



# WSS NEWS

---

# WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF WSS
- 4 SAVE THE DATE! WSS HOLIDAY PARTY!
- 5 WELCOME NEW ASA/WSS MEMBERS!
- 6 SEMINARS
- 14 WSS MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT
- 17 SPOTLIGHT A WSS MEMBER
- 18 COURSES
- 28 STUDENT'S CORNER
- 32 WSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, AND PROGRAMS
- 37 FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR

## FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF WSS



To the Washington Statistical and Data Science Community,

Do you work with or are you interested in data - how to get it, what can and should be done with it using statistical or data science tools, and how to assess and communicate what information it provides? Do you live or work in the metropolitan Washington DC area? If the answers to these questions are "yes," we encourage you to join the Washington Statistical Society (WSS). The WSS is one of the largest chapters of the [American Statistical Association \(ASA\)](#) and extremely active with over 900 members from government, academia and the private sector. WSS offers opportunities to:

- **Learn** through seminars and workshops, and continuing your own statistical education,
- **Socialize** through networking with colleagues, and
- Engage in **service** by increasing the level of quantitative literacy in area schools, and motivating and developing the next generation of statisticians.

This year I am emphasizing the theme “Let’s get together!” and highlight these quarterly opportunities for the WSS statistical and data science community:

Quarter	Learn	Socialize	Service
<b>3 2018</b>	DC-AAPOR conference	Informal meet and greet at JSM	Sign up as a mentor or mentee
<b>4 2018</b>	Hansen Lecture, Leadership Workshop	Hansen Lecture Reception, Annual Holiday Party	Enlist in quantitative literacy activities
<b>1 2019</b>	President’s Invited Lecture	President’s Invited Lecture Reception	Volunteer at Science Fairs
<b>2 2019</b>	Cox Award Seminar	Annual Dinner	Award competition judging

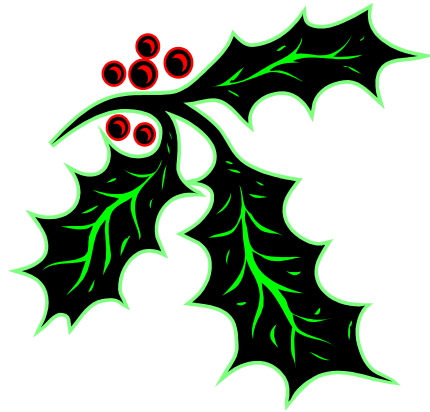
The mentoring program and various receptions help to build relationships and community. The technical seminar program and short courses foster learning in our statistical workforce in agriculture and natural resources, data collection methods, data science and statistical computing, defense and national security, economics, education, human rights, privacy and confidentiality, public health and biostatistics, public policy, quality assurance, and social and demographic statistics. Our monthly newsletter (*The WSS News*) and our website [washstat.org](http://washstat.org) provides announcements and descriptions of forthcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and listings of both job opportunities and the credentials of members seeking new positions. Full details on joining WSS are available online at [washstat.org/joinus.html](http://washstat.org/joinus.html). The annual dues are low compared to the many benefits membership affords: ASA member \$10 (Full), ASA Student member \$3 (Full-Student); Non-ASA member \$10 (Associate); and Non-ASA Student member \$3 (Associate-Student).

If you have any questions about membership or participation in the WSS, please e-mail me at [tomkrenzke@westat.com](mailto:tomkrenzke@westat.com). I hope you will take this opportunity to fully engage in some of the diverse activities WSS has to offer. Let’s get together in 2018-19!

Sincerely,  
 ~Tom Krenzke  
 ~WSS President, 2018-19

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**WSS Holiday Party!**



**Tuesday, December 4, 2018  
4:30pm to 7:30pm  
Penn Common  
700 6th Street NW  
Washington DC 20001  
(1 block from Gallery Place Metro)**

**Hold the Date. More information to come.**

## **WELCOME NEW ASA/WSS MEMBERS**

### **Congratulations! WSS Members Elected as Fellows of the American Statistical Association**

We are pleased to announce that four members of the Washington Statistical Society were recently elected as Fellows of the American Statistical Association. ASA Fellowship is a broad recognition of an individual's contribution to the field of statistics, the statistical profession, and the ASA. Congratulations to each of our new Fellows, who continue the tradition of strong WSS representation among those elected as Fellows. These new Fellows will be honored at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore.

- Donsig Jang, NORC at the University of Chicago
- Michael J. Messner, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Dionne L. Price, Food and Drug Administration
- Richard S. Sigman

The WSS Committee on ASA Fellows works to identify members who are deserving of this honor and coordinate the preparation and submission of WSS nominations. Everyone is encouraged to identify colleagues who would be strong candidates. It is never too early to get the nomination process started. Please contact committee chair Jill DeMatteis at [jilldematteis@westat.com](mailto:jilldematteis@westat.com) with suggestions for nominees or questions about the process.

- Linda Young (WSS President 2017-18)
- Cynthia Clark
- Jill DeMatteis
- Jennifer Parker
- Van Parsons
- Polly Phipps

WSS Committee on ASA Fellows 2017-18

## Seminars

<b>Bayesian Analysis of the Covariance Matrix of a Multivariate Normal Distribution with a New Class of Priors</b>	
<b>Date/Time:</b>	<b>October 5, 2018/10:30 AM to Noon (ET)</b>
<b>Speaker:</b>	Dongchu Sun, University of Missouri-Columbia
<b>Chair:</b>	Terrance Savitsky
<b>Sponsors:</b>	WSS Methodology
<b>Location:</b>	<p>Bureau of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood Conference Center, Room 9</p> <p>To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to <a href="mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov">wss_seminar@bls.gov</a> (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least two days in advance of the seminar. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see <a href="http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking">http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking</a>. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.</p> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> BLS is now following enhanced security protocols and screenings for access to the facility. All personnel need to remove all items from their pockets/person (to include belts) and electronic devices from their person or clothing and place the items in the designated bin to be screened through the x-ray machine. Please allow extra time to get through security.</p>
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>Bayesian analysis for the covariance matrix of a multivariate normal distribution has received a lot of attention in the last two decades. In this paper, we propose a new class of priors for the covariance matrix, including both inverse Wishart and reference priors as special cases. The main motivation for the new class is to have available priors both subjective and objective that do not force eigenvalues apart, which is a criticism of inverse Wishart and Jeffreys priors. Extensive comparison of these “shrinkage priors” with inverse Wishart and Jeffreys priors is undertaken, with the new priors seeming to have considerably better performance. A number of curious facts about the new priors are also observed, such as that the posterior distribution will be proper with just three vector observations from the multivariate normal distribution regardless of the dimension of the covariance matrix and that useful inference about features of the covariance matrix can be possible. Finally, a new MCMC algorithm is developed for this class of priors and is shown to be computationally effective for matrices of up to 100 dimensions. This is joint work with James O. Berger and Chengyuan Song.</p>

<b>WebEx:</b>	WebEx event address: <a href="https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=m093f8de958183fb1520f1fea7716b43c">https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=m093f8de958183fb1520f1fea7716b43c</a>
<b>For audio:</b>	Call-in toll-free number (Verizon): 1-866-865-9536 (US) Attendee access code: 744 124 3



**27<sup>th</sup> Annual Morris Hansen Lecture**  
How Errors Cumulate: Two Examples

***Speaker: Roger Tourangeau***

*Vice President  
Westat*

***Discussants:***

***Kristen Olson***, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

***Jill Dever***, Senior Research Statistician, Division for Statistical & Data Sciences  
RTI International



**Abstract:** Are there systematic relationships between different sources of survey errors? This talk examines two cases in detail — how coverage, selection, and nonresponse errors in non-probability web panels cumulate and whether there is a relationship between response propensities and data quality. With non-probability web panels, there seems to be overlap in the variables that affect someone's propensity to have Internet access, to join a web panel, and to respond to specific survey requests. As a result, the different forms of errors accentuate each other and produce larger errors than surveys based on probability samples, even ones with very low response rates. Weighting helps reduce the biases from non-probability web panels but does not eliminate them. With nonresponse and data quality, unit and item nonresponse seem to be related, but there is less evidence that reluctant or hard-to-reach respondents provide less accurate answers than other respondents. Thus, there is at least partial independence between nonresponse and measurement error.

**Bio:** Roger Tourangeau is a Vice President and Associate Director at Westat. Before joining Westat in 2011, he was a Research Professor at the University of Michigan's Survey Research Center and directed the Joint Program in Survey Methodology for ten years. He is an author on more than 90 research articles. He is also the lead author of a 2013 book on web surveys (*The Science of Web Surveys*) with Fred Conrad and Mick Couper, as well as lead editor of *Hard-to-Survey Populations*, published in 2014. His earlier book (*The Psychology of Survey Response*, with Lance Rips and Kenneth Rasinski) received the 2006 Book Award from the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR). In 2002, he received the Helen Dinerman Award, the highest honor given by the World Association for Public Opinion Research. He was elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 1999, chaired the Survey Research Methods Section of the American Statistical Association in 2006, was the founding co-editor of the *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, and was President of AAPOR from 2016-2017. He has a Ph.D. in Psychology from Yale University.

Thursday, October 11, 2018  
3:30 – 5:30 pm

Jefferson Auditorium, US  
Department of Agriculture  
Independence Avenue  
(between 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets)  
At the Smithsonian Metro Station  
(Blue/Orange/Silver lines)

A reception will follow at 5:30 pm  
on the Whitten Building Patio

Please pre-register for this event to help  
facilitate access to the building on line  
at

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/morrishansen/>



Sponsored By:



Washington Statistical  
Society



**PLEASE FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC (ESPECIALLY EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS)**

<b>Combining GIS and Statistics: Data Visualization to Communicate Findings</b>	
<b>Date/Time:</b>	<b>October 17, 2018/4:00–5:30 pm</b> Informal reception to follow at approximately 5:45 p.m. at East Street Café on the mezzanine level of Union Station.
<b>Speaker:</b>	Kristen Hocutt, Solution Engineer, ESRI
<b>Chair:</b>	Martha McRoy, Research Methodologist, Pew Research Center
<b>Sponsors:</b>	WSS Statistics Education Committee, WSS Methodology Section and WSS Defense & National Security Program Committee
<b>Location:</b>	Bureau of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood Conference Center, Rooms 7/8 (Please check board in case of change of room)  BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see <a href="http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking">http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking</a> . No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.
<b>RSVP:</b>	To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, date of the seminar and seminar name to <a href="mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov">wss_seminar@bls.gov</a> (underscore after 'wss') by noon on Friday, October 12. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar.
<b>Abstract:</b>	A Geographic Information System (GIS) provides a powerful collection of tools to help organizations manage, explore, analyze, and present data. When combined with spatial statistics methods in ArcGIS, the approach helps analysts make full use of geographic context when generating the information that helps organizations make better decisions. In this talk, we discuss how solving spatial problems related to classification, clustering, and regression helps organizations in the domains of business, public health, and natural resources. Specific examples cover the use of Kriging, Density-based Clustering, and integrating your own R-driven processes with the R-ArcGIS Bridge. Applying these workflows can be the first step to help you explore spatial data relationships and design the models that help determine the right course of action in your research and organization. For the majority of this talk, only a knowledge of introductory statistics will be assumed.
<b>Remote Access:</b>	WebEx link: <a href="https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=m52ddc873c58c90ab5bea43eb9a0dfb16">https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=m52ddc873c58c90ab5bea43eb9a0dfb16</a> Note: Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx
<b>For audio:</b>	Call (866) 865-9536 (Toll Free) or (517) 966-0857 Attendee access code: 744 124 3
<b>POC:</b>	Carol Joyce Blumberg, <a href="mailto:cblumberg@gmail.com">cblumberg@gmail.com</a>

## **The Inaugural Links Lecture November 5, 2018**

The American Statistical Association is very pleased to announce that Frauke Kreuter, Director of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology of the University of Maryland, College Park, has been selected as the inaugural lecturer for the Links Lecture. The award citation reads: “For adding important links in the progress of official statistics through leadership in education and training and distinguished contributions to the literature on social and economic measurement.” Barry Johnson, Director of the Statistics of Income Division of the IRS, will serve at the “Connector” in relating points in Prof. Kreuter’s lecture to issues facing agencies engaged in the production of official statistics.



The Links Lecture will be held on **November 5, 2018** in Room 100 of the Keck Center at the National Academy of Sciences at 500 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW in Washington, DC from 3:00-4:30 PM. A reception will follow. Information on registration will be provided later. The lecture will also be webcast.

For the most current information about the lecture, see <https://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/Links-Lecture-Award.aspx>.

The Links Lecture is sponsored by the American Statistical Association to bring more visibility to issues surrounding the advancement of official statistics, such as:

- The statistical use of administrative records and alternative data sources
- Record linkage
- Statistical methods for creating blended estimates

- Privacy, confidentiality, researcher access, and reproducibility of results

The lecture series also celebrates a group of statisticians who have been critical links in envisioning the future of official statistics: Constance Citro, Robert Groves and Fritz Schueren.



*Constance Citro*



*Robert Groves*



---

*Fritz Schueren*

**PLEASE FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC (ESPECIALLY EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS)**

<b>How U.S. Pre-election Polls are Changing in an Era of Disruption and Scrutiny</b>	
<b>Date/Time:</b>	<b>November 14, 2018/4:00–5:30 pm</b>
<b>Speaker:</b>	Scott Clement, Polling Director, The Washington Post
<b>Chair:</b>	Sareeta Carter Schmitt, AP Statistics teacher, The School Without Walls of Washington, DC
<b>Sponsors:</b>	WSS Statistics Education Committee, WSS Methodology Section and DC-AAPOR (The Washington-Baltimore Chapter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research)
<b>Location:</b>	Bureau of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood Conference Center, Rooms 7/8 (Please check board in case of change of room)
	<u>BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see <a href="http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking">http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking</a>. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.</u>
<b>RSVP:</b>	<u>To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, date of the seminar and seminar name to <a href="mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov">wss_seminar@bls.gov</a> (underscore after 'wss') by noon on Friday, November 9. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar.</u>
<b>Abstract:</b>	The past decade has brought a rapid proliferation in U.S. pre-election polls, ways they are conducted and approaches to combining and interpreting results. This change has also come amid heightened scrutiny of the accuracy of pre-election polls and efforts to use polls to provide precise forecasts of election results, which came to a head with Donald Trump's surprise victory in the 2016 election. A report by the American Association for Public Opinion Research found national polls that year were particularly accurate by historical standards, but that state surveys significantly underestimated Trump's support. This talk will discuss the driving forces behind changes in pre-election polling, the chief challenges for pollsters and the news media in conducting and interpreting polls in the coming years. The talk is non-technical and relevant for both statisticians and non-statisticians.
	No Remote Access Will be Available for this Event
<b>POC:</b>	<u>POC (Point of Contact) email: <a href="mailto:cblumberg@gmail.com">Carol Joyce Blumberg, cblumberg@gmail.com</a></u>

## **WSS MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**



## Washington Statistical Society

### Member Spotlight

*Introducing your fellow members and showcasing the diversity of the WSS membership*



#### Meet WSS Member Emily Berg...

##### Where do you work and what do you do?

I work at Iowa State University, where I am an Assistant Professor in Statistics.

##### What attracted you to your current position?

The position combines multiple interests that I developed as a graduate student at Iowa State and as an employee at the National Agricultural Statistics Service. I saw it as an opportunity to continue to work on applied survey projects through the National Resources Inventory and related surveys and simultaneously pursue more general research in survey sampling and statistics. The position also offers opportunities to teach statistics courses and help graduate students attain their goals. Iowa State faculty have expertise in diverse areas, including survey sampling, and the position is an opportunity to learn from and collaborate with faculty.

##### Finish this sentence: "I joined WSS to..."

learn about statistical activities in the Washington DC area.

##### Why did you join the statistics profession?

As statisticians, we can approach problems with immediate practical relevance and have reassurance that our methods have rigorous justifications. Like many statisticians, I majored in mathematics as an undergraduate. Statistics is a great blend of quantitative reasoning, communication, and interpretation.

##### What was the most interesting statistical project you have worked on recently?

I worked on a project at Iowa State, known locally as "county base," where the objective was to integrate population-level information on federal land and large water areas into the estimation procedure for the National Resources Inventory survey. This was the most interdisciplinary project I have worked on yet, requiring collaboration from computer scientists, GIS specialists, and statisticians.

##### If you could give your 18-year-old self one piece of advice, what would it be?

I might advise myself to read Sheryl Sandberg's *Lean In*.

##### What is your favorite daily ritual?

A cup of coffee after a morning workout.

##### What is your favorite meal or local restaurant?

My favorite meal: spaghetti with tomato sauce, chicken, vegetables, and cheese.

##### How do you like to spend your free time away from work?

Primarily, exercising, going for walks, cooking, and baking, often with my boyfriend.

##### Is there anything else you would like to share with the WSS members?

Writing this has reminded me of how grateful I am for the opportunities I have had. Hopefully, I can help foster positive opportunities for students at Iowa State.



## Washington Statistical Society

### Member Spotlight

*Introducing your fellow members and showcasing the diversity of the WSS membership*



#### Meet WSS Member Mike Jadoo...

##### Where do you work and what do you do?

I work as an economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

##### What attracted you to your current position?

I am attracted to the economic profession because I like learning about different markets and how our economy functions.

##### Finish this sentence: "I joined WSS to..."

enhance my statistical knowledge and skill set so that I can perform better at my job or at other projects I am involved in.

##### What was the most interesting statistical project you have worked on recently?

The most interesting statistical project was the GSS data competition in 2017. In this activity, I learned about the different types of products and services people spent their money on and how the population spent it over time.

##### What skills are most important for the next generation of statistics professionals?

The most important skills I think are needed for the next generation of statistics professionals are soft skills like emotional intelligence and empathic communications, as well as knowledge of computer science skills like programming.

##### What advice would you give to someone entering the statistics profession?

Work hard, keep learning and meeting everyone.

##### What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?

Data science or banking.

##### If you could give your 18-year-old self one piece of advice, what would it be?

Take more statistics classes and go for the PhD.

##### What is your favorite daily ritual?

Every morning, I typically go over several different math problems on takequiz.org and worksheets on statistical measures (I take about 30 minutes to an hour to finish). ☺

##### How do you like to spend your free time away from work?

I like to hang out with friends and enjoy a good book.



## **SPOTLIGHT A WSS MEMBER**

### **Washington Statistical Society's Spotlight on Members Program**

The WSS Board of Directors has established a program to highlight members who have made or are making notable contributions to the work of their organization or their professional field of expertise. We know that WSS members are doing interesting work in the fields of statistics, survey methodology, and the social sciences. Through this program, we hope to spotlight the accomplishments of our fellow WSS members.

This is our first request for nominations, to be featured in an upcoming issue of WSS News. We are interested in featuring members at all levels of the employment spectrum including recent graduates, mid-career employees, and those seasoned veterans.

Please feel free to nominate more than one person or a team working together. You may also nominate yourself as well. The nominees must be members of the WSS and not currently affiliated with the Board.

Please provide us with the following information about your nominee or nominees.

1. Your name, email address, and telephone number
2. Name or names of nominee(s)
3. Organizational affiliation
4. Job title
5. Their contact information including email address and telephone number
6. A brief narrative describing the reasons for your nomination
7. A photo of the nominee, although not required, would be greatly appreciated

Please submit your nominations or direct any questions to Wendy Barboza ([Wendy.Barboza@nass.usda.gov](mailto:Wendy.Barboza@nass.usda.gov)) or Natalia Weil ([NataliaWeil@westat.org](mailto:NataliaWeil@westat.org)).

We look forward to hearing from you.

## COURSES

The [2018-2019 JPSM Short Course Schedule](#) is now available and registration is open.

Register by September 30, 2018 for automatic **discounted rates**\* on any of the 10 courses below:

- **October 10-11, 2018 Web Scraping & APIs**  
Instructor: Simon Munzert
- **November 28, 2018 Non-probability Surveys**  
Instructors: Courtney Kennedy & Andrew Mercer
- **December 17-18, 2018 Introduction to Survey Sampling**  
Instructors: Jim Lepkowski & Colm O'Muircheartaigh
- **January 14-15, 2019 Bayesian Inference in Surveys**  
Instructors: Roderick Little & Trivellore Raghunathan
- **February 5-6, 2019 Practical Tools for Designing & Weighting Surveys**  
Instructors: Rick Valliant & Jill Dever
- **February 27-28, 2019 Leveraging New Technologies for Understanding Attitudes & Behavior**  
Instructor: Michael Link
- **March 25-26, 2019 Writing Questions for Surveys**  
Instructor: Nora Cate Schaeffer
- **April 10-11, 2019 Machine Learning for Survey Data**  
Instructor: Trent Buskirk
- **April 24-25, 2019 Web Survey Design**  
Instructor: Florian Keusch
- **May 29-30, 2019 Introduction to Survey Estimation**  
Instructors: David Morganstein & Sunghee Lee

\*Some agencies allow current year training funds to be used when there is a limited time on a discounted rate. Please check with your agency training office.

*All courses will be held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in Washington, D.C.*

A friendly reminder: payment must be received at the time of registration to reserve a seat in a course. An emailed receipt will confirm payment and successful registration.

<https://jointprogram.umd.edu/prodev/jpsm-short-courses>

JPSM Short Course Team  
University of Maryland  
1218 Lefrak Hall  
College Park, MD 20742  
Ph: 301-314-7911  
Fax: 301-314-7912  
[jpsm-shortcourse@umd.edu](mailto:jpsm-shortcourse@umd.edu)

**WSS Short Course**  
**Practical Bayesian Computation**  
**Friday, October 12, 2018**  
**9:00 am – 4:30 pm**

**Instructor:** Dr. Fang Chen, SAS Institute Inc.

**Place:** Bureau of Labor Statistics

Conference rooms 7&8, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC

**Course Content:**

This course reviews the basic concepts of Bayesian inference and focuses on the practical use of Bayesian computational methods. The objectives are to familiarize statistical programmers and practitioners with the essentials of Bayesian computing, and to equip them with computational tools through a series of worked-out examples that demonstrate sound practices for a variety of statistical models and Bayesian concepts.

The first part of the course will review differences between classical and Bayesian approaches to inference, fundamentals of prior distributions, and concepts in estimation. The course will also cover MCMC methods and related simulation techniques, emphasizing the interpretation of convergence diagnostics in practice.

The rest of the course will take a topic-driven approach that introduces Bayesian simulation, analysis, and illustrates the Bayesian treatment of a wide range of statistical models using software with code explained in detail. The course will present major applications areas and case studies, including multi-level hierarchical models, multivariate analysis, non-linear models, meta-analysis, latent variable models, and survival analysis models. Special topics that are discussed include Monte Carlo simulation, sensitivity analysis, missing data, model assessment and selection, variable subset selection, and prediction. The examples will be done using SAS (PROC MCMC), with a strong focus on technical details.

**About the Instructor:**

Dr. Fang Chen is Director of Advanced Statistical Modeling in Advanced Analytics Division at SAS Institute Inc. Among his responsibilities are development of Bayesian analysis software and MCMC procedure. He has written extensively about Bayesian modeling using SAS and presented numerous tutorials and short courses in Bayesian methods, applications, and software at professional conferences, companies, universities, and SAS User Group meetings. Dr. Chen also oversees software development in nonlinear models, nonlinear random-effects models, and Bayesian capabilities in areas such as generalized linear models, survival analysis, hierarchical models, and discrete choice models. Prior to joining SAS Institute, he received his PhD in statistics from Carnegie Mellon University in 2004.

**Course Schedule:**

- 8:15 - 9:00 Coffee, breakfast, and check in  
9:00 - 9:15 Introduction & Welcome  
9:15 - 10:15 **Part I – Background and Concepts in Bayesian Methods**  
A. Concepts in Bayesian Methods  
B. Computational Methods (MCMC)  
C. Convergence Diagnostics  
10:15 - 10:30 Break  
10:30 - 11:00 **Part II - Primer on PROC MCMC**  
11:00 - 12:00 **Part III - Models and Applications**  
A. Monte Carlo Simulations  
B. Single-level Models  
C. Generalized Linear Models  
D. Nonlinear Models  
E. Posterior Predictive Distribution  
F. Use of Historical Data  
12:10 - 1:00 Lunch (provided)  
1:00 - 2:30  
G. Multilevel/Random-Effects Models  
H. Latent Variable Models  
2:30 - 2:45 Break  
2:45 - 4:30  
I. Model Selections  
J. Missing Data Analysis  
K. Survival Analysis

**Advance registration:** In addition to your RSVP here, please go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wss-short-course-practical-bayesian-computation-tickets-49597898650> to register and pay for the class. Online registration will close on October 10, 2018; earlier if the course fills up.

**Registration Fee:**

Full-time students (at most 8): \$63.49 advance, \$80 at the door  
WSS members: \$186.49 advance, \$200 at the door  
All others: \$217.24 advance, \$240 at the door

**Contact person:** Yang Cheng, 301-763-3287, yang.cheng@census.gov

## **The ASA and WSS Helps with Collaboration and Leadership Skills**

**November 14, 2018**

In graduate school at North Carolina State, I was a biologist just trying to get the hang of statistical theory and different statistical methods. Like most graduate statistics programs, my homework and projects were individual efforts. Even though I worked in a statistical consulting laboratory (unusual then) on surveys of fishermen's catch, I never talked to our clients or worked in a group. In contrast, after I graduated and was hired by the Census Bureau, I rarely did anything on my own. My supervisors, Bill Bell (2018 Roger Herriot Award winner) and David Findley (1996 Julius Shiskin Award winner), coached me and everyone else in my group on giving presentations and working with the Construction, Business, Foreign Trade, and Industry Divisions on our seasonal adjustment support. At Census, all methods to produce official statistics change slowly and have to be thoroughly vetted. My supervisors focused on clear, robust research efforts. They collaborated with the larger statistical community, building trust and respected influence within as well outside the Bureau to advance research and lead innovation in the field. They were quiet, but solid examples of leadership.

In 1997, I moved to the Fish and Wildlife Service where I worked directly with the wildlife biologists designing surveys and developing population models. When I first started working with them, I proposed a random effects model and was shot down—I did work with hunters. The Flyway Reps, who worked with state officials that set the waterfowl regulations, protested, "How do I explain 'random effects' to the regulations committee!" From this, I learned to match my analyses to what I could communicate in a straightforward way. Sometimes I would compare a simpler, more common analysis to more complicated analysis, so my partners could see the differences and advantages of each.

At the same time the wildlife biologists were starting to work with [structured decision making](#) (think *decision analysis*) and gather people from different sides of a resource issue with the power to make or influence decisions. We walked the decision makers through framing the problem, determining objectives, developing alternatives that fulfill those objectives, and assessing consequences and tradeoffs among those alternatives. The objectives and alternatives, likely different for each side of the issue, had to be worked out. Each side could build a model that described their view of the system, which in turn would determine the data needed to answer the management question. We even looked at whether collecting the data would even change our decision. If it didn't, there was no reason to collect the data. How satisfying was that for a statistician? Using this approach helped the agency set hunting regulations and solve difficult resource problems in a transparent way.

What has this to do with our roles as statisticians? Over my career, my role expanded from running the numbers (or as I hate my biologist colleagues to say, "do my magic") to becoming a full collaborator on projects. I am involved from conceptual discussions to the writing of all

parts of the final products, including communications to the decision makers. This difference, from just handling the statistics to involvement in all steps of the process, is what [Eric Vance](#) calls *statistical collaboration*. In a [JSM panel discussion](#), [Shari Messinger](#) said that she often repaired or did all the statistical analysis, wrote the statistical sections, and formatted the results, including tables and graphs, only to get an acknowledgment on the publication. Now she makes sure she is involved with all parts of her research collaborations. Statisticians are problem solvers and can be important contributors to all aspects of the research and decision-making processes.

How can you start? The ASA's Committee on Applied Statisticians (CAS) has a [series of webinars](#) on statistical collaboration that include structuring effective meetings, collaborating across cultures, influence without authority, teamwork, and communications. The ten webinars are at the CAS website under [Collaboration Webinars](#).

Also, while you don't need to lead a structured decision making group, it would help to broaden your role to the whole decision-making process. By learning how your organization and its leaders make decisions, and how to gain influence and trust, you can increase your effectiveness as a statistician and contributor to your organization. You don't have to be a manager, or even what to be one now, to start growing these skill and perspectives.

The Washington Statistical Society can help you here. We are teaching a Statistical Leadership course on November 14, 2018 at Research Triangle Institute International on H St NW. Gary Sullivan will be the instructor. He developed the course and has been teaching it at the Joint Statistical Meetings since 2014. Barry Nussbaum (ASA President 2017) and Sally Morton (ASA President 2009) will be the leader/presenters. It is a one-day class to start you on your leadership journey. See the announcement in this issue.

~ Mark Otto

## **WSS Short Course on Statistical Leadership**

**Wednesday, 14 November 2018**

**8:30 am – 4:30 pm**

**Instructor:** Dr. Gary Sullivan (Espirer Consulting, LLC)

**Leader/Presenters:**

Dr. Barry Nussbaum (2017 ASA President and Chief Statistician of the Environmental Protection Agency (retired))

Dr. Sally C. Morton (2009 ASA President and Dean of the College of Science at Virginia Tech)

**Place:** RTI International, 1250 H St NW, Suite 510, Washington, D.C. 20005 Conference Room 504

**Course Content:**

What is leadership? Why is it important for our profession? Moreover, how do you develop as a leader? Much has been written and discussed within the statistics profession in the last few years on these questions. This course will provide an understanding of leadership and its importance, as well as how statisticians can develop their leadership skills with a focus on business/ organizational acumen & influence. It will feature leadership speakers from different sectors of statistics talking about their personal journeys and providing insights into how they developed as leaders. Through personal reflection, group discussion and targeted exercises, you will develop a greater awareness of leadership and chart your path forward on your leadership development journey.

**Who Should Attend?**

- Statisticians who have a significant desire to become a student of leadership—a process you can start from any position by taking small but continuous steps
- Statisticians with an open mind; an eagerness to learn and improve; and a willingness to share their thoughts, insights and experiences with others
- Recommended for statisticians/professionals who have at least three years of work experience outside of their academic training, but students with the first two characteristics are welcome

**Note:** This is NOT a career Development Course. This course will focus on understanding and developing leadership skills in current and future roles of the attendees

**About the Instructors:**

**Dr. Gary Sullivan** is a leadership development specialist for Espirer Consulting, LLC, and is the current chair of the Ad Hoc Leadership Training committee for the American Statistical Association. He recently retired from Eli Lilly and Company after over 28 years where he held

numerous management and technical roles. While at Eli Lilly, he helped develop a leadership program for their statistics function and led the administration of that program from 2009–2017. He brought aspects of that program to the ASA and led the development and instruction of the first leadership course at JSM in 2014. He has provided leadership training to over 250 people at Eli Lilly and the within the ASA.

**Dr. Barry Nussbaum** became 2017 ASA President after he retired as Chief Statistician for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He had been with the EPA since 1975. Dr. Nussbaum was in charge developing statistical policy and overseeing statistical consultation for EPA's many varied offices. He also founded and chaired the EPA Statistics Users Group. Dr. Nussbaum is the recipient of two EPA Silver Medals for Superior Service as well as the EPA Distinguished Career Service Award. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

Dr. Nussbaum has a bachelor's degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and both a master's and a doctorate from the George Washington University. He has taught graduate statistics courses for George Washington University and Virginia Tech. He has also survived two terms as the treasurer of the Ravensworth Elementary School PTA. He often called upon to discuss the role of statistics and the statistician in helping to make, explain, and defend major decisions, policies, regulations, and enforcement actions.

**Dr. Sally C. Morton** is dean of the College of Science and professor of statistics at Virginia Tech. She previously served as chair of biostatistics and directed the Comparative Effectiveness Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh. Before joining Pitt, Dr. Morton was vice president for statistics and epidemiology at RTI International. She began her career at the RAND Corporation and was head of RAND's Statistics Group. She also has served on several National Academy of Medicine committees, the Census Scientific Advisory Committee, and the National Academy of Sciences Committee on National Statistics.

Dr. Morton was president of the ASA in 2009 and chair of Statistics Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2013. She is a fellow of both organizations. She holds a bachelor's degree in mathematical sciences, a master's degree in operations research, and a doctoral degree in statistics, all from Stanford University, as well as a master's degree in statistics from the London School of Economics.



**Course Schedule:**

- 8:00 – 8:30 Coffee, breakfast, and check in
- 8:30 – 9:15 Welcome & Introduction
- 9:15 – 10:15 Morning Speaker: Dr. Barry Nussbaum
- 10:15 – 10:35 Break
- 10:35 – 11:05 Reflection and Discussion
- 11:05 – 11:25 Introduction to Influence
- 11:25 – 12:10 Structured Exercise on Influence
- 12:10 – 1:00 Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 – 2:00 Afternoon Speaker: Dr. Sally C. Morton
- 2:00 – 2:15 Break
- 2:45 – 3:05 Introduction to Organizational/Business Acumen
- 3:05 – 3:35 Structured Exercise on Organizational/Business Acumen:
- 3:35 – 3:50 Break
- 3:50 – 4:20 Exercise Debrief
- 4:20 – 4:30 Summary and Closing Remarks

**Advance registration:** Registration will open August 15. Please go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wss-short-course-on-statistical-leadership-tickets-48342338235> to register and pay for the class. Online registration will close at noon on 9 November 2018; earlier if the course fills up.

**Registration Fee:**

- Full-time students (at most 5): \$63.58 advance, \$80 at the door
- WSS members: \$186.66 advance, \$200 at the door
- All others: \$217.43 advance, \$240 at the door

**Organizers:** Mark Otto (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)  
Eileen O'Brien (U.S. Energy Information Agency)  
Dr. Jennifer Parker (National Center for Health Statistics)

**Contact person:** Mark Otto, 301-497-5872, mark.ot2o@gmail.com

## University of Michigan Program in Survey Methodology

The University of Michigan Program in Survey Methodology (MPSM) seeks to train future generations of survey methodologists. The program offers doctorate and master of science degrees and a certificate through the [University of Michigan](#). The program's home is the [Institute for Social Research](#), the world's largest academically-based social science research institute.

MPSM is a program where students learn the science of surveys. Our students study with some of the world's leading survey methodologists while pursuing their Master's or PhD degree. The Program provides a rich intellectual environment for study and work at one of the premier public universities in the world.

MPSM brings together faculty and scientists from the social and behavioral sciences in the [College of Literature, Science, and the Arts](#); the [School of Public Health](#); and the [Institute for Social Research](#). Moreover, the quantitative strengths of disciplines such as communication studies, economics, education, political science, psychology, sociology, and statistics are integral to the empirical underpinnings of the program. With its depth and breadth of curriculum; faculty who are outstanding researchers, teachers, and mentors; exceptional research opportunities at the Institute of Social Research; and the extraordinary range of course offerings at the University of Michigan, the program offers qualified students superb educational opportunities.

Students in the program receive theoretical grounding in all aspects of survey methodology, from sample design and measurement, to modes of data collection, statistical estimation, and probability and distribution theory. Students have the opportunity to explore novel ways to develop applications of survey methodology in a wide variety of fields. Survey methodology principles can be applied to professions such as market research, nursing, public health, natural resources, information sciences, and operations engineering, through courses taken in cognate areas within the rich, diverse academic environment of the University.

The master of science degree offers three areas of academic concentration:

The [statistical science](#) area of concentration is designed for students who wish to specialize in areas such as sample design, estimation in complex samples, variance estimation, statistical measurement error models, and statistical adjustments for missing data.

The [social and psychological science](#) area of concentration is designed for students who wish to specialize in areas such as questionnaire design, design of interviewing systems, computer assistance in data collection, effects of mode of data collection, cognitive psychological insights into survey measurement, and efforts to reduce various nonsampling errors in data collection.

The [data science](#) area of concentration is designed for students who wish to specialize in the more computational aspects of survey methodology and research involving "big data," including data visualization, management and analysis of large and messy data sets, human-computer interaction in survey research, and machine learning algorithms.

For more information please visit our website at, <http://psm.isr.umich.edu/> or email us at, [michpsm.isr@umich.edu](mailto:michpsm.isr@umich.edu).

## STUDENT'S CORNER

### My Story—I Do Have One to Tell...

On October 2017, I got an opportunity to present my research in a JSM 2018 invited program entitled “Using surveys to improve the representativeness of nonprobability samples in epidemiologic studies”, organized by Dr. Yan Li. I was very excited because it would be the first time I gave an invited talk at JSM, one of the largest statistical events in the world. It was such an honor to present with other famous and experienced survey researchers who had same research interest with me! However, travelling to Vancouver would be a big challenge for me. My first baby was going to be born in February 2018. My husband and I wanted to bring him with us to Vancouver. As a student, I had limited funding sources to afford the whole family to travel aboard. When getting the news of Washington Statistical Society JSM Student Travel Award application from my department, I knew that was a chance to get support. I submitted my application. After one month, I received an email from Miss Erin Tanenbaum saying that I was the winner of the award. I was very grateful and started to look forward the trip.

JSM offers numerous excellent talks on wide range of topics. On my first day, I went to the contributed papers session on non-response weighting adjustment given by survey statisticians from Westat. The topic was related to my dissertation. One of the talks, given by Mr. William Cecere, compared non-response adjustment methods, including logistic regression and classification trees. The talk included so many methods, software packages and provided guidance for choice of methods in different situations. In my own research, we used logistic regression model to create pseudo-weights for nonprobability sample and wondered if non-parametric methods work better. This talk can be very helpful for my future work. Another impressive session was the invited program titled “Celebrating 40 Years of Multiple Imputation”. In this session, I not only learnt the history about multiple imputation, but also realized how tightly it related to other research fields, such as confounding bias in observational studies, and nonprobability sample.

JSM also provides a good chance for people to meet old friends and make new connections. During the meeting, I met with some old friends whom I used to work with. We talked a lot about our recent work and life, as well as the experience in Vancouver. Though having attended JSM twice, I was shy to introduce myself to others in the past because I did not have much research experience then. This time, I met several experience survey researchers, including Dr. Jae-Kwang Kim who is recognized for his contributions on survey sampling, weighting, and imputation. I wanted to apply his weighting adjustment methods for efficiency improvement in regression analysis under informative sampling designs. Dr. Kim kindly explained their methods and recommended some other papers to me.

My presentation was scheduled on August 1<sup>st</sup>, titled “A Kernel Weighting Approach to Improve Population Representativeness of Epidemiological Cohort in the Analysis”. It was part of my dissertation, advised by Professor Yan Li from University of Maryland, Dr. Hormuzd Katki, and Dr. Barry Graubard from National Cancer Institute. It was about a new propensity-score-based weighting approach to improve the representativeness of non-probability samples using kernel

smoothing technique. My mentors and I had been working on it for more than one year. JSM provided a good opportunity to present our work and to collect comments or questions from others. I got positive feedback and valuable comments after the presentation. For example, one of the audience asked if we considered to use non-parametric methods to estimate propensity scores or to use weight modification methods to improve efficiency. Those were great thoughts which I will actually cover in my dissertation. Besides, I learnt recent work of other speakers, Dr. Alice Whittemore, Dr. Barry Graubard, and Dr. Michael Elliott, and really enjoyed conversation with them before and after the session.

On the same day of my presentation, I attended the JSM Survey Research Methods Business Meeting. Food and drinks were served. Many survey researchers gathered together, sharing their recent research and life with each other. It was a great time for us to relax after the busy and productive conference days.

I appreciate WSS providing me with this travel award so that I can attend JSM in Vancouver and travel with my family. It was very impressive, not only because I did my first invited presentation successfully, but also because I learnt a lot from many excellent statisticians and had a great time with my family.

~ Lingxiao Wang  
Ph.D. candidate  
The Joint Program in Survey Methodology  
University of Maryland, College Park

## 2019 JSM Student Travel Award Application

The Washington Statistical Society (WSS) is offering a Student Travel Award for a local area student in a degree program (bachelors, masters, or doctoral) in the areas of statistics, survey methodology, or allied survey research disciplines. Support is offered for students to attend the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), to be held in **Denver, Colorado July 27, 2019 - August 1, 2019**.

Applications must contain a letter of support either by a current member of the WSS or a faculty advisor (see below). Applicants are encouraged to plan to present a paper or poster at **JSM 2018**. The abstract submission deadline for *JSM 2019* is *February 4, 2019*. Applications for the WSS student travel award are due by **December 31, 2018**.

One award will be granted to a student attending a school local to the DC, MD or VA area. The award will cover conference hotel and travel expenses up to \$800, early-bird student conference registration, and a one-year student membership to the WSS.

In addition to attending the JSM sessions, the winner is expected to attend the Survey Research Methods Section Business Meeting in order to be recognized by the WSS. The winner is also expected to prepare an essay on his/her experience at the JSM to be published in the WSS Fall Newsletter.

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Full time student [ ] Part-time [ ]  
 Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
 University: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning to present a paper or poster at JSM this year? YES NO

If yes, paper or poster title? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently or do you have plans to join the WSS mentoring program this year (or another ASA mentoring program)? If yes, please describe. YES NO

Have you previously attended any professional meeting on statistics, survey research, or a related discipline? YES NO

If YES, please describe (meeting, location, dates):

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

As a current WSS member and/or faculty advisor, I endorse this student's request:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**2018 JSM Student Travel Award Application  
APPLICATION CHECKLIST – PLEASE ATTACH THE FOLLOWING:**

- Copy of most recent transcript or advising report from your university.
- Double-spaced essay, no more than two pages, describing your interest in statistics/survey research methods and your interest in attending JSM.
- Letter of support from a current WSS member or faculty advisor.

Application materials should be sent to Erin Tanenbaum ([Tanenbaum-Erin@norc.org](mailto:Tanenbaum-Erin@norc.org)) by email with the subject "WSS Student Travel Award". Application materials (including transcripts and letters of support) will not be accepted after the deadline or with an incorrect subject.

Phone: (301)-634-9405.

Applications must be received by **December 31, 2017.**

# WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PROGRAMS, AND COMMITTEES

## 2017-18 Board of Directors, Committees, and Programs

<b>Voting Members</b>				
<b>Office</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
President	Linda Young	7/2017-6/2018	(352)281-6469	Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov
Past President	Mike Larsen	7/2017-6/2018	(802) 654-2399	mlarsen@smcvt.edu
President-Elect	Tom Krenzke	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 251-4203	tomkrenzke@westat.com
Secretary	Will Cecere	7/2017-6/2019	(301) 294-4477	williamcecere@westat.com
Treasurer	Jill Dever	7/2014-6/2018	(202) 974-7846	jdever@rti.org
Representatives-at-Large	Mark Otto	7/2016-6/2018	(301)497-5872	Mark.ot2o@gmail.com
	Jay Clark	7/2016-6/2018	(240) 453-2762	jayclark@westat.com
	Theresa Kim	7/2017-6/2019	(425) 243-2413	theresa.kim@gmail.com
	Lisa Mirel	7/2017-6/2019	301-458-4087	zav8@cdc.gov
Council of Chapters Representative	Dhuly Chowdhury	1/2016-12/2018	(301) 770-8234	dchowdhury@rti.org
Methodology Section Chair	Wendy Martinez	7/2017-6/2018	(540) 284-1032	martinezw@verizon.net
Communications Officer	Barnali Das	7/2016-6/2018	(240) 498-0137	barnalid33@gmail.com



<b>Non-Voting Members – Programs</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Methodology Program Chair	John Maron Abowd	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 763-5880	john.maron.abowd@census.gov
Methodology Program	Yulei He	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 458-4533	wdq7@cdc.gov
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Michael Bellow	7/2017-6/2018		MBellow@nass.usda.gov
Data Collection Methods	Vincent T. “Tom” Mule	7/2017-6/2018		Vincent.T.Mule.Jr@census.gov
Defense and National Security	Wendy Martinez	7/2017-6/2018	(540) 284-1032	martinezw@verizon.net
Economics	Michael Jadoo	7/2017-6/2018		Jadoo.Michael@bls.gov
Human Rights	Michael P. Cohen	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 232-4651	mpcohen@juno.com
Public Health and Biostatistics	Grant Izmirlian	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 496-7519	izmirlian@nih.gov
	Carolyn Carroll	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 320-8709	carolyn@stattech.com
Public Policy	Bob Sivinski	7/2017-6/2018		<a href="mailto:Robert.G.Sivinski@omb.eop.gov">Robert G Sivinski@omb.eop.gov</a>
Quality Assurance	Michael Yang	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 634-9492	Yang-Michael@norc.org
Social and Demographic Statistics	Promod Chandhok	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 366-2158	promod.chandhok@dot.gov
Statistical Computing	Xin He	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 405-2551	<a href="mailto:xinhe@umd.edu">xinhe@umd.edu</a>
Student Representative	Fanghan Wu	7/2017-6/2018		<a href="mailto:fw183@georgetown.edu">fw183@georgetown.edu</a>

<b>Non-voting Members – Committees and Other Board Members</b>				
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Short Courses	Yang Cheng	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 763-3287	yang.cheng@census.gov
WSS Newsletter Editor	Colleen Choi	7/2017-6/2018		wss.editor@gmail.com
Electronic Mail Committee	S.V. (Vince) Massimini	7/2017-6/2018	(703) 983-5893	svm@mitre.org
Employment Column Coordinator	Lisa Faustlin	7/2017-6/2018	303-396-5164	faustlin@yahoo.com
Financial Advisor and Audit Committee	Jonaki Bose		(240) 276-1257	jonaki.bose@samhsa.hhs.gov
	Keith Rust			RUSTK1@westat.com
Historian	Dwight Brock	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 517-4026	dwightbrock@westat.com
Social Arrangements Committee	Ranjana Kohli	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 552-6456	RKohli@mathematica- mpr.com
Video Conferencing	Dan Gillman	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 691-7523	gillman.daniel@bls.gov
Communications	Phil Kalina	7/2017-6/2018	(703) 725-6600	phil@philkalina.com
Web Master	Chris Moriarity	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 270-3416	<a href="mailto:cdm7@cdc.gov">cdm7@cdc.gov</a>
Quantitative Literacy Chair	Leanna Moron	7/2017-6/2018		<a href="mailto:leannaxmoron@gmail.com">leannaxmoron@gmail.com</a>
Curtis Jacobs Memorial Committee	Brian Sloboda	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 693-5904	<a href="mailto:Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov">Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov</a>
Quantitative Literacy Poster Competition	Elizabeth Petraglia	7/2017-6/2018	(614) 361-4982	elizabethpetraglia@westat.com
Quantitative Literacy Volunteer Coord.	Maura Bardos	7/2017-6/2018		<a href="mailto:Maura.bardos@gmail.com">Maura.bardos@gmail.com</a>
Quantitative Literacy Workshop Coord.	Mark Otto	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 497-5872	<a href="mailto:Mark.ot2o@gmail.com">Mark.ot2o@gmail.com</a>
Quantitative Literacy Science Fair Coord.	Frank Yoon	7/2017-6/2018	(609) 945-6616	<a href="mailto:FYoon@us.ibm.com">FYoon@us.ibm.com</a>
Student Travel Award	Erin Tanenbaum			Tanenbaum-Erin@norc.org

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Membership Committee	John Czajka	Chair, 7/2017-6/2018	(202) 484-4685	<a href="mailto:jczajka@mathematica-mpr.com">jczajka@mathematica-mpr.com</a>
	John Dixon	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 691-7516	<a href="mailto:dixon_j@bls.gov">dixon_j@bls.gov</a>
	Timothy Kennel	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 763-6795	<a href="mailto:timothy.l.kennel@census.gov">timothy.l.kennel@census.gov</a>
	Fritz Scheuren	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 320-3446	<a href="mailto:scheuren@aol.com">scheuren@aol.com</a>
Herriot Award Committee	Thesia Garner	Soc. Sec. Rep.		
	Al Gottschaik	Govt. Sec. Rep.		
	Mary Batcher	WSS Rep., 7/2015-6/2018		<a href="mailto:marybat1@verizon.net">marybat1@verizon.net</a>
WSS Committee on ASA Fellows	Jill DeMatteis	Chair, 7/2017-6/2018	(301) 517-4046	<a href="mailto:jilldematteis@westat.com">jilldematteis@westat.com</a>
	Cynthia Clark	7/2017-6/2018	(703) 556-8825	<a href="mailto:czfclark@cox.net">czfclark@cox.net</a>
	Polly Phipps	7/2017-6/2018	(202) 691-7513	<a href="mailto:Phipps.polly@bls.gov">Phipps.polly@bls.gov</a>
	Van Parsons	7/2017-6/2018	(301)458-4421	<a href="mailto:vlp1@cdc.gov">vlp1@cdc.gov</a>
Shiskin Award Committee	Robert Parker	Chair	(301) 467-7677	<a href="mailto:parkerrobertp@aol.com">parkerrobertp@aol.com</a>
	Thomas Evans	Secretary	(202) 691-6354	<a href="mailto:Evans.thomas@bls.gov">Evans.thomas@bls.gov</a>
	John Abowd			<a href="mailto:john.maron.abowd@census.gov">john.maron.abowd@census.gov</a>
	Connie Citro			<a href="mailto:ccitro@nas.edu">ccitro@nas.edu</a>
	Carol Corrado			<a href="mailto:Carol.corrado@conference-board.com">Carol.corrado@conference-board.com</a>
	Dennis Fixler			<a href="mailto:dennis.fixler@bea.gov">dennis.fixler@bea.gov</a>
	Michael Horrigan			<a href="mailto:horrigan.michael@bls.gov">horrigan.michael@bls.gov</a>
	Charles Hulten			<a href="mailto:hulten@econ.bsos.umd.edu">hulten@econ.bsos.umd.edu</a>
	Polly Phipps			<a href="mailto:phipp.polly@bls.gov">phipp.polly@bls.gov</a>
	Robert Sivinski			<a href="mailto:robert_g_sivinski@omb.eop.gov">robert_g_sivinski@omb.eop.gov</a>
Hansen Lecture Committee	Brian Bucks			<a href="mailto:brian.bucks@cfpb.gov">brian.bucks@cfpb.gov</a>
	Frauke Kreuter	Chair	(202) 390-0413	<a href="mailto:fkreuter@umd.edu">fkreuter@umd.edu</a>
	Barry Graubard		(202) 276-7316	<a href="mailto:graubarb@mail.nih.gov">graubarb@mail.nih.gov</a>
	Morgan Earp		(202) 691-7387	<a href="mailto:earp.morgan@bls.gov">earp.morgan@bls.gov</a>
	Eric Slud			<a href="mailto:eric.v.slud@census.gov">eric.v.slud@census.gov</a>
	Linda Young	USDA Rep.		<a href="mailto:Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov">Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov</a>

	Keith Rust	Westat Rep.	(301) 251-8278	keithrust@westat.com
--	------------	-------------	----------------	----------------------

Committee	Member		Telephone	E-mail
Gertrude Cox Award Committee	Mike Larsen	WSS Rep.	(301) 881-9260	<a href="mailto:mlarsen@bsc.gwu.edu">mlarsen@bsc.gwu.edu</a>
	Linda Young	WSS Rep.	(352)281-6469	Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov
	Tom Krenzke	WSS Rep.	(301) 251-4203	<a href="mailto:tomkrenzke@westat.com">tomkrenzke@westat.com</a>
	Karol Krotki	RTI Rep.	(202) 728-2485	<a href="mailto:kkrotki@rti.org">kkrotki@rti.org</a>
	Abhik Das	RTI Rep.	(301) 770-8214	<a href="mailto:adas@rti.org">adas@rti.org</a>
	Phillip Kott	RTI Rep.	(301) 468-8281	<a href="mailto:pkott@rti.org">pkott@rti.org</a>
Statistics Education Committee	Carol Joyce Blumberg	Chair, 7/2017-6/2018	(301) 920-0278	<a href="mailto:cblumberg@gmail.com">cblumberg@gmail.com</a>
	Elizabeth Johnson	7/2017-6/2018	(703) 993-9116	<a href="mailto:ejohns40@gmu.edu">ejohns40@gmu.edu</a>
	Paul Buckley	7/2017-6/2018		
	Carol Howald	7/2017-6/2018	(443) 518-4933	<a href="mailto:chowald@howardcc.edu">chowald@howardcc.edu</a>
	Kathleen Robens	7/2017-6/2018	(301) 915-5757	<a href="mailto:aarjak@gmail.com">aarjak@gmail.com</a>
	Sareeta Carter Schmitt	7/2017-6/2018		<a href="mailto:sareeta.schmitt@gmail.com">sareeta.schmitt@gmail.com</a>
	Ashley Schreckengost	7/2017-6/2018		<a href="mailto:aosborne_amo@hotmail.com">aosborne_amo@hotmail.com</a>

## **FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR**

Items for publication in the **October 2018** issue of WSS NEWS will be accepted thru the **20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.**

Email items to [wss.editor@gmail.com](mailto:wss.editor@gmail.com).

The authors are responsible for verifying the contents of their submissions. Submissions requiring extensive revisions on length and/or contents will be returned. Announcements with track changes will not be accepted.

Please submit all materials as an attachment in **MS WORD** or **plain text**. Submissions in any other format will be returned.

**PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR ITEMS IN PDF OR IN THE BODY OF AN EMAIL.**