

GSS/SSS JUNE 2008 NEWSLETTER
Government Statistics and Social Statistics Sections
American Statistical Association

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SSS web site: <http://www.amstat.org/sections/ssoc/>

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Don't forget these upcoming events ~~

- JSM 2008 registration opened May 1st – Early bird rates apply until June 26th
- Look for the July Newsletter on July 7th, with features to help you plan for JSM 2008

In the archives –

Previous newsletters can be found online at <http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/archives.htm>:

- JSM in focus – Roundtable Luncheons sponsored by our sections, May 2008 Issue
- JSM in focus – Invited Sessions sponsored by our sections, May 2008 Issues

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**Results of the 2008 ASA Officer Elections: GSS and SSS Officers Announced**

Congratulations to the newly elected GSS and SSS officers! Those elected begin their term of service on January 1, 2009.

Ron Wasserstein, Executive Director of the American Statistical Association, commented that the Association had the largest voter turnout (by far) in recent years, and perhaps in ASA's history. One-third of ASA membership participated in the election. Compared to what he's heard from other professional associations, this was a strong participation in an election. Thanks to all who voted.

**GOVERNMENT STATISTICS SECTION**

SECTION CHARTER REVISION - Approved

**Chair Elect**

John S. Dixon, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Program Chair Elect**

Lisa M. Blumberman, U.S. Census Bureau

**Publications Officer**

Sonya L. Vartivarian, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Lester R. Curtin, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

**SOCIAL STATISTICS SECTION**

**Chair Elect**

Sharon M. Stern, U.S. Census Bureau

**Program Chair Elect**

Joseph J. Salvo, New York City Department of City Planning

**Publications Officer**

Carrie R. Dennis, U.S. Census Bureau

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American Statistical Association Names 53 Fellows for 2008

The American Statistical Association (ASA), the nation's preeminent professional statistical society, announced the election of 53 of its members as Fellows of the Association. The recipients received the honor in recognition of their outstanding professional contributions to and leadership in the field of statistical science. The Fellows will be presented at a ceremony on Tuesday, August 5, at the Association's 168th annual Joint Statistical Meetings in Denver.

"The ASA Fellows designation honors the extraordinary members of the statistics profession," said Peter A. Lachenbruch, ASA president. "The collective outstanding contributions of this year's Fellows from academia, government and industry have invigorated the statistics discipline in education, research, administration and service. Each year, the designation as ASA Fellow brings members from many specialties to the fore. It makes us all proud to recognize their accomplishments."

The 2008 Fellows come from 23 states, Canada, and Israel. Eight Fellows are from the National Capital area; five are from North Carolina; Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Pennsylvania each are home to three Fellows.

The designation of Fellow has been a superlative honor in ASA for more than 90 years. According to the association by-laws, each year the Committee on Fellows can elect no more than one-third of one percent of the total ASA membership as Fellows. Individuals are nominated for the honor by fellow members and must have an established reputation and made outstanding contributions in some aspect of statistical work to be selected.

The Committee on Fellows evaluates candidates' contributions to the advancements of statistics, giving due weight to publications, the positions held by the candidates in the organizations in which they are employed, activities within the Association, membership and attainments in other societies, and other professional activities. Selection committee members were Roderick J. Little (chair), Demissie Alemayehu, Rick Chappell, Christy Chuang-Stein, Cynthia Z.F. Clark, Roxy L. Peck, Bonnie K. Ray, John H. Thompson, Preston J. Waite.

Congratulations to our fellow GSS and SSS members who were announced as Fellows of the American Statistical Association:

Chet Bowie, National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, Bethesda, MD
Joseph W. Hogan, Brown University, Providence
Brian A. Harris-Kojetin, US Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC
Karol P. Krotki, RTI International, Washington DC
Jill M. Montaquila, Westat, Rockville, Maryland
Eleanor Singer, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Alvan O. Zarate, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Hyattsville, Maryland

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### Get to Know Your Sections at JSM

GSS and SSS both have Business Meeting/Mixers scheduled at JSM. This is an opportunity for the members to learn what the sections are doing, comment on our initiatives and activities, and enjoy some hors d'oeuvres.

According to the online program, the meetings are scheduled as follows.

- Section on Government Statistics Business Meeting, Tuesday, August 5, 2008 from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM in CC-202
- Social Statistics Section Business Meeting and Social, Monday, August 4, 2008 from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM HY-Granite C

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Save the Date: *Elections and Exit Polls* Book Signing

Submitted by Wendy Alvey

Book Signing at Reiter's Books

Wednesday, June 11th 12:00 noon-2:00pm

Wendy Alvey and Fritz Scheuren, Editors
Elections and Exit Polls

Light refreshments (wine, cheese, and soft drinks) provided.

Both authors will be there:

Reiter's Books
1990 K Street NW
Washington DC
(202) 223-3327

Note: Reiter's Books is conveniently located just a few blocks from the following Metro stops: Foggy Bottom-GWU, Farragut West, and Farragut North.

Sponsor: WSS Human Rights Section and WSS Public Policy Section

Look forward to seeing you there!

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## GOVERNMENT STATISTICS SECTION

*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

*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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