

July 20, 2009

News from the Committee on National Statistics

PEOPLE NEWS

>We congratulate **Robert Groves** on his confirmation as director of the U.S. Census Bureau on July 13, 2009. Among his many public service contributions, he served two terms on CNSTAT, chaired its panel to review the programs of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and served on half a dozen additional panels and workshops. He was professor of sociology and director of the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan.

>We note with regret the death of **Marie Eldridge**, aged 83, on June 13, 2009. She had a varied career in federal statistics, working for the Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics before joining what is now the Postal Service in the 1960s. She was director of the Office of Statistics and Analysis of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the early 1970s and became he administrator of the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics in 1978. In 1984 she became a director at the Research Triangle Institute. She was a past president of the Washington Statistical Society.

>We congratulate the following newly elected **Fellows of the American Statistical Association**:

- John M. Abowd, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (member of CNTAT Panels on Expanding Access to Research Data and Understanding Business Dynamics);
- William P. Butz, Population Reference Bureau, Washington, DC;
- Stephen H. Cohen, National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, Arlington, VA;
- Julia I. Lane, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA;
- Daniel O. Scharfstein, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore (member of CNSTAT Panel on Missing Data in Clinical Trials);
- Gary Shapiro, Westat, Rockville, MD;
- Christopher A. Sims, Princeton University, Princeton (NAS member and former CNSTAT member); and
- Duane L. Steffey, Exponent Inc., Menlo Park (former CNSTAT study director for *Counting People in the Information Age* [National Research Council, 1994]).

>We congratulate **Christine Bachrach**, acting director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research at the National Institutes of Health, who received the Population Association of America's Robert J. Lapham award in April 2009 for "distinguished contributions to population research, the application of demographic knowledge to improve the human condition, and service to the population profession."

>We congratulate **Lynda Carlson**, director of the National Science Foundation's Division of Science Resources Statistics, who is the recipient of the 2009 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics, which is sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society and the Government and Social Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association.

>We welcome **Esha Sinha** to the CNSTAT staff as an associate program officer. She is completing her Ph.D. in economics at SUNY Binghamton under the direction of former CNSTAT study director Ed

Kokkelenberg. She starts work with us on a part-time basis July 27 and will become full-time in January 2010.

>We will very likely be looking for a full-time study director—program officer or senior program officer, depending on experience—for one or more new projects in the fall. We welcome suggestions of candidates to consider. For information, the National Academies hires program officers at a salary range that approximates a GS-12 in the DC area; it hires senior program officers at a salary range that approximates a GS-13/14 in the DC area.

REPORT RELEASED

>*Ensuring the Quality, Credibility, and Relevance of U.S. Justice Statistics*, the final report of the Panel to Review the Programs of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, chaired by Robert Groves, was publicly released in prepublication format on July 10, 2009. The study was joint with the Committee on Law Justice and funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The press release for the report is at <http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=12671>; the report text can be read at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12671.

CNSTAT MEETINGS

>CNSTAT will have a substantial presence at the *Joint Statistical Meetings* to be held August 1-6, 2009, in Washington, DC. Cynthia Clark, Bob Groves, Hermann Habermann, Nancy Kirkendall, and Kathy Wallman are on a panel organized by CNSTAT, to be chaired by Bill Eddy, on “Opportunities and Challenges for the Federal Statistical System for the Next 5-10 Years.” The panel is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, at 10:30 am in Room CC-101 of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. We will also be exhibiting throughout the meetings with display copies and order forms for many of our reports. We are booth number 420; please stop by and see us.

>We have had several inquiries about CNSTAT’s regular meeting schedule and so provide our meeting dates through May 2011:

- *CNSTAT’s 110th meeting* will be held **Thursday and Friday, October 29-30, 2009**. The venue is the Keck Center at 500 5th St. NW. The format will be a business meeting on Thursday, from 9:00 am – 5:15 pm, followed by a dinner for members and guests. Friday morning will be a business meeting, beginning at 8:30 am, followed by lunch with the statistical agency heads at 12:30 pm and a **public seminar from 2:00 – 4:00 pm, followed by a reception**.
- *CNSTAT’s 111th meeting* will be held Thursday and Friday, February 11-12, 2010, in Washington, DC. The format will be business on Thursday from 9:00 – 5:15, followed by a dinner for members and guests, and business on Friday, from 8:00 – 1:30. There are no public events at this meeting.
- *CNSTAT’s 112th meeting* will be held **Thursday and Friday, May 6-7, 2010**, in Washington, DC. The format will be the same as the October 2009 meeting, including a **public seminar on the 7th**.
- *CNSTAT’s 113th meeting* will be held **Thursday and Friday, October 21-22, 2010**, in Washington, DC. Note the change from the last to the *second-to-last* Thu-Fri in October, which

will be our formula for future October meetings. The format will include a **public seminar on the 22nd**.

- **CNSTAT's 114th meeting** will be held Friday and Saturday, February 11-12, 2011, at the Beckman Center in Irvine, CA. The format will be retreat business on Friday from noon – 5:30, followed by a dinner for members and guests, and retreat business on Saturday from 8:30 – 5:30, followed by a dinner for members and guests. There are no public events at this meeting.
- **CNSTAT's 115th meeting** will be held **Thursday and Friday, May 5-6, 2011**, in Washington, DC. The format will include a **public seminar on the 6th**.

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 person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu), or visit <http://nationalacademies.org>, click on Current Projects, and then on Search for Projects.]

Department of Agriculture

Panel on Alternative Estimates of Children Eligible for School Nutrition Programs (joint with the Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine)

Sponsor: Food and Nutrition Service

Duration: May 2009 – April 2012

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Allen Schirm (Mathematica Policy Research)

Reports planned: Phase 1 report, Phase 2 report, Addendum with ACS 5-year estimates

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for September 1-2 in Washington, DC

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 June 2009

Study director: Constance Citro; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

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

Report planned: Final report has been approved and is being readied for release

Upcoming meetings: Final closed meeting held February 3, 2009; 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; extended through December 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: *Experimentation and Evaluation Plans for the 2010 Census: Interim Report*, released in prepublication format (there is no printed version), December 7, 2007 (free PDFs available at

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12080); *Letter Report, Experimentation and Evaluation Plans for the 2010 Census*, letter to Acting Director Thomas Mesenbourg from Lawrence Brown, released on February 19, 2009 (free PDFs available at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12607); final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Eighth (final) meeting held June 1, 2009 (closed); no more meetings are planned

Panel to Review the Statistical Methods and Operational Procedures for the 2010 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: June 2009 – May 2014

Study director: Daniel Cork; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: TBD

Reports planned: Two interim reports; final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting TBD

Workshop on Intangible Assets: Measuring and Enhancing Their Contribution to Corporate Value and Growth (Joint with the Science, Technology, and Economic Policy Board)

Sponsor: Bureau of Economic Analysis and Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2007 – September 2009

Study director: Stephen Merrill; senior program officer: Christopher Mackie

Report planned: Workshop summary has been approved and is being printed

Upcoming meetings: The workshop was held June 23, 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 – May 2010

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Vijay Nair (U. Michigan); panel member: John Rolph (U. Southern California)

Report planned: Final report (including workshop summary)

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held February 23-24, 2009; workshop to be held in the fall

Department of Education

Panel on Alternative Data Sources for the Limited-English Proficiency Allocation Formula under Title III, ESEA (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment)

Sponsor: Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development

Duration: October 2008 – September 2010

Study director: Thomas Plewes; senior program officer: Judith Koenig; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Alan Zaslavsky (Harvard U.)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting to be held October 22-23, 2009

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; extended through September 2009

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Joseph Newhouse (Harvard)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: 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, Jacqueline Sovde

Chair: Robert Hauser (U. Wisconsin-Madison)

Report planned: Final report (including workshop summary) is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting (closed) to be held in mid-August

Panel on Missing Data in Clinical Trials

Sponsor: Food and Drug Administration

Duration: October 2008 – March 2010

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Roderick Little (U. Michigan); panel member: Hal Stern (U. California Irvine)

Report planned: Final report (including workshop summary)

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held April 3-4, 2009; workshop to be held September 9-10, 2009

Planning Meeting on the Costs and Effectiveness of Public Health Behavioral Interventions (joint with the IOM Food and Nutrition Board and Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice)

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Duration: October 2008 – September 2009

Study director: Miron Straf; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Joe Newhouse (Harvard U.)

Report planned: no report; prospectus for a possible study

Upcoming meeting: Planning meeting held June 12, 2009 (by invitation)

Workshop on Improving Healthcare Cost Projections for the Medicare Population

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Duration: October 2008 – March 2010

Study director: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Bridget Edmonds

Chair: Dana Goldman (RAND)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held June 11, 2009; workshop to be held January 13, 2009

Workshop on New Measures of Disability: Going Beyond ADLs and IADLs (joint with the Committee on Population)

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 is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held January 8-9, 2009

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 2009

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 has been approved and is being printed

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held April 30, 2008

Department of Justice

Panel to Review Programs of the Bureau of Justice Statistics

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Duration: September 2006 – May 2009

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 2008 (free PDFs available at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12090); final report, *Ensuring the Quality, Credibility, and Relevance of U.S. Justice Statistics*, released July 10, 2009 (see above).

Upcoming meetings: No more meetings are planned

Department of Labor

Panel to Review the Labor Department's Occupational Information Network (O*Net) (joint with the Center for Education)

Sponsor: Employment and Training Administration

Duration: July 2008 – September 2009

Study director: Margaret Hilton; senior program officer: Thomas Plewes; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Nancy Tippins (Valtera Corporation, Greenville, SC)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Teleconference (closed) held July 2, 2009; no more meetings are planned

National Science Foundation

Panel on Modernizing the Infrastructure of the NSF Federal Funds Survey

Sponsor: Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2007 – September 2009

Study director: Thomas Plewes; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Christopher Hill (George Mason U.)

Report planned: Final report is in review

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting held January 6, 2009 (closed); no more meetings are planned

Workshop on Confidentiality Criteria for Statistics from the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Sponsor: Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2008 – September 2009

Study director: Thomas Plewes; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Barbara Bailar (NORC, retired)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held May 27, 2009. Because a key presenter could not attend, the workshop was recessed and will be reconvened at a date to be determined.

Lumina Foundation for Education

Panel on Measuring Higher Education Productivity (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment and the Board on Higher Education and Workforce)

Sponsor: Lumina Foundation

Duration: October 2008 – March 2010

Study director: Christopher Mackie; senior program officers: Stuart Elliott (BOTA) and Peter Henderson (BHEW); project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: TBD

Reports planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First panel meeting TBD

Russell Sage Foundation

Planning Meeting on the Future of Social Science Data Collection

Sponsor: Russell Sage Foundation

Duration: June 2009 – February 2010

Study director: Constance Citro; project assistant, Bridget Edmonds

Chair: TBD

Reports planned: No report; prospectus for a possible study

Upcoming meetings: TBD (by invitation)

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.

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