



WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

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THE WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE
GERTRUDE M. COX AWARD PRESENTATION (CO-SPONSORED BY RTI INTERNATIONAL)
DR. COURTNEY KENNEDY
PEW RESEARCH CENTER
TESTING FOR BOTS AND OTHER SUSPECT DATA IN ONLINE SURVEYS: A MULTI-PANEL COMPARISON
AND
ANNUAL DINNER
ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 2019

SPEAKER EVENT COMMENCES AT 4:00 @ NORC, 4350 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY, 8TH FLOOR, BETHESDA
-- 0.3 MILE EAST OF THE BETHESDA METRO STATION ON THE EAST-WEST HIGHWAY

ANNUAL DINNER EVENTS OCCUR AT:

- 5:30 - 6:00 HAPPY HOUR IN PRIVATE ROOM UPSTAIRS; 6:00 - 7:00 BUFFET DINNER IN OUR SECTION OF THE MAIN DINING ROOM; 7:00 - 8:00 PROGRAM IN A PRIVATE ROOM DOWNSTAIRS
- ROCK BOTTOM RESTAURANT AND BREWERY, 7900 NORFOLK AVENUE, BETHESDA, 4 BLOCKS FROM BETHESDA METRO OR ABOUT 8 BLOCKS FROM NORC
- BUFFET DINNER WILL INCLUDE: A SALAD, 2 SIDES, 3 ENTREES, 1 DESSERT, UNLIMITED COFFEE, TEA, AND FOUNTAIN SODAS. THERE WILL BE A CASH BAR (BEER/WINE/FULL BAR) THAT WILL BE OPEN THE ENTIRE EVENING

REGISTRATION:

All are encouraged to attend both events regardless of WSS membership status. Please register for each event you will be attending. The registration deadline is midnight on Sunday, June 23.

For the Cox Award Presentation, registration is free. Register online at: https://wss-rti_2019_cox_award_presentation.eventbrite.com

For the Annual Dinner, advance registration is required. The dinner cost is \$55 WSS members, \$70 non-WSS, \$30 for WSS Members within 5 years of their degree, \$10 for students with ID and those under 18. (Eventbrite adds a fee to each registration.). The online registration deadline is midnight on Sunday, June 23, earlier if the seating capacity of 75 is reached.

1. Online registration at: https://wss_2019_annual_dinner.eventbrite.com
2. Follow instructions in the online registration form to pay by credit card or PayPal (if you have a PayPal account). Note: it is only necessary to supply a name for each registration, address is not required.
3. After completing registration, and allowing some time for processing, please confirm that you have received your ticket(s) by email from Eventbrite. Please contact Tom Krenzke (tomkrenzke@westat.com) if you do not receive your ticket(s).

WELCOME NEW ASA/WSS MEMBERS!

The following new ASA/WSS members were identified in the update of the WSS email list in February:

Aparna B. Anderson
Elizabeth Arias
Stephen Busselberg
Allen B. Buxton
Grace S. Chiu
Gavin R. Corral
Jennifer Kristine Crosby
Norca Maritza Dowling
Brent A. Evans
Kanchan Ghimire
Hubert Hamer
Laura Hildreth
Yuyi Hsu
Karen Kafadar
Jennifer L. Kirk
Xiaoxue Li
Gail Potter
Teja Pristavec
Geoffrey Shaw
Lydia Shia
S. Gwynn Sturdevant
Reanne L. M. Townsend
William M. Voisine
Lisa Weissfeld
Jing Zhai
XiaoKe Zhang

- ~ Welcome to WSS!
- ~ Tom Krenzke, WSS President
- ~ Linda Young, WSS Past President
- ~ Eileen O'Brien, WSS President Elect

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 Denver.

- Keith Crank
- Michael Fay, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- Lei Nie
- John Scott, FDA

The WSS/SRMS Committee on ASA Fellows works to identify members who are deserving of this honor and coordinate the preparation and submission of WSS and SRMS 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 with suggestions for nominees or questions about the process.

– Tom Krenzke

WSS President 2018-19

– Cynthia Clark

– Jill DeMatteis

– Jill Dever (SRMS representative)

– Jennifer Parker

– Van Parsons

– Polly Phipps

WSS/SRMS Committee on ASA Fellows 2018-19

CONFERENCES



DC-AAPOR/WSS 2019 Summer Review-Preview Conference Call for Abstracts

The DC-AAPOR/WSS 2019 Summer Review-Preview Conference will take place on **Friday, July 12th** at the **Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center** in Washington, D.C. This conference aims to exhibit a sample of exemplary presentations (both talks and posters) taking place at this year's national and international conferences (e.g., AAPOR, WAPOR, JSM, ESRA, FedCASIC, ITSEW). At this conference, attendees would have the opportunity to share their work locally, hear what others are doing, and connect with colleagues. We encourage colleagues and students from across a range of disciplines to submit an abstract from the aforementioned conferences. We especially encourage submissions from: survey research, statistics, political polling and data science as well as from other authors on their work presented elsewhere.

Please submit an abstract by **June 7th** using this link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9H7MBWY>

Notifications of acceptance will be sent to authors by **June 21st, 2019**.



Save the Date!!

**2020 Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM)
Research and Policy Conference**

Tuesday April 14th – Thursday April 16th, 2020

Walter E. Washington Convention Center
801 Mt. Vernon Place, NW
Washington DC, 20001

The 2020 FCSM Research and Policy Conference will focus on the Federal Statistical System's role in equipping agencies and the public to leverage data resources for evidence-based policymaking. The conference will include sessions on cutting-edge research topics and emerging policy issues. This conference is an excellent forum to bring together federal and non-federal researchers and policy members.

Please contact David Kashihara, Program Chair (David.Kashihara@ahrq.hhs.gov) or Darius Singpurwalla (dsingpur@nsf.gov) for any questions about the program. For questions about registration or mailing list requests, please contact fcsm@copfas.org. The conference is jointly sponsored by the FCSM (<https://nces.ed.gov/fcsm/>) and the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (<http://www.copafs.org/>).

AWARD

Postponing the 2019 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award

The Selection Committee for the Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics, and the Award sponsors, regret to announce that it is necessary to make a one-time postponement of the annual Award. The Award, which is usually announced in mid-May, is sponsored by the Business and Economics Section of the American Statistical Association, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Washington Statistical Society. The Selection Committee now consists of representatives from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Bureau, Committee on National Statistics, National Bureau of Economic Research, Office of Management and Budget, and the sponsoring organizations.

For 2018, we made two Awards. Although each was less than individual Awards in earlier years, the total was somewhat higher, thereby reducing available funding for 2019. Not having resolved the funding issue, in large part because of health setbacks that affected both the Committee Chair and the Committee Secretary, the Committee did not announce the 2019 nomination process.

The consensus of the Committee has been to postpone making an Award until 2020 and to rollover nominations received for 2019 for consideration at that time.

Over the next few months, the Committee will work with the sponsors to explore how to improve the management of, and increase the available funding for, the Award. The Committee will establish a management structure that obtains financial commitments in a timely fashion and assists in executing the Award process. The Committee also will explore with the organizations represented on it, and the sponsors, increasing their assistance in publicizing and distributing the calls for nominations.

In recent years, the U.S. economy has undergone substantial change and its measurement has called for the use of new source data and methods. Some of these sources are no longer sample surveys, but data from private sources and additional administrative data. The Award needs to cover these changes as well as “nontraditional” economic statistics, such as data on health, education, population, and income distribution.

A newly organized Committee will be well positioned to adapt to these important developments.

For any questions, please contact Robert Parker, Selection Committee Chair, at parkerrobertp@aol.com.

WSS MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Washington Statistical Society

Member Spotlight

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



Meet WSS Member Billy Lamberti...

Where do you work and what do you do?

I am a PhD Computational Sciences and Informatics Presidential Scholar at the Department of Computational and Data Sciences (CDS) at George Mason University. My research is in image analysis and data science. Specifically, I am working on classifying medical pill shapes. While it would be desirable to have a model be able to identify an unknown pill automatically, this has not been able to be achieved at a practical level. Thus, the research community has decided to build models that identify pill color, text, shape, etc. and then eventually combine all the models to create this system. For the time being, I have decided to focus on building a simple, yet effective, model for understanding and classifying pill shape.

What attracted you to your current position?

After obtaining my MS in Statistical Science at George Mason University, I wanted to earn my PhD while focusing on image data. The CDS department specializes in this area, so it seemed like a natural transition.

Finish the sentence: "I joined WSS to..."

... learn and collaborate with others.

What was your first job?

My first job was a landscaper at 10 or 11 years old.

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

I would like to learn how to be a stained glass artist. Stained glass is one of my favorite mediums for art. I would enjoy any opportunity to learn about the medium, as the final result is this beautiful combination of metal and glass work.

If you could have dinner with 3 people from history, who would they be?

I would like to have dinner with William Wilburforce, J. R. R. Tolkien, and Mother Theresa.

What is your favorite daily ritual?

My morning breakfast of coffee and oatmeal is my favorite daily ritual. It is a simple and hearty meal that is perfect for every day of the week.

Finish this sentence: "On an ideal Saturday, I would..."

... go running, eat breakfast, and then spend time with friends or family.

What is your favorite meal or local restaurant?

Spaetzle and schnitzel is one of my favorite meals. Spaetzle is a German egg noodle that was often cooked during the holidays when I was growing up. Schnitzel is basically the German version of chicken parm. Schnitzel is a classic dish that is often paired with spaetzle and makes a delightful meal.

What is your favorite vacation spot?

Bar Harbor, Maine, is one of my favorite vacation spots. The area has lots of opportunities for outdoor activities such as hiking, kayaking, and boating in one of my favorite climates. Acadia National Park is a breathtaking place. The Bowl, an alpine lake, is a unique and fun destination after climbing Acadia Mountain. The town of Bar Harbor is quaint and homey and allows a nice place to walk around and window shop.

Every visit to Bar Harbor has offered a surprise. One year while boating, it turned out to be the big day for a boating race! We got to watch the competitors at very close range carefully maneuvering through the waters.

Bar Harbor allows for anyone to get away from the business of life and seek out an adventure, and I highly recommend it to anyone!

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 Nick Hart (nhart@bipartisanpolicy.org) or Natalia Weil (NataliaWeil@westat.org).

We look forward to hearing from you.

COURSES

Workshop on Spatial Statistics for the Social Sciences

June 14, 2019

8:30AM-12:30PM

American University, Kerwin Hall 311 (Dean's Conference Room)

Sponsored by the American University [Center for Data Science](#).

This workshop is intended to introduce the important concepts and approaches to spatial statistical modeling. It is free and open to all interested researchers. We will cover both theoretical and practical (in R) principles from first principles to spatio-temporal specifications, including graphical analysis, fitting regression models, and Bayesian approaches. The featured Instructors are:

David Darmofal, University of South Carolina

Matthew Ingram, SUNY Albany

Chad Kinsella, Ball State University

James Monogan, University of Georgia

This is an open workshop and there is no charge to attend.

Contact Eileen LeFurgy, Program Coordinator, at elefurgy@american.edu to RSVP or with any questions.

LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE VOLUNTEERS!

WSS Data Visualization Poster Competition Update and Thank You

Elizabeth Petraglia, Chair, WSS Data Visualization Poster Competition

Every year, the Washington Statistical Society judges data visualization posters submitted both by DC-area students and by students from all over the country who do not have a local chapter that can judge the posters. This year, we received a total of 256 posters—26 DC-area, and 230 from other areas.

This would not be possible without the help of WSS members who generously volunteer their time! I'd like to sincerely thank our 11 judges, who took time on a Saturday (Star Wars Day, no less!) to come to Westat headquarters in Rockville for judging. Thanks also to Will Cecere, who stepped in as temporary chair when I was out on maternity leave.



L to R: Arnold Saunders, Minsun Riddles, Rui Jiao, Valbona Bejleri, Jen Gibson, Roman Ruiz, Edward Mulrow, Anna Nevius, Richard Sigman, Jay Clark, and David Morganstein
Winning posters can be seen here (apologies for photo quality on my not-quite-cutting-edge phone camera): <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Uwnvbbet5mss9QV37>

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PROGRAMS, AND COMMITTEES

2018-19 Board of Directors, Committees, and Programs

Voting Members				
Office	Name	Term	Telephone	E-mail
President	Tom Krenzke	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 251-4203	tomkrenzke@westat.com
Past President	Linda Young	7/2018-6/2019	(352) 281-6469	Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov
President-Elect	Eileen O'Brien	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 648-7231	Eileen.O'Brien@eia.gov
Secretary	Will Cecere	7/2017-6/2019	(301) 294-4477	williamcecere@westat.com
Treasurer	Dhuly Chowdhury	7/2018-6/2020	(301) 770-8234	dchowdhury@rti.org
Representative-at-Large	Mike Messner	7/2018-6/2020	(301) 518-4781	Messner.Michael@epa.gov
	Nick Hart	7/2018-6/2020	(202) 218-6762	nhart@bipartisanpolicy.org
	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	Abhik Das	1/2019-12/2021		adas@rti.org
Methodology Section Chair	John Abowd	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 763-5880	john.maron.abowd@census.gov
Communications Officer	Leanna Moron	7/2018-6/2020	(240) 223-9264	lmoron@childtrends.org

Non-Voting Members – Programs				
Program	Chair		Telephone	E-mail
Methodology Program Chair	Nick Beyler	7/2018-6/2019	(703) 214-0931	nbeyler@2mresearch.com
Methodology Program	Nick Beyler	7/2018-6/2019	(703) 214-0931	nbeyler@2mresearch.com
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Michael Bellow	7/2018-6/2019		MBellow@nass.usda.gov
Data Collection Methods	Tom Mule	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 763-8322	Vincent.T.Mule.Jr@census.gov
Defense and National Security	Wendy Martinez	7/2018-6/2019	(540) 284-1032	martinezw@verizon.net
Economics	Michael Jadoo	7/2018-6/2019	(786) 763-4318	Jadoo.Michael@bls.gov
Human Rights	Michael P. Cohen	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 232-4651	mpcohen@juno.com
Public Health and Biostatistics	Grant Izmirlian	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 496-7519	izmirlian@nih.gov
	Carolyn Carroll	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 320-8709	carolyn@stattech.com
Public Policy	Bob Sivinski	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 395-1205	Robert_G_Sivinski@omb.eop.gov
Quality Assurance	VACANT	7/2018-6/2019		
Social and Demographic Statistics	VACANT	7/2018-6/2019		
Data Science	Gonzalo Rivero	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 517-8053	GonzaloRivero@westat.com
Student Representative	Sofia Sikandar	7/2018-6/2019		ssikanda@masonlive.gmu.edu

Non-voting Members – Committees and Other Board Members

Committee	Member		Telephone	E-mail
Short Courses	Yang Cheng	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 763-3287	yang.cheng@census.gov
WSS Newsletter Editor	Colleen Choi	7/2018-6/2019		wss.editor@gmail.com
Electronic Mail Committee	S.V. (Vince) Massimini	7/2018-6/2019	(703) 983-5893	svm@mitre.org
Employment Column Coordinator	Lisa Faustlin	7/2018-6/2019	(303) 396-5164	faustlin@yahoo.com
Financial Advisor and Audit Committee	Chris Moriarity		(301) 270-3416	cdm7@cdc.gov
Financial Advisor and Audit Committee	Michael P. Cohen		(202) 232-4651	mpcohen@juno.com
Historian	Dwight Brock	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 517-4026	dwightbrock@westat.com
Social Arrangements Committee	Glenn White Ed Mulrow	7/2018-6/2019		cyclistgdw@aol.com Mulrow-Edward@norc.org
Video Conferencing	Dan Gillman	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 691-7523	gillman.daniel@bls.gov
Communications	Phil Kalina	7/2018-6/2019	(703) 725-6600	phil@philkalina.com
Web Master	Chris Moriarity	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 270-3416	cdm7@cdc.gov
Quantitative Literacy Chair	Maura Bardos	7/2018-6/2019		Maura.bardos@gmail.com
Curtis Jacobs Memorial Committee	Brian Sloboda	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 693- 5904	Sloboda.brian.w@dol.gov
Quantitative Literacy Poster Competition	Elizabeth Petraglia	7/2018-6/2019	(614) 361-4982	elizabethpetraglia@westat.com
Quantitative Literacy Volunteer Coord.	Dan Sherman	7/2018-6/2019		dsherman@air.org
Quantitative Literacy Workshop Coord.	Mark Otto	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 497-5872	Mark.ot2o@gmail.com

Quantitative Literacy Science Fair Coord.	Frank Yoon	7/2018-6/2019	(609) 945-6616	FYoon@us.ibm.com
Student Travel Award	Erin Tanenbaum			Tanenbaum-Erin@norc.org
Membership Committee	John Czajka	Chair, 7/2018-6/2019	(202) 484-4685	jczajka@mathematica-mpr.com
	John Dixon	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 691-7516	dixon_j@bls.gov
	Timothy Kennel	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 763-6795	timothy.l.kennel@census.gov
	Fritz Scheuren	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 320-3446	scheuren@aol.com
Herriot Award Committee	Thesia Garner	Soc. Sec. Rep.		
	Al Gottschaik	Govt. Sec. Rep.		
	Jeri Mulrow	WSS Rep., 7/2018-6/2021		jmm4784@yahoo.com
WSS Committee on ASA Fellows	Jill DeMatteis	Chair, 7/2018-6/2019	(301) 517-4046	jilldematteis@westat.com
	Cynthia Clark	7/2018-6/2019	(703) 556-8825	czfclark@cox.net
	Polly Phipps	7/2018-6/2019	(202) 691-7513	Phipps.polly@bls.gov
	Van Parsons	7/2018-6/2019	(301)458-4421	vlp1@cdc.gov

Shiskin Award Committee	Robert Parker	Chair	(301) 467-7677	parkerrobertp@aol.com
	Thomas Evans	Secretary	(202) 691-6354	Evans.thomas@bls.gov
	John Abowd			john.maron.abowd@census.gov
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	Dennis Fixler			Dennis.fixler@bea.gov
	Michael Horrigan			horrigan.michael@bls.gov
	Charles Hulten			hulten@econ.bsos.umd.edu
	Polly Phipps			phipp.polly@bls.gov
	Robert Sivinski			robert_g_sivinski@omb.eop.gov
	Brian Bucks			brian.bucks@cfpb.gov
Hansen Lecture Committee	Morgan Earp	Chair	(202) 691-7387	earp.morgan@bls.gov
	Frauke Kreuter	Past Chair	(202) 390-0413	fkreuter@umd.edu
	Brian Harris-Kojetin			BKojetin@nas.edu
	Steve Cohen			cohen.stevch@gmail.com
	Linda Young	USDA Rep.		Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov
	Keith Rust	Westat Rep.	(301) 251-8278	keithrust@westat.com
Gertrude Cox Award Committee	Linda Young	WSS Rep.	(352)281-6469	Linda.Young@nass.usda.gov
	Eileen O'Brien	WSS Rep.		Eileen.O'Brien@eia.gov
	Tom Krenzke	WSS Rep.	(301) 251-4203	tomkrenzke@westat.com
	Karol Krotki	RTI Rep.	(202) 728-2485	kkrotki@rti.org
	Abhik Das	RTI Rep.	(301) 770-8214	adas@rti.org
	Phillip Kott	RTI Rep.	(301) 468-8281	pkott@rti.org

Statistics Education Committee	Carol Joyce Blumberg	Chair, 7/2018-6/2019	(301) 920-0278	cblumberg@gmail.com
	Elizabeth Johnson	7/2018-6/2019	(703) 993-9116	ejohns40@gmu.edu
	Robert Aronstam	7/2018-6/2019	(410) 371 3473	robert.aronstam@visi.org
	Carol Howald	7/2018-6/2019	(443) 518-4933	chowald@howardcc.edu
	Kathleen Robens	7/2018-6/2019	(301) 915-5757	aarjak@gmail.com
	Sareeta Carter Schmitt	7/2018-6/2019		sareeta.schmitt@gmail.com
	Ashley Schreckengost	7/2018-6/2019		aosborne_amo@hotmail.com
Mentoring Committee	Theresa Kim (at-large)	Chair 7/2017-6/2019		theresa.kim@gmail.com
Mentoring Committee	Mark Otto	7/2018-6/2020		Mark.ot2o@gmail.com
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Diversity Committee	Michael Jadoo	7/2018-6/2019	(786) 763-4318	Jadoo.Michael@bls.gov
	Tiandong Li	7/2018-6/2019		tiandong_li@yahoo.com
	Fanghan Wu	7/2018-6/2019		fw183@georgetown.edu
Spotlight	Natalia Weil	Chair	(240) 314-5811	NataliaWeil@westat.com
	Nick Hart		(202) 218-6762	nhart@bipartisanpolicy.org

FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR

Items for publication in the next issue of WSS NEWS will be accepted thru the **20th of the preceding month.**

Email items to 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.