



# WSS NEWS

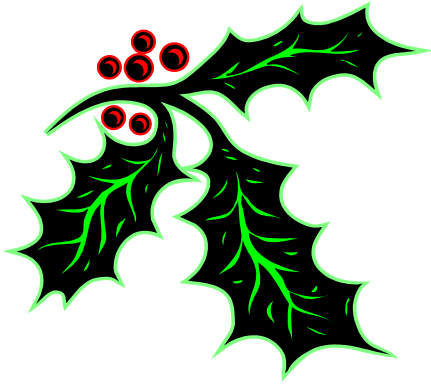
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# WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

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**PARTY TIME!**



**Washington Statistical  
Society**

**Holiday Party!**

**Tuesday, December 3, 2019**

**4:30pm to 7:30pm**

**Brixton**

**901 U Street NW \* Washington DC 20001**

**By Metro: Green, or Yellow Line/U Street Metro Station**

Brixton is an American tavern located on the **northwest corner of 9th & U**, a short walk from the 10<sup>th</sup> Street exit of the U Street Metro Station. The menu of food and drinks is united by one common philosophy - American sensibility joined with American seasonality! [www.brixtondc.com](http://www.brixtondc.com)

**All W\$\$ members, family, friends, and colleagues are welcome**

**Cocktail Buffet (V: vegetarian) selections from**  
Dill Pickle Poppers (V), Vegetable Skewers (V), Beef Meatballs,  
Cheese Board (V), Fruit Platter (V), Cheese Platter (V),  
Brixton Beef Sliders, Chicken Sliders, Vegetarian Sliders (V).  
Seasonal Bruschetta; Vegetable Platter & Dip (V)  
**Cash Bar**

**Ticket prices**

**Pre-paid \$20; Door \$25**

Full-time student (pre-paid only) \$15

**Please help us to plan ahead by pre-registering by Tuesday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>**

Online credit card payment: (see WSS website for any updates)

<https://wss-2019-holiday-party.eventbrite.com>

Check payment: mail name(s)/check(s)/phone or email contact information by

**Tuesday, November 26** to:

Glenn White, 12701 Live Oak Court, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-5217

## CONFERENCES

### **American Mathematical Society Annual Mini-conference on Education:**

### **Mathematics Departments and the Explosive Growth of Computational and Quantitative Offerings in Higher Education**

**Friday, October 25, 2019  
Washington, DC**

The AMS Committee on Education (COE) would like to invite your participation at its Annual Mini-conference on Education, *Mathematics Departments and the Explosive Growth of Computational and Quantitative Offerings in Higher Education*, to be held on Friday, October 25, 2019 in Washington, DC.

New computational and quantitative majors, minors, specializations, and certificates are flourishing in all sectors of American higher education. Examples include Certificates in Computational Intelligence and Linguistics, Bachelors degrees in Data Science, and Masters degrees in Financial Engineering. This reflects the growing centrality of the mathematical sciences to the development of knowledge in traditional STEM fields as well as to a growing list of non-STEM disciplines. It also reflects the increasing demand for quantitative competence in the workplace. This mini-conference will explore the role of mathematics departments in these new computational and quantitative offerings.

Confirmed speakers for the mini-conference include:

- **Ben Bauman**, Assistant Professor of Statistical & Data Sciences, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Smith College
- **Michael Dorff**, Professor of Mathematics, Brigham Young University & President, Mathematical Association of America (MAA)
- **Mark Green**, Professor Emeritus and Distinguished Research Professor, University of California, Los Angeles & Chair, NAS Board on Mathematical Sciences and Analytics
- **Tom Halverson**, DeWitt Wallace Professor and former Chair 2013-2019, Department of Mathematics, Statistics & Computer Science, Macalester College
- **Stephanie Hicks**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics & Member of Data Science Lab, Johns Hopkins University
- **Nirmala Kannankutty**, Acting Division Director, Division of Graduate Education, National Science Foundation EHR-DGE

- **Anthony Kearsley**, Information Technology Laboratory, Applied and Mathematics Division, NIST
- **William “Brit” Kirwan**, Chancellor Emeritus, University System of Maryland

The meeting will be held from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on Friday, October 25, 2019 at the Washington Marriott Georgetown, 1221 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, NW in Washington, DC.

Meeting registration includes a continental breakfast and lunch. If you would like to attend the workshop, please register by September 27<sup>th</sup> by requesting registration form from [alb@ams.org](mailto:alb@ams.org) Space is limited, so please register early.

If you need a hotel for the COE mini-conference, please add that information on your registration form as reservations should be made through the AMS, although travel and hotel costs are the responsibility of the attendee. The discounted hotel rate for this meeting is \$269 per night + tax. If you are not sure of your travel plans, please provide as much information on the RSVP form as you can so that we may hold a room for you.

Agenda and other materials will be sent to all registered participants prior to the meeting. We look forward to a strong turnout for the mini-conference and hope you will participate.



## **FCSM Research and Policy Conference**

**April 14 - 16, 2020**

**Washington DC Convention Center**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The 2020 FCSM Research and Policy Conference will focus on the Federal Statistical System's role in helping agencies and the public meet the demands of evidence-based policymaking. The conference provides a forum for experts and practitioners from around the world to discuss and exchange current methodological knowledge and policy insights about topics of current and critical importance to the Federal Statistical System.

We seek abstracts that address the following topics from a **research and/or policy perspective**:

1. Implications of the [Foundations for Evidenced-Based Policymaking Act of 2018](#), including with implementation of the [Federal Data Strategy](#), approaches to interagency data sharing, and encouraging program evaluators and analysts to use statistical data in their evidence building
2. Data quality, including evaluating or communicating the quality of administrative or blended data
3. Data access, open data, disclosure avoidance, or disclosure risk mitigation
4. Advances in survey and statistical methodology on a variety of topics of importance to the Federal Statistical System such as:
  - Survey design and data collection
  - Estimation and analysis methods
  - Measurement issues
  - Geospatial statistics
  - Economic measurement concepts, techniques
  - Statistical literacy and communication of results
  - Use of multiple data sources, including linkage and coverage

**Policy Submissions:** Abstracts should discuss a statistical policy topic listed above from the authors' or agencies' perspective. Submissions can discuss the implications or impacts observed thus far, and may raise questions or issues without having a definitive answer.

**Research Submissions:** Abstracts should present research studies and findings related to the topics listed above. Submissions should not simply describe a data collection program or be highly specialized.

**Organized Session Submissions:** Additionally, we seek submissions for organized sessions. An organized session submission should include 3 or 4 papers, a discussant and a chair. Organized sessions with both research and policy presentations will be given priority when the program is assembled.

**Instructions:** Submission instructions can be found at <https://nces.ed.gov/FCSM>

**Deadline: September 20, 2019**

For conference information, or to be included on  
the mailing list, contact:

[fcsm@copafs.org](mailto:fcsm@copafs.org)  
703.382.8001

For questions on abstract submissions or the  
program, contact the Program Chair:

[David.Kashihara@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:David.Kashihara@ahrq.hhs.gov)  
301.427.1481

## SEMINARS

### Talk: "Bayesian Regression for Group Testing Data"

Joshua Tebbs, Professor of Statistics, University of South Carolina

**Friday, November 8, 2019**

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

American University

Kerwin Hall Room 301

3590 Nebraska Ave NW, Washington, DC

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

**Abstract:** Group testing involves pooling individual specimens (e.g., blood, urine, swabs, etc.) and testing the pools for the presence of a disease. When individual covariate information is available (e.g., age, gender, number of sexual partners, etc.), a common goal is to relate an individual's true disease status to the covariates in a regression model. Estimating this relationship is a nonstandard problem in group testing because true individual statuses are not observed and all testing responses (on pools and on individuals) are subject to misclassification arising from assay error. Previous regression methods for group testing data can be inefficient because they are restricted to using only initial pool responses and/or they make potentially unrealistic assumptions regarding the assay accuracy probabilities. To overcome these limitations, we propose a general Bayesian regression framework for modeling group testing data. The novelty of our approach is that it can be easily implemented with data from any group testing protocol. Furthermore, our approach will simultaneously estimate assay accuracy probabilities (along with the covariate effects) and can even be applied in screening situations where multiple assays are used. We apply our methods to group testing data collected in Iowa as part of statewide screening efforts for chlamydia.

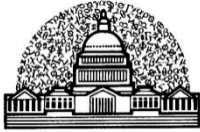
[RSVP now!](#)

Contact Eileen LeFurgy at [elefurgy@american.edu](mailto:elefurgy@american.edu) with any questions.



SCHOOL of PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC





## **Evolution of the US Census: Politics, Society, Opportunity, and Innovation**

**November 21, 2019, 10:30 to 12:00**

**Howard Hogan, Census Bureau (retired)**

**Chair:** John Eltinge, Census Bureau

**Sponsor:** WSS Methodology, Defense and National Security

**Abstract:** Census taking has a long history of balancing scientific innovation with the needs and wants of government and the larger society. Starting especially with the 1940 Census, the Census Bureau instituted a number of successful innovations, including the use of sampling, imputation, optical mark recognition, computer tabulation and mail-out-mail back. During this same time, the Census Bureau attempted a number of innovations that were not successful including sampling for non-response follow-up and statistical adjustment. This talk with walk through this history attempting to discern what made for successful innovation and what did not.

**Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood Conference Center, Rooms 7 & 8

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 [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (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 <http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking>. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

**IMPORTANT:** 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.

**Remote Access:**

Join Zoom Meeting – Audio available via computer or phone

<https://zoom.us/j/452173791?pwd=MVdxWGRoVnV2TERHZ2V2NUJ6OHVmQT09>

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,452173791# US (New York)

+16699006833,,452173791# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location – International Numbers are available.

Find your local/international number: <https://zoom.us/u/arOBjDFU7>

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

<b>Bringing Statistics Education Up to Data</b>	
<b>Date/Time:</b>	<b>November 21 2019, 4:00–5:30 p.m.</b> Informal reception to follow at approximately 5:45 p.m. at Bertucci's at 2000 Pennsylvania Ave. NW 20006
<b>Speaker:</b>	Danny Kaplan, Macalester College; Carol L. Howald, Howard Community College
<b>Chair:</b>	Ashley Schreckengost, Resource Teacher (head of Mathematics Department), Wheaton (MD) High School
<b>Sponsors:</b>	WSS (Washington Statistical Society) Statistics Education Committee and MD-DC-VA Section of the MAA (Mathematics Association of America)
<b>Location:</b>	Commons, School Without Walls, 2130 G St NW, Washington, DC 20037, Closest Metrorail station is Foggy Bottom-GWU.
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>With the explosion of interest in data science over the last decade, statistics has moved to the mainstream from the margins of the late high-school and early undergraduate mathematical curriculum. Regrettably, the impetus for this rise in status is not reflected in the content and pedagogy of introductory statistics. Statistics, as it too often is taught, focuses on the theoretical challenges of working with tiny data using methods from around 1910, covers only arithmetic summaries such as the mean and proportion, and omits entirely techniques for dealing with confounding and covariates. This presentation will be about the development of a pedagogy that puts data in the center, and the tools that are already available (through StatPREP.org (<a href="http://statprep.org/">http://statprep.org/</a>) among others) to help you engage students with data -- real, modern data with multiple variables -- and properly serve contemporary uses of data.</p> <p>Danny Kaplan is the Dewitt Wallace Professor of applied mathematics, statistics, and computer science at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has authored textbooks in computational science, statistical modeling, data science, and even nonlinear dynamics. In 2017, he was the CAUSE award for lifetime achievement for his contributions to statistics education. He is on the leadership team for StatPREP.org, an initiative of the MAA, the ASA, and AMATYC funded by the US National Science Foundation (grant DUE-1626337). Carol Howald is Associate Professor and Co-Chair, Mathematics at Howard Community College and a hub leader for the StatPREP project.</p>

<b>RSVP:</b>	To be placed on the seminar attendance list, <b>email by November 20</b> to Carol Joyce Blumberg at <a href="mailto:cblumberg@gmail.com">cblumberg@gmail.com</a> including the following for each person: Name (as it appears on your ID), Affiliation (e.g., student at xxx or statistician at yyyy), and Email Address. You will need to bring a photo ID to enter the building.
<b>Remote Access:</b>	<b>No Remote Access will be available for this event.</b> We plan, however, to make a videotape and post a link to it on <a href="http://washstat.org/presentations/">http://washstat.org/presentations/</a> . If you have the equipment and expertise and are willing to videotape the seminar, please let Carol Joyce Blumberg know. We will also post at the above link a copy of the slides & handouts within a few weeks after the talk.
<b>POC:</b>	Carol Joyce Blumberg, <a href="mailto:cblumberg@gmail.com">cblumberg@gmail.com</a>

# **WSS MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

# Washington Statistical Society

## Member Spotlight

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



## Meet WSS Past-President Tom Krenzke...

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

I work at an employee-owned research company called Westat, located in Rockville, MD. My position is Senior Statistician and Associate Director in the Statistics and Evaluation Sciences Unit, which is comprised of 70 statisticians who provide support for the rest of the 1,800 full-time staff at Westat. One of the projects I work on is the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, for which Westat is a consortium member and provides guidance to participating countries on sampling-related activities. Over the years, I have gained experience in statistical confidentiality, and enjoy the research opportunities as well as the couple of dozen projects each year that are in need of guidance while producing datasets.

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

I had a great experience at the Census Bureau from 1991-1997 and was very fortunate to build working relationships and get a solid on-the-job training in survey statistics. I wanted to experience the private sector and grow in its diversity of tasks and have been at Westat since 1997.

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

... learn from others in the geographic area, meet people with common interests, and have opportunities to serve the community.

### 4. What was your first job?

I delivered the morning newspaper for a couple of different routes. I've been waking up very early ever since then. Back then, the newspaper deliverers had to go door-to-door to collect payment for the bills from most customers that did not mail-in their checks. I met a lot of neighborhood cats and dogs that way, which was an experience that help build up a lot of respect for survey interviewers.

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

Seriously consider getting more involved with WSS. It is a well-respected society where you can build connections that might pay off in many different ways in the future. Other than that, as one approach, it seems to me that if you are putting your organization first, encouraging to others, humble, interruptible, and treating your colleagues as you would like to be treated, going to work becomes something to look forward to, and you will have a rewarding work career.

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

Other than family, I have interest in baseball, fishing, and Christian faith. So maybe Lou Gehrig because, as scripted, he seemed very sincere in the *Pride of the Yankees*, sense of humor, and would put a lot of thought into his words; James Michener, who wrote about the Chesapeake Bay and could document the conversation; and the apostle Peter, a fisherman who would have some important insights to share.

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

Being an electrician is appealing to me. You can work outside, see other homes, and the work relies on basic math principles. I was inspired in a recent visit by an electrician nicknamed "Sparky".

### 8. How do you like to spend your free time?

I'm basically addicted to boating and fishing. We are fortunate to have a boat with easy access to the bay, so if there is free time coming up, I check with family and friends to see if they would like to go out, or just go out on my own. Every time out there is something to learn, and some story to tell.

### 9. What is your favorite vacation spot?

For most of the past 25 years, my wife Heidi of 32 years and I have camped with a group at Assateague Island on Memorial Day weekend. Each of our three daughters have nice memories from there. Maybe someday we can get our three grand-kids from Austin to AI. With family now all over the place, I think now our favorite vacation spots are wherever they are: Tampa, Austin, Winona, St. Louis, and Indianapolis. Several of us really enjoyed meeting at Tybee Island, GA a couple of years ago. We set aside time around each July 4<sup>th</sup> to get our family back together again.

### 10. Have you had any great career mentors? If so, what made them great?

I am glad to have this opportunity to thank Carol Blumberg, professor of my first statistics class at Winona State who made it understandable; Ralph St. John, who gave me a shot at Bowling Green State and was my advisor; and Leyla Mohadjer, who provided 22 years of steady guidance at Westat. Many others include David Morganstein, Graham Kalton, Keith Rust, Shep Roey, and the list goes on.

## **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](mailto:nhart@bipartisanpolicy.org)) or Natalia Weil ([NataliaWeil@westat.org](mailto:NataliaWeil@westat.org)).

We look forward to hearing from you.

**COURSES****Save the Date!**  
**WSS Education Seminar: StatPREP****November 21, 2019**  
**4pm**

The topic will be StatPREP, an innovative new program for teaching introductory statistics that was developed by a group sponsored by the MAA (Mathematical Association of America), ASA and other organizations. The speaker will be Daniel (Danny) Kaplan of Macalester College.

The discussant will be Carol Howald of Howard Community College. More details to follow soon. For information about StatPREP, see <http://statprep.org/background-for-statprep/>.



## **American University Institute for Data Science**

**JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 11, 2020**

This Institute covers the essential basis for doing data science as practiced in the 21st century. Data scientists are expected to know how to obtain relevant data for a specific problem, clean and explore data, create models using data, state inferences, make reliable predictions, and communicate findings to multiple, possibly non-technical, audiences. We will cover each of these steps in 10 intense working days.

The course consists of a dynamic mixture of theoretical lectures, guest speakers, and group assignments. The guest lectures include data science leaders from Washington's unparalleled mixture of government, academia, and business. Statistical topics include: exploratory methods, graphics, regression, machine learning, ensembles, clustering analysis, and Bayesian approaches. Specific technical skills including: R, Python, Pandas, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, API Interactions, Social Media Mining, SQL, Tableau, GitHub, and more.

### **Course Information**

- Instructor: Ryan Moore, Associate Professor, Department of Government
- Course schedule: 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Saturday
- Cost (non-credit): \$1,500 plus fees
- Participants will receive a certificate of completion.
- The course will be held on the American University campus.

**Professionals can apply by submitting a resume and letter of interest to [dsi@american.edu](mailto:dsi@american.edu).**

More information: <https://www.american.edu/spa/data-science/data-science-institute.cfm>

## **The 2019-2020 JP\$M Short Courses Open for Registration**

- **September 23-24, 2019 Introduction to Big Data for Social Science**  
Frauke Kreuter and Christoph Kern
- **October 15-16, 2019 Statistical Analysis with Missing Data**  
Roderick Little and Trivellore E. Raghunathan
- **November 12, 2019 (1-Day) Practical Tools for Nonresponse Bias Studies**  
Jill Montaquilla DeMatteis and Michael Brick
- **December 3-4, 2019 Synthetic Data: Balancing Confidentiality and Quality in Public Use Files** Joerg Drechsler and Jerry Reiter
- **December 16-17, 2019 Introduction to Survey Sampling**  
Jim Lepkowski and Colm O'Muircheartaigh
- **March 9-10, 2020 Data Linkage**  
Partha Lahiri
- **March 30-31, 2020 Writing Questions for Surveys**  
Nora Cate Schaeffer
- **April 8-9, 2020 Using Paradata in a Responsive Design Framework**  
James Wagner and Brady West
- **April 20-21, 2020 Machine Learning for Survey Data**  
Trent Buskirk
- **May 11 -12, 2020 Introduction to Survey Estimation**  
David Morganstein and Sunghee Lee
- **May 18 - 19, 2020 Differential Privacy**  
Anand D. Sarwate

\*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 RTI 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://jpsm.umd.edu/academics/jpsm-short-course-2019-20-schedule>

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Dear WSS Colleagues,

As you may know the WSS is starting another round of its Mentoring program, announced on the chapter web page: [www.washstat.org/mentoring](http://www.washstat.org/mentoring)

As often happens with the start of similar programs initiated by chapters or sections or sponsored by the ASA at the Conference on Statistical Practice and the JSM, there are more people looking for a mentor than initially expressing interest to be a mentor. WSS has 47 requests for mentors!

The commitment to serve as a mentor is not extensive, connecting by phone, email or text, meeting in-person only if the two agree, for at least six months. The program provides a connection with someone early in their career with someone who might offer useful questions for that person to consider. It's a way of welcoming younger members of our profession and possibly giving something back by supporting these newer members. It's also a way of building community within the WSS.

Some have asked if this is about providing technical assistance. That is not the intention. It's about offering the support of an experienced person to a younger statistician's professional growth.

The Committee on Applied Statisticians who is helping promote mentoring within the ASA prepared a few pages of guidance that offer useful ways to start and maintain the relationship. This guidance is available if you'd like to learn more.

Given all of your experience and recognition, it seems to me you might be very effective as a mentor. Would you be interested? Would you know someone in the WSS who would? If so, please let Martha McRoy ([mmcroy@pewresearch.org](mailto:mmcroy@pewresearch.org)) know and sign up by filling out [this form](#).

Thanks for considering this or sending the names of people who you think would be good at being a mentor and would like to do this.

~ Mark Otto

## **Assistant STEM Teachers Needed**

The American Association for the Advancement of Science needs scientists, engineers and physicians to assist K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) teachers in the District of Columbia and adjacent counties, including Loudoun and Howard Counties, during the 2019-20 school year. The details of the collaboration are worked out between the teacher and the volunteer, and may involve giving demonstrations, assisting in lab experiments, lecturing on special topics, assisting with homework, etc. The hours are flexible, and volunteers attend a one-day orientation session before being assigned to schools. To see how volunteers are assisting their teachers, view the video clips at [www.stemvolunteers.org](http://www.stemvolunteers.org). If you care about K-12 STEM education and have time to share your knowledge with students and teachers, please send a note to [bcalinge@aaas.org](mailto:bcalinge@aaas.org) with your home address, or call Betty Calinger, 202-326-6629.

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

### **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT FOR QUALIFIED PART-TIME 12 MOS. CONSULTANT**

(This is a private company posting, not a government job. No benefits.)

Seeking experienced Fellegi-Sunter probabilistic record linkage consultant who has the chops and is unafraid of antiquated, perhaps frustrating or challenging raw data (often requiring thinking, editing, etc.), and has the guts to do certain Fellegi-Sunter calculations by hand (for relatively short lists) as well as by computer, who has his or her own copy of software (this is a must) to carry out Fellegi-Sunter probabilistic record linkage, and who has no qualms about having his/her name listed as co-author in manuscripts (notice plural) submitted for publication in peer-reviewed, refereed journals, either this year or in 2020, in the scientific/scholarly (and not always statistical) literature, so long as the research is reasonable. Our firm intention is to publish at minimum \*twice\* in prestigious peer-reviewed, refereed journals during 2020. Ideal candidate will be proactive and open to meeting in person several times over the course of research. The number of name pairs to be compared via Fellegi-Sunter may be somewhat under, in round numbers, 1000 and at most several thousand. The goal is to submit for publication within 3-5 months, not quit if rejected once or twice, and submit at least one followup paper after acceptance. After 1 year of collaboration, the contract can be renewed by mutual agreement or cancelled by either party. Applicant must have demonstrated record of Fellegi-Sunter analyses in recent years in order to qualify, and an appropriate degree. Apply by submitting a resume or C.V. by email to the email address below. We welcome minorities, women, veterans, and persons with disabilities. Pay is \$5,000 payable half within 14 days of signing contract and other half upon completion of deliverables in contract.

Point of Contact for this job is Mark Moran, M.S., VP, Breadwin Productions LLC. Phone: (571) 271-4343. Email: [breadwinproductions@gmail.com](mailto:breadwinproductions@gmail.com)

**FYI!**

## **UPDATED WSS HISTORY DOCUMENT UPLOADED TO WEBSITE**

WSS's long and interesting history has recently been updated by Dwight Brock in a new document built on the work of Joe Conklin from 2012. The document contains a brief narrative history followed by chronological listings of various officers, committee members, awardees, invited lecturers, and others who have played important roles in WSS's history.

Thanks to the efforts of WSS webmaster Chris Moriarity, the new document can be found on the WSS website at the following location:

<http://www.washstat.org/documents/19book.pdf>

We hope that the history will be of interest and useful to many of you.

**FCSM release:**  
**Transparent Reporting for Integrated Data Quality:  
Practices of Seven Federal Statistical Agencies**

Dear Colleagues,

Last week, the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) released [Transparent Reporting for Integrated Data Quality: Practices of Seven Federal Statistical Agencies](#).

This report examines how seven agencies in the federal statistical system assess the quality of integrated (multiple-source) data used in one of the agency's statistical products and how they report data quality to users of the product. Statistical agencies are making increased use of alternative data sources, including administrative and proprietary data, and combining data from multiple sources. The report also provides results from an exploratory customer survey that solicited from the agencies' users their assessments of how transparently—that is, how clearly and completely—the agency reports on the data quality of integrated data products so that users can determine if the product can be used for their purposes.

This report is one input to the FCSM's anticipated 2021 best practices guide for reporting on the quality of data outputs, designed to aid agencies in the implementation of their responsibilities to help data users assess fitness for purpose, pursuant to the Information Quality Act (see [OMB Memorandum 19-15](#)).

We hope you find this report useful.

~ Shelly Wilkie Martinez  
Statistical and Science Policy  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
(202) 395-3147

## **Welcome to new ASA/WSS members**

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

Richard L. Amdur  
Hamid Reza Ashtiani  
Peter M. Boersma  
Chris Chapman  
Samantha L. Chiu  
Gary Allan Cline  
Alex Cohen  
Thomas David Evans  
Aaron A. Gauthier  
Alia Hamdan  
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## **FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR**

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