



NEWS from CNSTAT

— March 24, 2016 —

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Ron Haskins** and **Isabel Sawhill** of the Brookings Institution on receiving the **2016 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize** from the **American Academy of Political and Social Science (AAPSS)**. They will deliver a public lecture at 1:30 pm, May 12, 2016, in the Kennedy Caucus Room (Russell Senate Office Building) and be presented with the prize that evening. AAPSS created the prize in 2007 “in tribute to one of its most distinguished Fellows to recognize public officials and social scientists who champion the use of informed judgment to improve public policy and advance the public good. . . , while contributing to the civility of public discourse. . . . Haskins and Sawhill were jointly nominated, making this the first time two awardees have been chosen to receive the [prize](#). Their collaboration began in 2001, when they worked on the effects of welfare reform legislation with a shared goal of creating opportunity for children and families. Their collaboration led to the establishment of the Center on Children and Families, [which they co-direct] at the Brookings Institution.”

We congratulate **Michael Link**, senior vice president and chief behavioral methodologist at the Nielsen Company, on his appointment as **president and CEO of Abt SRBI**, effective next week. Michael is the past president of the American Association of Public Opinion Research, serves on the CNSTAT Standing Committee on the Future of Major NSF-Funded Social Science Surveys, and served on the CNSTAT Panel on Redesigning the BLS Consumer Expenditure Surveys. Previously he was a senior survey methodologist at the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He has a B.S. degree in biology from Georgia State University, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science from the University of South Carolina.

We congratulate **Jennifer Madans**, associate director for science at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), on receiving a **Population Association of America (PAA) Excellence in Public Service Award**. Other award recipients are Senator Barbara Mikulski, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, and Allen Cutler, staff member with the Senate Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Subcommittee. According to PAA, “Dr. Madans has been a dedicated and tireless public servant, working to preserve and expand the nation’s key health surveys over the course of many years. She has shown exemplary leadership in sustaining the integrity of the NCHS-sponsored surveys as she navigated through extremely challenging fiscal cycles. She has also made significant contributions in facilitating automation and other improvements to the nation’s vital statistics data collection activities.” Jennifer is a graduate of Bard College (B.A.), received her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in sociology from the University of Michigan, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale University. She is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

We congratulate **NORC at the University of Chicago** on its **75th anniversary**, which will be marked with a joint demography symposium, the afternoon of April 14, 2016, at the Chicago Theological Seminary. The [symposium](#), organized by NORC in partnership with the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy and Division of Social Sciences, will celebrate NORC's 75th anniversary and the University of Chicago's 125th anniversary.

We welcome **Marc Rosenblum**, who became the deputy assistant secretary, heading up the **Office of Immigration Statistics**, at the Department of Homeland Security, in January 2016. He previously was deputy director of the Migration Policy Institute (MPI)'s U.S. Immigration Policy Program, a specialist in immigration policy at the Congressional Research Service, and a senior policy analyst at MPI. He was a Council on Foreign Relations fellow detailed to the office of U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy during the 2006 Senate immigration debate and was involved in crafting the Senate's immigration legislation in 2006 and 2007. He served on the National Research Council's Committee on Estimating Costs to the Department of Justice of Increased Border Security Enforcement by the Department of Homeland Security. He is the coeditor (with Daniel Tichenor) of *The Oxford Handbook of International Migration* (Oxford University Press). He earned his B.A. from Columbia University and his Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego, and is an associate professor of political science at the University of New Orleans.

We thank **Joe Reilly, administrator** since May 2014 of the **National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)**, U.S. Department of Agriculture, for his over 40 years of service to the federal statistical system and the nation. We wish him all the best on his retirement, which he announced will be effective June 3, 2016. Previously at NASS, Joe served as deputy administrator for field operations and associate administrator. As head of field operations, he was responsible for the operation of the 46 NASS field offices, which covered all 50 states and Puerto Rico. As associate administrator, he was second in command under two administrators and oversaw the day-to-day operations of the agency. Prior to his tenure at NASS, he worked at the U.S. Census Bureau from 1975–1997 on crime, housing, economics, and labor statistics. He received the Commerce Department's highest award in 1997 for his outstanding management of the Census of Agriculture program and moved to USDA when responsibilities for the Census of Agriculture were transferred to NASS later that year. He has a B.S. in statistics and marketing from Pennsylvania State University.

We thank **Bill Sabol, director** of the **Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)**, for his many years of federal and academic service to the statistical system and the nation. He will be leaving BJS at the end of this month. We wish him all the best in his new position at Westat, where he will continue to work on justice-related issues. Prior to his appointment as BJS director in February 2015, he was the principal deputy director for statistical programs and served as acting director. He joined BJS in 2006 as chief of the Corrections Statistics Unit. He has more than 25 years of experience in research and statistics on corrections, sentencing, and justice issues in different settings, including the Government Accountability Office, where he was an assistant director, Case Western Reserve University, where he was associate director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change, the Urban Institute, where he was a senior research associate, and the University of Maryland, where he was an assistant professor in Afro-American studies and criminology. Prior to completing his Ph.D. from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, he was a Fulbright Scholar at the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University.

REPORT *News*

Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Fatigue, Long-Term Health, and Highway Safety: Research Needs, the final report of a CNSTAT panel with input from the Board on Human-Systems Integration and the Transportation Research Board, was released in prepublication format, March 10, 2016 (free PDFs are available [here](#); printed copies will be available shortly). The panel was co-chaired by Matthew Rizzo (University of Nebraska Medical Center) and Hal Stern (University of California, Irvine) for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The motivation for the report is the approximately 4,000 fatalities in crashes involving trucks and buses in the United States each year. Though estimates are wide-ranging, possibly 10 to 20 percent of these crashes might have involved fatigued drivers. The stresses associated with their particular jobs (irregular schedules, etc.) and the lifestyle that many truck and bus drivers lead, put them at substantial risk for insufficient sleep and for developing short- and long-term health problems. The report assesses the state of knowledge about the relationship of such factors as hours of driving, hours on duty, and periods of rest to the fatigue experienced by truck and bus drivers while driving and the implications for the safe operation of their vehicles. The report evaluates the relationship of these factors to drivers' health over the longer term, and identifies improvements in data and research methods that can lead to better understanding in both areas.

Measuring Specific Mental Illness Diagnoses with Functional Impairment, was released in prepublication format, February 12, 2016 (free PDFs are available [here](#); printed copies will be available shortly). This report summarizes the discussions at a CNSTAT workshop, chaired by Benjamin Druss, Emory University, held in September 2015 for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The workshop was organized under a CNSTAT standing committee that has the goal of assisting SAMHSA in its responsibilities for expanding the collection of behavioral health data in several areas. The workshop brought together experts in mental health, psychiatric epidemiology, and survey methods to facilitate discussion of the most suitable measures and mechanisms for producing estimates of specific mental illness diagnoses with functional impairment. The report discusses existing measures and data on mental disorders and functional impairment, challenges associated with collecting these data in large-scale population-based studies, and study design and estimation options.

The Integration of Immigrants into American Society, the final report of a panel organized under CNSTAT's sister Committee on Population, was released in prepublication format on September 21, 2015. Printed copies are now available, as are free [PDFs](#). The panel was chaired by Mary Waters (Harvard University) and funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the National Science Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. The report examines social factors that affect the well-being of immigrants as they integrate into American society through the identification of such measurable outcomes as socioeconomic status, language abilities, and employment. The report finds that, as immigrants and their descendants become integrated into U.S. society, many aspects of their lives improve, including educational attainment, occupational distribution, income, and language ability, but their well-being declines in the areas of health, crime, and family patterns. At the same time, several factors impede immigrants' integration into society, such as their legal status, racial disparities in socioeconomic outcomes, and low naturalization rates. Meanwhile, a report of the CNSTAT Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration is nearing completion.

Reminder: PDF versions of CNSTAT and National Academies 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. The most recent addition to the presentations section is “[Multiple Data Sources Presentations](#),” which links to presentations from recent workshops and meetings for CNSTAT’s [Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods](#).

EVENT & OTHER *News*

The *American Statistical Association* (ASA) released earlier this month *The ASA’s Statement on P-Values: Context, Process, and Purpose*, which provides guidance on the proper use of p -values to improve the use of quantitative methods in statistical analysis and ensure accurate interpretations of results. Responding to concerns in the scientific and popular science literature about uncritical reliance on p -values for assessing scientific results, the ASA statement outlines six principles for appropriate use and interpretation of the p -value, including explanations on how each can be applied. The statement also points out that the growing interest in techniques for analyzing large, complex data sets (“big data”) has expanded the scope for statistics, emphasizing the importance of appropriate measurement techniques, properly conducted analyses, and correct interpretation of data. **Ron Wasserstein**, ASA’s executive director, stated that “What we hope will follow is a broad discussion across the scientific community that leads to a more nuanced approach to interpreting, communicating, and using the results of statistical methods in research.” Read the statement [here](#).

The *Every State Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)*, which reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, contains a provision (section 3111) on allocating federal funds for state program for English language learners by using data from the American Community Survey and state English language proficiency assessments. This provision is based on the recommendations of a 2011 report, *Allocating Federal Funds for English Language Learners*, produced by a panel convened by CNSTAT and the Board on Testing and Assessment and chaired by Alan Zaslavsky, Harvard Medical School and former CNSTAT member.

Please see the attached call for nominations for the *2016 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award in Economic Statistics*. Nominations are due March 31, 2016.

We call your attention to a funding announcement from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s *Gulf Research Program*. The program is accepting applications for a new funding opportunity designed to support scientific syntheses that connect environmental, social, and/or health data. Learn more about these Award Year 2016 Synthesis Grants [here](#). Letters of intent (required) are due on April 27, 2016.

H.R. 1831, the *Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission Act of 2016* was passed in final form by the U.S. Senate and House on March 16 and 17, clearing it for signature and enactment into law. Colloquially dubbed the Ryan-Murray Commission (after sponsors Rep. Paul Ryan [R-WI] and Sen. Patty Murray [D-WA]), the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking established by the Act is charged to review the inventory, infrastructure, and protocols related to data from federal programs and tax expenditures while developing recommendations for increasing the availability and use of this data in support of rigorous program evaluation.

- In the course of its review, the commission is specifically required to evaluate the merits of and provide guidance for creating a clearinghouse for program and survey data. The clearinghouse would make available and facilitate the merging of datasets that are valuable in evaluating program effectiveness and informing domestic policymaking.
- The commission's findings and recommendations are due to Congress 15 months after the commission reaches eight members. The commission ends 18 months after the date of enactment.
- The bill requires several agencies to provide assistance to the commission including OMB, Census, and the Departments of Health and Human Services, Education, and Justice.
- The commission is comprised of 15 members representing an array of disciplines relevant to program evaluation and data management, including economics, statistics, and data security. The majority and minority leaders in the Senate, and speaker and minority leader in the House are authorized to appoint three members each, as is the president.
- The commission would also study how best to protect the privacy rights of people who interact with federal agencies and ensure confidentiality.
- The commission is authorized to hire a director (appointed by the commission chair with the concurrence of the co-chair) and staff. The bill authorizes several federal agencies to provide up to a total of \$3 million in funds to carry out the activities of the commission.

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 130th meeting will be held **May 5–6, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6th, 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. The **agency head lunch** will provide an opportunity for statistical agency leaders to provide input on the 6th edition of ***Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency***, to be released in early 2017. The public seminar will feature a joint presentation by **Sharon Lohr** (Westat) and **Trivellore Raghunathan** (University of Michigan Survey Research Center) on a framework and case study for developing statistical estimates from survey and non-survey data sources.

CNSTAT's 131st meeting will be held **October 20-21, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 21st, 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 132nd meeting will be held **February 10-11, 2017**, at the **Beckman Center** on the University of California, Irvine, campus. It will be in retreat format.

NOTE: Presentations from the joint CNSTAT/NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN) set of workshops and public seminar at the May 8, 2015, CNSTAT meeting are available on the NCRN [site](#). Presentations from the October 23, 2015, CNSTAT public seminar on “Reengineering the 2020 Census” are available on the CNSTAT web site under [News and Events/Public Seminars and Other Symposia](#).

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: Second meeting scheduled for May 12-13, 2016, in Washington, DC.

Panel on Improving Data Collection and Reporting about Agriculture with Increasingly Complex Farm Business Structures

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2015–September 2018

Study director: Christopher Mackie; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: TBD

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 2015–September 2018

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Department of Commerce

Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau’s Annual Economic Surveys

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

Study director: Glenn White; senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: Katharine Abraham (University of Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for June 2-3, 2016, in Washington, DC

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 associate: Adrienne Bradford

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting held October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC; fifth 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 identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's annual economic surveys (see above) and will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for May 16-18, 2016, in Washington, DC

Workshop on the Census Bureau's Concept of Operations for Reengineering the 2020 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American Community Survey

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–November 2016

Study director: Brian Harris-Kojetin; senior program officers: Michael Cohen, Thomas Plewes; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Co-chairs: Linda Gage (California Department of Finance, retired) and Joseph Salvo (NYC Department of City Planning)

Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Workshop held March 8-9, 2016, in Washington, DC

Department of Education

Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels Evaluation (joint with the 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 is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: Eighth (last) meeting (closed) held November 16-17, 2015, in Irvine, CA

Department of Health and Human Services

Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data Collection Programs (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the 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 (BHSP); project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee is facilitating workshops on the topics of measuring serious emotional disturbance in children (workshop summary released in prepublication format on November 23, 2015, printed copies along with free [PDFs](#) are now available); specific mental illness diagnoses with any functional impairment (workshop summary released in prepublication format, February 12, 2016, free PDFs are available [here](#), printed copies will be available in early April); trauma (workshop summary is in review); and recovery (workshop summary is being drafted). A website is maintained for the committee at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Final meeting scheduled for May 26-27, 2016, in Washington, DC

Workshop on Improving Data on Criminal Justice System Involvement in Population Health Data Collections

Sponsor: Office of Minority Health

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Jordyn White; senior program officer: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Wendy Manning (Bowling Green University)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for March 29-30, 2016, in Washington, DC.

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–December 2016

Study director: Daniel Cork; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Michael Siri

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

Reports planned: First report is in response to review; second report is being planned

Upcoming meetings: Twelfth meeting scheduled for June 29-30, 2016, 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–December 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, *Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Fatigue, Long-Term Health, and Highway Safety: Research Needs*, released in prepublication format, March 10, 2016; free PDFs are available [here](#); printed copies will be available shortly
Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

Panel to Review the Compliance, Safety, and Accountability Program of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (joint with the Transportation Research Board)

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: March 2016–September 2017

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Richard Pain; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; TRB Studies and Special Programs Division director: Stephen Godwin; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair-designate: Joel Greenhouse (Carnegie Mellon University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting TBD

National Science Foundation

Data Access, Archiving, and Documentation for Federal Statistics: A Workshop

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: March 2016–March 2017

Study director: Hermann Habermann; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: TBD

Report: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Panel to Evaluate the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics Approach to Measuring the Science and Engineering Workforce

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–March 2018

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Co-chairs: Rita Colwell (University of Michigan and Johns Hopkins University) and James House (University of Michigan)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for April 25-26, 2016, in Washington, DC

Standing Committee on the Future of Major NSF-Funded Social Science Surveys

Sponsor: Directorate on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2015–June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website is maintained for the committee [here](#).

Upcoming meetings: Second in-person meeting scheduled for May 11-12, 2016, in Washington, DC (by invitation)

Workshop on Prioritizing and Implementing Improvements to Innovation Indicators

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Scott Stern (MIT)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for May 19-20, 2016, 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: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate 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 Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First-Phase AOS is 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: Workshop on the Potential for Research Using Linked Census, Survey, and Administrative Data to Assess the Longer Term Effects of Policy scheduled for May 9, and second meeting scheduled for May 10, 2016, in Washington, DC

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 2016

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report is in response to review

Upcoming meetings: Seventh and final meeting (closed) held September 11-12, 2015, in Washington, DC

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–December 2017

Study director: Brian Harris-Kojetin; research assistant: George Schoeffel; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown University)

Report planned: Final report. A website is maintained for the committee [here](#).

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for June 1-2, 2016, in Washington, DC (June 1 is a workshop on state and local government administrative records)

• **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 of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 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.

Nominations Sought for 2016 Julius Shiskin Award

Nominations are invited for the annual Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics. The Award is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Contributions can be in development of new statistical measures, statistical research, use of economic statistics to analyze and interpret economic activity, development of statistical tools, management of statistical programs, or application of data production techniques. The 2015 award recipient was **Brent Moulton**, associate director for national economic accounts at the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), for leadership in implementing major innovations in the U.S. national accounts, international standards for national accounts, integration of U.S. statistical programs, and, when at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), improvements in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The award was established in 1979 to honor Julius Shiskin, who at the time of his death in 1978, was commissioner of BLS. He earlier had served at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Census Bureau. At Census he was instrumental in developing an electronic computer method for seasonal adjustment. At OMB he developed the policies that still govern the release of key economic indicators. At BLS he directed a comprehensive revision of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which included a new CPI for all urban consumers.

The award was established by the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and is now cosponsored by the WSS, the National Association for Business Economics (NABE), and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association (ASA).

Nominations for the 2016 award are now being accepted. Individuals and groups in the public or private sector from any country can be nominated. Completed nominations must be received by **March 31, 2016**. The award will be presented with an honorarium of \$1000. A nomination form and a list of all previous recipients are available at www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html.

For questions or more information, please contact Thomas Evans, Julius Shiskin Award Committee Secretary, via e-mail at evans.thomas@bls.gov or call (202) 691-6354.