

GSS/SSS September 2007 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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- Association of Public Data Users 2007 Annual Conference, October 25-26, 2007
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Don't forget these upcoming events ~~

- Association of Public Data Users 2007 Annual Conference, October 25-26, 2007
See website for details: <http://www.apdu.org/conference/2007/index.htm>
- FCSM 2007 Research Conference, November 5-7, 2007
See website for details: <http://www.fcsm.gov/events/>

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**Stephanie Shipp, Recipient of the 2007 Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award**



Stephanie Shipp is the Director of the Economic Assessment Office in the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) at the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST). Stephanie directs a staff of economists and statisticians who conduct economic research and program evaluation that examine the transition from scientific innovation to commercial innovation. Under her leadership the staff conducts and analyzes surveys of ATP awardees. The staff also conducts research, and writes case studies on ATP projects, computes performance metrics, and directs studies with external researchers that contribute to the technology policy literature.

Stephanie has a background in surveys, public finance, and research. She started her career at the Federal Reserve Board, working on the Industrial Production Index. She then moved to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, working on the design of the Producer Price Index analytical system. Her next challenge was leading the information and analysis work for the Consumer Expenditure Survey and collaborating on income and expenditure inequality and poverty measurement research.

At the Census Bureau, starting in 1997, Stephanie worked on developing the Industry and Occupation coding system for the Census 2000, guiding the analytical efforts for a welfare reform survey, the Survey of Program Dynamics, and spearheading a major hiring effort for her division. Stephanie is active in professional organizations and is a regular presenter and discussant at the American Statistical Association (ASA) annual meetings.

Stephanie received her Ph.D. in economics from George Washington University in 2000.

Connie Chang, Supervisory Economist at NIST, noted that "Stephanie encourages staff to apply for developmental assignments and training programs. I have often heard her tell staff that even if their odds of acceptance are low the practice of writing these application essays will help them understand where they want to go, and that with practice they will get better at communicating what they have accomplished. Beyond mentoring the staff in our office, Stephanie also finds time to mentor several others of the ATP staff who have sought her advice and mentorship because they feel she genuinely cares and is interested in their development. Through exchanges with colleagues of Stephanie's I discovered that Stephanie's reputation for mentoring junior staff was established long ago."

Others who work with Stephanie state:

"She always took the time to monitor my progress in assignments and to shape those assignments in a way that presented me with the opportunity to acquire a comprehensive background in those areas required to advance"

"Left on my own, I do not believe that I would have been able to accomplish what I have in the short time of my employment. I recognize that most of my professional fulfillment is the result of Stephanie's efforts to guide me in the direction of success."

"Dr. Shipp has been my mentor since 2003. She not only provides me with advice, support, and encouragement for my career development, but also allows me to discuss my personal and family life when it is related to my growth."

"Whenever I needed to speak to her, she took the time to listen and based on her vast experience offered explicit advice or and enabled me to find a solution that was appropriate to my needs and concerns."

#### ***About the Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award***

The purpose of the award, in Jeanne E. Griffith's name, is to encourage mentoring of junior staff in the Federal statistical system.

Jeanne Griffith worked for more than 25 years in the Federal statistical system. Throughout her career, and especially in her senior management positions at the National Center for Education Statistics and the National Science Foundation, one of Jeanne's highest priorities was to mentor and encourage junior staff to learn, to grow, and to recognize and seize career opportunities as they came along.

#### **Co-Sponsored By:**

Council for Excellence in Government

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics

*American Statistical Association - Washington Statistical Society, Government Statistics Section, Social Statistics Section*

#### **Selection Committee:**

Emerson J. Elliott, National Center for Education Statistics (Retired)

Dan Kasprzyk, Mathematica Policy Research

Beth Kilss, IRS, Statistics of Income (Retired)

Jennifer H. Madans, National Center for Health Statistics

Clyde Tucker, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Daniel H. Weinberg, U. S. Census Bureau

**Award Recipients:**

Rich Allen, 2003  
Beth A. Kilss, 2004  
Renee Miller, 2005  
Martin O'Connell, 2006  
Stephanie Shipp, 2007

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Association of Public Data Users 2007 Annual Conference, October 25-26, 2007

Submitted by Len Gaines

When

Thursday, October 25, 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

Friday, October 26, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Where

Embassy Suites Hotel, Alexandria, Virginia

Benefits

- Hear noted speakers on a variety of strategic, technical, and policy topics
- Network with creators, providers, and users of public data
- Express your ideas about ways to improve public data

Registration

Visit <http://www.apdu.org/conference/2007/registration.pdf>

More Information

Email: conference@apdu.org

Phone: 248-354-6520

APDU 2007 Annual Conference Program

*As of July 18, 2007. Updates and more details are available at www.apdu.org/conference.

Thursday, October 25

8:00 Breakfast and Registration

8:30 Welcome

8:45 View from the Hill: An Update from Congressional Staff

9:45 Introduction of Attendees

10:00 What We Can Do: Communicating with Policy- Makers

10:20 Break

10:50 Issues in Data Confidentiality

12:00 Discovering the Census Bureau's DataFerrett

12:30 Lunch

1:30 Measuring National, State, and Local Economies: A Report from BEA

3:00 Break

3:30 300 Million and Counting: Preparing for Census 2010

5:15 Reception

Friday, October 26

8:00 Breakfast

8:30 To Your Health: An Overview of NCHS Data 10:00 Break

10:30 Using Data for Local Economic Development

12:00 APDU Annual Meeting

12:30 Lunch

1:30 Getting the Most Out of the American Community Survey

2:45 Break

3:15 What's New in the ACS: Policy Changes Affecting Data Users

4:45 Adjourn

Conference Registration Fees

Member (Early \$375, Late \$410)

New Member (Early \$675, Late \$710)

Non-member (Early \$495, Late \$530)

Registrations received in the APDU office by Sept. 30 qualify for the early registration fee.

Hotel Information

Embassy Suites Hotel

Alexandria - Old Town

1900 Diagonal Road

Alexandria, VA 22314

The hotel is across the street from the King Street metro station (Blue line /Yellow line/Amtrak/Virginia Rail Express).

Room Rates: The room rate is \$195 per night (plus tax). A limited number of rooms are available at this rate. Early registration is advised. To obtain the special room rate, call the hotel at the number below by September 25.

Mention that you are attending the APDU conference.

703-684-5900 [Phone]; 703-684-1403 [Fax]

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### Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology 2007 Research Conference, November 5-7, 2007

*Submitted by Nancy Bates*

The 2007 Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) Research Conference will be held November 5-7, 2007 at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. The Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to Federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including the use of advanced technologies for survey design and data collection, processing and dissemination, variance estimation, treatment of missing data, improving coverage and response rates, confidentiality and disclosure issues, record linkage, sample design and estimation, cognitive research, and data quality.

Technical demonstrations on a variety of applications will run concurrently on the second day of the conference. Applications include demonstrations of audio computer-assisted self-interviewing (ACASI), a pen-based data collection system, computer-assisted recording interviewing (CARI), the use of hand-held computers for data collection, the use of GPS hand-held receivers in agricultural surveys, and data dissemination using the web. Sessions feature papers and demonstrations by government, private sector, and academic researchers from nine countries.

In the opening plenary session, Jon Krosnick from Stanford University will be our guest speaker. All paper sessions will include an open discussion and some sessions will include a formal discussion.

**Conference Fee: Registration is \$195.** For a copy of the advance program and registration information please refer to: <http://www.fcsml.gov/events/>

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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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