

GSS/SSS FEBRUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER
Government Statistics and Social Statistics Sections
American Statistical Association

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**Government Statistics Section**

**GSS IN 2005: STAYING THE COURSE**

*By Chet Bowie, Past Chair*

It is amazing how much you can accomplish when it doesn't matter who gets the credit. From my observation, this describes the style of the 2005 GSS Executive Committee. Although there were no major problems resolved, policy debates undertaken, or major conferences sponsored, 2005 was a year where we stayed the course and continued our efforts to keep the membership informed and involved.

Beginning in March, the GSS/SSS newsletter editor and the GSS and SSS publications officers began publishing a monthly electronic newsletter. Their goal is to get the membership more timely information about all things related to our sections. Between the newsletter and the GSS list serve, section members can get updated on all GSS activities.

Our program continued its growth at the Joint Statistical Meetings. The GSS organized 5 invited sessions on a diverse range of topics. One of these was a memorial session in recognition of Pat Doyle who lost her battle with breast cancer in

2004. Pat was not only a valuable contributor to the Federal statistical community, but a dear personal friend. In addition, we sponsored 12 topic contributed paper sessions, 2 topic contributed panels, 3 regular contributed sessions, and 3 roundtable luncheons. There is probably not a time slot at the JSM where you cannot attend a GSS sponsored session.

We decided to take a small financial risk and sponsor our first conference. We are joining four other groups to co-sponsor the next **International Conference on Establishment Surveys**. The conference will take place in Montreal in 2007. Plan on attending and tell your friends and co-workers. The greater the attendance, the more the return on our investment!

As in past years, we continued to co-sponsor the following awards and scholarships:

- **Student Paper Competition** (winners: Gabriele Durrant, Kelly Dixon, Mike Kwanisai, Marcel de Toledo Vieira, and Zingzhao Yu)
- **The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award** (winner: Renee Miller)
- **The Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship** (winner: Layla Parast)
- **The Roger Herriot Award** (winner: Bob Faye)

In addition to these recognitions, three GSS members were elected as ASA Fellows (Jeff Passel, Susan Schechter, and Patrick Shrout). And last, but certainly not least, we recently created the Pat Doyle Award for service to the GSS as a tribute to Pat's dedication to the statistical field and the GSS during her lifetime. Clyde Tucker from the Bureau of Labor Statistics was selected as the first recipient of this award/

I want to thank each member of the Executive Committee for their contributions and patience with me this year, a fond farewell to outgoing members (Nat Schenker, Brian Harris-Kojetin, and John Czajka) and a warm welcome to incoming members (Steve Cohen – Chair Elect, Robie Sangster – Program Chair Elect, and Joan Turek – Representative to COPAFS).

I enjoyed my term as Section Chair and look forward to assisting in small ways to the continued success of the GSS.

Mieux vaut faire que dire.

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Social Statistics Section

SOCIAL STATISTICS SECTION—WELCOMING A NEW YEAR

By Susan Schechter, 2006 Chair

As we begin 2006, I would like to update you on who's who on your Social Statistics Section Executive Committee and share information about what we will focus on in the coming months.

- **Composition of the 2006 Executive Committee:** In addition to my position as Chair, Juanita Lott is our 2006 Program Chair, Dawn Nelson is our Secretary/Treasurer, Beth Kilss is our Publications Officer, and Trivellore Raghunathan (Raghu) is our Council of Sections Representative. Jennifer Madans is our 2007 Chair-elect, and Allen Schirm is our 2007 Program Chair-elect. And of course, our past Chair, Jerry Gates, remains on the Executive Board this year (thank goodness!).
- **JSM 2006 and 2007 Program:** During the next few months, you'll read more information about the Invited, Topic Contributed, Contributed, and Round Table sessions that our section will sponsor for JSM 2006 in Seattle (August 6 – 10). You'll also be asked to think about proposing Invited Sessions and Continuing Education courses for JSM 2007 in Salt Lake City (July 29 – August 2). Don't hesitate to contact Juanita (Juanita.t.lott@census.gov) or Allen (aschirm@mathematica-mpr.com) for further information or to discuss possible ideas you may have. A great program is a reflection of innovative and creative ideas from you, our members.

- **Redesign of our ASA Section Website:** As mentioned in previous issues of *Amstat News*, the Executive Committee has approved spending a modest amount of funds in 2006 for improving our page and adding new content. Raghu (teraghu@umich.edu) is working with a student on this so please take a look at the existing site and let him know your thoughts. You can find it at <http://www.amstat.org/sections/ssoc/>
- **Recognizing Talent:** Our section recently established a Social Statistics Section ASA Fellows Nominating Committee. By the time you read this, the committee may already have selected possible nominees for this year's award as **the nomination packages are due March 1, 2006**. Please keep in mind that this will now be a permanent committee of our Section. The committee actively encourages you to share the name of any member you believe worthy of a nomination. You can contact the current Chair of this committee, Colm O'Muircheartaigh (colm@norc.org) if you would like to nominate someone (whether for this year or next year) or would like further information.

Our section also co-sponsors several awards and scholarships each year. In addition to thinking of worthy individuals to nominate, we also need Social Statistics Section members to serve on the selecting committees. If you are interested in serving on any of the following committees, please let me know (susan_schechter@omb.eop.gov).

- **Roger Herriot Award**
- **Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award**
- **Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship**
- **Student Paper Competition**

On behalf of your Executive Committee, A Happy New Year to all!

PLANNING AHEAD FOR SOCIAL STATISTICS SESSIONS IN 2007

Now that the dust has settled on submitting abstracts for JSM 2006, it not too early to be thinking about topics for **Invited Sessions for JSM 2007**. We'll have more information for you about planning for 2007 in next month's newsletter, but in the meantime, if you have any thoughts or suggestions, contact **Allen Schirm, Program Chair 2007** (aschirm@mathematica-mpr.com).

SOC FELLOWS COMMITTEE REQUEST

Dear Social Statistics Section member:

The Social Statistics Section (SOC) is seeking your collaboration in improving the selection of ASA Fellows. The section has set up the SOC Fellows Committee to facilitate the nomination of SOC members as Fellows of ASA. As you know, the actual selection of Fellows is carried out by a central ASA Fellows Committee. Thus, the purpose of our section's committee is to identify worthy candidates and provide help in putting together the nomination package for the candidates. In a few cases, a SOC Committee member will prepare the nomination package; in most cases, the SOC Committee will attempt to identify a lead nominator and, then, advise and/or provide editorial assistance.

The three members of the 2006 SOC Fellows Committee are Colm O'Muircheartaigh (chair), colm@uchicago.edu; Dan Weinberg, daniel.h.weinberg@census.gov; and John Thompson, thompson-john@norc.org.

Please get in touch with any or all of them with your suggestions. All the committee's activities will be kept confidential. If you make a nomination, a brief (or lengthy) indication of the basis for the nomination would be appreciated.

NEW NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2006 WRAY JACKSON SMITH SCHOLARSHIP

Nominations are now being sought for the 2006 Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship. The award is intended to reward promising young statisticians for their diligence and encourage them to consider a future in government statistics. The 2006 recipient of the scholarship will be chosen by a committee of representatives of GSS and SSS. Applicants are not required to be members of GSS, SSS or ASA. Dr. Smith was strongly supportive of these organizations during his career and actively mentored younger statisticians. The scholarship of \$1,000.00 can be used for activities like the following:

- Attendance at a conference, short course, or long course
- Travel to a conference
- Purchase of government data
- Costs associated with research

Please note the Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Participation in the advancement of government statistics, whether as a government employee, researcher under government contract or using government statistics, or student involved with government statistics

To apply, you will need to complete and submit the following:

- The original copy of an application, which can be found at <http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/wjsann06.htm>:
- Original transcripts, performance reviews, or alternate proof of superior job
- Project proposal
- Two reference letters

For more information, contact Robert M. Groves, Chair of the Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship Committee, 202-484-4215 or SSalvucci@mathematica-mpr.com. All necessary materials must be submitted **by April 1, 2006**. Electronic submissions are permissible.

All materials should be mailed **before April 1, 2006**, to:

Robert M. Groves
Survey Research Center
University of Michigan
426 Thompson Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106

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## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR WAKSBERG PAPER

The journal *Survey Methodology* has established an annual invited paper series in honor of Joseph Waksberg, who has made many important contributions to survey methodology. Each year a prominent survey researcher is chosen to author an article as part of the Waksberg Invited Paper Series. The paper reviews the development and current state of a significant topic within the field of survey methodology, and reflects the mixture of theory and practice that characterized Waksberg's work. The author receives a cash award made possible by a grant from Westat, in recognition of Joe Waksberg's contributions during his many years of association with Westat. The grant is administered financially by the American Statistical Association. Previous winners were Gad Nathan, Wayne Fuller, Tim Holt, Norman Bradburn, Jon Rao, and Alastair Scott. The first five papers in the series have already appeared in *Survey Methodology*.

The author of the 2007 Waksberg paper will be selected by a four-person committee appointed by *Survey Methodology* and the American Statistical Association. Nominations of individuals to be considered as authors or suggestions for topics should be sent to the chair of the committee, Gordon Brackstone, 78 Charing Road, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K2G 4C9, by email to [Gordon.brackstone@sympatico.ca](mailto:Gordon.brackstone@sympatico.ca) or by fax 1-613-951-1394.

Nominations and suggestions for topics must be received by **February 28, 2006**.

Submitted on behalf of Harold Mantel, Deputy Editor, *Survey Methodology Journal*.  
SRMS website: <http://www.amstat.org/sections/srms/>

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HERRIOT AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are being sought for the **2006 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career:

- Dedication to the issues of measurement;
- Improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and
- Improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis.

The award is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals at all levels within Federal agencies, other government organizations, nonprofits, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions.

The recipient of the 2006 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association and of the Washington Statistical Society. Roger Herriot was associated with and strongly supportive of these organizations during his career. The award consists of an honorarium and a framed citation.

Joseph Waksberg (Westat), Monroe Sirken (National Center for Health Statistics), Constance Citro (National Academy of Sciences), Roderick Harrison (U.S. Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNSTAT), Donald Dillman (Washington State University), Jeanne Griffith (OMB, NCES, NSF), Daniel Weinberg (U.S. Census Bureau), David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST), Paula Schneider (U.S. Census Bureau), and Robert E. Fay III (U.S. Census Bureau) are previous recipients of the Roger Herriot Award.

For more information, contact: Lawrence Cox, Chair, Roger Herriot Award Committee, (301) 458-4631 or LCox@CDC.Gov. There are no fixed requirements for the contents or format of nomination packages, but completed packages must be received by **May 1, 2006**. Electronic submissions to Dr. Cox in MS-Word or PDF format are encouraged.

Alternately, nominations may be mailed to: Lawrence H. Cox, National Center for Health Statistics, 3311 Toledo Road, Room 3211, Hyattsville, MD 20782

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## **NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2006 JULIUS SHISKIN AWARD**

Nominations are invited for the annual **Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics**. The Award is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Contributions are recognized for statistical research, development of statistical tools, application of information technology techniques, use of economic statistical programs, management of statistical programs, or developing public understanding of measurement issues. The Award was established in 1980 by the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and is now cosponsored by the WSS, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association. The 2005 award recipient was Erwin Diewert, University of British Columbia, in recognition of his path-breaking economic theoretical innovations, notably in index number theory, which have been adapted to improve national economic statistics around the world.

Nominations for the 2006 award are now being accepted. Individuals or groups in the public or private sector from any country can be nominated. The award will be presented with an honorarium of \$750 plus additional recognition from the sponsors. A nomination form and a list of all previous recipients are available on the ASA Website at : < [www.amstat.org/sections/bus\\_econ/shiskin.html](http://www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html) > or by writing to the Julius Shiskin Award Committee, Attn: Monica Clark, American Statistical Association, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3402.

Completed nominations must be **received by April 1, 2006**. For further information contact Rich Allen, Julius Shiskin Award Committee Secretary, at < [reisepaar2@earthlink.net](mailto:reisepaar2@earthlink.net) >.

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THE JEANNE E. GRIFFITH MENTORING AWARD

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award has been established to encourage mentoring of younger staff in the Federal statistical system. It is presented annually, beginning in 2003, to a supervisor who is nominated by co-workers and supervisors, and chosen by the Award Selection Committee.

The award is co-sponsored by the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, the Council for Excellence in Government, the Washington Statistical Society, the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association, and the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics.

Nominations for 2006 will be accepted beginning in **February 2006**. The last date for submission of nominations is **March 31, 2006**, and the Award Committee will make its determination of the award winner by May 1, 2006. The award will consist of a \$1,000 honorarium and a citation, which will be presented at a ceremony arranged by the co-sponsors in June 2006.

The winning mentor will be selected for his or her efforts in supporting the work and developing the careers of younger staff. Examples of typical mentoring activities include:

- Advising junior staff to help them create career opportunities, networking skills, and contacts for growth and development;
- Counseling junior staff and providing resources to help develop their technical writing, analysis, presentation and organizational skills and knowledge;
- Encouraging junior staff growth and career development through attendance and oral presentations at meetings with higher level officials, staffs of other agencies, professional associations, training courses, and conferences;
- Motivating junior staff and building self confidence through feedback on their efforts, being a listener when that is needed, and creating a caring and supportive environment;
- Serving as a role model for junior staff through professional expertise, information and insights, balancing collegial and personal roles, and including everyone across rank, race, ethnicity, and seniority.

For further information on the award, contact:

Ed Spar, Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS) by phone: 703-836-0404; fax: 703-684-3410; or by e-mail at copafs@aol.com.

The nomination cover sheet and guidelines form--or a photocopy of it--should be attached to a nomination memorandum or letter. Forms can be obtained by contacting Ed Spar, or by downloading from the COPAFS website at <http://www.copafs.org>. All nominations should be returned to the Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Committee, c/o COPAFS, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 **no later than March 31, 2006**.

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## THE GERTRUDE COX SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN IN GRADUATE STATISTICS PROGRAMS

**Sponsored by:** The ASA Committee on Women in Statistics and the Caucus for Women in Statistics



**Purpose:** To encourage more women to enter statistically oriented professions

**How much:** \$1,000

**When:** Application deadline is **April 1, 2006**  
Award announced in August 2006 at the Joint Statistical Meeting

**Who:** Women who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada and who are admitted to full-time study in a graduate statistics program by July 1, 2006. Women in or entering the early stages of graduate training (M.S. or Ph.D.) are especially encouraged to apply.

**Application:** To get your Gertrude Cox Scholarship application form: Download form from - <http://www.amstat.org/awards/index.cfm?fuseaction=cox-scholarship>, or receive the form by mail or email – send your request to Chair, Gertrude Cox Scholarship Committee.

**For more information:** Contact Holly B. Shulman, M.S., Chair Gertrude Cox Scholarship Committee, 205 College Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081. Phone: (610) 690-0861; email: [hbsl@cdc.gov](mailto:hbsl@cdc.gov).

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FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON QUANTITATIVE METHODS & STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS IN DEFENSE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

February 15-16, 2006, Santa Monica, CA

Sponsored by the RAND Corporation and ASA's Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security

The goal of the conference is to promote collaboration between those with quantitative national security problems (e.g., defense and homeland security practitioners) and those who solve quantitative problems (e.g., statisticians, mathematicians, operations researchers, engineers, and others). The conference strives to promote collaboration by focusing on problems, data, and solutions in the national security arena.

Program Committee

General Chair: Dr. Nancy Spruill, Office of the Secretary of Defense

Technical Program Chair: Dr. Lara Schmidt, RAND Corporation

Track Chairs: Dr. Ron Fricker, Naval Postgraduate School; Dr. Wendy Martinez, Office of Naval Research; Dr. David Banks, Duke University

Session Topics Include:

Visualization; Syndromic Surveillance; Methods for Biometrics; Information Integration; Data Mining; Modeling & Simulation for Defense Applications; and Computer Security

Panel Discussions on:

- ~ Privacy Protection in an Era of Data Mining & Record Linkage
- ~ Anomaly Detection for Asymmetric Threats

Keynote Addresses by:

High-profile defense and homeland security leaders

For more information: Visit the online Web site for program updates and registration information – www.rand.org/events/nsm2006.html .

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## **PRIVACY IN STATISTICAL DATABASES'2006 (PSD'2006) -- CALL FOR PAPERS**

Rome, Italy, Dec. 13-15, 2006

<http://vneumann.etse.urv.es/psd2006>

## 1. AIMS AND GOALS

Privacy in statistical databases is about finding tradeoffs to the tension between the increasing societal and economical demand for accurate information and the legal and ethical obligation to protect the privacy of individuals and enterprises which are the source of the statistical data. To put it bluntly, statistical agencies cannot expect to collect accurate information from individual or corporate respondents unless these feel the privacy of their responses is guaranteed; also, recent surveys of web users show that a majority of these are unwilling to provide data to a web site unless they know that privacy protection measures are in place.

"Privacy in Statistical Databases'2006" (PSD'2006) is the main conference of the CENEX-SDC project funded by Eurostat and will be used to raise the awareness of SDC in Europe and beyond. PSD'2006 is regarded as a successor of PSD'2004 (<http://vneumann.etse.urv.es/psd2004>), the final conference of the CASC project (IST-2000-25069), held in Barcelona on June 9-11, 2004, and with proceedings published in Springer LNCS vol. 3050. Those two PSD conferences follow a tradition of high-quality technical conferences on SDC which started with "Statistical Data Protection-SDP'98," held in Lisbon in 1998 and with proceedings published by OPOCE, and continued with the AMRADS project SDC Workshop, held in Luxemburg in 2001 and with proceedings published in Springer LNCS vol. 2316.

Like the aforementioned preceding conferences, PSD'2006 originates at the EU, but wishes to stay a worldwide event in SDC. Thus, contributions and attendees from overseas are welcome.

## 2. ORGANIZATION

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

John Abowd (Cornell University and Census Bureau, USA); Jordi Castro (Polytechnical University of Catalonia); Lawrence Cox (Nat. Center for Health Statistics, USA); Ramesh Dandekar (Energy Information Administration, USA); Josep Domingo-Ferrer (Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia); Mark Elliot (Manchester University, UK); Luisa Franconi (ISTAT, Italy); Sarah Giessing (Destatis, Germany); Jobst Heitzig (Destatis, Germany); Anco Hundepool (Statistics Netherlands); Ramayya Krishnan (Carnegie Mellon University, USA); Julia Lane (National Science Foundation, USA); Jane Longhurst (Office for National Statistics, UK); Silvia Poletti (University of Naples, Italy); Gerd Ronning (University of Tuebingen, Germany); Juan Jose Salazar (University of La Laguna, Spain); Maria Joao Santos (EUROSTAT); Eric Schulte-Nordholt (Statistics Netherlands); Francesc Sebe (Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia); Chris Skinner (University of Southampton, UK); Julian Stander (University of Plymouth, UK); Vicenc Torra (IIIA-CSIC, Catalonia); William E. Winkler (Census Bureau, USA)

PROGRAM CHAIR -- Josep Domingo-Ferrer (Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia)

GENERAL CHAIR -- Luisa Franconi (ISTAT, Italy)

### ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

Xenia Caruso (ISTAT, Italy); Jordi Castella-Roca (Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia); Maurizio Lucarelli (ISTAT, Italy); Antoni Martinez-Balleste (Rovira i Virgili University, Catalonia); Micaela Paciello (ISTAT, Italy)

## 3. TOPICS OF INTEREST

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- New SDC methods for tabular data
- New SDC methods for microdata
- Best SDC practices for tabular data
- Best SDC practices for microdata



- Onsite access centers
- Remote access facilities
- SDC software
- Estimating disclosure risk in SDC
- Record linkage methods
- Real-life disclosure scenarios in EU-member states and abroad
- Privacy preserving data mining
- Privacy in web-based e-commerce
- Privacy in healthcare
- Privacy in official and corporate statistics

#### 4. SUBMISSIONS

Both original technical contributions and high-quality surveys on the above topics or on related topics are sought. A submission should be clearly marked either as an original paper or a survey. Submissions should contain a cover letter indicating:

- 1) whether the submission is a survey or an original contribution;
- 2) the title of the submission;
- 3) keywords classifying the paper topic;
- 4) the names and affiliations of authors;
- 5) the e-mail, telephone and facsimile numbers of the contact author.

The submission itself should be sent as an attached PDF file. Submission and their cover letters should be sent to: [psd2006@urv.net](mailto:psd2006@urv.net).

Camera-ready versions of accepted papers should be prepared using the LaTeX2e style or the Word template of Springer Verlag Lecture Notes in Computer Science. For LaTeX2e, a macro package (lncs.zip) and an example file (typeinst.zip) can be downloaded from <http://www.springeronline.com/sgw/cda/frontpage/0,10735,5-164-2-72376-0,00.html>

For Microsoft Word, a template (word.zip) can be downloaded from the same page above.

We encourage authors to use the above formats already for their submissions.

#### LENGTH OF SUBMISSIONS

Using the above format with 11 point font, the paper should be at most 12 pages excluding bibliography and appendices, and at most 16 pages total. Committee members are not required to read appendices; the paper should be intelligible without them. Submissions not meeting these guidelines risk rejection without consideration of their merits.

#### 5. PROCEEDINGS

Among PSD'2006 accepted papers, a selection will be made based on quality and coverage and the selected papers will be published in the Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS) series by Springer. This follows the tradition of PSD'2004 (LNCS 3050) and the AMRADS Workshop on SDC (LNCS 2316). The remaining accepted papers will be published in a CD with an ISBN. It is possible to submit a paper directly for the CD, which benefits from a later submission deadline (see CD-only dates below).

The form of publication of an accepted paper will be clearly specified in the acceptance message. Both the LNCS volume and the CD will be \*available at the conference\*.

#### 6. IMPORTANT DATES

Submission deadline: **June 30, 2006**

Acceptance notification: **July 31, 2006**

Proceedings version due: **September 1, 2006**

Conference: **December 13-15, 2006.**

CD-only submission deadline: **Sep. 25, 2006**; CD-only acceptance notification: **October 10, 2006**; CD-only proceedings version due: **October 25, 2006**

## 7. VENUE, TRAVEL, AND REGISTRATION

The conference will take place on **December 13-15, 2006**, at the ISTAT headquarters, Via C. Balbo 14, 00184 Rome.

Travel, accommodation, and registration information will be posted at <http://vneumann.etse.urv.es/psd2006>.

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ANNOUNCING THE 23RD INTERNATIONAL METHODOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES IN MEASURING POPULATION HEALTH

Who: Organized by Statistics Canada

When: November 1 - 3, 2006

Where: Chateau Cartier, Gatineau, Quebec

For more information, send e-mail inquiries to symposium2006@statcan.ca, or contact Milorad Kovacevic by phone at 613-951-9891 or by e-mail at Milorad.Kovacevic@statcan.ca.

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### Government Statistics Section

#### *Mission Statement*

*The mission of the Government Statistics Section (GSS) is to promote the use of sound statistical theory and methods in the production of data at all levels of government – be it Federal, State, local, or international; assist in the broad dissemination of those data; and encourage good statistical practice by all users. Areas of interest for the Section include all that involve the production, dissemination, and application of governmental statistics, including concern with statistical policy issues, quality and usefulness of governmental data products, special problems of State and local data, comparability of data among different countries, and the role of professional statisticians in the public sector.*

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Social Statistics Section

Mission Statement

The Social Statistics Section seeks to advance research in social statistics, both in areas which involve the use of methods of statistical inquiry, and in those which involve the use of statistical data and the development of statistical measurement. This section will also plan for active participation in the affairs of the American Statistical Association by those interested in these matters and for representation of activities in this major field in the program of the ASA.

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