

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

March 9, 2006

Those attending were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position with GSS or ASA</u>
Chet Bowie	Past Chair
Monica Clark	ASA Sections Coordinator
Michael P. Cohen	2006 Program Chair
Steve Cohen	Chair-Elect
John Hall	Secretary-Treasurer
Dan Kasprzyk	COS Representative
Robert Lusier	Publications Officer
Patricia Melvin (by phone)	Newsletter Editor
Robie Sangster	2007 Program Chair
Stephanie Shipp	Chair
Joan Turek	COPAFS Representative

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM. (Bill Smith could not attend, so there were no remarks from him.)

**Minutes.** The minutes of the December 1, 2005 Executive Board Meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Also, the minutes of the August 9, 2005 Business Meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report.** There were questions from several members. We need to clarify by August whether there will be page charges income and net share income from 2006 that we need to put in the 2007 budget.

A question was raised about why the only \$300 contribution is from SSA. Chet is supposed to be marketing; he got suggestions from Joan and Robie on who to approach.

It was asked if GSS could approach companies like Westat and MPR and ask for sponsorship. Monica checked with Steve and reported that it is OK from ASAs point of view but that it should go through the grants office.

If Chet approaches private firms he plans to ask for \$500 from them and to ask government agencies for \$300 or more.

**International Conference on Establishment Surveys.** Steve Cohen reported. The ISEF will be held in Montreal in June 2007. We are still planning to have surplus revenues. We have not found out about an NSF grant. The expected attendance is about 400.

There are issues in traveling to Canada both for some government employees and some students.

Abstracts for contributed papers will be accepted April 13 to June 15, 2006. There will also be poster sessions in addition to the 23 invited sessions and 7 introductory overview lectures.

In addition to the sessions, there are plans for two full-day courses and two half day courses.

The opening session will be addressed by the chief economist of the IMF and the conference will close on Thursday with a dinner and panel discussion.

**JSM.** Mike Cohen reported that for 2006 the section will have four invited sessions and that these will be covered in the April Amstat News. There will also be eight topic contributed, and five regular contributed sessions.

Robie reported that we will have four round tables for 2006.

Robie also reported on plans for the 2007 JSM. There will be an article in the May Amstat News asking for proposals for invited sessions. Several members offered suggestions for invited sessions including: non-response bias and OMB guidelines (Robie should contact Brian Harris-Kojetin); and, matching surveys and administrative records.

**Council of Sections.** Dan announced that Thursdays and Sundays are both now voting meetings at JSM. He pointed out that there is a difference between sponsorship and advertising.

Two special interest groups (volunteerism and medical devices) were approved by the COS.

The allocation of invited sessions for 2007 and 2008 will be announced this summer.

ASA needs to know about plaques and recognition soon. Monica added that if we want the award listed in the award booklet, we need to submit in May. Otherwise, ASA can be notified in June.

**COPAFS.** Joan is going to her first meeting tomorrow and will send an email report.

**Fellows, Awards, and Scholarships.** Please give ideas for 2007 Fellows nominations to Stephanie. This committee did not nominate anyone in 2006. Chet gave a brief report on the Herriott and Griffiths Awards. Mike gave information about applying for the Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship. The deadline for applying is April 15. This scholarship provides funding up to \$1,000 for activities furthering the development of a career related to government statistics.

Mike reported that there will be a topic contributed session at the 2006 JSM (4 pm Sunday) for winners of the Student Awards.

The GSS chairs (past, present, and elect) will discuss the Pat Doyle Award after the meeting.

There were no appointments to announce.

***Publications.*** Robert reported. We have a monthly electronic newsletter jointly with Social Statistics. The newsletter is also on the GSS website. We also have articles that appear almost every month in Amstat News. Robert circulated a schedule of article topics and authors (see Attachment 1).

***Short Course.*** Stephanie asked for clarification of GSS responsibilities in sponsoring a short course, which Monica provided. Stephanie will add a note to our agreement specifying that if there are not enough registrants, GSS will withdraw sponsorship.

***Strategic Initiatives.*** Steve submitted a proposal for a workshop on modifying surveys in response to disruptions (e.g., natural disaster, 9/11) to data collection efforts. Another was submitted by the Committee on Disabilities to Webcast JSM sessions. GSS is supporting both these SI.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

John Hall  
Secretary-Treasurer