

**DRAFT Minutes: Government Statistics Section**  
**March 24, 2010**

Attended:

Natalia Verbitsky-Savitz	Carol House	Robert Lussier (phone)
Bill Wong	John Dixon	Lisa Blumerman
Monica Clark	Lester R. Curtin (phone)	Steve Cohen
Iris Shimizu	Carolee Bush	Stephanie Shipp
Ken Copeland		

The meeting opened at 12:10 pm. Minutes from the December 2009 Executive Staff meeting were distributed; any corrections were to be sent to LR Curtin. The final minutes should be posted on the GSS web site by Bill Wong.

Budget – A Check for \$500 was returned, this was for the statistical paper award. Monica will follow-up to determine if the check needs to be re-issued. For the current year, only two Federal sponsors have contributed. There is an issue concerning who should be soliciting the Federal agencies. While it is supposed to be the past chair, there may be a conflict of interest depending upon the past-chairs professional affiliation. Stephanie will e-mail Carol the contact list for the current year.

The section is scheduled for a charter review every three years. The GSS was a little late last time, and a question arose over when exactly the next review should be done. GSS may need to check with the Council of Sections to see about the timing.

Communications /Publications. Sonya could not be present; Natalia presented a hard copy of the upcoming publications plan. Bill will update the website for the new GSS officers.

JSM 2010 Update. GSS has been working closely with Social Statistics section on the planning for the upcoming JSM. GSS ended up with 4 invited session and Social statistics with 5. For Topic contributed session, there are 18 for joint GSS/SS, 8 for GSS and 10 for SS. There were an additional 42 papers submitted as contributed papers. A special effort was made to balance the time slots for the various sections. The number for posters is still unknown, there may be 4 or 5 so the Poster competition can proceed. A total of 19 papers were submitted for the student paper awards, the winners will be notified in April. There is a concern that individuals serving only as chairs to sessions may have trouble getting agency approval.. Iris reported that all but 2 of the potential roundtables had been confirmed. It looks like there will be 7 sessions, 3 of these will be breakfast sessions. The GSS Business meeting is tentatively set for 8/3 at 5:30 with the Executive meeting currently planning for Monday morning (8/2). It was noted that JSM 2011 would be in Miami with LeBron James as a special guest.

Awards. The Jeanne Griffith award dealing is next week. Stephannie noted that it is time for her to rotate off the committee. A date in May will be set for the presentation of the

wards, probably at BLS. The Pat Doyle award committee is the current, past, and elected chair of GSS. There is no formal nomination process for this award; John can solicit suggestions. Mark Harris is the GSS representation for the Wray Jackson Smith award; the award is presented at a Washington Statistical Society business meeting (?) Frank Potter is chair for the Roger Herriott award. The award is typically given at an JSM session on Poverty (there is such a session as an Invited session schedule for Wednesday at 2 pm) – coffee and cake are provided at the end of the session. John will send an email to Frank with this as a suggestion.

Ken reported that he is “starting to learn things” GSS may not be in compliance with the Council of Sections due to the officer listing not having the names of nominees. For charter revisions he needs to check on the timing issue. If there are only minor editorial changes they can be handled electronically. The issue of ASA Webinars was briefly discussed but it seems as this is not that appropriate for GSS.

A quick update on ICES IV – ASA would like to be involved as a long term host. The organizing committee will meet next in May to formally vote on ASA as the host.

The potential workshop on surveying hard to reach populations was discussed. There is still work to do on soliciting seed money and agency contributions. NCI needs a grant proposal, but there is interest. GSS would like to contributed \$3,000 (10 percent) and have a representative on the planning group. Location and date have not yet been set.

For the next meeting, ideas are needed for increasing membership or otherwise increasing income to keep pace with increased expenses.