Section on Government Statistics
Executive Committee Meeting
November 19, 2013 at 12:00noon
Minutes – Final version


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 August meeting
   • Kevin stated he received and incorporated comments from the August meeting minutes.
   • The minutes were then finalized from the August meeting.
   • Kevin said he would email Bill Wong with finalized version of August minutes.

4. Finances
   a) Kevin provided an update on the November 2013 GSS budget:

   Trend in Membership totals:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joint SSS/GSS</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>GSS only</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>139</td>
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   Trend in the GSS Budget Balance
   |         |      |
   | 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 |
   | Nov 19, 2013 | $25,918.91 |

   b) Solicitation of corporate sponsors – Kevin mentioned that two 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. Ken will have a final decision by the March executive meeting.
5. JSM 2014

- Grace provided the following details for JSM 2014:
  - GSS has 3 invited sessions planned for 2014 (2 competition submissions were not selected),
  - Invited sessions are Innovative Uses of response Rates for Survey Management; Measuring Same-Sex Couples, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity in Population-based Surveys; and Evaluating Quality in Official Statistics
  - GSS is currently seeking possible roundtable topics for JSM in 2014

- Topic contributed sessions:
  - GSS has been allotted 9 topic contributed sessions this year,
  - Jan 15 is the last day to submit topic contributed session topics

- GSS Poster Competition
  - It was decided at the meeting that GSS would sponsor one speed session since feedback from both presenters and audience members has been positive.
  - A speed session is a session of quick talks (5 minutes) followed by an electronic poster session. Many of the sections are viewing these as a way to cut down on the large number of contributed sessions at JSM which tend to be poorly attended.
  - GSS committee members need to encourage people to participate and that this could be a way to get more members in attendance since a speed session is more work than a poster and maybe considered a presentation by some agencies

6. Awards

- Jeanne Griffith Mentoring Award – Kevin provided timetable of activities for the Griffith Mentoring Award in 2014. Debbie Griffin (Census Bureau) will be this year’s chair of the committee.
- Wray Jackson Smith Award – No update at this November meeting.
- Herriot Award – Jill Montaquila moving off the committee. Group is currently seeking new committee members from the Social Statistics Section of ASA.
- Pat Doyle award: Jill Montaquila, Lisa Blumerman, and Wendy Martinez will be on the committee this year. Additional details to be presented at March 2014 meeting.

7. Conference Sponsorship

- ICES V
  - Brian Harris-Kojetin on committee, Polly Phipps will be program chair for conference
  - 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.
o GSS executive still 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.

8. Council of Sections report
   • Ken Copeland provided update from recent Council meeting. New Medical Devices ASA section was approved.
   • Lifetime ASA membership options discussed at Council of Sections meeting. Three options proposed with free lifetime membership (for life-long members over the age of 50) is likely to be approved in the near future. More details to follow at the March GSS meeting.

9. Communication Activities
   • Nancy took over responsibilities of communication activities from Sonya and Natalya. New GSS newsletter editor: Aneesah Williams has distributed several GSS newsletters in 2013. Newsletter being distributed on a quarterly basis.
   • 3 newsletters went out to GSS members this year; goal is to produce 4 newsletters in 2014
   • GSS collaborating with Social Statistics Section on quarterly newsletters
   • Nancy encouraged folks for ideas and content for articles and material in 2014
   • Next GSS newsletter planned for Jan 2014

   • Other business
   • Brian Harris-Kojetin is working on finding suitable candidates for GSS Chair, GSS Program Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and Publication Officer. Final list of candidates will be ready by March GSS executive meeting.

10. Meeting closed.