Section on Government Statistics
Executive Committee Meeting
August 6, 2013 at 7:00am
Minutes


1. Welcome and introduction of members
   - Introductions and review of agenda were completed

2. Review of Agenda
   - Lisa provided a nice overview of topics provided in the agenda for the GSS executive committee

3. Approval of minutes from GSS March meeting
   - Kevin stated he received and incorporated comments from the March meeting minutes.
   - The minutes were then finalized from the March meeting.
   - Kevin said he would provide Bill with finalized version of December minutes.

4. Finances

   a) Kevin provided an update on the July 2013 GSS budget:

      Trend in Membership totals:

      |----------------|------|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------|
      | Joint SSS/GSS  | 400  | 392  | 410      | 397      | 379      | 372      | 1    |
      | GSS only       | 439  | 407  | 433      | 435      | 443      | 448      | 139  |

      Trend in the GSS Budget Balance
      End 2010          $16,557.38
      Mar 2011         $16,792.38
      Dec 2011         $13,452.01
      Jul 26, 2012     $13,002.40
      Nov 29, 2012     $11,017.51
      Mar 20, 2013     $28,585.78
      Aug 1, 2013      $28,167.60

   b) Kevin discussed that GSS recently received two large deposits in 2013, one for $10,093.33 from the H2R Conference and $6,337.94 from the ICES IV Conference.

   c) Solicitation of corporate sponsors – Kevin mentioned that no federal agencies have contributed in 2013. Carol House had the responsibility last year, but she is no longer on the GSS executive board. Ken Copeland indicated that he might be willing to take on this responsibility. He said we would speak with Carol House. Another approach might be to work with the Social Statistics Section to attempt to seek out contributions from federal agencies in a joint effort.
5. **JSM 2013**

- Eric provided the following details for JSM 2013:
  - GSS had 3 invited sessions,
  - 5 topic contributed sessions, and
  - 7 contributed sessions (with 7 papers per session, totalling 49 papers).
  - There will be one GSS round table titled: Sampling Asians in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey

- Eric mentioned that GSS has 3 invited sessions planned for 2013:
  - Graphical Approaches for Survey Data; Measuring Relationships in U.S., Federal Household Surveys; and Elicitation of Data Users’ Utility Functions and Prior Information in Work with Large-Scale Data Collection

- Five Topic Contributed sessions:
  - Record Linkage Research and Applications; Evolution of Federal Statistical Agency Disclosure Review Boards; Design and Adjustment Challenges in Modern Surveys; Real-World Approaches to the Knotty Problems of Outlier Faulty data; and the 2013 CPS AES Field Study

- GSS Poster Competition
  - GSS received 10 poster papers for JSM 2013; posters will be group together into one session (Contributed Oral Poster Presentations)
  - Judging to take place on the afternoon on Aug 6
  - Winners will be recognized at the GSS Business meeting on Tuesday evening, Aug 6.

- Exec Board and Business Meeting Planning
  - GSS Executive Board will meet on Tuesday, Aug 6 @ 7:00am.
  - GSS Business meeting will be held on Tuesday evening @ 5:30pm
  - Lisa provided costs to host both meetings. No objections raised.

6. **JSM 2012**

Boston is the location of JSM meetings next year. Invited session nominations are due by September 5, 2013.

7. **Awards**

- Jeanne Griffith Mentoring Award – The purpose of the Jeanne E. Griffith Award is to encourage mentoring of junior staff in the Federal statistical system. This year’s awardee is Brian Harris-Kojetin from the Office of Management and Budget.
- Wray Jackson Smith Award – Yuning Chen was selected as the Wray Jackson Award winner; award ceremony is planned for GSS Business meeting on Tuesday evening, Aug 6.
- Herriot Award – A Team Effort Led by Bertram Kestenbaum (SSA) won the 2013 Herriot Award in recognition of the team’s key innovations in linking survey records for persons in the March 1973 CPS to their respective earnings and benefit administration in the SSA administrative records and to selected items from their 1972 IRS individual income tax returns.
- Student Paper Competition – 19 student papers submitted for the GSS Student Paper Competition and five winners were selected. Instead of creating one session, the Student Paper committee decided to place the papers in different GSS sessions.
- Pat Doyle award: Nancy Bates was selected as the awardee for the 2013 Pat Doyle Award. The GSS expresses its appreciation for Nancy’s efforts related to the GSS over the years and her recent leadership with the successful outcome of the 2012 Hard to Reach Conference in New Orleans.

8. Conference Sponsorship

- ICES V
  - Brian Harris-Kojetin on committee
  - Conference will be held in Geneva, Switzerland on June 20-23, 2016; sponsored by the Swiss Statistical Office
  - Strong support to broaden participation for conference to European community
  - No sponsorship needed for ICES V since Swiss Statistical Office assume all financial responsibilities for the conference.
  - GSS executive thinking about the possibility of offering a student award or researcher recognition award for travel costs to the conference. A final decision will be made at a future GSS meeting.

9. Council of Sections report

- Ken Copeland provided update from recent Council meeting. Ken to distribute notes from August meeting.

10. Communication Activities

- Nancy took over responsibilities of communication activities from Sonya and Natalya.
- New GSS newsletter editor: Anessah Williams has distributed several GSS newsletters in 2013. Newsletter being distributed on a quarterly basis.

11. Other business

    Brian Harris-Kojetin is working on finding suitable candidates for GSS Chair, GSS Program Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and Publication Officer. More details to come at December GSS meeting.

12. Meeting closed.