



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— March 26, 2015 —

We call your attention to a special all-day program on Friday, May 8, 2015, as part of CNSTAT's 127th meeting. Organized jointly with the NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN, funded by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Census Bureau), the program will include technical sessions on work under way at the various NCRN nodes, followed by lunch, followed by a public seminar featuring a paper by John Abowd and Stephen Fienberg, *Can Government-Academic Partnerships Help Secure the Future of the Federal Statistical System? Examples from the NSF-Census Research Network*.

We also call your attention to a CNSTAT workshop on ***Rationalizing Rural Area Definitions for the Economic Research Service***, April 16-17, at the NAS Keck Center. For any questions, e-mail Mary Ann Kasper at mkasper@nas.edu.

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate ***Lisa Blumerman*** on her appointment as ***associate director for the decennial census programs***, effective March 22, 2015. Since January 2014, she has served as assistant director for the Decennial Census Programs Directorate and since fall 2014 as acting associate director. Her position has responsibility for the 2020 Census, the American Community Survey, and the Census Bureau's geographic programs. Previously, Lisa served as chief of the Governments Division where she was responsible for the collection, development, and release of data on the nation's numerous federal, state, and local governments, building on a 2007 CNSTAT report, *State and Local Government Statistics at a Crossroads*, to reengineer the division's programs. She has worked at the Census Bureau since 1997 and served as chief of the Customer Liaison and Marketing Services Office, deputy chief of the American Community Survey Office; administrative records coordinator in the Policy Office; and chief of the Population Estimates Branch in the Population Division. Before coming to the Census Bureau, Lisa served as a senior research analyst for the American Public Welfare Association (APWA) where she ran a nationwide survey on the incidence of elder abuse. She received the Arthur S. Flemming Award for exceptional achievement in federal government service and a silver medal and two bronze medals for distinguished service in the federal government. She has a B.A. in sociology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and an M.A. in applied demography from Georgetown University.

We congratulate ***Myron Gutmann*** on his appointment as director of the ***Institute of Behavioral Science (IBS) at the University of Colorado–Boulder***. IBS is home to the University of Colorado Population Center (CUPC). Gutmann, who became the institute's director on January 1, 2015, succeeds Jane Menken, distinguished professor of sociology and member of the National Academy of Sciences and former member of CNSTAT, who led IBS since 2001. Gutmann's recent research focuses on the relationship between population and environment in the American Great Plains and on the history of the U. S. Hispanic population, which complements the CU Population Center's core research areas of environmental demography, migration and spatial demography, gene-environment interactions, and health

and mortality. Before joining CU-Boulder, where he is a professor in the Department of History, Gutmann served as assistant director of the National Science Foundation, where he was head of the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences. Prior to that, he directed the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR). He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has an M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Princeton University. He served on several NAS/NRC study panels and boards, including the CNSTAT Panel on Collecting, Storing, Accessing, and Protecting Biological Specimens and Biodata in Social Surveys. He currently serves on the NAS/NRC Gulf Research Program Advisory Board.

We congratulate **Keith Hall** on the announcement, February 27, 2015, by the chairs of the House and Senate Budget Committees that he will be appointed the next **director of the Congressional Budget Office**. He will take over on April 1 from Douglas Elmendorf, who has served as CBO director since 2009. Keith was commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 2008–2012. He previously served as chief economist at the Council of Economic Advisers and chief economist at the Commerce Department. Since October 2014, he has served as chief economist at the U.S. International Trade Commission. Before that, he was a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center. He has previously held faculty positions at the Universities of Arkansas and Missouri. He received his B.A. in economics from the University of Virginia and his M.S. and Ph.D. in economics from Purdue University.

We congratulate **Barry Johnson** on his appointment as director of the Statistics of Income (SOI) Division of the Internal Revenue Service in the Treasury Department. Barry served as acting director of SOI beginning in June 2014 consequent to the departure of former director Susan Boehmer. Barry has been on the SOI staff for a number of years and authored or co-authored numerous research reports and working papers on tax- and income-related topics using IRS data.

We congratulate **J. Steven Landefeld** on being named a **fellow of the National Association of Business Economists (NABE)**. The criteria for selecting NABE fellows include: (1) performance of outstanding service as a professional business economist; (2) other activities (articles, presentations before professional groups, etc.) that make a professional contribution to the field of business economics; and (3) contributions to NABE. Steve retired as director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis in May 2014, having served as director since 1995. Previously, he held a number of other positions within BEA, including acting director, deputy director, and associate director for international economics. He was also chief of staff for the Council of Economic Advisers, director of the Business Issues Analysis Division at the Commerce Department, and research assistant professor at Georgetown University. He has been awarded the Henri Willem Methorst Medal from the International Statistical Institute, two Abramson Scroll Awards from the National Association for Business Economics, multiple departmental awards at the Department of Commerce, the Julius Shiskin Award for economic statistics, and a Distinguished Executive Award. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Maryland.

We congratulate three new **Population Association of America (PAA) Honorees** with ties to the CNSTAT community. (When contributions made to the PAA Fund to “Honor-A-Colleague” reach a certain amount, the colleague is named a PAA Honoree. The PAA Fund supports efforts to protect the demographic data produced by the federal statistical system, enhance diversity of the field, and permit demographers from low-income countries to attend PAA meetings.)

- **Greg Duncan** is distinguished professor of education at the University of California, Irvine. Previously, he was a professor at the University of Michigan and director of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. He was a member of the CNSTAT and IOM 2008 Panel to Review the National Children’s Study Research Plan and chaired the 2014 Panel on the Design of the National Children’s Study. His recent work has focused on estimating the role of school-entry skills and behaviors on later school achievement and attainment and the effects of increasing income inequality on schools and children’s life chances. He served as president of the

Population Association of America and of the Society for Research in Child Development. He received the 2013 Klaus J. Jacobs Research Prize of the Jacobs Foundation, given for scientific work of high social relevance to the personality development of children and young people. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan.

- **Robert Schoeni** is professor of economics and research professor at the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. His teaching and research interests include program evaluation, welfare policy, the economics and demographics of aging, labor economics, and immigration. He also serves as associate director of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. He was previously associate director of the labor and population program at RAND and also served as senior economist on the Council of Economic Advisers. He was a member of the CNSTAT 2009 Panel on Reengineering the Survey of Income and Program Participation. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan.
- **Richard Suzman** is director of behavioral and social research (BSR) at the National Institute on Aging (NIA). To quote PAA, “At NIA he has been both strategic in developing long term research agendas on aging as well as tactical in getting the funding and the right people to do the research. As a result he has become a national and international leader in aging research. [He] recognized long before most others the importance of having harmonized population surveys that could be used to address multiple research questions in both national and international contexts. The U.S. Health and Retirement Survey, which he nurtured, funded and critiqued, grew into a family of surveys that now covers more than half of the world’s population. These surveys allow researchers to recognize which aging trends are fundamental across many cultures and which are unique. . . . To make the barriers to entry into aging research lower he has promoted a digital library of aging research and new research products such as CDs that he distributes in developing countries like M&Ms. He has continuously encouraged new generations of young researchers to enter the field For the best research Dr. Suzman is a relentless intellectual promoter, distributing the results widely to guarantee that their contributions would inform future research. He is, however, as tenacious in his criticisms as he is in his praise. Aging research today is more vibrant, more imaginative and progressing faster than in the past because of Dr. Suzman’s intellectual curiosity, his impatience and his humor.” CNSTAT has been fortunate to have BSR/NIA as a sponsor of a number of studies and workshops.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Elizabeth Ware Packard professor of communication, Annenberg School for Communication, and Walter and Leonore Annenberg director, Annenberg Public Policy Center, University of Pennsylvania, will give the **2015 Henry and Bryna David Lecture**. (The Henry and Bryna David Endowment awards innovative research in the behavioral and social sciences by selecting a leading expert and researcher to write an article in their field to be presented at the National Academy of Sciences and published in *Issues in Science and Technology*.) Dr. Jamieson will lecture on “Communicating the Value and Values of Science,” at 5 pm in Room 100 of the NAS Keck Center, 500 5th St, NW, Washington, DC, on Tuesday, April 28, 2015.

Abstract: As a way of knowing, science carefully defines key terms, faithfully accounts for evidence, acknowledges the limitations in data and methods, and champions a climate characterized by critique and self-correction. Communication that fails to respect these norms increases science's vulnerability to critics and calls into question the scientific enterprise's ability to protect itself from the effects of human bias. After flagging instances of exemplary and problematic scientific communication, the lecture will outline ways that communicators can embody and express science's values and value.

REPORT *News*

Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums—Report 1, the first report of the Water Science and Technology Board, Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Applications, and CNSTAT Committee on the Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums, was released in prepublication form on March 26, 2015. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The committee is chaired by Leonard Shabman, Resources for the Future, for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The Report in Brief—

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is housed within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and offers insurance policies that are marketed and sold through private insurers, but with the risks borne by the U.S. government. NFIP's primary goals are to ensure affordable insurance premiums, secure widespread community participation in the program, and earn premium and fee income that covers claims paid and program expenses over time. In July 2012, the U.S. Congress passed the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act (Biggert-Waters 2012), designed to move toward an insurance program with NFIP risk-based premiums that better reflected expected losses from floods at insured properties. This eliminated policies priced at what the NFIP called "pre-FIRM subsidized" and "grandfathered." As Biggert-Waters 2012 went into effect, constituents from multiple communities expressed concerns about the elimination of lower rate classes, arguing that it created a financial burden on policy holders. In response to these concerns Congress passed The Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA 2014). The 2014 legislation changed the process by which pre-FIRM subsidized premiums for primary residences would be removed and reinstated grandfathering. As part of that legislation, FEMA must report back to Congress with a draft affordability framework. *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums: Report 1* is the first part of a two-part study to provide input as FEMA prepares their draft affordability framework. This report discusses the underlying definitions and methods for an affordability framework and the affordability concept and applications. It gives an overview of the demand for insurance and the history of the NFIP premium setting. The report then describes alternatives for determining when the premium increases resulting from Biggert-Waters 2012 would make flood insurance unaffordable.

Measuring Research and Development Expenditures in the U.S. Nonprofit Sector: Conceptual and Design Issues, Summary of a Workshop was released in prepublication form on January 5, 2015. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The workshop steering committee was chaired by Lester Salamon, Johns Hopkins University, for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

The Report in Brief—

NCSES of the National Science Foundation is responsible for national reporting of the research and development (R&D) activities that occur in all sectors of the U.S. economy. For most sectors, including the business and higher education sectors, NCSES collects data on these activities on a regular basis. However, data on R&D within the entire nonprofit sector have not been collected in 18 years, a time period that has seen dynamic and rapid growth of the sector. NCSES decided to design and implement a new survey of nonprofits and commissioned this workshop to provide a forum to discuss conceptual and design issues and methods. This report summarizes the discussions on the workshop about concepts and issues for the design of a survey of R&D expenditures made by nonprofit organizations, considering the goals, content, statistical methodology, data quality, and data products associated with this data collection. The report also considers the broader usefulness of the data for understanding the nature of the nonprofit sector and their R&D activities. The report will help readers understand the role of nonprofit sector, given its enormous size and scope as well as its contribution to identifying new forms of R&D beyond production processes and new technology.

Reliability Growth: Enhancing Defense System Reliability, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on the Theory and Application of Reliability Growth Modeling to Defense Systems, was released in prepublication form on November 12, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#) and in print. The panel was chaired by Arthur Fries, Institute for Defense Analyses, for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, and Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics.

The Report in Brief—

A high percentage of defense systems fail to meet their reliability requirements. Those systems are not only less likely to successfully carry out their intended missions, but they also could endanger the lives of the operators. Moreover, reliability failures discovered after deployment can result in costly and strategic delays and the need for expensive redesign, which often limits the tactical situations in which the system can be used. Finally, systems that fail to meet their reliability requirements are much more likely to need additional scheduled and unscheduled maintenance and to need more spare parts and possibly replacement systems, all of which can substantially increase the life-cycle costs of a system. Beginning in 2008, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) undertook a concerted effort to raise the priority of reliability through greater use of design for reliability techniques, reliability growth testing, and formal reliability growth modeling, by both the contractors and DOD units. To this end, handbooks, guidances, and formal memoranda were revised or newly issued to reduce the frequency of reliability deficiencies for defense systems in operational testing and the effects of those deficiencies. *Reliability Growth* evaluates these recent changes and, more generally, assesses how current DOD principles and practices could be modified to increase the likelihood that defense systems will satisfy their reliability requirements. The report examines changes to the reliability requirements for proposed systems; defines modern design and testing for reliability; discusses the contractor's role in reliability testing; and summarizes the current state of formal reliability growth modeling.

Reminder: PDF versions of CNSTAT and NAS reports are available for free download at *The National Academies Press* website, <http://www.nap.edu>. NOTE: The download site asks for your e-mail and a password. If you don't have an NAP account and don't want to have one, then provide your e-mail and click "I don't have an account;" on the next page click "accept NAP policies" and "log in as guest".

Reminder: Slides from previous CNSTAT public seminars are available on the CNSTAT [public seminars and symposia](#) page; slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website. Presentations from the July 31-August 1, 2014 CNSTAT *International Conference on Census Methods* are available [here](#).

CNSTAT Meetings

CNSTAT holds three regular meetings each year, with its spring and fall meeting dates following a set formula; our May meetings are always the Thursday–Friday preceding Mother's Day and our October meetings are always the second-to-last Thursday–Friday of the month. Here are the next three meetings:

CNSTAT's 127th meeting will be held **May 7–8, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On **May 8th**, there will be a special program organized by CNSTAT and the **NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN)**, including technical workshops, lunch, seminar, and reception. Please visit the CNSTAT [home page](#) for the agenda and registration information. For more information about the NCRN and what the various nodes have been up to, see <http://www.ncrn.info/>.

CNSTAT's 128th meeting will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23rd, the meeting will feature a luncheon with

statistical agency heads, followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 2 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm.

CNSTAT's 129th meeting will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **NAS Keck Center of the National Academies** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

Active **PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. 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). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]

Department of Agriculture

Panel on Methods for Integrating Multiple Data Sources to Improve Crop Estimates

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Workshop on Model-Based Methods for Producing Estimates of Livestock with Appropriate Measures of Uncertainty

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA

Sponsor: Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; co-study director: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for April 16–17, 2015 at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC. [Read more](#) about the workshop and register [here](#). For any questions, e-mail Mary Ann Kasper at mkasper@nas.edu.

Department of Commerce

Panel to Review and Evaluate the 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation Content and Design

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

Study director: Carol House; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin; research assistant: Adrienne Bradford

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting held November 20-21, 2014, in Washington, DC; fourth meeting TBD

Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning; it will also stand up a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's Economic Census and economic surveys. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting scheduled for April 22-24, 2015, in Washington, DC

Department of Defense

Panel on the Theory and Application of Reliability Growth Modeling to Defense Systems

Sponsor: Office of the Secretary of Defense, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, and Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics

Duration: September 2009–December 2014

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Arthur Fries (Institute for Defense Analyses)

Report: Final report, *Reliability Growth: Enhancing Defense System Reliability*, released in prepublication form, November 12, 2014; available in [PDF](#) and in print

Meetings: Fifth and final meeting held July 8–9, 2013, in Washington, DC

Department of Education

Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels Evaluation (joint with the DBASSE Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

Study director: Judith Koenig (BOTA); program officer: Jordyn White (CNSTAT); project assistant: Kelly Arrington (BOTA)

Chair: Christopher Edley, Jr. (University of California, Berkeley)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting scheduled for May 27-28, 2015, in Washington, DC

Department of Health and Human Services

Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data Collection Programs (joint with the DBASSE Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the IOM Board on Health Sciences Policy)

Sponsors: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officer, Jeanne Rivard (BBCSS); senior program officer: Adrienne Stith Butler (IOM); project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on the topics of serious emotional disturbance in children, trauma and recovery, and specific mental illness diagnoses with any functional impairment. A website is maintained for the committee at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/second meeting on Serious Emotional Disturbance in Children scheduled for June 11-12, 2015, in Washington, DC; workshop/third meeting on Specific Mental Illness Diagnoses with Functional Impairment scheduled for September 24-25, 2015

Department of Homeland Security

Committee on Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums (joint with the Water Science and Technology Board, which has the lead, and the Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Applications)

Sponsor: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

Study director: Jeffrey Jacobs (WSTB); CNSTAT director: Constance Citro; BMSA director: Scott Weidman

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

Reports planned: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly; second report being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting scheduled for May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

Department of Justice

Panel on Modernizing the Nation's Crime Statistics (joint with the Committee on Law and Justice)

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Seth Hauser; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Janet Lauritsen (University of Missouri–St. Louis)

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Eighth meeting scheduled for May 11-12, 2015, in Washington, DC

Department of Transportation

Panel on Research Methodologies and Statistical Approaches to Understanding Driver Fatigue Factors in Motor Carrier Safety and Driver Health (joint with the Board on Human-Systems Integration and Transportation Research Board)

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Richard Pain; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; Board on Human-Systems Integration director: Poornima Madhavan; TRB Studies and Special Programs Division director: Stephen Godwin; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Co-chairs: Hal Stern (University of California, Irvine); Matthew Rizzo (University of Nebraska Medical Center)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting (closed) scheduled for May 5-6, 2015, in Washington, DC

National Science Foundation

Forum on Open Science

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports: Forums do not issue reports; they meet for discussion among a wide range of stakeholders; they can also stand up workshops or consensus panels

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting scheduled for March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC

Workshop on Measuring Research and Development Expenditures in the U.S. Nonprofit Sector: Conceptual and Design Issues

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2013–April 2015

Study director: Carol House; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Lester Salamon (Johns Hopkins University)

Report: Workshop summary, *Measuring Research and Development Expenditures in the U.S. Nonprofit Sector: Conceptual and Design Issues, Summary of a Workshop*, released in prepublication form, January 5, 2015; available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

Meeting: Workshop held June 30–July 1, 2014, in Washington, DC

The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: TBD

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records

that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Census Bureau's Research Data Center network. The First Phase AOS is intended to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming Meetings: TBD

The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

Study director: TBD

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration

Sponsor: The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Duration: May 2013–October 2015

Study director: Christopher Mackie; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for May 8-9, 2015, in New York City

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

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– See our website for previous issues of *News from CNSTAT*, under “CNSTAT News” –

The Committee on National Statistics was established in 1972 at the National Academies to improve the statistical methods and information on which public policy decisions are based. The committee carries out studies, workshops, and other activities to foster better measures and fuller understanding of the economy, the environment, public health, crime, education, immigration, poverty, welfare, and other public policy issues. It also evaluates ongoing statistical programs and tracks the statistical policy and coordinating activities of the federal government, serving a unique role at the intersection of statistics and public policy. The committee’s work is supported by a consortium of federal agencies through a National Science Foundation grant.