

**Science Policy Task Force's Report to the ASA
Board of Directors, March 16-17, 2007**

(March 2, 2007; revised April 26, 2007 – edits are highlighted in yellow)

Full Report

Abstract

The Science Policy Task Force (SPTF) recommends that the Association create a full-time position on the ASA staff for a science policy professional. The purposes of the position are to: (1) increase the participation of ASA and the statistical profession in public policy discussions at state, national, and international levels, in order to promote the use of sound statistical methods in the collection and analysis of the data on which policy decisions are based, and (2) ensure that the statistical sciences receive an appropriate share of public funds devoted to scientific research and education. The SPTF's vision is that the person in this position establishes contacts and opens channels of communication with decision-makers in government so that the Association and profession are represented at, and participate in, policy and funding discussions.

In this document, the first section defines science policy and the next ties ASA's mission statement to this definition. The third summarizes the science policy activities of the members of the Joint Policy Board on Mathematics. This is followed by examples of ASA's science policy activities. The fifth section is the heart of the paper and describes the SPTF's vision for this position.

1. Defining Science Policy

The late Harvey Brooks, who founded Harvard University's Program on Science, Technology, and Public Policy, served on many committees and boards that dealt with the interface of science and policy. He was a well-respected scholar in the field of science policy and characterized science policy as having two dimensions: *science-for-policy and policy-for-science*.

- *Science-for-policy*: Concerns how scientific data, information, and methods can, and should be, used in the formation and execution of public policy. For one recent example, consider the late-breaking session at the 2006 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) entitled "What Is the Role of Statistics in Public Policy Debates about Climate Change?" The speakers at this JSM session were Edward Wegman, George Mason University; Richard Smith, University of North Carolina; and J. Michael Wallace, University of Washington.
- *Policy-for-science*: Public policy about the conduct of scientific research, including its funding. Three examples at the federal level are: funding of scientific research, limitations on funding of certain research, and support for education in the sciences (e.g., funding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics [STEM] education).

From our perspective, both of these dimensions would involve public policies at the federal, state, and international levels.

2. ASA Mission Statement and Science Policy

The Association's mission statement has six components, each of which pertains to these two aspects of science policy. Some of these apply to both. That is, science-for-policy is reflected in five:

- Support excellence in statistical practice, research, journals, and meetings.
- Promote the proper application of statistics.
- Use our discipline to enhance human welfare.
- Anticipate and meet the needs of our members.
- Seek opportunities to advance the statistics profession.

While policy-for-science is pertinent to four:

- Support excellence in statistical practice, research, journals, and meetings.
- Work for the improvement of statistical education at all levels.
- Anticipate and meet the needs of our members.
- Seek opportunities to advance the statistics profession.

To quote from Fritz Scheuren's 2005 Presidential Address, "There have been many times in the past, when we probably should have spoken as a profession about the world's issues. When we did not do so, that was too bad. But we still can, and, as a profession, we should!"¹

3. The Joint Policy Board on Mathematics and Science Policy

As noted in Sallie Keller-McNulty's President's Column in the July 2006 issue of *Amstat News*,² among the four professional associations that comprise the Joint Policy Board on Mathematics (JPBM) the ASA is the only one that does not have a formal science policy activity. That is, all three of the other associations have science policy committees:

- Science Policy Committee of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA),³
- Committee on Science Policy (CSP) of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM),⁴ and
- Committee on Science Policy of the American Mathematical Society (AMS).⁵

According to the MAA bylaws, only the Executive Director and President can speak for the Association on science policy issues. They are aided by its Board of Directors and MAA's Science Policy Committee.⁶ Until late in 2006 MAA retained the services Lewis-Burke Associates (LBA),⁷ a professional government relations firm.⁸

SIAM's headquarters is in Philadelphia, PA. It uses the services of LBA as its legislative liaison and to provide information on science policy issues and funding. LBA is SIAM's "Washington office."⁹ In recent years SIAM's Past President chairs its Committee on Science Policy; for 2007 and 2008, the Chair of SIAM's Committee on Science Policy is Dr. Martin Golubitsky, University of Houston.

The AMS's headquarters office is in Providence, RI. The AMS's Associate Executive Director, Government Relations and Programs, is Dr. Samuel M. Rankin III and he is located in AMS' Washington, DC, office. Dr. Rankin is tasked with keeping members apprised of science policy developments and issues. He also chairs the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), an alliance of over one hundred scientific organizations and universities that work together to increase federal funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF).¹⁰ In 2006 AMS coordinated the 12th annual CNSF Exhibition and Reception on Capitol Hill, showcasing NSF-funded research projects.¹¹

The JPBM organizations have jointly undertaken science policy activities. One example is the Annual Survey of the Mathematical Sciences¹² which contains information about new doctoral recipients.

A few ASA members have participated in the science policy activities of the other JPBM organizations. For instance, Sallie Keller-McNulty is a member of SIAM's Committee on Science Policy. At least three statistics department chairs¹³ participated in the April 2006 meeting of AMS' Committee on Science Policy. The focus of that meeting was to meet with members of Congress, as well as their staff, and discuss increased funding for the NSF in the FY 2007 federal budget. Dr. John Stufken, a member of the SPTF, attended the 12th annual CNSF Exhibition and Reception on Capitol Hill in June 2006.

4. Examples of ASA's Engagement in Science Policy

While the ASA currently does not have a formalized science policy office or committee, there are many examples of its involvement in science policy. And this involvement is not new. For example, in 1951 ASA created its Advisory Committee on Statistical Policy to the Office of Statistical Standards of the Bureau of the Budget (now the Office of Management and Budget) and Samuel Wilks was a charter member of this Committee.¹⁴ In 1954 ASA published *Statistical Problems of the Kinsey Report*, co-authored by William G. Cochran, Frederick Mosteller, and John W. Tukey.¹⁵

More recent examples from 2004-2006 include the following.

Letters from ASA Presidents:

- to Warren Warden, President of the NSF's National Science Board, in support of increased STEM education funding (this letter was co-signed by ASA President Fritz Scheuren and SIAM President Martin Golubitsky);¹⁶
- on statistical issues in elections;¹⁷
- to Senator John Cornyn about his draft legislation, "Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006";¹⁸
- to the Census Bureau Director, Dr. C. Louis Kincannon, about the American Community Survey and Disability;¹⁹
- to the President of Western Michigan University, Dr. Judith Bailey, about the possible elimination of the University's doctoral program in statistics;²⁰

- two letters to members of Congress supporting increased funding for the NSF, National Institutes of Health (NIH), and Department of Energy;²¹
- to the White House concerning the resignation of two top Census Bureau officials, Louis Kincannon and Hermann Habermann; and
- to Nancy Pelosi, urging increased funding for the NSF, NIH, Department of Energy's Office of Science, and Census Bureau.²²

In addition, the Association co-signed a letter, dated December 11, 2006, which was sent from over 30 professional associations to Under Secretary Cohen, Department of Homeland Security to request that the Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee (HSSTAC) be reconstituted.²³ HSSTAC was terminated by statute on November 25, 2005. A letter from Under Secretary Cohen, dated January 17, 2007, informed the associations that the HSSTAC was reauthorized and he anticipates that it will be operational in early 2007.²⁴

ASA also played a major leadership role in amassing input from other associations and concerned scientists to deter language in the 2007 NSF appropriations bill that could have led to the demise of funding for social and natural sciences.

Actions by the ASA Board of Directors on intelligent design:

- The ASA Board of Directors endorsed the American Association for the Advancement of Science's (AAAS) resolution on Intelligent Design and Science Instruction.²⁵
- The Science and Public Affairs Advisory (SPA) Committee drafted a statistically-oriented statement on intelligent design. The resolution was adopted by the Board.²⁶

Activities of ASA committees, sections, and special interest groups (SIGs):

- The Chair of the SPA Committee, David Marker, authored a letter on statistical involvement in elections.²⁷
- The SIG on Volunteering's subgroup on volunteering in elections prepared a document entitled "The Role of Statistics in Ensuring Fair and Accurate Elections."²⁸
- The Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security sponsored a Conference on Quantitative Methods in Defense and National Security.²⁹

Recommendations for federal positions:

- ASA routinely provides suggestions for positions at NSF's Division of Mathematical Sciences.
- In 2006 ASA was asked to provide recommendations for the U.S. Government Accountability Office's Chief Statistician. Bill Smith led the charge.

How does the ASA decide to send letters or invoke our bylaws and pass resolutions? We have to rely on information bubbling up to the ASA's Executive Director, the Executive Committee, and Board of Directors through our committees and members, and from other associations. Of course, these are important avenues of information. However, they are not sufficient. ASA

needs to increase its advocacy for the statistics profession and its participation in science policy activities that will benefit its members.

As the above examples indicate, ASA's recent activities have given the Association and profession a stronger voice in the science policy arena. We need to build on that momentum and take the next logical step. ASA needs a focal point for these activities – a staff position dedicated to science policy activities.

5. Establishing a Stronger Voice in Science Policy

To increase the presence of the statistical profession in the science policy arena, the SPTF considered several alternatives used by our “sister associations” in the JPBM. MAA, AMS, and SIAM have created science policy committees. ASA's structure of committees, sections, and SIGs provides many avenues for input to science policy issues; earlier in this document we provided examples. Consequently, it is not realistic or prudent for ASA to centralize its science policy activities under one committee or section.

A second example from the JPBM associations is to hire a government relations firm, such as LBA. In Appendix A we list potential science policy activities for ASA. Many of these involve using science-for-policy. A government relations firm is not equipped to do this work.

We recommend that the Association create a full-time position on the ASA staff for a science policy professional. The purposes of the position are to: (1) increase the participation of ASA and the statistical profession in public policy discussions at state, national, and international levels, in order to promote the use of sound statistical methods in the collection and analysis of the data on which policy decisions are based, and (2) ensure that the statistical sciences receive an appropriate share of public funds devoted to scientific research and education.

Such a person would serve as “an advocate for statistics” in both the science-for-policy and policy-for-science arenas. The SPTF envisions that the person filling this position would have a background in statistics and excellent communication skills. Experience in public policy work is another important requirement for this science policy professional; the ideal candidate would have experience working with Congress. This position would be full-time rather than part-time in order to attract a high caliber individual and to allow time to establish the necessary connections in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere. The person filling this position would report to the Executive Director of the ASA. This individual would work closely with ASA committees, sections, SIGs, and chapters to foster and encourage their science policy activities.

Appendix A contains a list of potential activities for this individual. These tasks are broad-ranging and encompass several dimensions, including informing members about funding and science policy issues as well as advocating for the profession in various venues in Washington, DC.

To facilitate the work of this new staff position, ASA needs to have a wide array of resources so that science policy items can be easily obtained and distributed to members, for example,

- The Association should have electronic access to many newspapers and journals (including *Science*, the *Wall Street Journal*) and
- ASA should subscribe to a “clipping service.”

By having such access, the Executive Director, the ASA officers, and others serving in leadership positions in the Association could get these news items electronically and in a timely manner. ASA could have a more timely response to important issues if it had a "signal detector" like a news service. If the ASA had such a service, a section/committee/SIG Chair could request that a particular article be sent to all of its members or be posted on the group’s website.

Interaction with the ASA committees: The science policy professional would provide ASA staff support to several committees, including the SPA Committee, the Committee of Representatives to the AAAS, and the Committee on Federally Funded Research. The science policy professional or the ASA Executive Director would be able to speak on behalf of the ASA, but if the President of the ASA or the appropriate committee chair is available then the President/chair would be the preferred presenter.

Interaction with the existing ASA public relations contractor: Appendix C contains a description of the activities of the public relations contractor. In addition to developing media contacts, the focus of this position is to “the general public” -- i.e., promoting public awareness and understanding of statistics.

The focus of ASA's science policy professional would be to identify and facilitate opportunities for the profession to contribute expertise to science policy issues, and to advocate for the profession with Congress and agencies that fund statistical research. This individual would inform our ASA members of important science policy developments and serve as a conduit between ASA and its chapters, sections, committees, and SIGs on such issues.

Both individuals would work together on certain activities, such as developing a series of one-page web documents “Statistical Moments” [see Appendix A, Item 9(b) for more information]. In this example, the science policy professional would work with ASA members to determine the content. The public relations contractor would develop the format for “Statistical Moments,” write the content, and pre-test the results on the “general public” and, subsequently, promote the use of these "Statistical Moments."

Comparative information about salary and compensation from other associations: An investigation of the salaries of individuals at professional associations and whose responsibilities include legislative contact suggests that to attract the type of high-caliber professional we envision will require a salary perhaps in the vicinity of \$100,000 - \$120,000. Table 1 shows the first, second, and third quartiles of salary of individuals with titles suggestive of the type of position recommended by the SPTF. In parenthesis we list the source of the information. The figures below include only salary; at ASA benefits are approximately an additional 30% of salary.

Table 1. Comparative Salary Information³⁰

Position title	Q1	Q2	Q3
Public policy analyst (Cordom) ³¹	\$ 57,900	\$ 70,200	\$ 88,800
Legislative representative(Cordom)	\$ 70,000	\$ 77,300	\$ 101,300
Government relations (CESSE) ³²	\$ 93,100	\$ 113,600	\$ 116,300
Federal relations (CESSE)	\$ 93,600	\$ 144,000	\$ 155,900
Legislative network (CESSE)	\$ 75,900	\$ 91,700	\$ 100,800
Gov/lobbying chair (GWSAE) ³³	\$ 82,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 162,700
Government relations (PRM) ^{34 35}	\$ 95,800	\$ 125,300	\$ 157,100
Government relations (PRM) ³⁶	\$ 105,000	\$ 142,900	\$ 186,100

Benchmarks: The SPTF recommends that benchmarks be created that would quantify whether the science policy professional is meeting his/her goal(s) after one year, two years, or three years. Benchmarks might include: number of meaningful contacts between ASA and Congress (including Congressional staff), number of ASA recommended statisticians appointed to federal panels and committees, mention of statistics or statistical thought in the press, citation of statistical work in public policy newspaper articles and other media, changes in funding at agencies that support statistical research, and changes in policy at other funding agencies (e.g., NIH). This is by no means an exhaustive list but provides some ideas for the Executive Director to consider in his/her periodic evaluation.

How the creation of this science policy position would benefit members: The entire membership will benefit because the position will increase the visibility and the involvement of the statistics profession in the public policy arena.

- **Academic members:** The science policy professional would ensure that the Association and the profession were represented in discussions when federal funding for statistics research is discussed. He/she would be a voice in issues associated with the pipeline from high school to academia. He/she would also identify roles for statisticians on government commissions and panels.
- **Government members:** Statistics has lost influence in federal agencies over the past several years. Statistics and statisticians are critical in science-based public policy. Recent examples include the elimination of the Bureau of the Census' Associate Director for Methodology and Standards and the downgrading of the level of the Chief Statistician of the National Center for Education Statistics.
- **Industry members:** Mandated federal requirements imposed on industry should be science-based, including statistical evaluation of evidence for any new requirements. Issues of concern are similar to those in academia: federal funding for research and the availability of well-trained statisticians at all levels to fill an ever increasing demand.

As noted in the beginning of this document, the science policy professional would not merely focus on national issues; he/she would also deal with state science policy issues. Many local problems affect us all (e.g., redistricting issues that arose in Texas). He/she would help mobilize

chapters to bring statistical thinking to a state-level problem. ASA's science policy professional would serve as a conduit between ASA and the chapters.

The science policy professional would also work with other statistical organizations on an international level. Collaboration between ASA and our international professional partners on global science policy issues is another important component of this position.

Appendix A

Below are tasks that would deepen the ASA's role in science policy. Of course, this is not a complete list but contains relevant examples of activities, actions, and roles.

1. Keep up-to-date on science policy issues of importance to ASA members, for example.
 - a) Read key publications (including newspapers and pertinent reports from other organizations, federal agencies, Congress, etc.).
 - b) Monitor pending legislation in this area.
 - c) Review e-newsletters that pertain to science policy, including the
 - i) AAAS Center for Science, Technology, and Congress' *Science and Technology in Congress Newsletter*³⁷ and
 - ii) American Institute of Physics' publications, *FYI* and *FYI This Month*.³⁸
 - d) Develop links with members of Congress and their staff, as well as key science policy organizations.
 - e) Establish liaisons with important federal offices. For example, consider NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR).³⁹ What is the role of statistical research in OBSSR? Note that OBSSR celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2006 and sponsored a conference in June 21-22, 2006.⁴⁰
 - f) Federal and state agencies have advisory committees on a wide variety of substantive areas. Many of these would benefit from the contribution of expertise from our profession.
 - i) Working with ASA sections and committees, develop a list of relevant advisory committees. Provide federal and state agencies with suggested names of statisticians for appointment to these advisory committees; keep track of what works and what does not work. Respond to *Federal Register* calls for nominations.
 - ii) For example, ASA has provided names for the NSF's National Science Board. In addition to such "high level" committees, ASA should be more active in suggesting names for "lower level" committees. It is important to recognize the distinction between the committees that fall under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and those that do not. Issues of demographic balance, financial disclosures, etc., are relevant to FACA committees. To do this, we could recommend that the Association compile a list of such committees and the contact points in the agencies.
 - g) Monitor the activities of national panels that are of interest to the profession. For example, the National Mathematics Advisory Panel was created in 2006.⁴¹ This Department of Education Panel meets in various locations across the US and its work is of interest to many ASA members. Members should be asked to attend these meetings and provide summaries to ASA officers and staff.
2. Mobilize ASA members, sections, chapters, committees, and SIGs to analyze science policy issues that pertain to our members: The results of such analyses could be publicized in several ways, including position papers, periodic columns in *Amstat News*, posting information on ASA's website, and reports to ASA's Board of Directors, as well as providing summaries for relevant ASA sections, committees, and SIGs.

3. Notify members of relevant science policy initiatives, actions, and activities, e.g., proposed legislation that would alter funding for statistics research.
 - a) Create list serve and/or e-newsletter to inform ASA members of relevant science policy activities.
 - b) Examine vehicles used by other professional associations for useful models.⁴²
 - c) Create a science policy section on ASA's website:
 - i) Include links to relevant science policy websites of interest to our members. These would include relevant reports from committees of the National Academy of Sciences, including the Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics and the Committee on National Statistics.
 - ii) Compile a list of the methods currently used by the Association to provide input to science policy issues, for example, Statements from the Board of Directors, letters from ASA's President. Make these statements and letters available to the membership. For statements and letters that contain confidential information (e.g., suggested names for NSF positions) work with ASA's President to develop a standard operating procedure for archiving them and developing "generic" summaries of these items that can be made available to the members.
 - iii) Provide information and access to relevant lectures. For ex., in June 2006 the Wise Elders Program at the Census Bureau featured Janet Norwood's talk, "Statistics and Public Policy." The Census Bureau gave the SPTF a copy of this DVD. It was an excellent presentation and should be included as a webcast on ASA's website.
4. Research the activities of other relevant professional associations that deal with science policy: ASA belongs to the Consortium of Social Science Associations and the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics. Both of these are excellent organizations but their interests (social sciences and federal statistics, respectively), do not reflect the wide-ranging interests of our membership. Make recommendations about other groups with which ASA should affiliate/join. The advantages of joining each such organization need to be documented, for instance, an association might summarize science policy issues that would assist the science policy professional in providing important information to members in a very cost effective manner. Examples of organizations to investigate follow.
 - a) The Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Psychology has graciously provided the SPTF with a subscription to its e-newsletter.⁴³ Many of the items in this e-newsletter were pertinent to ASA members and at least one was published in *Amstat News*.
 - b) As noted earlier, John Stufken, a member of the SPTF, attended the 12th annual CNSF Exhibition and Reception on Capitol Hill in June 2006; this is another group that should be examined.⁴⁴
 - c) Another example is the Coalition for Health Services Research.⁴⁵
 - d) A fourth is Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD).^{46 47}
 - e) The Computing Research Association (CRA) is a powerful consortium of institutions and societies focused on computing and computation.⁴⁸ All of the universities represented on the SPTF are members of CRA.
 - f) AAAS publishes an annual report on research and development. The report for 2007 contains one chapter on statistics and its focus is on federal statistics.⁴⁹ Our profession is

broader than federal statistics. This report is authored by the “Intersociety Working Group.” It would be very valuable for the profession to have ASA join in this effort and broaden the perspective beyond federal statistics.

- g) The Washington Science Policy Alliance is another group to look into.⁵⁰
5. Be focal point for new science policy activities by ASA (e.g., the work done by the SPA Committee): Keep members up-to-date about these activities.
6. Collect information on science policy fellowships and disseminate information to members: For example, consider two AAAS fellowships:⁵¹
 - a) Science & Technology Policy Fellowships: The AAAS selects and sponsors two Congressional Fellows. Annual stipends are \$65,000 for the 2007-2008 fellowship year, with allowances for health insurance and relocation.⁵² ASA members should be informed of these fellowships and actively encouraged to apply for them.
 - b) Congressional Science and Engineering Fellowship Program: This is related to the above AAAS fellowship. However, these fellowships have a different funding source and selection process. That is, they are funded by scientific and engineering societies. Applications for these fellowships are sent directly to the societies (stipends, application procedures, degree requirements, timetables, and deadlines vary depending on the society). Fellows selected by these societies participate in the year-long program of professional development activities administered by the AAAS. A question for ASA’s science policy professional to explore: Should ASA directly fund a fellowship? If so, create a position paper that provides the rationale for supporting such a fellowship.
7. Create resource list of statisticians: Assemble a list of “go-to” statisticians in academia, government, and industry, and mobilize these people as needed. This would involve working closely with ASA sections, committees, and SIGs.
8. Research funding of ASA members: Where do ASA members get their research funding? We do not have data on the sources of research funding, but some statistics departments report that they get more funds from NIH than NSF. Continued advocacy for funding statistical research at NIH is extremely important. However, it is critical that the ASA is an adamant advocate for increased research funding at the NSF. The missions of these funding agencies are quite different, and both are essential in maintaining and fostering a healthy research environment for statistics. The funding for research in statistics that is currently available at NSF is totally inadequate, and improvements are needed to increase the number of applicants for such funding. In order to be an effective advocate for research funding at either of these agencies, or elsewhere, the ASA must have a clear picture of the current funding sources.⁵³
9. Inform and educate the public:
 - a) Document what other organizations and associations are doing to inform and educate the public about science policy issues that involve their disciplines.
 - b) For example, several members of the SPTF were impressed with the AMS’s “Mathematical Moments,” a series of one-page informational articles which foster an understanding of the role that mathematics plays in various arenas, including science, nature, technology, and culture.⁵⁴
 - i) ASA should investigate the creation of a similar web-based series of informative one-page documents (perhaps called “Statistical Moments”) that explain the role that statistical sciences play in medicine, science, technology, surveys, etc. These could be used as teaching tools.⁵⁵

- ii) One of the SPTF members, Dr. Xiao-Li Meng, noted that several existing “Mathematical Moments” dealt with statistical issues. ASA should work with AMS to get statistical references inserted into the documents (as appropriate).
10. Incorporate science policy in the Joint Statistical Meetings: For example, develop a science policy training session for statistics department chairs. This session would include statistically-oriented science policy activities and needs. Department chairs should actively encourage their faculty to serve at NSF in rotator positions. It could occur prior to the start of the JSM on Sunday morning. Take advantage of JSM venues, e.g., state (or provincial) capitals or national capital, in formulating program and ancillary activities.
 11. Educate senior government officials about the role of statistics in public policy: ASA’s science policy activities should also include a component that focuses on “educating the executive branch” (for lack of a better phrase). In some federal agencies that employ a substantial number of statisticians higher-level managers (who are not statisticians) may not appreciate the potential contribution of statistics to public policy. Nor do they consider volunteer work on an ASA committee to be relevant to a statistician’s position (to take on such activities, statisticians may have to take annual leave). They need to be educated.
 - a) The goal of this science policy activity would have ASA become actively involved in educating these higher-level staff.
 - b) For example, as noted above the “Wise Elder Seminar” at the Census Bureau by Dr. Janet Norwood, entitled “Statistics and Public Policy,” was taped and a DVD was provided to the SPTF. This is a valuable tool in educating these officials. The availability of this DVD should be publicized. Such resources should be available on ASA website.
 12. Establish links to statisticians involved in science policy internationally and keep abreast of international events of relevance to US science policy.
 13. Collect historical information about science policy activities of ASA:
 - a) What has ASA done in the past? Document these activities. Research ASA’s history in the science policy arena. Identify and document the array of science policy activities that the ASA has engaged in, as well as how and when they occurred. The Association’s archival section of its webpage needs to be enriched with this information.
 - b) Compile a list of recent science policy activities, i.e., the work done by the SPA Committee. Keep list current. Work with the Committee on ASA Archives and Historical Materials.

Appendix B

Email from G. Ostrouchov about NITRD

Date: Fri, 03 Nov 2006 17:39:54 -0500

From: George Ostrouchov <ostrouchovg@ornl.gov>

Subject: [Fwd: Cyber Security R&D Invitation to Submit White Papers]

To: Darryl.J.Downing@gsk.com, Dennis Dixon <dd23a@nih.gov>, Susan Ellenberg <sellenbe@cceb.upenn.edu>, Janine Janosky <jej@pitt.edu>, Denise Lievesley <denise.lievesley@ic.nhs.uk>, Nell Sedransk <sedransk@niss.org>, Bob Starbuck <StarbuR@wyeth.com>, Sallie Keller-McNulty <sallie@rice.edu>, Lynne.A.Collins@gsk.com

Here is an example of a recurring opportunity for the statistics community to affect policy. This is an organization that needs to have a relationship with ASA. I am not sure if there can be a formal relationship but the ASA should get on its mailing list and inform ASA membership about opportunities to write white papers. The deadlines are typically short so this can only be done through the web or by e-mail. (Darryl, note that Chuck Romine is in charge of this workshop.)

The NITRD <http://www.nitrd.gov/> is a federal agency that provides networking and information technology advice to the president's budget. It organizes workshops (I think by invitation only.) that produce reports on what initiatives should be funded across all the agencies. I went to one in 2004 on High End Computing (HEC) and that's how I got on the mailing list. They ask for white papers and then invite people that wrote interesting white papers or simply who they think has an important (to the organizers) opinion.

--George

George Ostrouchov, Ph.D.
Statistics and Data Sciences Group
Computer Science and Mathematics Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
<http://www.csm.ornl.gov/~ost>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Cyber Security R&D Invitation to Submit White Papers

Date: Fri, 03 Nov 2006 14:50:41 -0500

From: McDuffie, Ernest <mcduffie@nitrd.gov>

To: outreach <outreach@nitrd.gov>

Dear Colleagues,

This invitation to submit white papers is issued by the Federal government's Cyber Security and Information Assurance (CSIA) Interagency Working Group (IWG). The CSIA IWG operates under the auspices of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and was initially

established in 2003 as the Critical Information Infrastructure Protection IWG. It was rechartered as the CSIA IWG in 2005 with the role of coordinating policy, programs, and budgets for CSIA research and development (R&D) within the Federal government.

Through this invitation, the Federal government is soliciting input from individuals in academia, industry (including at national laboratories and Federally funded research and development centers [FFRDCs]), and international organizations about the development of a roadmap called for in the /Federal Plan for Cyber Security and Information Assurance Research and Development /released in April 2006 (available online at http://www.nitrd.gov/pubs/csia/csia_federal_plan.pdf). Though the call for white papers is primarily intended to solicit viewpoints from outside of the Federal government, the Federal CSIA R&D community is welcome to respond.

The invitation is attached to this email and available at <http://www.nitrd.gov> <<http://www.nitrd.gov/>>. Questions or comments concerning this activity should be directed to csia-comments@nitrd.gov <<mailto:csia-comments@nitrd.gov>>.

This email is sent on behalf of the CSIA IWG Co-Chairs Annabelle Lee and Charles Romine.

Ernest L. McDuffie, Ph.D.
Technical Coordinator for Cyber Security and Information Assurance
Noesis® Business Unit
ITS Corporation
In Support of the National Coordination Office for Networking and Information Technology
R&D
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite II-405
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Phone: 703-292-4504
Fax: 703-292-9097
Email: mcduffie@nitrd.gov <<mailto:mcduffie@nitrd.gov>>

Appendix C: December 21, 2006, Email From William Smith
Subject: Public Relations Assistant

From: Smith, William B. [<mailto:williamsbsmith@amstat.org>]
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2006 9:39 AM
To: Scientific and Public Affairs Advisory Committee
Cc: Executive Committee; Staff
Subject: Public relations assistant

Good morning all,

By way of information, ASA has retained an experienced public relations firm and its principal, Rosanne Desmone, with

II. Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of this public affairs/media relations proposal is to create heightened visibility for ASA in the media and among the general public and to provide its members with more frequent news updates about the organization than it gets in the monthly *Amstat News*, particularly as it relates to the following components:

- Conduct regular assessment of public affairs needs of the statistics professionals, the current interests of the media, and the priority of SPA initiatives.
- Periodically, assess media coverage as it relates to statistics and statistics professionals.
- Identify and develop lists of statistical experts, both ASA member and others, who can serve as resources on subjects of interest to the media.
- Recommend subjects of ASA news releases, editorials, press conferences and briefings.

I have identified the following *six objectives* to achieve the aforementioned goals:

1. Helping determine the appropriate messages for the association's various publics and developing policies and procedures to ensure message consistency in press releases and other public-facing documents.
2. Develop and nurture relationships with editors/journalists of target publications. This will require that I research and create a current media database, preferably via a software subscription service like Vocus, which can be properly maintained and updated. This also includes the need to develop knowledge of editors' coverage areas ("beats") in order to provide them with relevant information and/or sources.
3. Create a more media-friendly online newsroom that journalists can easily navigate to find information and contacts. Journalists on deadline need to be able to reach people at all hours, and the newsroom should reflect that kind of availability from the media contact and the "experts" who wish to serve as resources.
4. Take a more aggressive stance toward contacting the media and providing them with information.

- a) Increase the utilization of news releases as appropriate to announce award winners, programs, call for papers, etc. Since only eight releases have been done to date in 2006, this is an area that seems to need a lot of attention.
 - b) Develop materials that can be circulated to the media on a weekly and/or monthly basis – possibly a “Numbers of the Week” column to distribute to newspapers and news magazines and other outlets. As an example of this, check out *Time* magazine’s “Numbers” feature that usually runs weekly; ASA should be doing this for them. <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1558312,00.html>
5. Establish a PR plan for the JSM that will help attract news media to cover and/or attend the show. The tactics for this objective would be numerous, but they would be designed to generate media interest in the conference, from the theme to the keynote speakers and vendor participants (new technology of any kind has a way of attracting attention).
 6. Update the web site to create a general information section for “visitors” who are not statisticians. The goal would be to provide the general public with information on statistics/statisticians.

Rosanne will begin her work for ASA in early January. She is on a retainer and will work primarily from her PR office, and less frequently from the ASA office. Under the retainer provisions, her hours will be limited, but the agreement will be assessed in six months.

She will liaise with SPAA and will have contact with other ASA groups as needed. Since she will not be an ASA staffer, she cannot be expected to take minutes of meetings, and other arrangements (including conference calls, scheduling face-to-face meetings, etc) will be handled by the ASA staff (attention to pam@amstat.org for forwarding to the proper support person). Beginning in January, Rosanne’s email address is to be Rosanne@amstat.org.

Please welcome Rosanne to the ASA team when you have occasion to do so.

Best regards and Happy Holidays,

Bill

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Join us in Salt Lake City for the Joint Statistics Meetings - July 29-Aug 2, 2007 -
 see www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2007

Notes

¹ Scheuren, F., *The Pro Bono Statistician*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, Vol. 102, No. 477, March 2007 page 6.

² <http://www.amstat.org/publications/amstat/index.cfm?fuseaction=pres072006&nl=0706>

³ <http://www.maa.org/sciencepolicy>

⁴ <http://www.siam.org/about/science/sci-pol.php>

⁵ <http://www.ams.org/ams/csp-home.html>

⁶ See “Science Policy at the MAA” by David Lutzer < <http://www.maa.org/features/101404sciencepolicy.html> >.

⁷ <http://www.lewis-burke.com>

⁸ Per conversation of Bill Smith with Tina Straley, Executive Director of the MAA, at the NSF on Feb.5, 2007.

⁹ Personal communication with Dr. Martin Golubitsky in email of 1/31/07 to Virginia de Wolf.

¹⁰ <http://www.cnsfweb.org>

¹¹ For a summary of the 2006 CNSF Exhibition, see <http://www.ams.org/government/cnsfex06.html>; Science Policy Task Force member, Dr. John Stufken, attended this Exhibition.

¹² <http://www.ams.org/employment/surveyreports.html>

¹³ Dr. Xiao-Li Ming, Harvard University; Dr. Sastry Pantula, North Carolina State University, and Dr. G Geoff Vining, Virginia Polytechnic Institute attended.

¹⁴ Mosteller, F. Samuel S. Wilks: Statesman of Statistics, *The American Statistician*, vol. 18, no. 2, April 1964, pp. 11-17; Stephan, F.F.; Tukey, J.W.; Mosteller, F.; Mood, A.M.; Hansen, M.H.; Simon, L.E.; and Dixon, W.J. Samuel S. Wilks, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, vol. 60, no. 312, Dec. 1965, pp. 939-966.

¹⁵ For a summary of this report, see Kinsey, A.C.; Hyman, H.; Sheatsley, P.B.; Hobbs, A.H.; Lambert, R.D.; Pastore, N.; Goldstein, J.; Terman, L.M.; Wallin, P.; Wallis, W.A.; Cochran, W.G.; Mosteller, F.; and Tukey, J. W. The Cochran-Mosteller-Tukey Report on the Kinsey Report: A Symposium, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, vol. 50, no. 271, Sept., 1955, pp. 811-829.

¹⁶ <http://www.amstat.org/misc/NSFLetter.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://www.amstat.org/news/StatisticalIssuesInElections.pdf>

¹⁸ *Amstat News*, July 2006, p. 4

¹⁹ *Amstat News*, June 2006, p.4

²⁰ *Amstat News*, August 2006, p. 3

²¹ *Amstat News*, July 2006, p. 4

²² <http://www.amstat.org/news/MEBLettertoPelosi.pdf>

²³ <http://www.apa.org/ppo/1206HSSTAC-Cohen.pdf>

²⁴ January letter from Under Secretary Cohen was forwarded as an attachment in email of January 18, 2007, from Geoff Mumford, Assistant Executive Director for Science Policy, Science Directorate, American Psychological Association, to the executives of the signing associations.

²⁵ Smith, W. B. March 2006 Board Meeting Highlights, *Amstat News*, May 2006, p. 4. The AAAS resolution is available at: <http://www.aaas.org/news/releases/2002/1106id2.shtml>.

²⁶ *Amstat News*, July 2006, p. 3

²⁷ http://www.amstat.org/news/pdfs/SPA_Statisticians_examine_one_race.pdf

²⁸ *Amstat News*, April 2006, p. 12

²⁹ *Amstat News*, November 2006, p. 13

³⁰ The salary information from other associations was provided by Bill Smith.

³¹ Cordon is an independent consulting firm, specializing in association business.

³² CESSE is a consortium of association execs in science and engineering. ASA is a CESSE member.

³³ Geo Washington Society of Assoc. Execs (GWSAE) is now part of the Amer. Soc. of Assoc. Execs (ASAE).

³⁴ PRM is a consulting firm.

³⁵ For associations with budgets comparable to the ASA budget.

³⁶ For associations with headquarters in Virginia.

³⁷ <http://www.aaas.org/spp/cstc/stc/index.shtml>

³⁸ The American Institute of Physics (AIP) has two science policy e-newsletters, *FYI* and *FYI This Month* <<http://www.aip.org/fyi/ftm>>. Electronic subscriptions to both are free and are provided by AIP as a service to the science community.

³⁹ <http://obssr.od.nih.gov/content>

⁴⁰ <http://obssr.od.nih.gov/OBSSR10th/index.htm>

⁴¹ <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/mathpanel/index.html>

⁴² The American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) has a public affairs office that works with a council of engineering deans on matters of science policy, including hosting an annual Public Policy Colloquium and publishing a free monthly e-newsletter, *Connect*, to keep ASEE members abreast of hot issues of interest to engineering educators <<http://www.asee.org/publications/connections/index.cfm>>.

⁴³ <http://www.thefederationonline.org>

⁴⁴ See endnote 10 for CNSF's url.

⁴⁵ <http://www.chsr.org>

⁴⁶ <http://www.nitrd.gov/>

⁴⁷ In October 2006 NITRD distributed a document requesting white papers on "Developing A Roadmap for Cyber Security and Information Assurance Research and Development Information." This was sent to Sallie Keller-McNulty from George Ostrouchov, ONRL, a member (01/06-12/07) of ASA's Engagement with Other Organizations Task Force. In his email of November 5, 2006, Dr. Ostrouchov recommended that ASA establish a relationship with NITRD. See Appendix B for these emails.

⁴⁸ <http://www.cra.org>

⁴⁹ <http://www.aaas.org/spp/rd/rd07main.htm>

⁵⁰ <http://www.aaas.org/spp/wspa>

⁵¹ <http://fellowships.aaas.org>

⁵² http://fellowships.aaas.org/02_Areas/02_Congressional.shtml

⁵³ As noted above, SIAM has hired Lewis-Burke Associates to help its science policy committee be an effective advocate for funding of scientific research.

⁵⁴ <http://www.ams.org/mathmoments>

⁵⁵ SIAM is creating a new web feature entitled "Why Do Math?" To read more about this project go to <<http://www.siam.org/news/news.php?id=149>>.