



GSS/SSS DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER
Government Statistics and Social Statistics Sections
American Statistical Association

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**UPCOMING DEADLINES AND EVENTS:**

**December 2009**

|    |                                                               |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Abstract Submission Open for 2010 JSM Contributed Sessions    |
| 18 | Deadline for Submitting to the 2010 Student Paper Competition |

**February 2010**

|    |                                                                     |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Deadline for Submitting Abstracts for 2010 JSM Contributed Sessions |
| 28 | 2011 Waksberg Award Nomination Deadline                             |

**Spring 2010**

|          |                                                        |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| March 26 | Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Nomination Deadline |
| April 1  | Roger Herriot Award Nomination Deadline                |

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FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ESTABLISHMENT SURVEYS (ICES IV) PLANNED FOR 2012 **NEW!**

Submitted by Mark Harris, Chair of the ICES IV Organizing Committee

Planning is underway for the Fourth International Conference on Establishment Surveys (ICES IV). If you've attended any of the past conferences, you know how invaluable they have been to the literature and practice of establishment surveys. If you are newer to the establishment survey field, you will find the conference especially rewarding. Since the last ICES held in 2007, many new techniques have been developed by practitioners around the world. A major strength of the conferences is the strong international presence, both in the program development and attendance. Over 400 people from 94

countries attended ICES III. On June 11-14 2012, survey practitioners from government agencies, academia, private sector and more will gather in Montreal, Canada for ICES IV and continue the tradition of sharing innovative techniques and best practices to address common issues.

Sponsorship of the meetings is being provided by the American Statistical Association, ASA Section on Survey Research Methods, ASA Section on Government Statistics, International Association of Survey Statisticians, and the Statistical Society of Canada. Administrative support for ICES IV will be provided by the American Statistical Association, similar to previous ICES meetings. Also, many other organizations and government agencies are or will be providing support for the conference.

With the support of these many great organizations and the diverse gathering of individuals involved in establishment surveys, we hope that ICES IV will prove to be another fruitful conference in the valuable ICES series. So, save the date, **June 11-14, 2012**, and join practitioners from around the globe in **Montreal, Canada!** You can participate in the growing ICES IV program discussing current issues, future vision, and cutting-edge methods in surveying businesses, farms and institutions. Expect updates on participation and program details to ICES IV through this newsletter and the upcoming ICES IV website.

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**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE 2011 WAKSBERG AWARD NEW!**

*Submitted by Daniel Kasprzyk, Chair of the Waksberg Award Selection Committee*

The journal *Survey Methodology* has established an annual invited paper series in honor of Joe Waksberg to recognize his contributions to survey methodology. Each year a prominent survey statistician is chosen to write a paper that reviews the development and current state of an important topic in the field of survey methodology. The paper reflects the mixture of theory and practice that characterized Joe Waksberg's work.

The recipient of the Waksberg Award will receive an honorarium and give the 2011 Waksberg Invited Address at the Statistics Canada Symposium to be held in the autumn of 2011. The paper will be published in a future issue of *Survey Methodology*.

The author of the 2011 Waksberg paper will be selected by a four-person committee appointed by *Survey Methodology* and the American Statistical Association. Nomination of individuals to be considered as authors or suggestions for topics should be sent **before February 28, 2010** to the chair of the committee, **Dan Kasprzyk** ([DKasprzyk@Mathematica-MPR.com](mailto:DKasprzyk@Mathematica-MPR.com)).

Previous Waksberg Award honorees and their invited papers are:

- 2001 Gad Nathan, "Telesurvey Methodologies for Household Surveys-A Review and Some Thoughts for the Future." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 27, no. 1, pp.7-31.
- 2002 Wayne Fuller, "Regression Estimation for Survey Samples." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 28, no. 1, pp. 5-23.
- 2003 David Holt, "Methodological Issues in the Development and Use of Statistical Indicators for International Comparisons." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 29, no. 1, pp. 5-17.
- 2004 Norman Bradburn, "Understanding the Question-Answer Process." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 30, no. 1, pp. 5-15.
- 2005 J.N.K. Rao, "Interplay Between Sample Survey Theory and Practice: An Appraisal." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 31, no. 2, pp. 117-138.
- 2006 Alastair Scott, "Population-Based Case Control Studies." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 32, no. 2, pp. 123-132.
- 2007 Carl-Erik Särndal, "The Calibration Approach in Survey Theory and Practice." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 33, no. 2, pp. 99-119.
- 2008 Mary Thompson, "International surveys: Motives and Methodologies." *Survey Methodology*, vol. 34, no. 2, pp. 131-141.

2009 Graham Kalton, "Methods for Oversampling Rare Subpopulations in Social Surveys." *Survey Methodology* (forthcoming)  
2010 Ivan Fellegi, Manuscript topic under consideration

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NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE JEANNE E. GRIFFITH MENTORING AWARD NEW!

Submitted by Beth Kilss, 2010 Chair, Griffith Award Selection Committee

It's time to start thinking about nominating an outstanding supervisor, technical director, team coordinator, or other member of a governmental statistical staff who encourages mentoring of junior staff in the Federal, State, or Local statistical system for the 2010 Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award.



Jeanne Griffith

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award was established to honor Dr. Griffith who died in August 2001 after working for more than 25 years in the Federal statistical system. Throughout her career, and especially in her latter 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 younger staff at all levels to learn, to grow, and to recognize and seize career opportunities as they came along.

Nominations for 2010 Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award will be accepted beginning in January 2010. The last date for submission of nominations is March 26, 2010, and the Award Committee will make its determination of the award winner by May 7, 2010. The award will consist of a \$1,000 honorarium (to be split if there is more than one awardee), a citation, and a plaque, which will be presented at a ceremony arranged by the co-sponsors in June 2010.

The winning mentor(s) will be selected for his or her efforts in supporting the work and developing the careers of junior 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.

Nominations should be prepared in the form of a letter or memorandum for the Award Selection Committee:

- The letter or memorandum should summarize the nominee's actions that support and encourage junior staff in the Federal, State, or Local statistical community in developing their careers.
- **Nominations may be accompanied by up to six supporting letters. These should be attached to, and submitted with, the nomination.**
- The Award Selection Committee finds that descriptions of what nominees actually do are the strongest demonstration of candidate mentoring. Here are some examples: the mentor is a source of advice...counsels with long-term goals in mind...thought I was well qualified even though I had some doubts...encourages staff to seek out positions that will increase their visibility and stretch their professional capabilities. These are more explicit and unique to the mentor than generic statements such as: the mentor is a coach or a teacher.

Photo copies and email copies of support letters are acceptable.

The nomination packages are reviewed by a committee consisting of six members who each serve a six-year term:

- Emerson Elliott, National Center for Education Statistics (Retired)
- Carol House, National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Dan Kasprzyk, Mathematica Policy Research
- Beth Kilss, 2010 Chair, Internal Revenue Service (Retired)
- Stephanie Shipp, 2009 Chair, Science & Technology Policy Institute
- Clyde Tucker, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Andy Orlin, Jeanne Griffith's husband, serves as emeritus member, providing continuity and historical perspective.

This year marked the first time in the award's 7-year history that two winners were chosen, as well as the first time the ASA's Government Statistics Section oversaw the award selection process. **Kevin Cecco**, Chief of the Corporation Statistics Branch, Statistics of Income Division, IRS, and **Lillian Lin**, Mathematical Statistician, Division of HIV and AIDS Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention received their awards at a ceremony held on June 17, 2009 in Washington, D.C. Past recipients of the Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award were:

2003: Rich Allen (National Agriculture Statistical Service);
2004: Beth Kilss (Internal Revenue Service);
2005: Renee Miller (Energy Information Administration);
2006: Martin O'Connell (U.S. Census Bureau);
2007: Stephanie Shipp (National Institute of Standards and Technology – at the time of the award);
2008: Rosemary D. Marcuss (Bureau of Economic Analysis); and
2009: Kevin Cecco (Internal Revenue Service) and
Lillian Lin (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

If you are not familiar with the award or would like more information about the current winners and the history of the award, see the excellent article (including a number of pictures from the ceremony) in the August 2009 issue of *Amstat News*, pp. 51-54, or go to <http://www.amstat.org/publications/amsn/2009/august.cfm>.

For more information about the nominating process for the 2010 award, please go to:
<http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/JEGform10.doc> or
<http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/JEGform10.pdf>.

If you have questions about the award, please contact **Monica Clark** at monica@amstat.org, (703) 302-1860, and **Beth Kilss** at bakilss@msn.com, (703) 451-7240.

The nomination package may be mailed or emailed **no later than March 26, 2010**, to:

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Committee
c/o The American Statistical Association
732 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1943
monica@amstat.org

Sponsors of the Award: The Government Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association, which manages the award, would like to thank our original co-sponsors:

- Washington Statistical Society,
- Social Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association,
- Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP),
- Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics,

and our two new co-sponsors:

- American Educational Research Association (AERA), and
- National Opinion Research Corporation (NORC).

Please contact Stephanie Shipp (sshipp919@gmail.com), if you would like to contribute to the award.

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**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR THE ROGER HERRIOT AWARD**

*Submitted by Frank Potter, Chair of the Herriot Award Committee GSS COPAFS Representative, 2009-2010*

Nominations are sought for the 2010 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 statistical agencies, other government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions.

The recipient of the 2010 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 a \$1,000 honorarium and a framed citation, which will be presented at a ceremony at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2010. The Washington Statistical Society will also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

The previous recipients of the Roger Herriot Award are Joseph Waksberg (Westat), Monroe Sirken (NCHS), Constance Citro (CNStat), Roderick Harrison (Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (BLS), Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNStat), Donald Dillman (Washington State University), Jeanne Griffith (OMB, NCES, NSF), Daniel Weinberg (Census Bureau), David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST), Paula Schneider (Census Bureau), Robert E. Fay III (Census Bureau), Nathaniel Schenker (NCHS), Nancy Kirkendall (EIA), Elizabeth Martin (Census Bureau), and Lynda Carlson (NSF).

Nominations for the 2010 award will be accepted beginning in February 2010. Nomination packages should contain:

- A cover letter from the nominator that should include references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in Federal statistics. These contributions can be to methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of Federal statistics, and need not have been made by or while a Federal employee.
- Up to six additional letters in support that demonstrate the innovativeness of each contribution.
- A current vita for the nominee, including contact information.

Both individual and group nominations may be submitted. The committee may consider nominations made for prior years, but it encourages resubmission of those nominations with updated information.

For more information, contact **Frank Potter**, Chair, 2010 Roger Herriot Award Committee, at 609-936-2799 or [FPotter@Mathematica-MPR.com](mailto:FPotter@Mathematica-MPR.com). Completed packages must be received by **April 1, 2010**. Electronic submissions in MS-Word or as a "pdf" file are strongly encouraged. Please contact the chair if you need to make arrangements to fax or mail a nomination.

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PLANNING FOR JSM 2010: VOLUNTEERS TO CHAIR CONTRIBUTED SESSIONS

Submitted by Joseph Salvo, SSS 2010 Program Chair, and Lisa Blumerman, GSS 2010 Program Chair

If you are going to attend the 2010 Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver (July 31 - August 5, 2010) and wish to volunteer as a contributed session chair for SSS or GSS-sponsored sessions, please contact **Joseph Salvo** (SSS 2010 Program Chair, jsalvo@planning.nyc.gov) or **Lisa Blumerman** (GSS 2010 Program Chair, lisa.m.blumerman@census.gov). Complete details are provided below.

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### PLANNING FOR JSM 2010: CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED SESSION ABSTRACTS

*Submitted by Joseph Salvo, SSS 2010 Program Chair, and Lisa Blumerman, GSS 2010 Program Chair*

The 2010 SSS and GSS program chairs encourage you to organize a contributed session and submit an abstract for the 2010 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM). The theme of JSM 2010 will be **"Statistics: A Key to Innovation in a Data-Centric World."** There are two types of contributed sessions: regular and topic-contributed. Before you submit an abstract to ASA for a *topic-contributed* session, please contact **Joseph Salvo** (SSS 2010 Program Chair, [jsalvo@planning.nyc.gov](mailto:jsalvo@planning.nyc.gov)) or **Lisa Blumerman** (GSS 2010 Program Chair, [lisa.m.blumerman@census.gov](mailto:lisa.m.blumerman@census.gov)). They will keep track of the sessions SSS or GSS may either sponsor or co-sponsor.

Parameters for contributed session options are listed below. Please plan ahead. All abstracts must be submitted online at the ASA website from **December 1, 2009 through February 1, 2010**.

#### Topic-contributed paper session:

- 110 minutes in length; collection of contributed talks & discussions that share a common topic
- Must be 5 presentations (including discussants) of 20 minutes each, with 10 minutes of floor discussion at the end



- Three format options: five (5) papers; **OR** four (4) papers and one (1) discussant; **OR** three (3) papers and two (2) discussants
- All speakers must submit an abstract to ASA, and indicate they are in a topic-contributed session (give the name of the organizer)
- **Coordinate through the JSM program committee member**

**Topic-contributed panel session:**

- 110 minutes in length; panel discussion format; panel members provide commentary on a particular topic
- Minimum of three (3) and maximum of five (5) panelists; panels each require ONE abstract submitted by the organizer
- **Coordinate through the JSM program committee member**

**Topic-contributed poster cluster:**

- Three (3) to six (6) posters on a related topic - theme can be applied, methodology-related, or theoretical

**Regular contributed session:**

- 110 minutes in length
- Opening remarks by session chair (5 minutes), followed by six (6) or seven (7) speakers (15 minutes each)
- If 6 speakers: 15 minutes of floor discussion at the end; if 7 speakers: no discussant or floor discussion

**Contributed poster:**

- 110 minute session
- 8 ft by 4 ft board

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PLANNING FOR JSM 2010: STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Submitted by Joseph Salvo, SSS 2010 Program Chair, Lisa Blumerman, GSS 2010 Program Chair, and Michael Elliott, SRMS 2010 Program Chair

The Social Statistics, Government Statistics, and Survey Research Methods Sections are pleased to announce a competition for student and post-graduate papers to be presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver, on July 31 – August 5, 2010. At least five awards will be granted. Winning papers are presented by the authors at a JSM session and recognized at the Sections' business meetings. A subsidy of up to \$800 is provided to each winner to cover JSM 2010 expenses.

To be eligible to participate you must be a current undergraduate, graduate student at any level, or a 2009 graduate who presents research conducted as a student. *Faculty members are urged to encourage students to apply for these awards.*

Papers entered in this competition must involve either a new statistical methodology, or a creative application of statistical analysis to a problem, issue, or policy question pertinent to the subject area of one of the sponsoring sections. The research does not have to be complete, but competitors must be able to submit an abstract prospectus that describes the planned research and nature of the intended innovation(s).

The application must include:

1. a cover letter with the applicant's name, current affiliation and status, and contact information (address, telephone, e-mail);
2. an abstract (300 words maximum);

3. a draft paper (if available); otherwise, a 3-page research prospectus; and
4. a letter from his/her adviser that certifies the applicant's status (e.g., current student or new graduate who completed the degree within the past year), and describes plans to complete the research.

To apply, please send the materials to

Joseph Salvo (SSS 2010 Program Chair, jsalvo@planning.nyc.gov),

Lisa Blumerman (GSS 2010 Program Chair, lisa.m.blumerman@census.gov), or

Michael Elliott (SRMS 2010 Program Chair, mrelliot@umich.edu).

All materials must be received by 5 PM EST, December 18, 2009. Winners will be notified by mid-January 2010.

If a student receives an award from more than one section, he/she must immediately inform the other cosponsoring sections and decline one of the awards.

Please refer to the section websites below for updates:

Social Statistics Section <http://www.amstat.org/sections/ssoc/>

Government Statistics Section <http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/>

Survey Research Methods Section <http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/index.html>

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#### **PLANNING FOR JSM 2010: GSS AND SSS SPONSORED ROUNDTABLES**

*Submitted by Iris Shimizu, GSS 2011 Program Chair-Elect, and Nancy Clusen, SSS 2011 Program Chair-Elect*

The 2011 Program Chairs-Elect for GSS and SSS, Iris Shimizu and Nancy Clusen respectively, are responsible for organizing roundtables for JSM 2010. If you are interested in hosting a roundtable lunch or breakfast please contact either **Iris Shimizu** ([ishimizu@cdc.gov](mailto:ishimizu@cdc.gov)) or **Nancy Clusen** ([NClusen@Mathematica-MPR.com](mailto:NClusen@Mathematica-MPR.com)).

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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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Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor
Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS), National Science Foundation (NSF)
National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Statistics of Income Division, Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
U.S. Census Bureau
U.S. Social Security Administration

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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