

July 7, 2008

News from the Committee on National Statistics

PEOPLE NEWS

>We welcome two incoming members of CNSTAT—*Alicia Carriquiry*, professor of statistics at Iowa State University, and *Hal Stern*, professor and founding chair of statistics at the University of California, Irvine—who have been appointed for 3-year terms beginning July 1, 2008. We also thank *Sam Preston*, Frederick J. Warren professor of demography at the University of Pennsylvania, for agreeing to serve a second 3-year term.

>We congratulate *Cynthia Clark* on her appointment as administrator of the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service. She recently directed statistical research and survey methodology for the United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics and, prior to that, at the U.S. Census Bureau; she also has 13 years of experience working on the Census of Agriculture and serving as the Director of the NASS Census and Survey Division. She was a member of the CNSTAT panel that produced the 2007 report, *Understanding American Agriculture—Challenges for the Agricultural Resource Management Survey*.

>We congratulate the following members of our community who have received the honors listed below:

>*Rosemary Marcuss*, Deputy Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis, recipient of the 2008 *Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award* for encouraging younger staff as a supervisor at a federal statistical agency.

>*Robert Groves*, Director, Survey Research Center, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, and *William Bell*, Senior Statistician, U.S. Census Bureau, co-recipients of the 2008 *Julius Shiskin Award for Economic Statistics*. Bill is recognized for innovative statistical research that led to improved economic statistics through important contributions to the theory and practice of seasonal adjustment, small-area estimation, and time series modeling; Bob (former CNSTAT member) is recognized for innovative statistical research that led to improved economic statistics through important contributions to the theory and practice of survey methods for the conduct of sample surveys of both households and establishments.

>*Robert Bell*, Statistical Research Department, AT&T Labs-Research, and former CNSTAT member, recipient with his team members of the *Netflix Progress Prize* for improving the Netflix movie recommendation system by 8.43%.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

107th Meeting of the Committee

Friday, October 31, 2008

NAS Main Building, 2100 C St., NW, Washington, DC

Public Seminar and Reception, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Topic: *Measuring Immigration Flows: What Do We Know? How Can We Learn More?*

108th Meeting of the Committee
Thursday and Friday, February 6-7, 2009
Retreat—NAS Beckman Center, Irvine, CA

109th Meeting of the Committee
Friday, May 8, 2009
NAS Keck Center, Room 100, 500 5th St. NW, Washington, DC
Public Symposium and Reception, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Topic: *Federal Statistics in the 21st Century*

[title is not final; the idea is to underscore the importance of the federal statistical system for policy, research, and public understanding; papers will be presented and published in the *Annals* of the AAPSS]
Co-sponsored with the American Academy of Political and Social Science

Currently Active Panels and Workshops

[Organized by sponsor; chair and current and former CNSTAT members are listed; unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open portions; for further information, contact the study director or project assistant, or visit <http://nationalacademies.org>, click on Current Projects, and then on Search for Projects.]

Department of Commerce

Panel on the Census Bureau's Reengineered Survey of Income and Program Participation

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: October 2006 – June 2008; extended through December 31, 2008

Study director: Patricia Ruggles; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Karl Scholz (U. Wisconsin); panel member: V. Joseph Hotz (Duke)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting held March 10-11, 2008; no more meetings are planned

Panel on Coverage Evaluation and Correlation Bias in the 2010 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: April 2004 – January 2006; extended through June 30, 2008

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin; fellow: Stephanie Jaros

Chair: Robert Bell (AT&T Research); panel members: Lawrence Brown (U. Pennsylvania), Alan Zaslavsky (Harvard)

Reports planned: Interim report, *Research and Plans for Coverage Measurement in the 2010 Census: Interim Assessment*, released in prepublication format (there will be no printed version), May 11, 2007 (free PDFs available at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11941); final report is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: Last meeting, July 18, 2007; no more meetings are planned

Panel on the Design of the 2010 Census Program of Evaluations and Experiments (CPEX)

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: October 2006 – September 2009

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Daniel Cork; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Lawrence Brown (Wharton School, U. Pennsylvania); panel members: Vijay Nair (U. Michigan), Roger Tourangeau (U. Maryland), Nora Cate Schaeffer (U. Wisconsin)

Reports planned: Interim report, *Experimentation and Evaluation Plans for the 2010 Census: Interim Report*, released in prepublication format (there will be no printed version), December 7, 2007 (free PDFs available at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12080); final report, September 2009
Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for July 10-11, 2008 (morning of July 10 is open)

Workshop to Assist BEA Development of a Satellite Health Account

Sponsor: Bureau of Economic Analysis
Duration: September 2006 – September 2007; extended through March 2008
Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant, Michael Siri
Chair: Joseph Newhouse (Harvard)
Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted
Upcoming meetings: Workshop held March 14, 2008

Department of Defense

Oversight Committee on Industrial Methods for the Effective Test and Development of Defense Systems (Joint with the Board on Army Science and Technology)

Sponsor: Office of the Secretary of Defense, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, and Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics
Duration: September 2007 – March 2009
Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant, Michael Siri
Chair: TBD
Report planned: Final report (including workshop summary)
Upcoming meetings: To be determined

Department of Health and Human Services

Panel to Advance a Research Program on the Design of National Health Accounts

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging
Duration: October 2005 – September 2008
Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Michael Siri
Chair: Joseph Newhouse (Harvard)
Report planned: Final report is being drafted
Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting held March 13, 2008; no more meetings are planned

Panel on Collecting, Storing, Accessing, and Protecting Social Survey Data with Biological Measures (joint with the Committee on Population)

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging
Duration: October 2007 – September 2009
Study director: Barney Cohen; project assistant, Michael Siri
Chair: Robert Hauser (U. Wisconsin)
Report planned: Final report (including workshop summary)
Upcoming meetings: First meeting held March 9, 2008; workshop to be held November 17-19, 2008

Panel to Review the National Children's Study Research Plan (joint with the Board on Children, Youth, and Families and the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice)

Sponsor: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Duration: April 2007 – April 2008; extended through July 31, 2008

Study director: Gooloo Wunderlich; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Bridget Edmonds

Chair: Samuel Preston (U. Pennsylvania); panel member: William Kalsbeek (U. North Carolina)

Report: Final report released in prepublication format, May 22, 2008 (see http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12211); printed copies will be available by the end of July

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting held January 24, 2008; no more meetings are planned

Workshop on New Measures of Disability: Going Beyond ADLs and IADLs (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences)

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Duration: October 2007 – September 2009

Study director: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant, Bridget Edmonds

Chair: Alan Jette (Boston U.)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held July 3, 2008; workshop scheduled for November 6-7, 2008

Workshop on Revitalizing the Nation's Vital Statistics

Sponsor: National Center for Health Statistics, Social Security Administration, U.S. Census Bureau, internal funding

Duration: July 2007 – September 2008

Study director: Constance Citro; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Louise Ryan (Harvard); planning committee members Janet Norwood (BLS, retired), Edward Perrin (U. Washington), Samuel Preston (U. Pennsylvania), Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia)

Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held April 30, 2008

Department of Justice

Committee to Assess the Feasibility, Accuracy, and Technical Capabilities of a National Ballistics Database (joint with the Committee on Law and Justice, which has the lead, and the National Materials Advisory Board)

Sponsor: National Institute of Justice

Duration: September 2003 – December 2005; extended through June 2008

Study director: Carol Petrie; senior program officer: Daniel Cork; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: John Rolph (U. Southern California); panel members: William Eddy (Carnegie Mellon U.), Vijay Nair (U. Michigan), Daryl Pregibon (Google)

Report: Final report, *Ballistic Imaging*, released in prepublication format, March 5, 2008 (see http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12162); printed copies to be available shortly

Upcoming meetings: No more meetings are planned

Panel to Review Programs of the Bureau of Justice Statistics

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Duration: September 2006 – August 2008

Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Carol Petrie; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Robert Groves (U. Michigan)

Reports planned: Interim report released in prepublication format, January 8, 2008, and published by the National Academies Press in mid-May (free PDFs available at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12090); final report at end of project

Upcoming meetings: Eighth meeting scheduled August 11-12, 2008, in Ann Arbor, MI (closed)

National Science Foundation

Committee on Gender Differences in Careers of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Faculty

(congressionally mandated) (joint with Committee on Women in Science and Engineering, which has the lead)

Sponsor: Division of Science Resources Statistics, NSF

Duration: December 2003 – June 2005; extended through February 2006

Study director: Charlotte Kuh; program officer: John Sislin; project assistant: Elizabeth Scott

Chair: Claude Canizares (MIT); co-chair: Sally Shaywitz (Yale); panel member: Arleen Leibowitz (UCLA)

Report planned: Final report is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: No more meetings are planned

Committee on Technology and Privacy Dimensions of Information for Terrorism Prevention and Other National Goals (joint with the Committee on Law and Justice, which has the lead, and the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board)

Sponsor: National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security, National Agricultural Statistics Service, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2004 – June 2007

Study director: Betty Chemers; senior program officers: Michael Cohen and Herb Lin; project assistant: Janice Sabuda

Chair: Charles Vest (president emeritus, MIT); co-chair, William Perry (Stanford); panel members: William DuMouchel (Lincoln Technologies), Stephen Fienberg (Carnegie Mellon U.), Daryl Pregibon (Google)

Report planned: Final report is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: No more meetings are planned

Panel to Assess the Benefits of the American Community Survey for the NSF Science Resources Statistics Division

Sponsor: Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2006 – February 2008; extended through November 30, 2008

Study director: Thomas Plewes; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Hal Stern (U. California, Irvine)

Report: Final report released in prepublication format, June 2, 2008 (see http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12244); printed copies are in preparation

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting held November 2, 2007; no more meetings are planned

Panel on Modernizing the Infrastructure of the NSF Federal Funds Survey

Sponsor: Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2007 – December 2008

Study director: Thomas Plewes; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Christopher Hill (George Mason U.)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting June 12-13, 2008; workshop planned for September 5-6, 2008

Kauffman Foundation, Spencer Foundation, W.T. Grant Foundation

Workshop on Protecting Students' Records and Facilitating Education Research (joint with the Center for Education and in cooperation with the American Educational Research Association)

Sponsor: Kauffman Foundation, Spencer Foundation, W.T. Grant Foundation

Duration: July 2007 – August 2008

Study director: Thomas Plewes; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Felice Levine (AERA)

Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held April 24-25, 2008

Contact Information for CNSTAT

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Note: The most recent issues of *News from CNSTAT* are available on the “What’s New” portion of the CNSTAT web site.