

**Survey Research Methods Section (SRMS)
American Statistical Association (ASA)**

**Business Meeting
Wednesday, August 11, 2004**

The Survey Research Methods Section Business Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday August 11, 2004 by Sharon Lohr, SRMS Chair, during the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Toronto, Canada. There were over 100 members present in addition to the following officers:

Sharon Lohr, Chair
Sarah Nusser, Chair-Elect
Lynne Stokes, Past Chair
Rachel Harter, Program Chair-Elect (2005)
Elaine Zanutto, Secretary
Tom Belin, Treasurer
Michael P. Cohen, Publications Officer
Stephen Cohen, Council of Sections Representative
Elizabeth Stasny, Council of Sections Representative
Brian Meekins, Newsletter Editor
Anthony An, Amstat Online Assistant Editor
David Chapman, Education Officer
David Judkins, Program-Chair Elect (2006)
Virginia Lesser, Treasurer Elect
Stuart Scott, Publications Officer Elect
Rachel Caspar, Education Officer Elect

1. Overview of Section Activities (Sharon Lohr)

The SRMS website has been updated to include section newsletters and a new “What is a Survey?” brochure that is freely downloadable in .pdf form. The section has a revised promotional brochure (thanks to the efforts of Wendy Alvey) and has been helping to support the Privacy and Confidentiality website (<http://www.amstat.org/comm/cmtepc/>). The section is also supporting the Second International Conference on Telephone Survey Methodology in 2006. Two members of the section, Mike Cohen and Paul Biemer, are members of a group representing the USA that is working to develop ISO Survey Quality standards. Finally, the section was reminded that David Bellhouse, Chair of the Waksberg Award Committee, is soliciting nominations for the 2006 award (the 2005 winner is J.N.K. Rao).

2. Introduction of New Officers (Sharon Lohr)

New section officers were announced (to wild applause):

Chair-Elect: **Roger E. Tourangeau**, University of Michigan/Maryland

Program Chair-Elect: **Dave Judkins**, Westat

Treasurer: **Virginia M. Lesser**, Oregon State University

Publications Officer: **Stuart Scott**, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education Officer: **Rachel A. Caspar**, RTI International

3. Committee on ASA Fellows (Mary Mulry)

14 members of the SRMS became ASA fellows this year:

Thomas Belin, UCLA Department of Biostatistics

R. Ronald Bosecker, (National Agricultural Statistics Service—USDA

F. Jay Breidt, Colorado State University

Raymond L. Chambers, University of Southampton

Michael P. Cohen, US Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Trena M. Ezzati-Rice, Agency for Healthcare Research Quality

Susan M. Hinkins, NORC

Parthasarathi Lahiri, University of Maryland - College Park

Lisa M. La Vange, Inspire Pharmaceuticals

David A. Marker, Westat

Allan L. McCutcheon, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Xiao-Li Meng, Harvard University

Thomas B. Petska, U.S. Internal Revenue Service

Robert L. Santos, NuStats Partners LP

4. Student Awards (Sharon Lohr, Tom Belin)

Winners of the 2004 Student Paper Competition (which is jointly sponsored by SRMS, the Government Statistics Section, and the Social Statistics Section):

Bidisha Mandal, The Ohio State University, *Imputing Missing Income Data and Weighting Data with Imputed Income*

Murthy N. Mittinty, University of Canterbury, *Imputation by Propensity Matching*

Sujata Patil, University of Michigan, *Jointly Modeling Latent Trajectories and a Subsequent Outcome Variable: A Bayesian Approach*

Nikolas Tzavidis, University of Southampton, *Using Double Sampling to Correct Gross Flows for Misclassification Error: Moment-based Inference vs. Likelihood-based Inference*

Yang Yang, Duke University, *A Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling Approach to Age-Period-Cohort Analyses of Repeated Cross-Section Survey Data*

A new program was initiated this year to provide support for travel to the JSM by graduate students interested in survey research methods. Allocations for 8 awards from the section were supplemented by support from Nielsen Media Research for 2 additional awards. Applications were reviewed by a Student Travel Award Committee consisting of the Treasurer (Tom Belin), Past Chair (Lynne Stokes), senior Council of Sections Representative (Elizabeth Stasny), and Continuing Education Officer (Dave Chapman). The recipients for the 2004 Student Travel Awards are:

Haiying Chen, Dept. of Statistics, Ohio State University
Jim Greiner, Dept. of Statistics, Harvard University
Christine Kohnen, Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences, Duke University
Jianzhu Li, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland
Xiaobai Li, Dept. of Statistics, Ohio State University
Jingchen Liu, Dept. of Statistics, Harvard University
Andy Peytchev, Survey Methodology Program, University of Michigan
Emilia Peytcheva, Survey Methodology Program, University of Michigan
Ting Yan, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland
Qingzhao Yu, Dept. of Statistics, Ohio State University

The SRMS Executive Committee has approved 10 more travel awards for next year.

5. Treasurer's Report (Tom Belin)

Tom reported that the section is in good financial shape. In the development of the 2005 budget for SRMS, he described that the Executive Board had recommended continuing the practice of having a line item of \$20,000 for potential donations, which provides flexibility and helps avoid concerns that are raised when section resources are a large multiple of annual section expenses. Through July 31, 2004, the Executive Board had voted to allocate \$7,500 to conference activities and associated groups.

6. JSM 2004 Program (Sharon Lohr for Partha Lahiri)

The section congratulated Partha for his great job in this year's program. Thanks Partha!

7. JSM 2005 Program (Rachel Harter)

Rachel reported that we had 7 roundtable lunches this year (2004) with good attendance. The section has also received 8 submissions for invited sessions for JSM 2005 (we are allotted 5 invited sessions and 2 more are up for competition). Decisions on invited sessions will be made in September 2004. Rachel reminded the section that proposals for topic-contributed sessions and contributed papers are due in Nov/Dec/Jan.

8. Continuing Education Update (David Chapman)

Two survey-related short courses were held at ASA this year. The first, which was co-sponsored by SRMS, was a one-day course, "Introduction to Survey Quality," presented by Paul Biemer and Lars Lyberg. The second, which was ASA's cornerstone two-day Short Course (and was not available for co-sponsored by SRMS), was "Sample Survey Methods: Recent Developments and Applications," presented by JNK Rao and Sharon Lohr. For the 2005 ASA Meeting, SRMS hopes to co-sponsor two short courses. Steve Thompson of Penn State has agreed to prepare a proposal for a Short Course on Adaptive Sampling. In addition, we are hopeful that Don Rubin will prepare a Short Course proposal on Multiple Imputation.

9. Publications Update (Mike Cohen, Tony An)

All section members are invited to look at the section proceedings now on the section website. Proceedings are now posted (with a 2 year lag). The 2001 proceedings have a different format than the proceedings in previous years (for example, session and discussant information is not given). The publications officers welcome feedback on the new 2001 format.

10. Council of Sections Report (Elizabeth Stasny and Steve Cohen)

Elizabeth announced that the ASA plans to develop a new brochure to describe ASA sections that it will send to all new ASA members. The ASA will also email a letter to each new section member (so SRMS will have to draft such a letter). The ASA also plans to do more surveying of its members to gauge opinions, satisfaction with ASA, etc.

Changes for next year's JSM include adding password protection for JSM abstract submissions. Registration fees will probably also increase (approximately \$25 more for early registration). The Council of Sections Governing Board will take over allocation of JSM invited sessions to sections in 2006 or 2007 (suggestions for guidelines for allocation rules are welcome).

There is a proposal to change rules governing Special Interest Groups. The proposal includes allowing special interest groups to exist longer than the current 3 years and to possibly allow them to compete in the invited session competitions.

There is a proposal to provide a CD of the complete JSM proceedings to all JSM registrants. This would involve a \$10 increase in registration fees (all registrants would automatically receive the CD). The ASA proposes that this would involve no risk and no profit for the sections. Section members expressed concern that the section would no longer profit from the JSM proceedings under this plan, but Tom Belin (Treasurer) reported that while we do make some profit from page charges, it isn't really a large amount.

Elizabeth also reported that the Council of Sections invites feedback on proposed restructuring of the JSM meetings. Changes being considered including starting sessions earlier on Sunday and eliminating Thursday sessions, moving the Tuesday social event to Wednesday, and scheduling opening and closing plenary sessions. Many section members suggested that keeping the exhibit hall open longer (e.g., at least all day Wed) would improve the mood of the conference in the last two days, but there were conflicting opinions about eliminating Thursday sessions and starting earlier on Sunday.

11. Other Business

The section would like to thank Michael Elliott and T.E. Raghunathan for being the SRMS representatives for the Biometrics meetings (for 2004, 2005 respectively).

Tom Belin is the SRMS representative for the International Conference on Health Policy Research to be held in Boston in October, 2005.

Thanks again to the Marketing Systems Group for sponsoring the mixer before the SRMS business meeting! (The acknowledgement below was also included in the business meeting agenda distributed at the business meeting.)

Finally, thanks to Sharon Lohr for her great job as section chair. Thanks Sharon!

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Tonight's mixer has been generously underwritten by **Marketing Systems Group** (www.M-S-G.com). Creators of the in-house GENESYS sample design and generation system, Marketing Systems Group's full-service sampling capabilities include mixed mode sample methodologies, RDD, listed household, business, targeted and E-mail samples, a complete line of sample screening services including the new GENESYS-CSS Comprehensive Sample Screening service that identifies all types of wireless/cellular numbers, and list enhancement services.

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