that only half the sections got their 2006 budgets submitted on time and that GSS was one that did.

John Czajka made some remarks about corporate sponsors. The IRS regularly sponsors GSS but SSA and Census may be problematic because of changes of personnel. The Department of Agriculture takes a lot of effort.

Wendy Alvey suggested we contact NSF. (Chet will take over sponsorship duties from John Czajka).

There was some talk of trying to get private sector sponsors (MPR, RTI, Westat, etc.)

International Conference on Establishment Surveys. Steve Cohen reported on ICES (June 2007 in Montreal) and stated that he doesn't have a feel for how well we will do with invited session proposals. However, he expects lots of last minute proposals. Submissions for contributed papers will be accepted starting in March. There was discussion of changing the schedule to hold a dinner on the final day. Some members thought this would be risky.

Joint Statistical Meetings. Brian Harris-Kojetin reported that things went well at the 2005 JSM. However, the post-JSM survey results contained many complaints about facilities being too cold. Wendy Alvey asked how many presenters submitted papers to the proceedings.

Michael Cohen reported on JSM 2006. GSS will have four invited sessions: three allocated and one competed.

Chet Bowie mentioned that Robie Sangster told him that two luncheon roundtables had been organized so far. There may also be some morning roundtable coffee sessions.

Council of Sections. Dan Kasprzyk reported that there is not much to report. There has not been much communication from the COS chair.

COPAFS. John Czajka reported that COPAFS met in September and will meeting again in December. There were sessions on the impact of Hurricane Katrina on government surveys. This is John's last meeting as COPAFS representative.

Candidates for 2006 Elections. Nat Schenker reported that every six years all GSS offices become vacant. Because of announcements sent by email and made to JSM, he had little trouble finding candidates. The candidates are:

For Chair-Elect, Carol C. House, National Agricultural Statistics Service and Alvan O. Zarate, National Center for Health Statistics

For Program Chair-Elect, Michael Davern, State Health Access Data Assistance Center and Division of Health Services Research and Policy, University of Minnesota School of Public Health and Leonard M. Gaines, Empire State Development

For Secretary/Treasurer, Seth Hirshorn, University of Michigan and Matthias Schonlau, RAND

For Publications Officer, Sunghee Lee, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and Sonya Vartivarian, Mathematica Policy Research

For Council of Sections Representative, Carolee Bush, CB & Associates and Brian A. Harris-Kojetin, Office of Management and Budget

Members of the Committee made comments about problems government employees are having being candidates or serving in ASA.

Fellows, Awards, and Scholarships. Chet Bowie remarked that Mary Batchner chairs the GSS ASA Fellows Committee and that nominations need to be submitted (to the ASA) no later than March 1.

Nominations for the Herriot Award are due by May 1 and for the Griffith Award by the end of March.

Mike Cohen reported that nominations for the Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship are due April 1.

The Pat Doyle Award was given to Clyde Tucker in 2005. It was felt that we need to broaden the base for this award. Suggestions should be given to the chairs, who decide on this award.

Chet Bowie made three committee appointments: Stephanie to \_\_\_\_\_, Joan to \_\_\_\_\_, and Mike to \_\_\_\_\_.

Publications. Robert Lussier reported. The section web page needs to be updated. He discussed changes for the 2005 JSM Proceedings and we went over the schedule of Amstat news articles.

Pat Melvin reported on the newsletter. Suggestions were made from the floor for corrections to the sponsor's sections in Amstat Online.

Wendy Alvey needs to order more paper for brochures.

CE Short Courses. GSS is sponsoring a short course jointly with SSS.

Recommendations for 2007 Appointments and Reappointments to ASA Committees. Chet Bowie reported that the ASA president-elect needs to make about 100 appointments. He also mentioned Strategic Initiatives—proposals are due March 1, 2006.

Chet Bowie thanked outgoing members Brian Harris-Kojetin, John Czajka, and Nat Schenker for their services.

The date of the next GSS Executive Committee Meeting was set for Thursday, March 9, 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

John Hall  
Secretary-Treasurer