

March 27, 2009

News from the Committee on National Statistics

REPORT RELEASED

>*Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency, Fourth Edition*, the Committee's white paper, first issued in 1992, was publicly released on March 11, 2009. The fourth edition identifies four principles for an effective statistical agency: production of objective information that is relevant to issues of public policy; credibility among data users; trust among data providers; and a strong position of independence from the appearance and reality of political control. The fourth edition also discusses 11 important practices that are means for a statistical agency to live up to the four principles: they include a commitment to quality and professional practice and an active program of methodological and substantive research. A limited number of copies are available from the Committee. The report can be read online and copies may be purchased at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12564.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

109th Meeting of the Committee

Friday, May 8, 2009

Auditorium, NAS Main Building, 2100 C Street NW, Washington, DC

Public Symposium and Reception, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, May 8, 2009

***Topic: THE FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM—
RECOGNIZING ITS CONTRIBUTIONS; MOVING IT FORWARD***

**Joint Symposium of the Committee on National Statistics and the
American Academy of Political and Social Science**

Co-sponsored by:

**American Association of Public Opinion Research, American Statistical Association,
Association of Population Centers, Association of Public Data Users,
Consortium of Social Science Associations,
Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics,
Population Association of America, and SAGE Publications, Inc.**

The agenda is attached. We hope to see you all there.

**TO REGISTER : Send an e-mail to cncstat@nas.edu, or leave a message at 202-334-3096, attn:
Bridget Edmonds. Please indicate your name and affiliation.**

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 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 is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Final closed meeting held February 3, 2009

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: *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: Seventh meeting to be held April 13-14, 2009 (closed); eighth meeting to be held June 1, 2009 (closed)

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 Science Resources Statistics Division, National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2007 – September 2009

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

Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

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 – September 2009

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 scheduled for July 9-10, 2009

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: First meeting to be held April 29-30, 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: 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, Jacqueline Sovde

Chair: Robert Hauser (U. Wisconsin-Madison)

Report planned: Final report (including workshop summary)

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held November 17-18 (open), followed by closed panel meeting, November 19, 2008; third meeting (closed) to be held in spring 2009

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 to be held April 3-4, 2009, at the FDA offices in Silver Spring, MD; Workshop tentatively scheduled for June 17-18, 2009 (location uncertain)

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: TBD (by invitation)

Workshop on a Research Agenda for Improved Healthcare Cost Projections for the Medicare Population

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Duration: October 2008 – March 2010

Study director: Gooloo Wunderlich; senior program officer: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Bridget Edmonds

Chair: Dana Goldman (RAND)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: First meeting to be held May 14, 2009

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

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 – May 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 is being drafted

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 (free PDFs available at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12090); final report is in review

Upcoming meetings: Ninth and last meeting held November 15 in St. Louis, MO (closed)

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: June 2008 – June 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

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held February 3, 2009; workshop and second meeting held March 26-27, 2009; workshop and third meeting to be held April 17-18, 2009

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: Catherine Didion; senior program officer: Michael Cohen

Chair: Claude Canizares (MIT); co-chair: Sally Shaywitz (Yale); panel members: Alicia Carriquiry (Iowa State), Arleen Leibowitz (UCLA)

Report planned: Final report is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: 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 – September 2009

Study director: Thomas Plewes; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Christopher Hill (George Mason U.)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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: TBD

Lumina Foundation for Education

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

Sponsor: Lumina Foundation

Duration: October 2008 – March 2010

Co-study directors: Christopher Mackie and Stuart Elliott; senior program officer: Peter Henderson; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Rebecca Blank, Brookings Institution (chair for the planning meeting; chair for the panel TBD)

Reports planned: Detailed scope of work from the planning meeting; final report from the panel study

Upcoming meetings: Planning meeting held February 20, 2009 (by invitation)

State of the USA (SUSA)

Panel on SUSA Economic Indicators (joint with the Science, Technology and Economic Policy Board)

Sponsor: State of the USA (see <http://www.stateoftheusa.org/>)

Duration: September 2008 – August 2009

Study director: Daniel Melnick; project assistant, Bridget Edmonds

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Planning meeting held October 20, 2008; first panel meeting TBD

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.

THE FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM— RECOGNIZING ITS CONTRIBUTIONS; MOVING IT FORWARD

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Consortium of Social Science Associations,
Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics,
Population Association of America, SAGE Publications**

**The National Academies
NAS Building – Auditorium and Great Hall – 2100 C St NW
Washington, DC**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2009

*“If we could first know where we are and whither we are tending, we could then better judge what to do,
and how to do it.”*
--Abraham Lincoln

As the new administration takes office, it is critically important that attention is paid to the Federal Statistical System and its role as a vital part of the nation’s decision making and scientific infrastructure. This conference will focus on how dependent governing is on the products of the Federal Statistical System, from the apportionment/redistricting process to health care and immigration reform and economic regulation. It will also address visions for the future to keep the Federal Statistical System—a key national treasure—best positioned to serve the policy making, planning, and research needs of the 21st century.

AGENDA

- 8:00am** ***Registration and Continental Breakfast—Great Hall***
- 8:30** **Welcome—Auditorium**
William Eddy, *Chair, Committee on National Statistics, The National Academies, and
John C. Warner Professor of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University*
Heidi Hartmann, *Chair, Board of the American Academy of Political and Social
Science, and President, Institute for Women’s Policy Research*
- 8:45** **Session I – The Nation’s Statistical System: Why It Matters**
Moderator: Kenneth Prewitt, *Carnegie Professor of Public Affairs and Vice President
for Global Centers, Columbia University*
Speaker: Peter Orszag, *Director, U.S. Office of Management and Budget*
- 9:15** **Session II – What is the Federal Statistical System?**
Moderator: Katherine Wallman, *Chief Statistician, U.S. Office of Management
and Budget*

1. Margo Anderson, *Professor of History and Urban Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee* [The platform: Decennial Census]
2. Dale Jorgenson, *Samuel W. Morris University Professor, Harvard University* [The platform: National Income and Product Accounts]
3. Robert Groves, *Director, Survey Research Center, and Research Professor, University of Michigan* [Building blocks: statistical agencies, federal-state statistical cooperatives, surveys, administrative records]

10:30 ***Coffee Break—Great Hall***

10:45 **Session III – Knowledge Gained from Federal Statistics**

Moderator: Thomas Feucht, *National Science and Technology Committee on Sciences Subcommittee on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences*, and *Deputy Director for Research and Evaluation, National Institute of Justice*

Speakers:

1. Katharine Abraham, *Professor, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland* [Labor markets and the economy]
2. Linda Darling-Hammond, *Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education, Stanford University* [Education]
3. Stephanie Coontz, *Professor of History and Family Studies, The Evergreen State College, Olympia WA* [Family]
4. Samuel Preston, *Frederick J. Warren Professor of Demography, University of Pennsylvania* [Health]
5. Douglas Massey, *Henry G. Bryant Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs, Princeton University* [Immigration]

12:15pm ***Lunch—Great Hall***

1:15 **Session IV – Perspectives from Business and Government**

Moderator: Christopher Hoenig, *Chief Executive Officer, State of the USA, Inc.*

Speakers:

1. Maurine Haver, *Chair, National Association for Business Economics Statistics Committee*, and *President, Haver Analytics, Inc.* [Business uses]
2. Paul Overberg, *Database Editor, USA Today* [Media uses]
3. Michael O’Grady, *Senior Fellow, National Opinion Research Center*, and *former Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services* [Federal executive uses]
4. Nancy Kingsbury, *Managing Director, Applied Research and Methods, U.S. Government Accountability Office* [Congressional uses]
5. Joseph Salvo, *Director, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning* [State and local government uses]

2:45 ***Coffee Break—Great Hall***

3:00 **Session V – The Statistical System’s Future: Needs, Challenges, and Opportunities**

Moderator: Sally Morton, *President, American Statistical Association*, and *Vice President of Statistics and Epidemiology, RTI International*

Speakers:

1. Janet Norwood, *former Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics* [protecting and enhancing the statistical system]

2. Hermann Habermann, *former U.S. Chief Statistician, Director, UN Statistical Division, and Deputy Director, U.S. Census Bureau*
[innovation in the statistical system]

4:00 Session VI – The Sciences’ Stake in the Statistical System

Ralph Cicerone, *President, National Academy of Sciences*
Charles Vest, *President, National Academy of Engineering*
Harvey Fineberg, *President, Institute of Medicine*

4:15 Session VII – Parting Thoughts on the Key Role of Federal Statistics

Moderator: Kenneth Prewitt, *Columbia University*
Speaker: John Holdren, *Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy* [invited]

4:45 Reception—Great Hall

NOTE: The American Academy of Political and Social Science will prepare a special volume of its *Annals*, edited by Kenneth Prewitt and based on papers prepared by presenters at the symposium.

<p>TO REGISTER : Send an e-mail to cnstat@nas.edu, or leave a message at 202-334-3096, attn: Bridget Edmonds. Please indicate your name and affiliation.</p>
