



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— April 28, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Jerome (Jerry) P. Reiter** on receiving the **2014 Gertrude M. Cox Award**. He is Mrs. Alexander Hehmeyer professor of statistical science at Duke University and has made noteworthy and innovative contributions in survey methodology, specifically data confidentiality, Bayesian approaches, and multiple imputation. He is a member of the CNSTAT Panel on Addressing Priority Technical Issues for the Next Decade of the American Community Survey. He will give a seminar in late June in Washington, DC, and formally receive his award at the Washington Statistical Society annual dinner. The Cox Award was established in 2003 through a joint agreement between the Washington Statistical Society and RTI International to recognize statisticians in early to mid-career who have made significant contributions to statistical practice. It is named in honor of Gertrude Cox (1900-1978), who played a key role in building statistics and biostatistics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and RTI and who was the first woman elected to the International Statistical Institute.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call your attention to the CNSTAT spring seminar, Friday, May 9, at 2 pm:

The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality

**Friday, May 9, 2014 • National Academy of Sciences Main Building
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC • Lecture Room**

- 2:00 pm ***Light Refreshments for Seminar Guests – First Floor East Court***
- 2:30 ***Welcome***
—Lisa Lynch, CNSTAT member and Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University
- 2:35 ***Developments at the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office***
—Katherine Wallman, Chief Statistician of the United States
- 2:45 ***The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality***

Presenter: Angus Deaton, Princeton University

Discussants:

David Johnson, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Samuel Preston, University of Pennsylvania

Angus Deaton will present some of the main themes of his book, *The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality*. He will talk about how the world has become an immensely better place, as mortality has fallen and incomes have risen, but at the same time a more unequal place, because only some have escaped leaving others behind. He will also talk about inequality—its positive role in helping those left behind to catch up, and its negative role if the first escapees try to stop others from following. He will argue that aid flows from rich to poor countries often widen the very gaps they are nominally trying to close. He will also focus on the data underpinning his arguments, especially some of the unsolved issues in national and global statistics. These include the need to integrate inequality data from surveys with national accounts data, and the underappreciated difficulties of calculating the price levels that are needed to make international comparisons. There are also great gaps in measures of mortality, especially in Africa; making up data is not a solution.

4:00 *Floor Discussion*

4:30–5:30 *Reception – First Floor East Court*

This seminar is open to the public. Please help us plan by registering [here](#).

For assistance, please contact Jacqui Sovde at (202) 334-1616 or jsovde@nas.edu.

REPORT *News*

Science of Science and Innovation Policy: Principal Investigators' Conference Summary, the report of a CNSTAT conference chaired by Irwin Feller (Pennsylvania State University), was released on April 2, 2014. It is available in print and in [PDF](#).

The Report in Brief—

The National Science Foundation developed the Science of Science and Innovation Policy program (SciSIP) in 2006 to fund basic and applied research that bears on and can help guide public- and private-sector policy making for science and innovation. By design, SciSIP has engaged researchers from many domains in the development of a community of practice who work together to continually develop frameworks, tools, and datasets for implementing science and innovation policy. Since its inception, the SciSIP program has funded more than 150 researchers and their graduate students. The program also contributed to the initiation of the STAR METRICS (Science and Technology for America's Reinvestment: Measuring the Effect of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness and Science) program, a collaborative effort between the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. The STAR METRICS program develops tools and mechanisms for measuring federal expenditures on scientific activities, with particular focus on quantifying productivity and employment outcomes. This report summarizes the presentations and discussions at a conference of SciSIP principal investigators, which included policy makers who benefit from research in this important area.

Proposed Revisions to the Common Rule for Protecting Human Subjects in the Behavioral and Social Sciences, the final report of a DBASSE committee led by the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and

Sensory Sciences with participation from CNSTAT and the Committee on Population, was released in prepublication form on January 9, 2014. The committee was chaired by Susan Fiske, Princeton, and funding was provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the National Academy of Education. The report is available in print and in [PDF](#).

The Report in Brief—

The ethics of research with human subjects has captured scientific and regulatory attention for half a century. To keep abreast of the universe of changes that factor into the ethical conduct of research today, the Department of Health and Human Services published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) in July 2011. Recognizing that widespread technological and societal transformations have occurred in the contexts for and conduct of human research since the passage of the National Research Act of 1974, the ANPRM revisits the regulations mandated by the Act in a correspondingly comprehensive manner. Its proposals aim to modernize the Common Rule, which has not been updated since 1991, and to improve the efficiency of the work conducted under its auspices. *Proposed Revisions to the Common Rule for the Protection of Human Subjects in the Behavioral and Social Sciences* identifies issues raised in the ANPRM that are critical and feasible for the federal government to address for the protection of participants and for the advancement of the social and behavioral sciences. For each identified issue, the report provides guidance for IRBs on techniques to address it, with specific examples and best practice models to illustrate how the techniques would be applied to different behavioral and social sciences research procedures.

Capturing Change in Science, Technology, and Innovation: Improving Indicators to Inform Policy, the final report of the CNSTAT and Board on Science, Economic, and Technology Policy Panel on Developing Science, Technology, and Innovation Indicators for the Future, was released in prepublication form, November 25, 2013. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The panel was requested by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) and co-chaired by Robert Litan (Bloomberg Government) and Andrew Wyckoff (OECD).

The Report in Brief—

Since the 1950s, under congressional mandate, the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), through NCSES and its predecessors, has produced regularly updated measures of research and development expenditures, employment and training in science and engineering, and other indicators of the state of U.S. science and technology. A more recent focus has been on measuring innovation in the corporate sector. NCSES not only collects its own data on science, technology, and innovation (STI) activities, but also incorporates data from other agencies to produce indicators that are used for monitoring purposes—including comparisons among sectors, regions, and with other countries—and for identifying trends that may require policy attention and generate research needs. NCSES provides extensive tabulations and microdata files for in-depth analysis. *Capturing Change in Science, Technology, and Innovation* provides recommendations about the need for revised, refocused, and newly developed indicators of STI activities that would enable NCSES to respond to changing policy concerns. The report identifies both existing and potential data resources and tools that NCSES could exploit to further develop its indicators program. Finally, the report considers strategic pathways for NCSES to move forward with an improved STI indicators program that will enhance NCSES's ability to produce indicators that capture change in science, technology, and innovation to inform policy and optimally meet the needs of its user community.

Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Rape and Sexual Assault in Bureau of Justice Statistics Household Surveys, co-chaired by William Kalsbeek (University of North Carolina) and Candace Kruttschnitt (University of Toronto), was released in prepublication form, November 19, 2013. It is available in print and in [PDF](#).

The Report in Brief—

Rape and sexual assault are among the most injurious crimes a person can inflict on another. The effects are devastating, extending beyond the initial victimization to consequences that can include

unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, sleep and eating disorders, and other emotional and physical problems. Understanding the frequency and context under which rape and sexual assault are committed is vital in directing resources for law enforcement and support for victims and in identifying interventions that can reduce the risk of future attacks. At the request of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the panel considered best practices for measuring rape and sexual assault in the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) and other BJS household surveys. While the NCVS is the premier survey for estimating most types of crimes, including those not reported to the police, the panel concluded that it likely is undercounting rape and sexual assault and that the most accurate counts of rape and sexual assault cannot be achieved without measuring them separately from other victimizations. The panel recommended that BJS develop a separate survey for measuring rape and sexual assault. The new survey should more precisely define ambiguous words such as "rape," give more privacy to respondents, and take other steps that would improve the accuracy of responses. BJS already has research and testing under way along these lines through a contract with Westat.

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 (most recently posted are slides from the October 25, 2013, CNSTAT seminar on Understanding Immigration: Measuring Flows, Populations, and Economic Effects); slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website.

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 124th meeting will be held May 8-9, 2014, in the *NAS main building* at 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. On the 9th, 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. **Angus Deaton**, Dwight D. Eisenhower professor of economics and international affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the Economics Department at Princeton University, will be the featured speaker at the seminar. He will discuss challenges in measuring inequality, drawing on his recently published book, *The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality*. Angus served on CNSTAT and the panels that produced the 1995 report, *Measuring Poverty—A New Approach*, and the 2002 report, *At What Price? Conceptualizing and Measuring Cost-of-Living and Price Indexes*. Serving as discussants will be **David Johnson**, chief economist at BEA (on income and poverty measurement), and **Sam Preston**, professor of sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and a former CNSTAT member (on health outcome measurement).

CNSTAT's 125th meeting will be held October 23-24, 2014, in the *NAS main building* at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the 24th, 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 126th meeting will be held February 6-7, 2015, at the *Beckman Center of the National Academies* in Irvine, CA. 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

Workshop on Data and Research to Improve the Food Availability Data System and Estimates of Food Loss (joint with the Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine)

Sponsor: Economic Research Service

Duration: October 2013–September 2014

Study director: Ann Yaktine (IOM); senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Mary K. Muth (RTI International Food and Nutrition Policy Research Program)

Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

Meeting: Workshop held April 8-9, 2014

Department of Commerce

Panel on Addressing Priority Technical Issues for the Next Decade of the American Community Survey

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: October 2011–August 2014

Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officers: Nancy Kirkendall, Ed Spar; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Alan Zaslavsky (Harvard Medical School)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Eighth meeting (closed) scheduled for May 28, 2014, in Washington, DC

Panel to Review the 2010 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2009–September 2014

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Report released: Interim report, *Change and the 2020 Census: Not Whether But How*, released on March 25, 2011, available in print and in [PDF](#)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Nineteenth meeting (closed) scheduled for June 23-24, 2014, 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 – February 2015
Study director: Carol House; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin
Chair: John Czajka, Mathematica Policy Research
Report planned: Final report
Upcoming meetings: Second meeting scheduled for June 3-4, 2014, 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 2013
Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Michael Siri
Chair: Arthur Fries (Institute for Defense Analyses)
Report planned: Final report is in response to review
Meetings: Fifth and final meeting held July 8–9, 2013, in Washington, DC

Department of Health and Human Services

Panel to Review the Design of the National Children’s Study (joint with the Board on Children, Youth, and Families)

Sponsor: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Duration: June 2013–August 2014
Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin
Chair: Greg Duncan (UC Irvine)
Report planned: Final report is in response to review
Meetings: Third and final meeting held January 23-24, 2014, in Washington, DC

Workshop on Guidelines for Returning Individual Results from Genomic Research Using Population-Based Banked Specimens

Sponsor: National Center for Health Statistics
Duration: August 2013–August 2014
Study director: Kevin Kinsella; project assistant: Jacqui Sovde
Chair: Wylie Burke (University of Washington)
Report planned: Workshop summary is in review
Meeting: Workshop held February 10-11, 2014. Presentations will be posted on the CNSTAT web site.

Department of Homeland Security

Committee on Analysis of Costs and Benefits of Reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program, Phase 1 (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–February 2015
Study director: Jeffrey Jacobs (WSTB)
Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)
Report planned: Final report to design the second phase

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for July 10-11, 2014, 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–March 2016

Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Ed Spar; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Jeffrey Sedgwick (Keswick Advisors)

Reports planned: Interim report; workshop proceedings; final report

Upcoming meetings: Third and fourth meetings (workshop-style sessions) scheduled for June 12-13, 2014, and July 24-25, 2014, 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, Barbara Wanchisen; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin

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

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting scheduled for May 28-29, 2014, in Washington, DC

Corporation for National and Community Service

Panel on Measuring Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion to Inform Policy

Sponsor: Corporation for National and Community Service

Duration: September 2011–June 2014

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

Chair: Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University)

Report planned: Final report is in response to review

Meetings: Fifth and final meeting held September 13, 2013, in Washington, DC

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Committee on Human Spaceflight (joint with the Space Studies Board, which has the lead, and the Aeronautical and Space Engineering Board, both in the NRC Division of Engineering and Physical Sciences)

Sponsor: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Duration: August 2012 – December 2014

Study director: Sandra Graham (SSB); Krisztina Marton (directing CNSTAT-led Panel on Public and Stakeholder Opinion); project assistant (CNSTAT): Jacqui Sovde

Co-chairs of main committee: Mitch Daniels (Purdue University) and Jonathan Lunine (Cornell)
Chair of Panel on Public and Stakeholder Opinion: Roger Tourangeau (Westat) (also member of main committee)

Report planned: Final report, including material from CNSTAT-led panel, is in response to review
Meetings: Fourth and final meeting of panel held December 12, 2013; final meeting of full committee held January 13-15, 2014, in Irvine, CA

National Science Foundation

Panel on Developing Science, Technology, and Innovation Indicators for the Future (joint with the Science, Technology, and Economic Policy Board)

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: October 2010–September 2013

Study director: Kaye Husbands Fealing; STEP director: Steven Merrill; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Co-chairs: Robert Litan (Bloomberg Government) and Andrew Wyckoff (OECD)

Reports released: *Improving Measures of Science, Technology, and Innovation: Interim Report* released in prepublication format, February 3, 2012, and available in [PDF](#); Final report, *Capturing Change in Science, Technology, and Innovation: Improving Indicators to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication format, November 25, 2013, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meetings: Seventh and final meeting held August 27, 2012, in Washington, DC

Note: Materials from the panel's meetings and workshops are maintained on the CNSTAT web site.

Principal Investigator Conference, Science of Science and Innovation Policy, 2007-2011 Awards

Sponsor: Science of Science & Innovation Policy (SciSIP) Program, Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2012–December 2013

Study director: Kaye Husbands Fealing; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Irwin Feller (The Pennsylvania State University)

Report released: *Science of Science and Innovation Policy: Principal Investigators' Conference Summary*, released on April 2, 2014, in print and in [PDF](#).

Meetings: Conference held September 20–21, 2012, in Washington, DC; [materials](#) from the conference are available on the CNSTAT web site.

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–September 2014

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

Chair: Lester Salamon, Johns Hopkins University

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for June 30-July 1, 2014, 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 2015

Study director: Chris Mackie; associate program officer, Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann
Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)
Report planned: Final report
Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for xx, 2014, in Irvine, CA

• **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.