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Don't forget these upcoming events ~~

- 18th Annual Morris Hansen Lecture, Tuesday, October 28th
- 107th Meeting of the Committee on National Statistics, Friday, October 31st
  Register on-line: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Morris_Hansen/index.asp
- Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Statistical Policy Seminar, November 18th-19th
  Registration information: http://www.copafs.org/

18th Annual Morris Hansen Lecture

Louis Kincannon, former director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, will give the 18th Annual Morris Hansen Lecture on Tuesday, October 28, at 3:30 p.m. in the Jefferson Auditorium of the Department of Agriculture's South Building (Independence Avenue SW, between 12th and 14th Street).

The title of the lecture is: The Federal Statistical System: Is It Stronger Now Than It Was Eight Years Ago? Janet Norwood and Robert Parker will be the discussants.

The Hansen Lecture Series is sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, Westat, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).
The USDA South Building (Independence Avenue SW) is between 12th and 14th Streets at the Smithsonian Metro Stop (Blue Line). Enter through Wing 5 or Wing 7 from Independence Ave. (The special assistance entrance is at 12th & Independence). A photo ID is required.

Please pre-register for this event to help facilitate access to the building. Pre-register on line at http://www.nass.usda.gov/morrishansen/.

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107th Meeting of the Committee on National Statistics,
Immigration Flows: What Do We Know? How Can We Learn More?
Submitted by Connie Citro

Open Session – Public Seminar and Reception
Friday, October 31, 2008
The National Academies, NAS building, 2100 C St., NW, Washington, D.C., NAS Auditorium

***Please RSVP by October 28th to Bridget Edmonds at 202-334-3096 or cnstat@nas.edu.

Agenda:

2:00pm Light refreshments for Seminar Guests – NAS Great Hall Seminar—Auditorium
2:25 Welcome—Bill Eddy, CNSTAT Chair and Carnegie Mellon University
2:30 Developments at the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office—Katherine K. Wallman, Chief Statistician
2:40 Featured Topic: Immigration Flows: What Do We Know? How Can We Learn More?

Chair: Douglas Massey, CNSTAT, NAS, and Princeton University
Panel: Michael Hoefer, Director, Office of Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security
Alexa Kennedy-Puthoff, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau
Jeffrey Passel, Pew Hispanic Center

3:50 Floor discussion
4:00 Reception – Great Hall
5:00 Adjourn

Abstract:

The history of the United States is built on waves of immigration from the first settlements to the present day, each wave raising issues of what it means to be an American. In recent years, increased immigration—particularly by people who enter or stay in the country illegally—has produced heated debate and divided views on appropriate policies.

It has not always been possible to provide sufficient light, from high-quality statistics, to inform public debate. Douglas Massey will chair and lead off a panel of experts on what we know about immigration flows and how we can learn more. Doug will set the stage by providing historical context on immigration flows. Mike Hoefer will hit the highlights of what useful information the Office of Immigration Statistics provides and would like to provide; Alexa Kennedy-Puthoff will describe how the Census Bureau produces estimates of total immigration and their strengths and weaknesses; and Jeff Passel will describe the estimates that he produces using OIS and Census Bureau data and what improvements, as a data user, he believes are necessary and feasible. Doug will conclude with an overview of his work with the New Immigrant Survey, the Mexican Migration Project, the Latin American Migration Project, and the New Immigrant Destinations survey.

Note: All venues are handicapped-accessible. There is limited first-come, first-served parking in the visitors’ lot on 21st Street. The nearest Metro station is Foggy Bottom at 23rd and I Sts., NW (Blue and Orange Lines).
Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Statistical Policy Seminar
Beyond 2010: Confronting the Challenges
November 18-19, 2008

The Ninth in a Series of Seminars Hosted by COPAFS (The Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics)

Participants will include statisticians, economists, and managers, as well as other professionals in the broader statistical community who share an interest in keeping current on issues related to federal data.

Topics:
* Statistical Uses of Administrative Records in Federal Agencies
* Case Studies in the Statistical Uses of Administrative Records
* Cell Phones: The New Frontier in RDD surveys
* New Perspectives and Practices on Non-Response Bias Analyses
* Current Issues in Privacy and the Safekeeping of Personally Identifiable Information
* Survey Respondent Incentives
* Current Trends in Access to Restricted-Use Data
* Development and Management of Human and Institutional Capital in Statistical Organizations
* 2010 Census Experiments
* Issues of Data Capacity and Statistical Quality to Support Modeling and Micro-simulation Efforts
* Making Survey Processes More Robust in Response to Funding Reductions
* Using Paradata to Improve the Management of Survey Costs

Keynote Address: Hermann Habermann, Consultant

Location and Seminar Cost:
L’Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L’Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024
Cost: $195.00 per person

For Further Information, Contact the COPAFS Office at:
Phone: 703-836-0404 Email: copafs@aol.com Fax: 703-836-0406
The registration form is available at the COPAFS web site at: www.copafs.org


Call for Candidates to Run for the GSS and SSS Executive Boards

One of the responsibilities of past chairs of GSS and SSS is to propose a slate of candidates for the election to the executive boards. The next election is for officers starting on January 1, 2010. Steve Cohen, GSS Past Chair, sends a personal note to all interested parties, “I have found serving on the GSS Executive Board a very rewarding professional experience and have never regretted serving on the board.” Both the GSS and SSS Boards have openings. If you are interested in running or want more information about these positions please contact Steve Cohen of the Government Statistics Section (scohen@nsf.gov or 703-292-7769) or Jennifer Madans of the Social Statistics Section (Jennifer.madans@cdc.hhs.gov).
Open positions in GSS: Chair, Program Chair for the 2011 JSM, and representative to the Council of Sections.
Open positions in SSS: Chair, Program Chair for the 2011 JSM, and representative to the Council of Sections.
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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