

**DRAFT Minutes: Government Statistics Section
December 6, 2010**

Attended:

Iris Shimizu
Carol House

John Dixon
Steve Paben

Steve Cohen
Dan Toth

By Telephone

Lisa Blumerman
Natalia Verbitsky
Lester R. Curtin
Sonya Vartivarian
Ken Copeland
Robert Lussier

Welcome and review of agenda. The meeting opened at 12 pm.

Approval of minutes. Draft minutes for August Meeting were just distributed, any edits to be sent to Randy

Executive membership. Several Officers of the GSS were attending their last meeting (John, Iris, Randy) and several were starting their 2011 appointments (Steven, Dan, Kevin Cecco). Robert Lussier announced some candidates for next year's elections. Chair: Lisa B and Michael Cohen; Program chair Dan Rencourt (?) and Mark Harris. .

Update of charter and elections - check with Steve Cohen.

Corporate sponsors – all but IRS

Awards – students awards all paid. Herriott award does not appear to have any GSS payment yet.

Review of JSM 2010 – Lisa provided a summary of invited sessions, roundtables and awards to students. For 2011 invited session have been submitted. GSS should have 1 or 2 in competition for extra slots. Next year's roundtables will be done by Iris. Dan will supervise the awards to students.

For the Jeanne Griffith Award (Carol) – the handbook is being updated. Currently the committee has 6 members but the 6 year rotation has been changed to three year rotations. Members can be from Federal, State or local government agencies. Note the chair is selected from committee members. In the nomination process new nominations are sought each year but there is also a 2-year holdover on unsuccessful nominations – after the hold over period any nomination has to be re-submitted.

Other Awards. Written Guidelines are needed for other awards, in particular Herriott awards where there is always some confusion on ASA/JSM scheduling. Could send Jeanne Griffith handbook as suggested template.

Email has been sent for the for student paper competition, announcement was also in the last newsletter.

Poster session is currently for GSS submitted posters only It is up to the program chair to get all GSS posters into same time period. Judges – current and past two program chairs. The scoring sheet and letters (to agency heads and awardees) will be sent to Iris. For 2011 in Miami it is expected that there will be fewer abstract submission and therefore fewer posters next year

One suggestion was to explore the possibility of more joint participation with SSS (social stat section) GSS chair (?) should extend invitation to discuss this with chair of SSS – the was formally proposed and approved by a vote of the present Executive officers

Nominations for the next Herriott are going along nicely thanks to better publicity. Last years Pat Doyle award winner was Bill Wong

Chair for Wray Jackson smith is Mark Harris. Request for nominations seems hard to find as this is not always in the GSS newsletter

It was mentioned that there is a group within the WSS that promotes the nomination and election of government statisticians for election as ASA Fellows.

New sponsored conferences: For the “ Hard to reach populations” conference the GSS contribution amount will probably be \$3000. The conference will be held in New Orleans from Oct 31 till Nov 3, 2011 or 2012(?)

ICES IV coming along, will be held in Montreal. The invited program will be finalized soon.

Ken gave an update from the C of S. The council of sections charter has been slightly revised. The council is seeking clarifications from the sections on 2 items (1) roundtables -not money makers for ASA, should they continue (2) all section websites should have a 1st page with a consistent (compared with other sections) design and should be searchable to explore stat content. The suggested format is not yet well developed, in fact development is at an early stage.

Request ASA funding has been allocated for WEB development. It was again suggested to explore having old GSS proceedings papers made available similar to what was done for SMRS proceedings

Publications - Sonya. Article on invited session from JSM 2010 to be done by Lisa

Awareness of coffee Iris /SS

JSM checklist

Jan (Natalie) Research at Census (Rod Little)

Other planned articles: Feb for GSS awards, Brian Harris-K on OMB activities for April, March article on Upcoming JSM, Miami (I have some strange notes about “Carol NASS Florida cities forecasting”) May will have article on JSM 2011 invited sessions

A question was raised on having One article for each award or only one composite article covering all wards. Most thought the individual mentions were better due to timing issues, although an argument was made that a single article was better to allow a comparison of award nomination characteristics so a person could decide if a candidate fit one award better than another. An article from the Outgoing GSS chair will report a list of past award winners

Bill needs all past GSS minutes finalized for web. Getting back to the old proceedings, it was suggested that a grad student could be used, such as was done by SMRS.

Some brief mentions:

Wray Jackson Smith is funded by a separate account and has \$20,000 in bank

Need 2011 executive officer list for publication in the 2011 newsletter, officers need to Verify contact information

COPAFS minutes for Sept and Dec meetings are on their web site

There will be a Workshop Dec 14-15, sponsored by the FCSM Policy workshop on “Innovative approaches to longitudinal study problems.”

COPAFS - Steven will be moving off the group and replacement needed. RL will rotate with Carol

Next meeting mid to large march, tentatively set as March 21st.

Dec 2010 Budget report

Membership totals

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Free
Joint SSS/GSS	383	383	419	439	35
GSS only	435	485	527	400	8

The Trend in GSS Budget

End 2005	\$13,042.51	
End 2006	\$14,592.03	
End 2007	\$14,705.38	
End 2008	\$19,221.07	(Note: ICES-III “profit” increased the balance)
End 2009	\$18,373.79	
11/30/2010	19,599.71	

2010 corporate sponsorship NSF, USDA, Census, NCHS/CDC, SSA, BEA, BLS not
IRS yet