

FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



Paul Beatty (2019 Chair)

What is the Social Statistics Section?

Dear SSS Members:

At the 2018 Joint Statistical Meetings, we invited comments on what you all wanted to get out of your membership from the Social Statistics Section: what additional activities, if any, should we take on? For many years we have provided robust program content at JSM, supported awards and student opportunities, and represented member interests in the larger association. But it seems that a critical component for planning what comes next, is knowing what else would you like our Section to do.

Discussions at the conference, and afterwards, pointed to a rather surprising conclusion: that there is not widespread agreement on who the section is supposed to attract and serve. Many current members, including current section leaders, have taken it as a given that SSS should represent the interests of social scientists within ASA. But looking at our membership numbers, it is clear that many who fit the bill are not among us, even though they are members of other sections. Furthermore, conversations revealed some uncertainty regarding what "social statistics" encompasses. For example, does this include statistics about the social world-what we might call "societal statistics"? Or is it about statistics on social interactions in particular? Or is all social science research fair game? Our charter, it seems, doesn't completely resolve the issue.

This isn't simply an academic question, as it has important implications for our goals, our intended membership, what we do, and where we go from here. Is it time to change our name to the Social Science and Statistics Section (S4)-if that is, in fact, what we are? We would like to hear from you. Why do you belong to the SSS? Where would you like to see us go from here?

We look forward to continuing this conversation with you all in 2019. Your thoughts, as always, are most welcome.

-Paul Beatty, SSS Chair (2018)

UPCOMING DEADLINES & EVENTS

2019 Joint Statistical Meetings Deadlines (July 27 – August 1, 2019):

November 12, 2018 12:01 AM - December 12, 2018 11:59 PM: Online submission of topic-contributed session proposals

December 3, 2018 12:01 AM - February 4, 2019 11:59 PM: Online submission of abstracts (all except invited papers and panels)

January 15, 2019: Online submission of Computer Technology Workshop (CTW) proposals deadline

January 23, 2019 - April 3, 2019 11:59 PM: Online submission of JSM Meeting & Event Requests

January 25, 2019: Deadline to request registration extension for government agencies

April 1, 2019 - April 18, 2019 11:59 PM: Online abstract editing open

May 1, 2019 11:00 AM: Registration and housing open

May 17, 2019: Draft manuscript deadline

May 31, 2019: Early registration deadline

June 1, 2019 12:01 AM - July 1, 2019 11:59 PM: Regular registration (increased fees apply)

July 2, 2019 12:01 AM - August 1, 2019 11:59 PM: Late Registration (increased fees apply)

July 3, 2019: Housing deadline

July 27, 2019 - August 1, 2019: 2019 Joint Statistical Meetings

July 27 – August 1, 2019: Colorado Convention Center

The Washington-Baltimore Chapter of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (DC-AAPOR) Holiday Party (December 18th, 5:00-7:30 PM, Clyde's at Gallery Place, 707 7th Street NW)

2019 JSM UPDATE AND REPORT FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR & CHAIR ELECT



Stephanie Galvin (2019 Program Chair)

The theme for next year's conference is "Statistics: Making an Impact." We look forward to an exciting 2019 JSM program for SSS that will include 3 invited sessions and 5 topic-contributed sessions! The topic-contributed session submission period is November 12- December 12, so please think of ideas and remember to submit them before the deadline.



Antje Kirchner (2019 Program Chair Elect)

We are excited to announce the competition for student and post-graduate papers. Be sure to submit your application materials by 11:59 p.m. EST December 15, 2018. Winners will be notified by January 15, 2019. Winners will present their papers at a topic-contributed session during next year's conference. For more information please click [here](#).

We are also soliciting nominations for topics (and discussion leaders) for JSM 2019 a.m. or p.m. roundtables. Abstracts for JSM 2019 Roundtables will be submitted during the Contributed Abstract submission period (December 3, 2018 - February 04, 2019). Please send nominations to me at akirchner2@unl.edu by November 15 with Subject Line "2019 Roundtables."

ASA 2019 AWARDS & COMPETITIONS

2019 ASA Student Paper Competition (Due December 16, 2019)

The Social Statistics Section (SSS), Government Statistics Section (GSS), and Survey Research Methods Section (SRMS) of ASA are pleased to announce a competition for student and post-graduate papers. Competition winners will present their papers at a topic-contributed session during the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), July 27 through August 1, 2019 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. Competition winners will also be highlighted during the 2019 SRMS, GSS, and SSS business meetings at JSM. A subsidy at least of \$800 is provided to each winner to cover JSM 2019 expenses, and approximately five awards will be granted. We ask faculty members, as well as supervisors and mentors of the recently hired graduates, to encourage students and mentees to apply for these awards.

Applications are due at 11:59 p.m. EST December 16, 2018, and winners will receive notification by January 16, 2019.

For more information, please click [here](#).

Data Challenge Expo 2019 (Due February 4, 2019)

Three ASA sections (Computing, Government, and Graphics) are proud to sponsor the, now annual, Data Challenge Expo 2019 at the JSM 2019 meetings. The contest is open to anyone who is interested in participating, including college students and professionals from the private or public sector. This contest challenges participants to analyze a government data set using statistical and visualization tools and methods. There will be two award categories – Professional (one level with a \$500 award) and Student (three levels with awards at \$1,500, \$1,000, and \$500).

For more information, please click [here](#).

Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award (Due March 22, 2019)

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Selection Committee will start accepting nominations for the 2019 award January 2, 2019. To learn more about the Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award please click [here](#).

This recognition is awarded annually to a supervisor, technical director, team coordinator, or other member of Federal, State, or Local government statistical staff for his or her efforts in supporting the work and developing the careers of junior staff.

Completed nomination packages should be mailed or emailed no later than March 22, 2019, to:

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Committee
c/o The American Statistical Association
732 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1943
Email: rick@amstat.org

If you have questions about the award, please contact Rick Peterson at rick@amstat.org or (703) 684-1221, or the chair of the Award Committee: Bill Mockovak at Mockovak.William@bls.gov.

SSS 2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Beatty, Paul - *Chair*
Day, Jennifer Cheeseman - *Past Chair*
Renwick, Trudi Jane - *Chair-Elect*
Eckman, Stephanie - *Secretary / Treasurer*
Chun, Asaph Young - *Program Chair*
Galvin, Stephanie - *Program Chair-Elect*
Earp, Morgan - *Publications Officer*
Harris-Kojetin, Brian A. - *Social Statistics Section Representative*
Notz, William I. - *Council of Sections Governing Board Vice Chair*
Peterson, Rick G. - *Staff Liaison*

SSS 2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Renwick, Trudi Jane - *Chair*
Beatty, Paul C. - *Past-Chair*
O'Brien, Eileen - *Chair - Elect*
Eckman, Stephanie - *Secretary / Treasurer*
Galvin, Stephanie - *Program Chair*

Kirchner, Antje – *Program Chair Elect*
Fox, Liana – *Publications Officer*
Finamore, John - *Social Statistics Section Representative*
Notz, William I. - *Council of Sections Governing Board Vice Chair*
Peterson, Rick G. - *Staff Liaison*

Please find more information about SSS [here](#).