



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— January 23, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We note with great sadness the death of **Taissa (Tess) Hauser**, emerita senior scientist in the Department of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on January 10, 2014, at her home in Washington, DC, from cancer. Tess and Bob Hauser, executive director of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education at the NAS/NRC, were married for 50 years and collaborated in running the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS), a long-term study of a random sample of 10,317 men and women who graduated from Wisconsin high schools in 1957. A memorial service for Tess will be held at a future date in Washington, DC.

We congratulate **Larry V. Hedges**, Board of Trustees professor at Northwestern University, with appointments in the Departments of Statistics and Psychology, in the School of Education and Social Policy, and in the Institute for Policy Research, and senior fellow at NORC at the University of Chicago, on being named the **2013–2014 Statistician of the Year by the Chicago Chapter of the American Statistical Association**. His lecture prepared for the award dinner was titled “Big Data with Big Consequences, but Who Will Benefit?” He served on the Russell Sage-funded CNSTAT panel that studied the decline in household survey response.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call your attention to the February 10-11, 2014, **Workshop on Guidelines for Returning Individual Results from Genomic Research Using Population-Based Banked Specimens**, being organized by CNSTAT and IOM for the National Center for Health Statistics. For more information and to register, please visit the CNSTAT [home page](#).

Please see the C-SPAN [web site](#) for announcements of upcoming **C-SPAN Washington Journal** sessions on “**America by the Numbers**,” which feature interviews with federal statistical agency staff on a wide variety of topics. The programs highlight trends and allow the public to call in or email their views. Links to videos of previous C-SPAN ABTN programs are available at the same site.

Calls for nominations for awards related to federal statistics:

- Nominations are sought for the **2014 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career

including: dedication to the issues of measurement; improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis. Roger was the associate commissioner of statistical standards and methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics when he died in 1994. Prior to his service at NCES, he held several positions at the U.S. Census Bureau, including chief of the Population Division.

The award is intended to recognize individuals or teams who, like Roger, develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data collection programs. It is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals or teams at all levels within federal statistical agencies, other government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions. The recipient of the 2014 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association and of the Washington Statistical Society. The award consists of a \$1,000 honorarium and a framed citation, to be presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2014. The Washington Statistical Society will also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

Nomination packages should contain: A cover letter from the nominator that includes references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in federal statistics, which can be in methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of federal statistics; up to six additional letters in support; and a current vita. For team nominations, the vitae of all team members should be included. **Completed nominations must be received by April 1, 2014.** For more information, contact John Dixon at dixon.john@bls.gov.

- Nominations are sought for the **2014 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics**. Throughout his career, "Julie" was known as an innovator. As chief economic statistician and assistant director of the Census Bureau, he was instrumental in developing an electronic computer method for seasonal adjustment. In 1961, he published *Signals of Recession and Recovery*, which laid the groundwork for the calculation of monthly economic indicators, and he developed the monthly Census report *Business Conditions Digest* to disseminate them to the public. In 1969, he was appointed chief statistician at the Office of Management and Budget where he developed the policies and procedures that govern the release of key economic indicators (Statistical Policy Directive Number 3), and originated a Social Indicators report. In 1973, he was selected to head BLS where he was instrumental in preserving the integrity and independence of the BLS labor force data and directed the most comprehensive revision in the history of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which included a new CPI for all urban consumers.

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 award is cosponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association. The award will be presented with an honorarium of \$1000 plus additional recognition from the sponsors. **Completed nominations must be received by March 15, 2014.** A nomination form is available at www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html. For more information please contact Steven Paben at paben.steven@bls.gov.

- Nominations are sought for the **2014 Gertrude M. Cox Award**. The award is given to recognize early- to mid-career statisticians who have made significant contributions to areas of statistics in which Dr. Cox worked: survey methodology, experimental design, biostatistics, and statistical computing. The award is sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society and RTI International.

Dr. Cox (1900-1978) was one of the founders of modern statistics. In 1945, she became director of the Institute of Statistics of the Consolidated University of North Carolina. In the 1950s, as head of the Department of Experimental Statistics at North Carolina State College, she played a key role in establishing Mathematical Statistics and Biostatistics Departments at the University of North Carolina. Upon her retirement from North Carolina State University in 1960, she became the first head of Statistical Research Division at the newly founded RTI. She was a founding member of the International Biometric Society (IBS) and in 1949 became the first woman elected into the International Statistical Institute. She served as president of both the American Statistical Association (1956) and the IBS (1968-69). In 1975 she was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

The award is presented at the WSS Annual Dinner, usually held in June, with the recipient delivering a talk on a topic of general interest to the WSS membership before the dinner.

Completed nominations must be received by February 28, 2014. Please email your nominations to Karol Krotki (kkrotki@rti.org), with a supporting statement and CV (or link).

REPORT *News*

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 [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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.

Developing New National Data on Social Mobility: A Workshop Summary, a joint project of the Committee on Population and CNSTAT for the National Science Foundation, was released in print and in [PDF](#) on December 19, 2013. The workshop was co-chaired by David Grusky and Matthew Snipp.

The Report in Brief—

Developing New National Data on Social Mobility summarizes a workshop convened in June 2013 where experts from a variety of social and behavioral disciplines met to consider a new national survey on social mobility that would provide the first definitive evidence on recent and long-term trends in social mobility. The workshop objectives were to understand the substantial advances in the methods and statistics for modeling mobility, in survey methodology and population-based survey experiments, in opportunities to merge administrative and survey data, and in the techniques of

measuring race, class, education, and income. The workshop also focused on documenting the state of understanding of the mechanisms through which inequality has been generated in the past four decades. The workshop discussions covered key decision points associated with launching a new national level survey of social mobility and the merits of using existing surveys augmented with administrative data.

Subjective Well-Being: Measuring Happiness, Suffering, and Other Dimensions of Experience, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Subjective Well-Being in a Policy-Relevant Framework, chaired by Arthur Stone (University at Stony Brook) for the National Institute on Aging, was released in prepublication form on December 4, 2013. It is now available in print and in [PDF](#).

The Report in Brief—

Subjective well-being refers to how people experience and evaluate their lives and specific domains and activities in their lives. This information has already proven valuable to researchers, who have produced insights about the emotional states and experiences of people belonging to different groups, engaged in different activities, at different points in the life course, and involved in different family and community structures. Research has also revealed relationships between people's self-reported, subjectively assessed states and their behavior and decisions. During the past decade, interest in the topic among policy makers, national statistical offices, academic researchers, the media, and the public has increased markedly because of its potential for shedding light on the economic, social, and health conditions of populations and for informing policy decisions across these domains. *Subjective Well-Being: Measuring Happiness, Suffering, and Other Dimensions of Experience* explores the use of this measure in population surveys. This report reviews the current state of research and evaluates methods for measurement. The report cites a range of potential experienced well-being data applications, from cost-benefit studies of health care delivery to commuting and transportation planning, environmental valuation, and outdoor recreation resource monitoring, and even to assessment of end-of-life treatment options. The report finds that, whether used to assess the consequence of people's situations and policies that might affect them or to explore determinants of outcomes, contextual and covariate data are needed alongside the subjective well-being measures. The report offers guidance about adopting subjective well-being measures in official government surveys to inform social and economic policies and considers whether research has advanced to a point which warrants the federal government collecting data that allow aspects of the population's subjective well-being to be tracked and associated with changing conditions.

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 [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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.

Research Opportunities Concerning the Causes and Consequences of Child Food Insecurity and Hunger: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication form on September 5, 2013. This CNSTAT and Food and Nutrition Board workshop was chaired by James Ziliak (University of Kentucky) and sponsored by the Economic Research Service and Food and Nutrition Service, USDA. The workshop summary is now available in print and as a [PDF](#).

The Report in Brief—

Section 141 of The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 provides funding for a research program on the causes and consequences of childhood hunger and food insecurity, and the characteristics of households with childhood hunger and food insecurity, with a particular focus on efforts to improve the knowledge base regarding contributing factors, geographic distribution, programmatic effectiveness, public health and medical costs, and consequences for child development, well-being, and educational attainment. The Economic Research Service and the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture conducted two outreach efforts to obtain input from the research community and other stakeholders to help focus on areas and methods with the greatest research potential. First, the Food and Nutrition Service sought written comments to selected questions through publication of a *Federal Register* Notice. Second, FNS commissioned a workshop under the auspices of the National Research Council's Committee on National Statistics and the Institute of Medicine's Food and Nutrition Board. The summary of the workshop (held in April 2013), which includes an extensive bibliography, reviews the adequacy of current knowledge, identifies research gaps, and considers data availability on economic, health, social, cultural, demographic, and other factors that contribute to childhood hunger or food insecurity. It also considers the geographic distribution of childhood hunger and food insecurity; the extent to which existing federal assistance programs reduce childhood hunger and food insecurity; and childhood

hunger and food insecurity persistence and the extent to which they are due to gaps in program coverage, the inability of potential participants to access programs, or the insufficiency of program benefits or services.

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 123rd meeting will be held February 6–7, 2014, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

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*.

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.

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 directors: Nancy Kirkendall and Ann Yaktine (IOM); project assistant: Anthony Mann

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

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for April 8-9, 2014, in Washington, DC

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

Upcoming meetings: Seventh meeting (closed) scheduled for March 4, 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: Eighteenth meeting scheduled for March 25-26, 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-designate: John Czajka, Mathematica Policy Research

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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
Upcoming meetings: Third meeting (closed) scheduled for 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
Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for February 10-11, 2014, at the NAS main building, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. To register, visit the CNSTAT [home page](#).

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: First meeting scheduled for January 30-31, 2014, at the NAS main building, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC

Department of Justice

Panel on Measuring Rape and Sexual Assault in Bureau of Justice Statistics Household Surveys

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics
Duration: July 2011–December 2013
Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin
Co-chairs: William Kalsbeek (University of North Carolina) and Candace Kruttschnitt (University of Toronto)

Report released: Final report, *Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault*, released in prepublication format November 19, 2013, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly
Meetings: Fifth and final meeting held February 28–March 1, 2013

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: Second meeting scheduled for February 25-26, 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: First meeting scheduled for February 20-21, 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 being prepared for 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 being drafted

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 planned: Conference summary is in response to review

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-designate: Lester Salamon, Johns Hopkins University

Report planned: Workshop summary

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: Chris Mackie; associate program officer, Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting scheduled for April 18, 2014, in Washington, DC

• **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.



— February 19, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We welcome **Wendy A. Naus** as the new *executive director of the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)*. She assumed her position on January 1, 2014, replacing Howard Silver, who retired from COSSA after 30 years of service to the social science community. Described as “a seasoned federal relations professional,” she comes to COSSA from Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, a Washington, D.C., lobbying firm where since 2004 she represented the federal policy and research interests of national scientific associations and leading U.S. research universities. Over the last decade, she has worked to promote federal policies and legislation important to social and behavioral scientists, advocated for sustained funding for social science research and training programs at the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other federal agencies, and engaged with Congress, federal agencies, and the broader scientific community to promote the value of federally-funded social science. In addition to her policy expertise in social science, her knowledge extends to federal policy and research programs related to biomedical research and environmental science.

We congratulate **Steve Pierson**, director of science policy for the American Statistical Association, and **Keith Crank**, recently retired as research and graduate education manager for the American Statistical Association, on their election as *fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for 2013*.

We congratulate the following individuals on their election as *fellows of the American Academy of Political and Social Science for 2014*. The AAPSS, founded in 1889, has since 2000 inducted a small number of fellows each year “in recognition of their contributions to the improvement of society through research and influence over public policy.”

- **Janet Currie**, an economist whose work has centered on the health and well-being of children. She is the Henry Putnam professor of economics and public affairs and director of the Center for Health and Well-Being at Princeton University and director of the Program on Families and Children at the National Bureau of Economic Research. She is a member of the Institute of Medicine and the NRC/IOM Board on Children, Youth, and Families and served on the NAS/NRC Committee on Population and the CNSTAT Panel on Estimating Eligibility and Participation for the WIC Program.
- **Greg Duncan**, whose research explores early intervention programs for children and how children’s behaviors and skills at a young age affect their longer-term well-being. He is a distinguished professor in the Department of Education at the University of California, Irvine, and an adjunct faculty member at the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the Advisory Committee for the

NAS/NRC Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, chair of the CNSTAT/IOM Panel to Review the Design of the National Children's Study, and previously served as a member of the CNSTAT Panel to Evaluate the Survey of Income and Program Participation.

- **Kathryn Edin**, a sociologist whose work has focused on social welfare, urban poverty, nonmarital childbearing, and family life. She is a professor in the Department of Sociology at the Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences. She served on the CNSTAT Panels on Residence Rules in the Decennial Census and Data and Methods for Measuring the Effects of Changes in Social Welfare Programs.
- **Alan Gerber**, a political scientist who has gathered empirical data on campaign and fundraising programs and has applied experimental methods to the study of campaign communications. He is the Charles C. and Dorathea S. Dilley professor of political science and the director of the Center for the Study of American Politics at Yale University.
- **Heidi Hartmann**, an economist who is founder and president of the Institute for Women's Policy Research, a research organization in Washington, D.C. Her work addresses the effects of public policy on women's lives and on their participation and engagement in the labor force. Earlier in her career, she was deputy director of the NAS/NRC Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education.
- **Daniel Nagin**, a criminologist who uses statistical methods to analyze criminal and antisocial behavior over the course of individuals' lives. He is the Teresa and H. John Heinz III university professor of public policy and statistics and associate dean of faculty of the Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University. He is a member of the NAS/NRC Committee on Law and Justice.
- **Elizabeth Warren**, a U.S. senator representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A legal scholar by training, she is a leading expert on bankruptcy and financial hardships facing the middle class. She was the Leo Gottlieb professor of law at Harvard Law School before taking office in the Senate.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We note with great pleasure that the **United Nations General Assembly on January 29, 2014, endorsed the [Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics](#)**. This is the first time the principles have received recognition at such a high global political level. The principles document was initially drafted by the Conference of European Statisticians in 1991, as central European countries began to move toward market-oriented democratic governance, and adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 1994. The Statistical Commission determined in 2011 that while the ten principles were still relevant, it would be useful to revise and update the preamble; it adopted a revised preamble in 2013. Each edition of CNSTAT's *Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency* reproduces the United Nations fundamental principles.

Please see the C-SPAN [web site](#) for announcements of upcoming *C-SPAN Washington Journal* sessions on "*America by the Numbers*," which feature interviews with federal statistical agency staff on a wide variety of topics. The programs highlight trends and allow the public to call in or email their views. Links to videos of previous C-SPAN ABTN programs are available at the same site.

Calls for nominations for awards related to federal statistics:

- Nominations are sought for the **2014 Gertrude M. Cox Award**. The award is given to recognize early- to mid-career statisticians who have made significant contributions to areas of statistics in which Dr. Cox worked: survey methodology, experimental design, biostatistics, and statistical

computing. The award is sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society and RTI International. Dr. Cox (1900-1978) was one of the founders of modern statistics. In 1945, she became director of the Institute of Statistics of the Consolidated University of North Carolina. In the 1950s, as head of the Department of Experimental Statistics at North Carolina State College, she played a key role in establishing Mathematical Statistics and Biostatistics Departments at the University of North Carolina. Upon her retirement from North Carolina State University in 1960, she became the first head of Statistical Research Division at the newly founded RTI. She was a founding member of the International Biometric Society (IBS) and in 1949 became the first woman elected into the International Statistical Institute. She served as president of both the American Statistical Association (1956) and the IBS (1968-69). In 1975 she was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

The award is presented at the WSS Annual Dinner, usually held in June, with the recipient delivering a talk on a topic of general interest to the WSS membership before the dinner.

Completed nominations must be received by February 28, 2014. Please email your nominations to Karol Krotki (kkrotki@rti.org), with a supporting statement and CV (or link).

- Nominations are sought for the **2014 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics**. Throughout his career, “Julie” was known as an innovator. As chief economic statistician and assistant director of the Census Bureau, he was instrumental in developing an electronic computer method for seasonal adjustment. In 1961, he published *Signals of Recession and Recovery*, which laid the groundwork for the calculation of monthly economic indicators, and he developed the monthly Census report *Business Conditions Digest* to disseminate them to the public. In 1969, he was appointed chief statistician at the Office of Management and Budget where he developed the policies and procedures that govern the release of key economic indicators (Statistical Policy Directive Number 3), and originated a Social Indicators report. In 1973, he was selected to head BLS where he was instrumental in preserving the integrity and independence of the BLS labor force data and directed the most comprehensive revision in the history of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which included a new CPI for all urban consumers.

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 award is cosponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association. The award will be presented with an honorarium of \$1000 plus additional recognition from the sponsors. **Completed nominations must be received by March 15, 2014.** A nomination form is available at www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html. For more information please contact Steven Paben at paben.steven@bls.gov.

- Nominations are sought for the **2014 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career including: dedication to the issues of measurement; improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis. Roger was the associate commissioner of statistical standards and methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics when he died in 1994. Prior to his service at NCES, he held several positions at the U.S. Census Bureau, including chief of the Population Division.

The award is intended to recognize individuals or teams who, like Roger, develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data collection programs. It is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals or teams at all levels within federal statistical agencies, other

government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions. The recipient of the 2014 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association and of the Washington Statistical Society. The award consists of a \$1,000 honorarium and a framed citation, to be presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2014. The Washington Statistical Society will also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

Nomination packages should contain: A cover letter from the nominator that includes references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in federal statistics, which can be in methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of federal statistics; up to six additional letters in support; and a current vita. For team nominations, the vitae of all team members should be included. **Completed nominations must be received by April 1, 2014.** For more information, contact John Dixon at dixon.john@bls.gov.

REPORT *News*

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 [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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 [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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*.

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 directors: Nancy Kirkendall and Ann Yaktine (IOM); project assistant: Anthony Mann

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

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for April 8-9, 2014, in Washington, DC

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

Upcoming meetings: Seventh meeting (closed) scheduled for March 4, 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: Eighteenth meeting scheduled for March 25-26, 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: First meeting scheduled for March 6-7, 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 being drafted

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

Meetings: Workshop held February 10-11, 2014, at the NAS main building, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. 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: Second meeting scheduled for March 27-28, 2014, in Washington, DC

Department of Justice

Panel on Measuring Rape and Sexual Assault in Bureau of Justice Statistics Household Surveys

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Duration: July 2011–December 2013

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Co-chairs: William Kalsbeek (University of North Carolina) and Candace Kruttschnitt (University of Toronto)

Report released: Final report, *Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault*, released in prepublication format November 19, 2013, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meetings: Fifth and final meeting held February 28–March 1, 2013

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: Second meeting scheduled for February 25-26, 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: First meeting scheduled for February 20-21, 2104, 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 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 being prepared for 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 planned: Conference summary has cleared for review and is being prepared for release
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: 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: Chris Mackie; associate program officer, Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann
Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)
Report planned: Final report
Upcoming meetings: Second meeting scheduled for April 18, 2014, in Washington, DC

• **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.



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— March 24, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We extend our deep thanks and appreciation to **Cynthia Clark** for her significant contributions to the federal statistical system during her 6 years as **administrator** of the **National Agricultural Statistics Service** and her many years of federal statistical service before that and wish her all the best in her retirement, which occurs effective May 3, 2014. During her tenure as NASS administrator, she achieved a major reorganization of the NASS field and headquarters operations and fostered the use of administrative records and statistical modeling to improve estimates from agricultural surveys and censuses. Previously, she worked for 13 years at NASS—as director of NASS’s Census and Survey Division—before rejoining the U.S. Census Bureau as associate director for methodology and standards (1996–2004), in which capacity her accomplishments included developing an administrative records research program, a research and evaluation program for the 2000 census, and a set of standards for statistical quality in surveys. From 2004 to 2007, she headed the methodological directorate of the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom. In 2006–2007, she served on the CNSTAT Panel to Review USDA’s Agricultural Resource Management Survey. She is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Royal Statistical Society and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. She holds a B.A. in mathematics from Mills College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in statistics from Iowa State University. She and her husband plan to serve an 18-month mission at the Nauvoo, IL Mormon Church historic site, which is restored to its 1840s period. She will receive the Iowa State University Distinguished Alumni Award on April 11.

We extend our deep thanks and appreciation to **Steve Landefeld** for his significant contributions to the federal statistical system during his 19 years as **director** of the **Bureau of Economic Analysis** and wish him all the best in his retirement, which occurs April 14, 2014. Prior to being named director, he held other positions within BEA, including acting director, deputy director, and associate director for international economics. While at BEA, he led a number of pioneering statistical and management initiatives that have been recognized nationally and internationally, including the regionalization of GDP. As director, he made the improvement and updating of BEA’s accounts a cooperative partnership with BEA user groups. Previously, he was chief of staff for the Council of Economic Advisers during the Reagan and Bush (I) administrations, director of the Business Issues Analysis Division at the U.S. Department of Commerce, and research assistant professor at Georgetown University. He has received 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 most recently, a Distinguished Executive Award. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Maryland. Upon retirement he says he will be doing some teaching at a local university.

In other federal statistics personnel news, **David Johnson**, chief of the Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division at the Census Bureau for the past 8 years, will become chief economist at the Bureau of Economic Analysis on April 7. At the Census Bureau, he led the reengineering of the Survey of Income and Program Participation and shepherded the introduction of the Supplemental Poverty Measure as a regularly published statistic. He was formerly with the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 1990 to 2006, where in his last position he was responsible for the Consumer Price Index program. At BEA, he replaces **Ana Aizcorbe** who accepted a position as research professor at Virginia Tech, Social and Decision Analytics Lab, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. **Dan Weinberg**, senior research scientist with the Census Bureau, is retiring from federal service at the end of March. He previously served as assistant director for the 2010 decennial census and the American Community Survey, chief economist and chief of the Center for Economic Studies, and chief of the Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, all at Census, where his service began in 1989. From 1980 to 1989 he was with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He plans to work part-time as a visiting scholar with the Virginia Tech Social and Decision Analytics Lab (part of the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute), and also part-time with CNSTAT, where we will welcome him on April 8 as a senior program officer, working on an international conference on census methods.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call to your attention the upcoming CNSTAT and IOM Food and Nutrition Board ***Workshop on Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability Data System and Estimates of Food Loss***, to be held April 8-9, 2014, in the NAS Keck Center, 500 5th St., NW. An announcement of the workshop, including a flyer, the agenda, and an RSVP link, can be found on the CNSTAT [website](#).

We note with complete approbation that the Office of Management and Budget issued a memorandum on February 14, 2014, on ***Guidance for Providing and Using Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes***, available in [PDF](#). This represents exceptional hard work and perseverance on the part of the OMB Statistical and Science Policy staff. To excerpt from Patty Becker's excellent *Southeast Michigan Census Council Newsletter* (vol. 24, no. 2, March 2014),

The focus of the Memorandum is on data sets which cannot be made publicly available due to statutory, regulatory, or policy protections. OMB has noted that agencies sometimes do not make appropriate use of these types of datasets because they think that the requirements and protections that apply to non-public data are too complicated and burdensome to navigate.

The Memorandum has four elements:

- It calls for departmental and agency leadership to foster greater collaboration between program and statistical offices, to develop strong data stewardship policies and practices around the statistical use of administrative data, to require documentation of quality control measures and key attributes of important administrative datasets, and to require designation of responsibilities and practices through the use of agreements among these offices.
- It encourages Federal departments and agencies to promote the use of administrative data for statistical purposes and provides guidance in addressing legal and policy requirements for such uses, including dealing with privacy and confidentiality issues.
- It provides some "best practice" tools and a model interagency agreement to use in accomplishing these goals.
- It requires each department/agency to report to OMB, within 120 days, on its progress in implementing this Memorandum.

The Memorandum includes a 36-page attachment with more details on how its goals and objectives can be accomplished.

Please see the C-SPAN [web site](#) for announcements of upcoming *C-SPAN Washington Journal* sessions on “*America by the Numbers (ABTN)*,” which feature interviews with federal statistical agency staff on a wide variety of topics. The programs highlight trends and allow the public to call in or email their views. Links to videos of previous C-SPAN ABTN programs are available at the same site.

Nominations are sought for the **2014 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career including: dedication to the issues of measurement; improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis. Roger was the associate commissioner of statistical standards and methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics when he died in 1994. Prior to his service at NCES, he held several positions at the U.S. Census Bureau, including chief of the Population Division.

The award is intended to recognize individuals or teams who, like Roger, develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data collection programs. It is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals or teams at all levels within federal statistical agencies, other government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions. The recipient of the 2014 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association and of the Washington Statistical Society. The award consists of a \$1,000 honorarium and a framed citation, to be presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2014. The Washington Statistical Society will also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

Nomination packages should contain: A cover letter from the nominator that includes references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in federal statistics, which can be in methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of federal statistics; up to six additional letters in support; and a current vita. For team nominations, the vitae of all team members should be included. **Completed nominations must be received by April 1, 2014.** For more information, contact John Dixon at dixon.john@bls.gov.

REPORT *News*

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 [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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.

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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 [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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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.

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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

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for April 8-9, 2014, at the NAS Keck Center, 500 5th St., NW, Washington, DC. To register, e-mail Anthony Mann at amann@nas.edu.

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

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: Eighteenth meeting (closed) scheduled for March 25-26, 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 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 being drafted
Meetings: Workshop held February 10-11, 2014, at the NAS main building, Washington, DC.
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: Second meeting scheduled for March 27-28, 2014, at the NAS Keck Center, 500 5th St., NW, Washington, DC

Department of Justice

Panel on Measuring Rape and Sexual Assault in Bureau of Justice Statistics Household Surveys

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics
Duration: July 2011–December 2013
Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Co-chairs: William Kalsbeek (University of North Carolina) and Candace Kruttschnitt (University of Toronto)

Report released: Final report, *Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault*, released in prepublication format November 19, 2013, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meetings: Fifth and final meeting held February 28–March 1, 2013

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 workshop-style meetings 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, 2104, 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 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 planned: Conference summary has cleared review and is being prepared for release on April 2, 2014

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: Second meeting scheduled for April 18, 2014, in Washington, DC

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

Committee on National Statistics

Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

The National Academies

500 Fifth Street NW

Washington, DC 20001

<http://www.nationalacademies.org/cnstat>

Program Associate: Jacqui Sovde, jsovde@nas.edu, (202) 334-1616 or 334-3096

Dr. Constance F. Citro, *Director*

ccitro@nas.edu

(202) 334-3009 or 3096

FAX (202) 334-3751

– 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.



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.

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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

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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.



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— May 27, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We express our deep appreciation to **Susan Boehmer** for her service as director of the Statistics of Income (SOI) Division in the Office of Research, Statistics, and Analysis of the Internal Revenue Service. She will be leaving her position at the end of May to become director of human capital in the IRS Wage & Investment Division in Atlanta, Ga. Prior to her appointment to direct SOI in June 2010, she was director of planning, research, and analysis in the Wage and Investment Division. Before assuming that position, she was the Division's first chief of the Business Systems Security Office, which included IRS' Identity Theft Program. She also served as the director, Strategic Operations for the Earned Income Tax Credit Program, and had 18 years of experience in auditing a wide-range of IRS programs. A graduate of Northern Kentucky University, she is a certified internal auditor. We wish her the best in her new position. Barry Johnson will be acting director of SOI.

We also thank **Steve Cohen** for his long and distinguished service to the federal statistical system, most recently as chief statistician for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) in the National Science Foundation. Steve is retiring at the end of May following a career of 37 years in the federal government. Before coming to NCSES, where he was responsible for leading survey redesign efforts, reviewing products for statistical integrity, and serving as the NCSES confidentiality officer, he had 27 years of survey experience at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. For his last ten years at BLS he was the director of the Mathematical Statistics Research Center where he led a research program on disclosure avoidance and chaired the disclosure review board. He received his Ph.D. in mathematics (operations research) from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. We wish him all the best in his new pursuits.

We congratulate the following individuals on their election in April 2014 to the **National Academy of Sciences**:

- **Cynthia Dwork**, distinguished scientist, Microsoft Research Silicon Valley, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering (elected 2008). Her research interests include foundations of cryptography, combating spam, complexity theory, web search, voting theory, distributed computing, interconnection networks, algorithm design and analysis, and, more recently, statistical disclosure control—revealing accurate statistics about a population while preserving the privacy of individuals—from a cryptographic perspective. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. in computer science from Cornell University and has held positions with Compaq and IBM. She served on the Committee on Technical and Privacy Dimensions of Information for Terrorism Prevention and Other National Goals under the Committee on Law and Justice, Committee on National Statistics, and Computer Science and Telecommunications Board.

- **Kathryn Edin**, Bloomberg distinguished professor, Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. Her research focuses on urban poverty and family life, social welfare, housing policy, child support, non-marital childbearing, and the economic lives of the poor. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from Northwestern University and has held faculty positions at Rutgers University, Northwestern University, the University of Pennsylvania, and, most recently, the Harvard Kennedy School. She served as a member of the CNSTAT Panels on Data and Methods for Measuring the Effects of Changes in Social Welfare Programs and Residence Rules in the Decennial Census.

We congratulate **Kaye Husbands Fealing**, CNSTAT senior program officer (part-time), on her appointment, effective July 1, 2014, as **chair of the School of Public Policy at Georgia Tech**. Kaye most recently was a professor in the University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs Center for Science, Technology and Public Policy. She specializes in the science of science and innovation policy, underrepresentation of women and minorities in STEM disciplines and occupations, and international trade policy impacts on industry structure and firm behavior. She received teaching awards from the Humphrey School and the University of Minnesota in 2014. She received her Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University and was previously the William Brough professor of economics at Williams College, where she began her teaching career in 1989. She developed the National Science Foundation's Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) program and co-chaired the Science of Science Policy Interagency Task Group. For CNSTAT, she directed a consensus study for NCSES/NSF on science, technology, and innovation indicators for the future (see report description below) and organized a conference of principal investigators funded by SciSIP/NSF.

We congratulate **Julia I. Lane**, senior managing economist and institute fellow at the American Institutes for Research (AIR), on receiving the **2014 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics** in recognition of her contributions to the development of the Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics (LEHD) program. Her proposal for the program, which she worked diligently with colleagues at the Census Bureau to implement, was to create a linked employer-employee dataset for the United States by obtaining access from states to their UI wage records because they include both the firm's identification number and the employee's Social Security number and cover almost all employees. The resulting links of these records to each other and to other Census Bureau records in a secure environment is providing information about jobs for detailed industries and small geographic areas at minimal cost and with no increase in respondent burden. The LEHD program offers a never-before-available window into the dynamics of firms and employment in the United States. Julia continued her record of innovation, by developing one of the first remote access data enclaves for government microdata records at NORC at the University of Chicago and the STAR METRICS program for assessing the research impact of federally funded R&D at the National Science Foundation. Julia will be honored at events hosted by the three sponsors of the award: the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Section of the American Statistical Association. The award is made in memory of Julius Shiskin, who served as commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, chief statistician at the Office of Management and Budget, and chief economic statistician and assistant director of the U.S. Census Bureau.

We congratulate **J. Gregory Robinson**, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, and **Kenneth Schoendorf**, Office of Analysis & Epidemiology, National Center for Health Statistics, on receiving the **2014 Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award**. The Griffith award is intended to encourage mentoring of junior staff in federal, state, and local statistical agencies; it acknowledges those supervisors, technical directors, and other team members who make unique efforts to mentor and encourage younger staff at all

levels to learn, grow, and recognize and seize career opportunities. The award's sponsors are the Washington Statistical Society, the Government Statistics and Social Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association, the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, and the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy. There will be a ceremony to honor Gregg and Ken on July 9, 2014, at 4:00 pm in the Bureau of Labor Statistics conference center. Email Deborah.h.griffin@census.gov to have your name added to the security list to enter BLS.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call your attention to the following major announcements relevant to the federal statistical system:

- *Federal Register* call for public comments issued May 21, 2014 (deadline July 21) from the Statistical and Science Policy Office of OMB on a proposed ***Statistical Policy Directive: Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units***. The proposed directive, which is available on the OMB [web site](#), states that “it is the responsibility of Federal statistical agencies and recognized statistical units to produce relevant and timely information; conduct credible, accurate, and objective statistical activities; and protect the trust of information providers by ensuring confidentiality of their responses.” The directive refers to the CNSTAT publication, ***Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency, 5th Edition***, available in [PDF](#), and other relevant documents.
- OMB memorandum M-14-06, ***Guidance for Providing and Using Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes***, issued by the OMB director, February 14, 2014, and available on the OMB [web site](#). M-14-06 (p. 16) tasks heads of cabinet departments to report to the chief statistician by June 30, 2014, on:
 - *processes established or adapted*, including the department heads’ communication with staff on the importance of promoting the use of administrative data for statistical purposes and the names of and process by which program and statistical agencies and components are convening to review administrative datasets of potential statistical value; and
 - *substantive findings to date*, including identification of three datasets (within or outside the department) of the highest potential statistical value and the status of requests related to the statistical use of the three datasets (e.g., request in process, data not provided for specified reasons, data provided).

We also call your attention to a symposium on ***Quantitative Issues in Regulatory Science***, hosted by CNSTAT’s sister Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics. The symposium will be held from 3:00-5:00 pm on Thursday, May 29, 2014, in room 103 of the Keck Center of the National Academies. The agenda includes sessions on regulating drug development and approval, post-marketing surveillance, and environmental regulation. To register, visit this [site](#), or email Michelle Schwalbe (mschwalbe@nas.edu).

REPORT *News*

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.

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.

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 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.

CNSTAT's 127th meeting will be held May 7-8, 2015, in the *NAS main building* at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the 8th, 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.

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 scheduled for June 23-24, 2014, with open session on the morning of the 24th, 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 the final stages of being approved for transmittal and release
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 response to 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–September 2015
Study director: Jeffrey Jacobs (WSTB)
Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)
Report planned: Interim and final reports
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 [PDE](#); Final report, *Capturing Change in Science, Technology, and Innovation: Improving Indicators to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication format, November 25, 2013, available in [PDE](#); 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.

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 July 29-30, 2014, in Irvine, CA

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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.



— June 25, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We note with deep sorrow the death of **Daniel B. (Danny) Levine**, of Silver Spring, MD, at age 88 on April 29, 2014. He worked for over 30 years at the U.S. Census Bureau, rising to the rank of deputy director. He was on the CNSTAT staff for several years in the 1980s, directing panels that produced classic CNSTAT reports, *Creating a Center for Education Statistics: A Time for Action* (1986) and *Immigration Statistics: A Story of Neglect* (1985). He also worked at Westat for more than 25 years up until the week he died. He received a B.A. in economics from George Washington University and an M.S. in economics from Columbia University. During his government career, he was awarded the Department of Commerce Silver and Gold Medals, as well as being named by President Carter to the rank of Meritorious Executive of the Senior Service. There is a wonderful oral [history](#) conducted by the Census Bureau history staff with Danny, which gives a vivid picture of his work and that of many other distinguished members of the federal statistical system who strive for continual improvement of the information they produce that is vital for policy makers and the public.

It's that time of year—announcing changes in CNSTAT membership

We offer deep thanks to two *outgoing members* of CNSTAT, whose two terms will end June 30, 2014, for their dedicated service to CNSTAT and the NAS/NRC over many years, which continues as they participate in study panels and workshops—there is not space to list their manifold contributions to their professions and to the federal statistical, research, and policy analysis communities:

- **Alicia Carriquiry**, professor of statistics, Iowa State University
- **Hal Stern**, professor of statistics and dean of the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences, University of California, Irvine

We are delighted to welcome three *new members*, appointed to 3-year terms beginning July 1, 2014:

- **Donald A. Dillman** is Regents professor in the Department of Sociology, Washington State University. He also serves as the deputy director for research and development in the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center at Washington State University. From 1991 to 1995, he served as the senior survey methodologist in the Office of the Director at the U.S. Census Bureau. His work at the Census Bureau resulted in him receiving the Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics in 2000. He is recognized internationally as a major contributor to the development of modern mail, telephone, and Internet survey methods. Throughout his time at Washington State University, he has maintained an active research program on the improvement of survey methods and how information technologies influence rural development. He served as past president of the American Association for Public Opinion Research and the Rural Sociological Society. He chaired the CNSTAT Panel on Redesigning the BLS Consumer

Expenditures Surveys, and served as a member of the Panel on Redesigning the Commercial Building and Residential Energy Consumption Surveys, the Panel on Residence Rules in the Decennial Census, and the Survey of Earned Doctorates Advisory Panel. He has a B.A. in agronomy, an M.S. in rural sociology, and a Ph.D. in sociology, all from Iowa State University.

- **Sarah M. Nusser** is vice president for research and professor in the Department of Statistics at Iowa State University. She was recently director of the Center for Survey Statistics and Methodology. She was a senior research fellow at BLS from 2000 to 2001. Her research interests include using geospatial data in survey data collection and estimation, estimation methods for land cover map accuracy assessment, and sample design and measurement in surveys. Her experience includes service on the Census Advisory Committee of Professional Associations. She has been an associate editor for *Biometrics* and received the 2007 Distinguished Achievement Award from the ASA Section on Statistics and the Environment. She is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistics Institute. She delivered the Joint Program on Survey Methodology Distinguished Lecture, April 25, 2014, on “Accounting for Measurement Error in Physical Activity Data.” She is serving on the CNSTAT-IOM Workshop on the Food Availability Data System and Estimates of Food Loss, and previously served on the CNSTAT Panel on Redesigning the BLS Consumer Expenditures Surveys, the CNSTAT Panel on Estimating Children Eligible for School Nutrition Programs Using the American Community Survey, and the DBASSE Committee on Social Security Representative Payees. She received a B.S. in botany from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, an M.S. in botany from North Carolina State University, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in statistics from Iowa State University.
- **Thomas L. Mesenbourg** retired as acting director of the U.S. Census Bureau in August 2013. He served as deputy director from May 2008-August 2012. Before being named deputy director, he was associate director for economic programs, with responsibility for the Economic Directorate’s myriad activities, including the Economic Census and the Census of Governments and over 100 monthly, quarterly, and annual surveys. He joined the Census Bureau in 1972. In 2004, he received a Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Senior Executives, the government’s highest award for career executives. In October 2012, he received the Roger W. Jones Award from American University for exceptional leadership among people who devoted themselves to federal public service, and in 2011 he received the Julius Shiskin Award for economic statistics. He has a B.A. degree in economics from Boston University and an M.A. in economics from Pennsylvania State University.

We are also delighted to welcome back **Ruth Peterson**, professor of sociology (emerita) and director, Criminal Justice Research Center, The Ohio State University, for her **second 3-year term**.

Our *continuing members* include:

- **Lawrence Brown (chair)**, professor of statistics, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
- **John Abowd**, professor of economics, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University
- **Mary Ellen Bock**, head and professor of statistics, Purdue University
- **David Card**, professor of economics, University of California, Berkeley
- **Michael Chernew**, professor of health care policy, Harvard Medical School
- **Constantine Gatsonis**, professor and chair of biostatistics, Brown University
- **James House**, professor of survey research, public policy, and sociology, University of Michigan
- **Michael Hout**, professor of sociology, New York University
- **Sallie Keller**, director and professor of statistics, Social and Decision Analytics Lab, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute at Virginia Tech, Arlington, VA

- **Lisa Lynch**, dean and professor of economics, Heller School for Social Policy Management, Brandeis University
- **Colm A. O'Muircheartaigh**, dean of the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy Studies, and senior fellow with NORC at the University of Chicago.
- **Edward Shortliffe**, professor of biomedical informatics, Columbia and Arizona State Universities

We congratulate **Robert Groves** (provost of Georgetown University, former director of the U.S. Census Bureau, former member of CNSTAT, and current member of the DBASSE Advisory Committee) and **James S. Jackson** (director of the Institute for Social Research and professor of psychology at the University of Michigan and member of the Institute of Medicine), on their appointment by President Obama to the National Science Board on June 16, 2014. The [NSB](#) is responsible for establishing NSF priorities within the context of national policies of the President and Congress, identifying issues critical to the future of NSF, and approving the foundation's annual budget submission to the Office of Management and Budget as well as new major programs and awards. The NSB also serves as an independent body of advisors to both the President and the Congress on policy issues related to science and engineering and education in science and engineering.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call your attention to two upcoming **CNSTAT conferences**, both in Room 100 of the NAS Keck Center at 500 5th St, NW:

- **Workshop on Measuring Research and Development Expenditures in the U.S. Nonprofit Sector**, June 30 – July 1, 2014
- **International Conference on Census Methods**, July 31 - August 1, 2014

Please visit the CNSTAT [home page](#) for more information and to register.

We are pleased to announce an open [program officer](#) position (job requisition number 140-124-5) at CNSTAT to work with staff of our decennial census and crime statistics panels. Preferred qualifications are a Ph.D. in statistics, economics, sociology, or survey research (or an M.A. with three years of related professional experience), together with ability to work successfully in a team environment, ability to develop excellent working relationships with volunteer panel members, sponsor staff, and National Academies staff, and excellent written and oral communication skills.

We remind you of an opportunity for public comment on an important statistical policy directive: A **Federal Register** call for public comments was issued May 21, 2014 (deadline July 21) from the Statistical and Science Policy Office of OMB on a proposed **Statistical Policy Directive: Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units**. The proposed directive, which is available on the OMB [web site](#), states that “it is the responsibility of Federal statistical agencies and recognized statistical units to produce relevant and timely information; conduct credible, accurate, and objective statistical activities; and protect the trust of information providers by ensuring confidentiality of their responses.” The directive refers to the CNSTAT publication, **Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency, 5th Edition**, available in [PDF](#), and other relevant documents.

REPORT *News*

Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Social and Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion in Surveys, was released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will

be available shortly. The panel was requested by the Corporation for National and Community Service and chaired by Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University).

The Report in Brief—

People's bonds, associations and networks—as well as the civil, political, and institutional characteristics of the society in which they live—can be powerful drivers affecting the quality of life among a community's, a city's, or a nation's inhabitants and their ability to achieve both individual and societal goals. Civic engagement, social cohesion, and other dimensions of social capital affect social, economic and health outcomes for individuals and communities. Can these be measured, and can federal surveys contribute toward this end? Can this information be collected elsewhere, and if so, how should it be collected? With the needs of data users in mind, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion* examines conceptual frameworks developed in the literature to determine promising measures and measurement methods for informing public policy discourse. The report provides working definitions of key terms; advises on the feasibility and specifications of indicators relevant to analyses of social, economic, and health domains; and assesses the strength of the evidence regarding the relationship between these indicators and observed trends in crime, employment, and resilience to shocks such as natural disasters. It weighs the relative merits of surveys, administrative records, and non-government data sources, and considers the appropriate role of the federal statistical system, making recommendations to improve the measurement of civic health through government surveys and identifying priority areas for research, development, and implementation.

Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The workshop was requested by the National Center for Health Statistics and chaired by Wylie Burke (University of Washington).

The Report in Brief—

Population surveys traditionally collect information from respondents from questionnaires, but, in recent years, many surveys have also been collecting biologic specimens such as blood samples, saliva, and buccal swabs, from which a respondent's DNA can be ascertained along with other biomarkers (e.g., the level of a certain protein in the blood). NHANES has been collecting and storing genetic specimens since 1991, and other surveys, such as the Health and Retirement Study funded by the National Institute on Aging, have followed suit. In order to give their informed consent to participate in a survey, respondents need to know the disposition and use of their data. Will their responses be used for one research project and then destroyed, or will they be archived for secondary use? The addition of biologic specimens to a survey not only adds complications for storing, protecting, and providing access to such data for secondary research, but also raises questions of whether, when, and for which biologic measurements the results should be reported back to individual respondents. Recently, the cost of full genomic sequencing has plummeted, and research findings are beginning to accumulate that bear up under replication and that potentially have clinical implications for a respondent. Biomedical research studies, in which participants are asked to donate tissues for genetic studies and are usually told that they will not be contacted with any results, are increasingly confronting the issue of when and which DNA results to return to participants. *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Based Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey* is the summary of a CNSTAT workshop convened in February 2013. The workshop sessions discussed to what extent and how population surveys, in particular NHANES, should implement the reporting of results from genomic research using stored specimens and address informed consent for future data collection as well as for the use of banked specimens covered by prior informed consent agreements.

The National Children's Study 2014: An Assessment, the final report of the CNSTAT and Board on Children, Youth, and Families Panel on the Design of the National Children's Study and Implications for

the Generalizability of Results, was released in prepublication format, June 16, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The panel was requested by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in response to a congressional mandate and chaired by Greg Duncan (University of California, Irvine).

The Report in Brief—

The National Children's Study (NCS) was authorized by the Children's Health Act of 2000 and is being implemented by a dedicated Program Office in NICHD. The NCS is planned to be a longitudinal observational birth cohort study to evaluate the effects of chronic and intermittent exposures on child health and development in the United States, collecting a broad range of data for a national probability sample of about 100,000 children, followed from birth or before birth to age 21. Detailed plans for the NCS were developed by 2007 and reviewed by a CNSTAT/BCYF panel. At that time, sample recruitment for the NCS Main Study was scheduled to begin in 2009 and to be completed within about 5 years. However, results from the initial seven pilot locations, which recruited sample cases in 2009-2010, indicated that the proposed household-based recruitment approach would be more costly and time consuming than planned. In response, the Program Office implemented pilot tests in 2011 to evaluate alternative recruitment methods. At the request of Congress, *The National Children's Study 2014* reviews the revised study design and proposed methods for the NCS Main Study to determine if they are likely to produce scientifically sound results that are generalizable to the U.S. population and appropriate subpopulations. The report makes recommendations about the overall study framework, sample design, timing, content, and need for scientific expertise and oversight, noting that the NCS has the potential to add immeasurably to knowledge of the effects of environmental factors, broadly defined, on children in the United States. In response to the report's conclusions and recommendations, the NIH [director](#) has put the NCS Main Study on hold until further notice.

Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight, the final report of the Committee on Human Spaceflight, was released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The study was requested by NASA in response to a congressional mandate and co-chaired by Mitchell Daniels (Purdue University) and Jonathan Lunine (Cornell University). Roger Tourangeau chaired a Panel on Public and Stakeholder Opinion that provided input to the main committee (see Chapter 3 and Appendixes B-E of the report).

The Report in Brief—

The United States has publicly funded its human spaceflight program on a continuous basis for more than a half-century from the early Mercury and Gemini suborbital and Earth orbital missions, to the lunar landings, and thence to the first reusable winged crewed space plane. Today the United States is the major partner in a massive orbital facility, the International Space Station, which is becoming the focal point for the first tentative steps in commercial cargo and crewed orbital space flights. And yet, the long-term future of human spaceflight beyond this project is unclear. Pronouncements by multiple presidents of bold new ventures by Americans to the Moon, to Mars, and to an asteroid in its native orbit, have not been matched by the substantial increase in NASA funding needed to make it happen. *Pathways to Exploration* explores the case for advancing this endeavor, drawing on the history of rationales for human spaceflight, examining the attitudes of stakeholders and the public, and carefully assessing the technical and fiscal realities. The report recommends maintaining a long-term focus on Mars as the horizon goal for human space exploration. With this goal in mind, the report considers funding levels necessary to maintain a robust tempo of execution, current research and exploration projects and the time/resources needed to continue them, and international cooperation that could contribute to the achievement of spaceflight to Mars. According to *Pathways to Exploration*, a successful U.S. program would require sustained national commitment and a budget that increases by more than the rate of inflation.

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.

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.

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 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.

CNSTAT's 127th meeting will be held May 7-8, 2015, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the 8th, 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.

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–December 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–February 2015

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

Meetings: Last (eighth) meeting held 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: Twentieth and last meeting tentatively scheduled for August 21-22, 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: Third meeting scheduled for November 20-21, 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–September 2014

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 released: Final report, *The National Children's Study 2014: An Assessment*, released in prepublication format, June 16, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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 released: Workshop summary, *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary*, released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meeting: Workshop held February 10-11, 2014.

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–September 2015

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

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

Report planned: Interim and final reports

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: Fourth meeting scheduled for July 24-25, 2014, with workshop-style open session on July 24, 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; 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

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for September 3-4, 2014, at the main NAS building 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 released: Final report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly
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 released: Final report, including material from CNSTAT-led panel, *Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight*, released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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.

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 at the NAS Keck Center

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 July 29-30, 2014, in Irvine, CA

• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •

Committee on National Statistics

Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

The National Academies

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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.



— July 30, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Frederick Conrad** (research professor in the University of Michigan Survey Research Center and director of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology) and **Michael Schober** (professor of psychology at the New School for Social Research) on receiving the **2013 Warren J. Mitofsky Innovator Award** from the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR). The award was for their work on conversational interviewing, the clarification of question meaning, the interpretation of standardized language, and the application of human dialogue features to web surveys. The award recognizes accomplishments in the field of public opinion and survey research in the past 10 years. Both men have served on CNSTAT study panels, including the panel to review the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (Conrad), panel to redesign the Commercial Buildings and Residential Energy Consumption Surveys (Conrad), and panel to redesign the Consumer Expenditure Surveys (Schober).

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call your attention to an invited session at the **Joint Statistical Meetings** in Boston, MA, August 5, 2014, on ***“The Past, Present, and Future of Federal Surveys: Observations from the Committee on National Statistics.”*** **Carol House**, CNSTAT senior program officer and former deputy administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, organized the session, which will be chaired by **Alicia Carriquiry**, professor of statistics at Iowa State University and former CNSTAT member. **Larry Brown**, professor of statistics at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and CNSTAT chair, and **Connie Citro**, CNSTAT director, will present a joint paper with the Committee’s observations. Discussants will be **Hermann Habermann**, CNSTAT senior program officer and former deputy director of the U.S. Census Bureau, director of the UN Statistical Division, and CNSTAT member; **Michael Horrigan**, associate commissioner for employment and unemployment statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics (as of July 2014; previously he was associate commissioner for prices and living conditions); and **Graham Kalton**, chairman of the board of Westat and former CNSTAT member.

We are pleased to announce an open [program officer](#) position (job requisition number 140-124-5) at CNSTAT to work with staff of our decennial census and crime statistics panels. Preferred qualifications are a Ph.D. in statistics, economics, sociology, or survey research (or an M.A. with three years of related professional experience), together with ability to work successfully in a team environment, ability to develop excellent working relationships with volunteer panel members, sponsor staff, and National Academies staff, and excellent written and oral communication skills.

REPORT *News*

Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Social and Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion in Surveys, was released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The panel was requested by the Corporation for National and Community Service and chaired by Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University).

The Report in Brief—

People's bonds, associations and networks—as well as the civil, political, and institutional characteristics of the society in which they live—can be powerful drivers affecting the quality of life among a community's, a city's, or a nation's inhabitants and their ability to achieve both individual and societal goals. Civic engagement, social cohesion, and other dimensions of social capital affect social, economic and health outcomes for individuals and communities. Can these be measured, and can federal surveys contribute toward this end? Can this information be collected elsewhere, and if so, how should it be collected? With the needs of data users in mind, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion* examines conceptual frameworks developed in the literature to determine promising measures and measurement methods for informing public policy discourse. The report provides working definitions of key terms; advises on the feasibility and specifications of indicators relevant to analyses of social, economic, and health domains; and assesses the strength of the evidence regarding the relationship between these indicators and observed trends in crime, employment, and resilience to shocks such as natural disasters. It weighs the relative merits of surveys, administrative records, and non-government data sources, and considers the appropriate role of the federal statistical system, making recommendations to improve the measurement of civic health through government surveys and identifying priority areas for research, development, and implementation.

Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The workshop was requested by the National Center for Health Statistics and chaired by Wylie Burke (University of Washington).

The Report in Brief—

Population surveys traditionally collect information from respondents from questionnaires, but, in recent years, many surveys have also been collecting biologic specimens such as blood samples, saliva, and buccal swabs, from which a respondent's DNA can be ascertained along with other biomarkers (e.g., the level of a certain protein in the blood). NHANES has been collecting and storing genetic specimens since 1991, and other surveys, such as the Health and Retirement Study funded by the National Institute on Aging, have followed suit. In order to give their informed consent to participate in a survey, respondents need to know the disposition and use of their data. Will their responses be used for one research project and then destroyed, or will they be archived for secondary use? The addition of biologic specimens to a survey not only adds complications for storing, protecting, and providing access to such data for secondary research, but also raises questions of whether, when, and for which biologic measurements the results should be reported back to individual respondents. Recently, the cost of full genomic sequencing has plummeted, and research findings are beginning to accumulate that bear up under replication and that potentially have clinical implications for a respondent. Biomedical research studies, in which participants are asked to donate tissues for genetic studies and are usually told that they will not be contacted with any results, are increasingly confronting the issue of when and which DNA results to return to participants. *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Based Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey* is the summary of a CNSTAT workshop convened in February 2013. The workshop sessions discussed to what extent and how

population surveys, in particular NHANES, should implement the reporting of results from genomic research using stored specimens and address informed consent for future data collection as well as for the use of banked specimens covered by prior informed consent agreements.

The National Children's Study 2014: An Assessment, the final report of the CNSTAT and Board on Children, Youth, and Families Panel on the Design of the National Children's Study and Implications for the Generalizability of Results, was released in prepublication format, June 16, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The panel was requested by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in response to a congressional mandate and chaired by Greg Duncan (University of California, Irvine).

The Report in Brief—

The National Children's Study (NCS) was authorized by the Children's Health Act of 2000 and is being implemented by a dedicated Program Office in NICHD. The NCS is planned to be a longitudinal observational birth cohort study to evaluate the effects of chronic and intermittent exposures on child health and development in the United States, collecting a broad range of data for a national probability sample of about 100,000 children, followed from birth or before birth to age 21. Detailed plans for the NCS were developed by 2007 and reviewed by a CNSTAT/BCYF panel. At that time, sample recruitment for the NCS Main Study was scheduled to begin in 2009 and to be completed within about 5 years. However, results from the initial seven pilot locations, which recruited sample cases in 2009-2010, indicated that the proposed household-based recruitment approach would be more costly and time consuming than planned. In response, the Program Office implemented pilot tests in 2011 to evaluate alternative recruitment methods. At the request of Congress, *The National Children's Study 2014* reviews the revised study design and proposed methods for the NCS Main Study to determine if they are likely to produce scientifically sound results that are generalizable to the U.S. population and appropriate subpopulations. The report makes recommendations about the overall study framework, sample design, timing, content, and need for scientific expertise and oversight, noting that the NCS has the potential to add immeasurably to knowledge of the effects of environmental factors, broadly defined, on children in the United States. In response to the report's conclusions and recommendations, the NIH [director](#) has put the NCS Main Study on hold until further notice.

Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight, the final report of the Committee on Human Spaceflight, was released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The study was requested by NASA in response to a congressional mandate and co-chaired by Mitchell Daniels (Purdue University) and Jonathan Lunine (Cornell University). Roger Tourangeau chaired a Panel on Public and Stakeholder Opinion that provided input to the main committee (see Chapter 3 and Appendixes B-E of the report).

The Report in Brief—

The United States has publicly funded its human spaceflight program on a continuous basis for more than a half-century from the early Mercury and Gemini suborbital and Earth orbital missions, to the lunar landings, and thence to the first reusable winged crewed space plane. Today the United States is the major partner in a massive orbital facility, the International Space Station, which is becoming the focal point for the first tentative steps in commercial cargo and crewed orbital space flights. And yet, the long-term future of human spaceflight beyond this project is unclear. Pronouncements by multiple presidents of bold new ventures by Americans to the Moon, to Mars, and to an asteroid in its native orbit, have not been matched by the substantial increase in NASA funding needed to make it happen. *Pathways to Exploration* explores the case for advancing this endeavor, drawing on the history of rationales for human spaceflight, examining the attitudes of stakeholders and the public, and carefully assessing the technical and fiscal realities. The report recommends maintaining a long-term focus on Mars as the horizon goal for human space exploration. With this goal in mind, the report considers funding levels necessary to maintain a robust tempo of

execution, current research and exploration projects and the time/resources needed to continue them, and international cooperation that could contribute to the achievement of spaceflight to Mars. According to *Pathways to Exploration*, a successful U.S. program would require sustained national commitment and a budget that increases by more than the rate of inflation.

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.

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.

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 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. **Be sure to mark your calendar: The topic of the seminar will be "Measuring**

Happiness, Suffering, and Other Dimensions of Experience: Challenges and Opportunities for Federal Surveys.”

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.

CNSTAT’s 127th meeting will be held May 7-8, 2015, in the *NAS main building* at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the 8th, 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.

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–December 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 in review

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–February 2015

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 readied for review

Meetings: Last (eighth) meeting held 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; 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: Twentieth and last meeting scheduled for August 21-22, 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: Third meeting scheduled for November 20-21, 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–September 2014

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 released: Final report, *The National Children's Study 2014: An Assessment*, released in prepublication format, June 16, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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 released: Workshop summary, *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary*, released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meeting: Workshop held February 10-11, 2014.

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–September 2015

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

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

Report planned: Interim and final reports

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for November 3-4, 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; final report

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting scheduled for August 27-28, 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; 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

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for September 3-4, 2014, at the main NAS building 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 released: Final report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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 released: Final report, including material from CNSTAT-led panel, *Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight*, released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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.

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; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Lester Salamon, Johns Hopkins University

Report planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

Meeting: Workshop held 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 July 29-30, 2014, in Irvine, CA

• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •

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Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

The National Academies

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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.



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— September 2, 2014 —

PEOPLE *News*

We thank **John Easton** for his more than 5 years of service (since May 21, 2009) as director of the U.S. Department of Education's **Institute of Education Sciences** (IES) and for his service as acting commissioner of the **National Center for Education Statistics** (NCES; housed in IES) following the departure of former commissioner Jack Buckley at the end of 2013. As of September 1, John is **distinguished service fellow at the Spencer Foundation** in Chicago, IL. As director of IES, he oversaw not only NCES, but also the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, the National Center for Education Research, and the National Center for Special Education Research. Previously, he was executive director of the Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago. He also served from 2003–2007 on the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets policies for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. He holds a Ph.D. in measurement, evaluation, and statistical analysis from the University of Chicago; an M.A. from Western Washington University; and a B.A. from Hobart College.

We welcome **Peggy Carr**, associate commissioner for assessment at **NCES**, who has been named its **acting commissioner**. As associate commissioner, she was responsible for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL), the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), Progress in International Student Assessment (PISA), and the Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS). Peggy received the Meritorious Executive Rank Award for sustained superior accomplishments in management of programs in 2008. She holds a B.S. in psychology from North Carolina Central University, with a concentration in statistics, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in developmental psychology from Howard University. Before coming to NCES in 1993, she served as chief statistician for the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, and before that, as research methodologist of Howard University's Statistical and Research Computer Laboratory.

We thank **Cora Marrett**, deputy director of the **National Science Foundation** (NSF), for her many years of service to the social science research and statistical communities. She stepped down from her position on August 24. She was confirmed as NSF deputy director in 2011 and has also served as NSF's acting director and acting deputy director. She served as the first assistant director for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate from 1992–1996, and as assistant director for the Education and Human Resources Directorate from 2007–2011. She is a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin; from 1997–2001, she served as provost of the University of Massachusetts–Amherst. She has a B.A. in sociology from Virginia Union University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Wisconsin. She served on the National Research Council's Division of Behavioral and

Social Sciences and Education and chaired the CNSTAT panel that produced *Protecting Participants and Facilitating Social and Behavioral Sciences Research* in 2003.

We welcome **Fay Lomax Cook** as the incoming assistant director for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) at *NSF*. She is a faculty fellow of the Institute for Policy Research and professor of human development and social policy in the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University. Her research focuses on the relationships between public opinion and social policy, including the dynamics of public and elite support programs for older Americans, particularly Social Security. She is a fellow and past president of the Gerontological Society of America and an elected member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

We congratulate the following members of the CNSTAT and federal statistical community who were elected as *fellows of the American Statistical Association in 2014* and honored at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Boston, MA, on August 5, 2014:

- **Nancy Bates**, U.S. Census Bureau, “for outstanding contributions to the federal statistical system in survey methodology; for improving the measurement of same-sex couples in federal surveys; for leadership in the census to increase response rates in hard-to-count populations; and for outstanding service to the profession.” Nancy served on the CNSTAT panel that produced the 2013 report *Nonresponse in Social Science Surveys: A Research Agenda*.
- **Johnny Blair**, independent consultant, “for interdisciplinary research in survey and sampling methods, including advances in cognitive interviewing and reduction of response errors and techniques for accessing rare populations, and for insightful guidance on these methods while collaborating with a vast array of scientists and policymakers to improve major federal data collection systems.” Johnny served on the CNSTAT and Board on Chemical Sciences and Toxicology panel that produced the 2007 report *Measuring Respirator Use in the Workplace*.
- **Scott Holan**, University of Missouri, “for outstanding research in the statistical analysis of dependent data, particularly the development of multi-scale spectral methodology in time series and spatiotemporal statistics; for innovations to environmetrics, econometrics, and federal statistics; for excellence in mentoring; and for dedicated service to the profession.” Scott is a member of the CNSTAT Panel on Addressing Priority Technical Issues for the Next Decade of the American Community Survey.
- **Frauke Krueger**, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland, “for outstanding contributions to research in the field of survey methodology; for excellence in mentoring of junior researchers in social statistics and survey methodology; and for extensive international research collaborations.”
- **Elizabeth Stuart**, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, “for outstanding contributions to research in the estimation of causal effects; for extensive efforts in the dissemination of statistical methods in education and mental health, including the development of widely used software; and for extensive service to the ASA and the profession.” Elizabeth organized, with CNSTAT member Constantine Gatsonis, an expert meeting for the National Institute on Aging in April 2014 on methods for combining data from clinical trials and observational studies.

We congratulate **Greg Duncan**, distinguished professor of education at the University of California, Irvine, on his election to the *board of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* (AAPSS). Greg spent the first 25 years of his career at the University of Michigan working on and ultimately directing the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID). He has been president of the Population Association of America and the Society for Research in Child Development. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of AAPSS.

He chaired the CNSTAT and IOM panel that produced the 2014 report *The National Children's Study 2014: An Assessment*.

We congratulate **Alan Karr**, director of the *National Institute of Statistical Sciences* (NISS) in Research Triangle Park, NC, on his appointment as *director of the Center of Excellence for Complex Data Analysis* (CoDA) at RTI International beginning in September 2014. Alan served as NISS director from 2001 and as its assistant director from 1992–2000. (NISS together with Cornell University serves a coordinating function for the National Census Research Network funded by the NSF Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics program and the U.S. Census Bureau.) Alan is also professor, statistics and biostatistics, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has a B.S. and M.S. in industrial engineering and a Ph.D. in applied mathematics, all from Northwestern University. Prior to joining NISS, Alan held several positions at Johns Hopkins University, most recently as associate dean of the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

We congratulate **Sastry Pantula**, dean of the College of Science at Oregon State University, for receiving a *Founders Award from the American Statistical Association* at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Boston MA, August 5, 2014. The award recognizes members who have rendered distinguished service to the association. Sastry's citation reads:

For bold, sustained, and visionary leadership of the statistics profession in many different capacities: first, as an architect and steward of the success of the Department of Statistics at North Carolina State University; second, as the president of the ASA in 2010, with signal achievements in raising the visibility and impact of our field and numerous other contributions to the Association; third, as the first statistician to serve as the director of the Division of Mathematical Sciences at the National Science Foundation; and fourth, as a dean at Oregon State University, nurturing a new wave of collaborative interdisciplinary statistical science.

We congratulate **J. Gregory Robinson**, special assistant for demographic analysis at the U.S. Census Bureau, and **Kenneth Schoendorf**, chief of the Infant Child and Women's Health Statistics Branch, Office of Analysis and Epidemiology, National Center for Health Statistics, on receiving the *Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award for 2014*. The award recognizes individuals working in federal, state, and local government statistical agencies for mentoring junior staff and is sponsored by the American Statistical Association Government Statistics and Social Statistics Sections, NORC at the University of Chicago, Westat, American Institutes for Research (AIR), American Educational Research Association (AERA), Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS), STATA, Washington Statistical Society (WSS), and Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP).

We congratulate **Rob Santos**, senior institute methodologist at the Urban Institute in Washington DC, on his election as *vice president of the American Statistical Association* for a 3-year term beginning January 2015. He has an M.A. in statistics from the University of Michigan and previously held appointments at NORC at the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan Survey Research Center, the Temple University Institute for Survey Research, and NuStats, LLC. He is the 2014 president of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) and a fellow of ASA. He has served on numerous CNSTAT panels and is a member of its current Panel on Addressing Priority Technical Issues for the Next Decade of the American Community Survey.

We congratulate **Judith Seltzer**, professor of sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a founding member of the California Center for Population Research, on being elected *president-elect of the Population Association of America for 2015*. Judy has a B.A. in sociology from Princeton University and a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Michigan. She was previously professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin. She served on the CNSTAT Panel on Residence Rules in the Decennial

Census and Panel on the Design of the 2010 Census Program of Evaluations and Experiments. She is a member of the current CNSTAT Panel to Review the 2010 Census. She is also beginning a 4-year term of service on the General Social Survey (GSS) Board of Overseers.

We congratulate **Tommy Wright**, chief of the Statistical Research Division of the U.S. Census Bureau, on his election to a 3-year term to the **NISS Board of Trustees**. Tommy earned his Ph.D. in statistics from Ohio State University and served both on the research staff of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and as a professor at the University of Tennessee and Knoxville College before joining the Census Bureau. He is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and a fellow of the American Statistical Association.

We note the appointment of **William J. Sabol** as *acting director of the National Institute of Justice* (NIJ), in addition to his continuing duties as acting director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), as of August 1, and wish departing acting NIJ director (and deputy director) **Gregory Ridgeway** well on his move to the criminology faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. Bill became acting director of BJS in January 2013 upon the departure of James Lynch; he previously served as BJS's principal deputy director for statistical programs, and has held positions at the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the Urban Institute, Case Western Reserve University, and the University of Maryland.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We call your attention to several upcoming public events in September and October:

- The **Washington Statistical Society** is holding a **Conference on Administrative Records for Best Estimates**, Thursday, September 18, 2014, from 1:00–4:00 pm at the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center (to be placed on the seminar attendance list at BLS, e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar, or call (202) 691-7524 and leave a message; bring a photo ID to the seminar; BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE; use the Red Line to Union Station). Speakers include:
 - Connie Citro, CNSTAT—*From Multiple Modes for Surveys to Multiple Data Sources for Estimates: The Role of Administrative Records in Federal Statistics*;
 - Phil Kott, RTI International—*A Different Paradigm Shift: Combining Administrative Data and Survey Samples for the Intelligent User*;
 - Graton Gathright, U.S. Census Bureau—*The Role of Linked Administrative Data in the Evaluation and Improvement of the Survey of Income and Program Participation*;
 - Shelly Wilkie Martinez, Statistical and Science Policy, OMB—*One Piece of the Multiple Data Sources Paradigm Shift: New Policy on Accessing and Using Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes*;
 - Shawn Bucholtz, Office of Policy Development & Research, HUD—*Integrating Administrative Records and Commercial Data Sources into HUD's Housing Surveys: Past, Present, and Future*; and
 - Amy O'Hara, U.S. Census Bureau—*Fully Leverage External Data Sources: A Census Bureau Change Principle*.
- The **National Research Council's Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education** is pleased to announce that the **2014 Henry and Bryna David Lecture** will be given by **William Nordhaus**, Sterling Professor of Economics, Yale University, member of the National Academy of Sciences, and former member of CNSTAT. (The [Henry and Bryna David Endowment](#)

recognizes innovative research in the behavioral and social sciences by selecting a leading researcher to write an article in her or his field to be presented at the National Academy of Sciences and published in *Issues in Science and Technology*.) Professor Nordhaus's lecture is scheduled for Thursday, October 2, 2014, at 5 pm in Room 100 of the National Academies' Keck Center, 500 5th St., NW, Washington, DC. To register, visit [RSVP](#). The title of the lecture is *The Climate Casino: Risk, Uncertainty, and Economics for a Warming World*.

- The *Committee on National Statistics* is pleased to announce that its public fall seminar will be held on Friday, October 24, 2014, in the Lecture Room of the main NAS building at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. The program will begin with light refreshments at 2 pm and end with a reception at 4:30 pm. The topic of the seminar will be *Measuring Happiness, Suffering, and Other Dimensions of Experience: Challenges and Opportunities for Federal Surveys*. To RSVP, visit the CNSTAT home page at <http://www.nationalacademies.org/cnstat>.

CNSTAT has an open [program officer](#) position (job requisition number 140-124-5) at CNSTAT to work with staff of our decennial census and crime statistics panels. Preferred qualifications are a Ph.D. in statistics, economics, sociology, or survey research (or an M.A. with three years of related professional experience), together with ability to work successfully in a team environment, ability to develop excellent working relationships with volunteer panel members, sponsor staff, and National Academies staff, and excellent written and oral communication skills.

REPORT *News*

Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Social and Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion in Surveys, was released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The panel was requested by the Corporation for National and Community Service and chaired by Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University).

The Report in Brief—

People's bonds, associations and networks—as well as the civil, political, and institutional characteristics of the society in which they live—can be powerful drivers affecting the quality of life among a community's, a city's, or a nation's inhabitants and their ability to achieve both individual and societal goals. Civic engagement, social cohesion, and other dimensions of social capital affect social, economic and health outcomes for individuals and communities. Can these be measured, and can federal surveys contribute toward this end? Can this information be collected elsewhere, and if so, how should it be collected? With the needs of data users in mind, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion* examines conceptual frameworks developed in the literature to determine promising measures and measurement methods for informing public policy discourse. The report provides working definitions of key terms; advises on the feasibility and specifications of indicators relevant to analyses of social, economic, and health domains; and assesses the strength of the evidence regarding the relationship between these indicators and observed trends in crime, employment, and resilience to shocks such as natural disasters. It weighs the relative merits of surveys, administrative records, and non-government data sources, and considers the appropriate role of the federal statistical system, making recommendations to improve the measurement of civic health through government surveys and identifying priority areas for research, development, and implementation.

Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); *printed copies* will be available

the week of September 8. The workshop was requested by the National Center for Health Statistics and chaired by Wylie Burke (University of Washington).

The Report in Brief—

Population surveys traditionally collect information from respondents from questionnaires, but, in recent years, many surveys have also been collecting biologic specimens such as blood samples, saliva, and buccal swabs, from which a respondent's DNA can be ascertained along with other biomarkers (e.g., the level of a certain protein in the blood). NHANES has been collecting and storing genetic specimens since 1991, and other surveys, such as the Health and Retirement Study funded by the National Institute on Aging, have followed suit. In order to give their informed consent to participate in a survey, respondents need to know the disposition and use of their data. Will their responses be used for one research project and then destroyed, or will they be archived for secondary use? The addition of biologic specimens to a survey not only adds complications for storing, protecting, and providing access to such data for secondary research, but also raises questions of whether, when, and for which biologic measurements the results should be reported back to individual respondents. Recently, the cost of full genomic sequencing has plummeted, and research findings are beginning to accumulate that bear up under replication and that potentially have clinical implications for a respondent. Biomedical research studies, in which participants are asked to donate tissues for genetic studies and are usually told that they will not be contacted with any results, are increasingly confronting the issue of when and which DNA results to return to participants. *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Based Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey* is the summary of a CNSTAT workshop convened in February 2013. The workshop sessions discussed to what extent and how population surveys, in particular NHANES, should implement the reporting of results from genomic research using stored specimens and address informed consent for future data collection as well as for the use of banked specimens covered by prior informed consent agreements.

The National Children's Study 2014: An Assessment, the final report of the CNSTAT and Board on Children, Youth, and Families Panel on the Design of the National Children's Study and Implications for the Generalizability of Results, was released in prepublication format, June 16, 2014. It is available in [print](#) and in [PDF](#). The panel was requested by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in response to a congressional mandate and chaired by Greg Duncan (University of California, Irvine).

The Report in Brief—

The National Children's Study (NCS) was authorized by the Children's Health Act of 2000 and is being implemented by a dedicated Program Office in NICHD. The NCS is planned to be a longitudinal observational birth cohort study to evaluate the effects of chronic and intermittent exposures on child health and development in the United States, collecting a broad range of data for a national probability sample of about 100,000 children, followed from birth or before birth to age 21. Detailed plans for the NCS were developed by 2007 and reviewed by a CNSTAT/BCYF panel. At that time, sample recruitment for the NCS Main Study was scheduled to begin in 2009 and to be completed within about 5 years. However, results from the initial seven pilot locations, which recruited sample cases in 2009–2010, indicated that the proposed household-based recruitment approach would be more costly and time consuming than planned. In response, the Program Office implemented pilot tests in 2011 to evaluate alternative recruitment methods. At the request of Congress, *The National Children's Study 2014* reviews the revised study design and proposed methods for the NCS Main Study to determine if they are likely to produce scientifically sound results that are generalizable to the U.S. population and appropriate subpopulations. The report makes recommendations about the overall study framework, sample design, timing, content, and need for scientific expertise and oversight, noting that the NCS has the potential to add immeasurably to knowledge of the effects of environmental factors, broadly defined, on children in the United States.

In response to the report's conclusions and recommendations, the NIH [director](#) has put the NCS Main Study on hold until further notice.

Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight, the final report of the Committee on Human Spaceflight, was released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The study was requested by NASA in response to a congressional mandate and co-chaired by Mitchell Daniels (Purdue University) and Jonathan Lunine (Cornell University). Roger Tourangeau chaired a Panel on Public and Stakeholder Opinion that provided input to the main committee (see Chapter 3 and Appendixes B-E of the report).

The Report in Brief—

The United States has publicly funded its human spaceflight program on a continuous basis for more than a half-century from the early Mercury and Gemini suborbital and Earth orbital missions, to the lunar landings, and thence to the first reusable winged crewed space plane. Today the United States is the major partner in a massive orbital facility, the International Space Station, which is becoming the focal point for the first tentative steps in commercial cargo and crewed orbital space flights. And yet, the long-term future of human spaceflight beyond this project is unclear. Pronouncements by multiple presidents of bold new ventures by Americans to the Moon, to Mars, and to an asteroid in its native orbit, have not been matched by the substantial increase in NASA funding needed to make it happen. *Pathways to Exploration* explores the case for advancing this endeavor, drawing on the history of rationales for human spaceflight, examining the attitudes of stakeholders and the public, and carefully assessing the technical and fiscal realities. The report recommends maintaining a long-term focus on Mars as the horizon goal for human space exploration. With this goal in mind, the report considers funding levels necessary to maintain a robust tempo of execution, current research and exploration projects and the time/resources needed to continue them, and international cooperation that could contribute to the achievement of spaceflight to Mars. According to *Pathways to Exploration*, a successful U.S. program would require sustained national commitment and a budget that increases by more than the rate of inflation.

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 *print* and in [PDF](#). 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.

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.

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 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. **Be sure to mark your calendar:** The topic of the seminar will be *"Measuring Happiness, Suffering, and Other Dimensions of Experience: Challenges and Opportunities for Federal Surveys."* Visit the CNSTAT home page to register.

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.

CNSTAT's 127th meeting will be held May 7–8, 2015, in the *NAS main building* at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the 8th, 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.

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–December 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 has cleared review and is being prepared for release
Meeting: Workshop held April 8-9, 2014

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: Agnes Gaskin
Chair: TBD
Report planned: Workshop summary
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–February 2015
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 in review
Meetings: Last (eighth) meeting held 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; 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
Meetings: Twentieth and last meeting held August 21-22, 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: Third meeting scheduled for November 20-21, 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–September 2014
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 released: Final report, *The National Children’s Study 2014: An Assessment*, released in prepublication format, June 16, 2014, available in [*print*](#) and in [PDF](#)
Meetings: Third and final meeting held January 23-24, 2014, in Washington, DC

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 2013–July 2015
Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officer, Jeanne Rivard; project assistant, Michael Siri
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 topics of serious emotional disturbance in children, trauma and recovery, and specific mental illness diagnoses with any functional impairment
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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 released: Workshop summary, *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary*, released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available the week of September 8
Meeting: Workshop held February 10-11, 2014.

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–September 2015

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

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

Report planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for November 3-4, 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 is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for December 16-17, 2014

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; 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

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for September 3-4, 2014, at the main NAS building 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 released: Final report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly
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 released: Final report, including material from CNSTAT-led panel, *Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight*, released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014, available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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 *print* and in [PDF](#)

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.

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 planned: Workshop summary is being drafted

Meeting: Workshop held 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: Fourth meeting scheduled for October 9-10, 2014

• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •

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Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

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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.



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— October 20, 2014 —

REMINDER: There is still time to register for the *Committee on National Statistics public seminar* to be held on Friday, October 24, 2014, in the Lecture Room of the main NAS building at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. The program will begin with light refreshments at 2 pm and end with a reception at 4:30 pm. The topic of the seminar is *Measuring Dimensions of Subjective Well-Being: The Role of Official Statistics*. Speakers include **Arthur Stone**, University of Southern California, who chaired the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Subjective Well-Being (SWB); **Carol Graham**, The Brookings Institution, a member of the panel; and our special guest, **Ed Humpherson**, head of assessment of the UK Statistics Authority, who will discuss how the UK Office for National Statistics became involved in SWB data collection. To RSVP, visit the CNSTAT home page at <http://www.nationalacademies.org/cnstat>.

PEOPLE *News*

We welcome **Brian Moyer** as *director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis*. He was appointed director in September 2014, having served as acting director since May 2014 (when Steve Landefeld retired). He had served since December 2012 as BEA deputy director, overseeing the agency's administrative and communications functions and providing leadership for improving and expanding its statistical programs. Prior to becoming deputy director, he served in several key positions at BEA, including associate director for industry accounts. He is the author of numerous articles on measuring the performance of the U.S. economy. Much of his research has focused on improving industry-related statistics, including improved industry measures of volume and prices, expanded information on the sources and uses of intermediate purchases by industry, and improved industry-level productivity statistics. He has received a number of awards, both for his management and leadership skills, as well as for improvements to BEA's economic accounts. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the American University.

We congratulate **Bruce Alberts**, professor emeritus in the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California, San Francisco, former editor-in-chief of *Science*, and former president of the National Academy of Sciences, who is to receive the *National Medal of Science* from President Obama at a ceremony later this year. The medal honors people who have made outstanding contributions to science and engineering. We also note that **David Blackwell** will be recognized posthumously with the National Medal of Science. He was an eminent member of the statistics faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, the first African-American to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences, and a member of the Committee on National Statistics from 1987–1990.

We congratulate **Sally Morton**, professor and chair of the Department of Biostatistics, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, on being named by the U.S. Government Accountability Office to the *Methodology Committee* of the non-profit *Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute*

(**PCORI**), authorized in the Affordable Care Act to provide quality evidence to assist policymakers in making informed health care decisions. The Methodology Committee assists PCORI to develop and update methodological standards and guidance for comparative clinical-effectiveness research. Sally is a former president of the American Statistical Association and former member of CNSTAT and its Panel on Estimates of Poverty for Small Geographic Areas and Workshop on Encouraging Research and Development for the Federal Statistical System. She has also served on several Institute of Medicine panels.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

We note the availability of the presentations at the **Washington Statistical Society Conference on Administrative Records for Best Estimates**, held September 18, 2014, on the [WSS web site](#). The speakers and their presentations include:

- Connie Citro, CNSTAT—*From Multiple Modes for Surveys to Multiple Data Sources for Estimates: The Role of Administrative Records in Federal Statistics*;
- Phil Kott, RTI International—*A Different Paradigm Shift: Combining Administrative Data and Survey Samples for the Intelligent User*;
- Graton Gathright, U.S. Census Bureau—*The Role of Linked Administrative Data in the Evaluation and Improvement of the Survey of Income and Program Participation*;
- Shelly Wilkie Martinez, Statistical and Science Policy, OMB—*One Piece of the Multiple Data Sources Paradigm Shift: New Policy on Accessing and Using Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes*;
- Shawn Bucholtz, Office of Policy Development & Research, HUD—*Integrating Administrative Records and Commercial Data Sources into HUD's Housing Surveys: Past, Present, and Future*; and
- Amy O'Hara, U.S. Census Bureau—*Fully Leverage External Data Sources: A Census Bureau Change Principle*.

REPORT *News*

Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication form, September 26, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The workshop was requested by the Economic Research Service/USDA and was chaired by Mary Muth (RTI International).

The Report in Brief—

The ERS/USDA Food Availability Data System includes several distinct but related series on food and nutrient availability for consumption. The data serve as popular proxies for actual consumption at the national level for over 200 commodities (e.g., fresh spinach, beef, and eggs). The core Food Availability (FA) data series provides estimates of the amount of food available, per capita, for human consumption in the United States with data back to 1909 for many commodities. The Loss-Adjusted Food Availability (LAFA) data series is derived from the FA data series by adjusting for food spoilage, plate waste, and other losses to more closely approximate actual intake. This past fiscal year, as part of its initiative to systematically review all of its major data series, ERS decided to review the FADS data system. *Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss* is the summary of a workshop convened by CNSTAT and the IOM Food and Nutrition Board to advance knowledge and understanding of the measurement and technical aspects of the data supporting the LAFA data series so that these data series and subsequent food availability

and food loss estimates can be maintained and improved. The workshop considered such issues as the effects of termination of selected Census Bureau and USDA data series on estimates for affected food groups and commodities; the potential for using other data sources, such as scanner data, to improve estimates of food availability; and possible ways to improve the data on food loss at the farm and retail levels and at restaurants. This report considers knowledge gaps, data sources that may be available or could be generated to fill gaps, what can be learned from other countries and international organizations, ways to ensure consistency of treatment of commodities across series, and the most promising opportunities for new data for the various food availability series.

Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on Measuring Social and Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion in Surveys, was released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#) and *in print*. The panel was requested by the Corporation for National and Community Service and chaired by Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University).

The Report in Brief—

People's bonds, associations and networks—as well as the civil, political, and institutional characteristics of the society in which they live—can be powerful drivers affecting the quality of life among a community's, a city's, or a nation's inhabitants and their ability to achieve both individual and societal goals. Civic engagement, social cohesion, and other dimensions of social capital affect social, economic and health outcomes for individuals and communities. Can these be measured, and can federal surveys contribute toward this end? Can this information be collected elsewhere, and if so, how should it be collected? With the needs of data users in mind, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion* examines conceptual frameworks developed in the literature to determine promising measures and measurement methods for informing public policy discourse. The report provides working definitions of key terms; advises on the feasibility and specifications of indicators relevant to analyses of social, economic, and health domains; and assesses the strength of the evidence regarding the relationship between these indicators and observed trends in crime, employment, and resilience to shocks such as natural disasters. It weighs the relative merits of surveys, administrative records, and non-government data sources, and considers the appropriate role of the federal statistical system, making recommendations to improve the measurement of civic health through government surveys and identifying priority areas for research, development, and implementation.

Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication format, June 19, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#) and *in print*. The workshop was requested by the National Center for Health Statistics and chaired by Wylie Burke (University of Washington).

The Report in Brief—

Population surveys traditionally collect information from respondents from questionnaires, but, in recent years, many surveys have also been collecting biologic specimens such as blood samples, saliva, and buccal swabs, from which a respondent's DNA can be ascertained along with other biomarkers (e.g., the level of a certain protein in the blood). NHANES has been collecting and storing genetic specimens since 1991, and other surveys, such as the Health and Retirement Study funded by the National Institute on Aging, have followed suit. In order to give their informed consent to participate in a survey, respondents need to know the disposition and use of their data. Will their responses be used for one research project and then destroyed, or will they be archived for secondary use? The addition of biologic specimens to a survey not only adds complications for storing, protecting, and providing access to such data for secondary research, but also raises questions of whether, when, and for which biologic measurements the results should be reported back to individual respondents. Recently, the cost of full genomic sequencing has plummeted, and research findings are beginning to accumulate that bear up under replication and that potentially have clinical

implications for a respondent. Biomedical research studies, in which participants are asked to donate tissues for genetic studies and are usually told that they will not be contacted with any results, are increasingly confronting the issue of when and which DNA results to return to participants. *Issues in Returning Individual Results from Genome Research Using Population-Based Banked Specimens, with a Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey* is the summary of a CNSTAT workshop convened in February 2013. The workshop sessions discussed to what extent and how population surveys, in particular NHANES, should implement the reporting of results from genomic research using stored specimens and address informed consent for future data collection as well as for the use of banked specimens covered by prior informed consent agreements.

Pathways to Exploration: Rationales and Approaches for a U.S. Program of Human Spaceflight, the final report of the Committee on Human Spaceflight, was released in prepublication format, June 4, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#) and *in print*. The study was requested by NASA in response to a congressional mandate and co-chaired by Mitchell Daniels (Purdue University) and Jonathan Lunine (Cornell University). Roger Tourangeau chaired a Panel on Public and Stakeholder Opinion that provided input to the main committee (see Chapter 3 and Appendixes B-E of the report).

The Report in Brief—

The United States has publicly funded its human spaceflight program on a continuous basis for more than a half-century from the early Mercury and Gemini suborbital and Earth orbital missions, to the lunar landings, and thence to the first reusable winged crewed space plane. Today the United States is the major partner in a massive orbital facility, the International Space Station, which is becoming the focal point for the first tentative steps in commercial cargo and crewed orbital space flights. And yet, the long-term future of human spaceflight beyond this project is unclear. Pronouncements by multiple presidents of bold new ventures by Americans to the Moon, to Mars, and to an asteroid in its native orbit, have not been matched by the substantial increase in NASA funding needed to make it happen. *Pathways to Exploration* explores the case for advancing this endeavor, drawing on the history of rationales for human spaceflight, examining the attitudes of stakeholders and the public, and carefully assessing the technical and fiscal realities. The report recommends maintaining a long-term focus on Mars as the horizon goal for human space exploration. With this goal in mind, the report considers funding levels necessary to maintain a robust tempo of execution, current research and exploration projects and the time/resources needed to continue them, and international cooperation that could contribute to the achievement of spaceflight to Mars. According to *Pathways to Exploration*, a successful U.S. program would require sustained national commitment and a budget that increases by more than the rate of inflation.

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 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. The topic of the seminar is **“Measuring Dimensions of Subjective Well-Being: The Role of Official Statistics.”** Visit the CNSTAT home page to register.

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.

CNSTAT’s 127th meeting will be held May 7–8, 2015, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the 8th, 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.

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: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–December 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, *Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss: A Workshop Summary*, was released in prepublication form, September 26, 2014; it is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly
Meeting: Workshop held April 8-9, 2014

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: Agnes Gaskin
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: Agnes Gaskin
Chair: TBD
Report planned: Workshop summary
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–February 2015
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 in response to review
Meetings: Last (eighth) meeting held 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; 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
Meetings: Twentieth and last meeting held August 21-22, 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: Third meeting scheduled for November 20-21, 2014, in Washington, DC

Standing Committee on Reengineering the 2020 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

Study director: Daniel Cork; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: 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

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–September 2014

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Arthur Fries (Institute for Defense Analyses)

Report planned: Final report has cleared review and is being prepared for release

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)

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair-designate: 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
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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: First report is being drafted; second report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for November 3-4, 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 is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for December 16-17, 2014

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; 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 scheduled for January 26-27, 2015

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–December 2014

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

Chair: Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University)

Report released: Final report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication format, June 23, 2014; available in [PDF](#) and *in print*

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

National Science Foundation

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 planned: Workshop summary is in response to review

Meeting: Workshop held 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: Fifth meeting scheduled for January 8–9, 2015

• **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.



NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— November 24, 2014 —

NOTE: We call your attention to two important developments for the federal statistical community—

(1) The latest edition of the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office “blue book,” officially known as *Statistical Programs of the U.S. Government—Fiscal Year 2015*, was released on October 14, 2014. Available in [PDF](#), this is an invaluable guide to the 127 federal programs accounting for \$500,000 or more of annual expenditures for such statistical activities as data collection and estimation.

(2) A *Federal Register* notice of October 31, 2014, described the Census Bureau’s review of content for the *American Community Survey (ACS)* and the Bureau’s proposal to eliminate questions on field of bachelor’s degree, marital history, and business or medical office on property from the survey. The [FR](#) notice requests public comments, due December 30, 2014, to be sent to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via e-mail at jjessup@doc.gov). The Census Bureau will review the comments, revise its recommendations as appropriate, and send its proposed content changes to OMB, which will initiate a second public comment period before any changes are final.

PEOPLE *News*

We note with sorrow the death of **Michael J. Batutis**, at his home in Lancaster, PA, on November 1, 2014, after an extended illness. Michael retired from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2009 as chief of the Population Estimates Branch where he was responsible for overseeing national population estimates and the evaluation and accuracy of the decennial census counts before publication. Before joining the Census Bureau, he was employed by New York State as chief demographer in the Department of Economic Development. Michael authored and co-authored several publications and articles on population estimates and state data information.

We congratulate **Brian Harris-Kojetin**, senior statistician with the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office, on receiving the **2014 Pat Doyle Award** for his many contributions to the Government Statistics Section (GSS) of the American Statistical Association (ASA), including his outstanding leadership as chair of GSS, and to federal statistics more broadly. The GSS Executive Committee created the award in 2005 as a tribute to Pat’s dedication to the statistical field and the GSS during her lifetime. When Pat died, she left her imprints on an astonishingly wide range of projects and activities in the U.S. federal statistical community, and the award in her name is given to a person who contributes to the GSS in a way that leaves a lasting impact on GSS and the ASA.

We congratulate the following individuals who have served on CNSTAT and/or its study panels on their appointment, November 12, 2014, to the **2015 Technical Panel on Assumptions and Methods**. The panel is commissioned by the **Social Security Advisory Board** to review the assumptions and methods used by the Social Security trustees in their annual report on the program's financial status.

- **Alicia Munnell** (*chair*), Peter F. Drucker professor of management science, Carroll School of Management, and director, Center for Retirement Research, Boston College;
- **Katharine Abraham**, professor of economics and survey methodology, University of Maryland;
- **David Autor**, professor and associate department head, MIT Department of Economics, and director of the NBER disability research center;
- **Peter Diamond**, Institute professor (emeritus), Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and
- **Claudia Goldin**, Henry Lee professor of economics, Harvard University, and director of the NBER Development of the American Economy program.

We congratulate **Susan Murphy**, H.E. Robbins distinguished university professor of statistics, professor of psychiatry, and research professor, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, on her election, October 20, 2014, to membership in the **Institute of Medicine**, a part of the National Academies Complex. She served on the CNSTAT Panel on Handling Missing Data in Clinical Trials.

We congratulate **Nathaniel Schenker**, director of the Office of Research and Methodology of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), on receiving the **2014 Owen Thornberry Excellence in Leadership Award from NCHS** on September 17, 2014. The annual award was established in 1996 to recognize the outstanding managerial leadership of an NCHS employee. Its namesake, who served as the director of the Division of Health Interview Statistics, led efforts to conduct the first nationwide surveys of health promotion and disease prevention and AIDS knowledge and attitudes and is recognized for his contributions to data quality in telephone surveys. Nat is director of the NCHS Office of Research and Methodology and president of the American Statistical Association. He is also a member of the CNSTAT panel to review the 2010 census and plan for 2020.

We congratulate **Monroe Sirken** on his recent decision to endow a fund at the American Statistical Association to recognize a distinguished survey researcher. The first honoree will give the first **Sirken Lecture** at this year's Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, Washington, and receive a \$5,000 honorarium. Monroe earned his Ph.D. in sociology in 1950 from the University of Washington. He was a charter member of the **National Center for Health Statistics** and worked there for more than 50 years as chief mathematical statistician and associate director for research and methodology. Interested in survey methods, Monroe introduced network sampling to improve survey designs of rare and elusive populations and applied the method to a broad range of practical and often intractable survey problems. He strongly advocated conducting survey methods research at the intersection of the statistical, social, and cognitive sciences and information technology. He also introduced the first cognitive research laboratory dedicated to designing and testing survey questionnaires and data presentation methods. With the quality of Sirken's work in mind, the Sirken Award Committee will select the Sirken Lecturer based on outstanding contributions to interdisciplinary survey research that improve methods of collecting, verifying, processing, presenting, or analyzing survey data. Nominations are due December 15 and should include a nominating letter, three supporting letters, and a curriculum vitae. Send nominations to Pam Craven at pamela@amstat.org.

CNSTAT staff news—

We congratulate CNSTAT director **Constance Citro** on receiving the **2014 Waksberg Award** from *Survey Methodology* (a publication of Statistics Canada) and the American Statistical Association. The award honors Joseph Waksberg, who made many important contributions to survey methodology in his career at the U.S. Census Bureau and Westat. (Joe served as a member of the CNSTAT panel that

produced the 1985 report, *The Bicentennial Census: New Directions for Methodology in 1990*; Connie and CNSTAT senior program officer Mike Cohen were staff to the panel.) Each award winner is asked to prepare an article as part of the Waksberg Invited Paper Series to review the development and current state of a significant topic within the field of survey methodology and reflect the mixture of theory and practice that characterized Joe's work. In coming up with the 2014 award winner, the committee stated that “*Connie's career in promoting survey research methods in the interest of social and public policy is consistent with Joe's wide ranging interest as a survey statistician and survey researcher. Connie's selection also represents an attempt by our committee to broaden the representation of survey methodologists and practitioners in the long line of Waksberg Award winners.*” Connie presented her paper, “From Multiple Modes for Surveys to Multiple Data Sources for Estimates,” at the International Methodology Symposium in Ottawa on October 30, 2014, it will be published in the December 2014 issue of *Survey Methodology*.

We welcome **Mary Ann Kasper** to the CNSTAT staff as a senior program assistant. Mary Ann has worked with several DBASSE boards in her years with the National Academies. You will note her name listed as assisting with several new CNSTAT projects in the project information section below.

We note, with great appreciation for her outstanding contributions to facilitating CNSTAT operations and best wishes for her future endeavors, the departure of **Jacqui Sovde**, CNSTAT program coordinator, on December 1, 2014, after 7 years with the National Academies, the last 3 years with CNSTAT. Jacqui is moving to California to pursue a career with arts organizations. (NOTE: CNSTAT is recruiting for Jacqui's replacement: please visit this [link](#)—job #140247-7.)

We note, with immense appreciation for his outstanding contributions to CNSTAT and its parent unit, the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE), and all best wishes for his future endeavors, the departure of **Miron Straf** from the National Academies on December 5, 2014, to pursue new opportunities. Miron is well known to many in the statistical and research communities from his foundational service with CNSTAT and DBASSE and as 2002 president of the American Statistical Association and editor for *Chance Magazine* of a well-received humor column from 1988–1998. Miron received B.S. and M.S. degrees in mathematics from Carnegie Mellon University and a Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Chicago. After several years as assistant professor of statistics at the University of California, Berkeley, Miron joined the staff of the new Committee on National Statistics as a research associate in 1974. After a year at the London School of Economics, Miron became CNSTAT research director in 1978 and director in 1987, a position he held until 1999. During his tenure leading CNSTAT, Miron initiated over 50 major studies and 40 workshops on a wide range of important issues for federal statistics. He co-edited with Stephen Fienberg and the late Margaret Martin a landmark 1985 CNSTAT publication, *Sharing Research Data*; co-edited with Thomas Jabine, Judith Tanur, and Roger Tourangeau an influential 1984 CNSTAT publication on *Cognitive Aspects of Survey Methodology* (for which the editors received the 2005 Warren J. Mitofsky Innovators Award from the American Association for Public Opinion Research); and initiated in 1992, CNSTAT's consequential white paper, *Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency*, aka “the purple book,” currently in its fifth edition (2013). As deputy director for special projects of DBASSE, Miron most recently co-edited with Richard Celeste and Ann Griswold a congressionally mandated report, *Furthering America's Research Enterprise* (National Research Council, 2014), and before that, co-edited with Kenneth Prewitt and Thomas Schwandt, *Using Science as Evidence in Public Policy* (National Research Council, 2012). Miron is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

The 2014 FCSM Statistical Policy Seminar, “Official Statistics in a Changing Society—Making Choices and Balancing Tradeoffs,” will be held **December 15-16, 2014**, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Register at this [link](#). The participants include a galaxy of notables in the Washington statistical community.

Save the Date! – The 24th Annual Hansen Lecture will be held on the afternoon of **Tuesday, January 20th, 2015**, the exact time to be determined. The lecture will take place at the usual location, the USDA Auditorium in Washington, DC. The speaker will be **Danny Pfeffermann**, director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel. The title of the lecture is “Methodological Issues and Challenges in the Production of Official Statistics.” There will be two discussants: **Lawrence Brown**, professor of statistics at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and chair of CNSTAT; and **John Eltinge**, associate commissioner for the Office of Survey Methods Research at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A full announcement will be posted once the details are finalized.

REPORT *News*

Reliability Growth: Enhancing Defense System Reliability, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on 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](#); printed copies will be available shortly. 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.

Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication form, September 26, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The workshop was requested by the Economic Research Service/USDA and was chaired by Mary Muth (RTI International).

The Report in Brief—

The ERS/USDA Food Availability Data System includes several distinct but related series on food and nutrient availability for consumption. The data serve as popular proxies for actual consumption at the national level for over 200 commodities (e.g., fresh spinach, beef, and eggs). The core Food Availability (FA) data series provides estimates of the amount of food available, per capita, for human consumption in the United States with data back to 1909 for many commodities. The Loss-Adjusted Food Availability (LAFA) data series is derived from the FA data series by adjusting for food spoilage, plate waste, and other losses to more closely approximate actual intake. This past fiscal year, as part of its initiative to systematically review all of its major data series, ERS decided to review the FADS data system. *Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss* is the summary of a workshop convened by CNSTAT and the IOM Food and Nutrition Board to advance knowledge and understanding of the measurement and technical aspects of the data supporting the LAFA data series so that these data series and subsequent food availability and food loss estimates can be maintained and improved. The workshop considered such issues as the effects of termination of selected Census Bureau and USDA data series on estimates for affected food groups and commodities; the potential for using other data sources, such as scanner data, to improve estimates of food availability; and possible ways to improve the data on food loss at the farm and retail levels and at restaurants. This report considers knowledge gaps, data sources that may be available or could be generated to fill gaps, what can be learned from other countries and international organizations, ways to ensure consistency of treatment of commodities across series, and the most promising opportunities for new data for the various food availability series.

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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:

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CNSTAT's 128th meeting will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave, 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.

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: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–December 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, *Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss: A Workshop Summary*, released in prepublication form, September 26, 2014; it is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meeting: Workshop held April 8-9, 2014

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: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–February 2015
Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant, Michael Siri
Chair: Alan Zaslavsky (Harvard Medical School)
Report planned: Final report is in response to review
Meetings: Last (eighth) meeting held May 28, 2014, in Washington, DC

Panel to Review the 2010 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau
Duration: May 2009–March 2015
Study director: Daniel Cork; 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
Meetings: Twentieth and last meeting held August 21-22, 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: Third meeting held November 20-21, 2014, in Washington, DC; fourth meeting TBD

Standing Committee on Reengineering the 2020 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau
Duration: September 2014–September 2019
Study director: Daniel Cork; project assistant: Anthony Mann
Chair: TBD
Report planned: 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
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–September 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; it is available in [PDE](#); printed copies will be available shortly.
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)
Chair: TBD
Report planned: Final report
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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; 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
Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for January 29-30, 2015, in Washington, DC

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: First report is being drafted; second report

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting tentatively scheduled for March 5-6, 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; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Jeffrey Sedgwick (Keswick Advisors)

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for December 16-17, 2014

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; 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 scheduled for January 26-27, 2015

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–December 2014

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

Chair: Kenneth Prewitt (Columbia University)

Report released: Final report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy*, released in prepublication form, June 23, 2014; available in [PDF](#) and *in print*

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

National Science Foundation

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 planned: Workshop summary has cleared review and is being prepared for release
Meeting: Workshop held 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: Fifth meeting scheduled for January 8-9, 2015

• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •

Committee on National Statistics

Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

The National Academies

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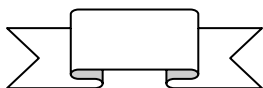
– See our website for previous issues of *News from CNSTAT*, under “CNSTAT News” –

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.

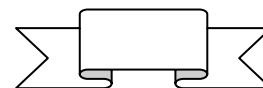


NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— December 19, 2014 —



**Best Wishes from CNSTAT to All for
the Holiday Season and the New Year**



NOTE:

(1) There is still time to comment on a *Federal Register* notice of October 31, 2014, which described the Census Bureau's review of content for the *American Community Survey (ACS)* and the Bureau's proposal to drop questions on field of bachelor's degree, marital history, and business or medical office on property from the survey. The [FR](#) notice requests public comments, due **December 30, 2014**, to be sent to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, at jjessup@doc.gov. Comments need not be limited to the questions that are proposed to be dropped but may be on other aspects of the ACS.

(2) *The 24th Annual Hansen Lecture* will be held **Tuesday, January 20th, 2015**, from 3:30–5:30 pm at the Jefferson Auditorium, USDA South Building. The speaker will be **Danny Pfeffermann**, director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel. The title of the lecture is "Methodological Issues and Challenges in the Production of Official Statistics." See "Event and Other News" below for more information.

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Jeffrey Sedgwick** on his appointment as *executive director* of the *Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA)* to be effective January 1, 2015. JRSA is the national nonprofit organization of state criminal justice Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) directors, as well as other researchers and practitioners throughout government, academia, and the justice community who are dedicated to the use of research and analysis to make informed policy and program decisions. Jeff is currently a member of the CNSTAT and Committee on Law and Justice Panel on Modernizing the Nation's Crime Statistics (he stepped down as chair of the panel consequent to his appointment to head JRSA—Janet Lauritsen from the University of Missouri–St. Louis has taken over as chair). He is co-founder and managing partner of Keswick Advisors, a statistical analysis and policy evaluation consulting firm in Richmond, Virginia. He was confirmed by the Senate as director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) in April 2006, and in January 2008, he was named acting Assistant Attorney General (AAG) for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in addition to the BJS directorship. He was formally nominated in April 2008 as AAG for OJP and confirmed to the post in October 2008; he served in that capacity until the change in presidential administrations in January 2009. He previously served at BJS as deputy director for data analysis from January 1984 to January 1985. He is professor emeritus of political science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he began working in 1978, specializing in aspects of American government including public finance,

criminal justice policy, and the role of the American presidency. He has a B.A. in political science from Kenyon College, an M.A. in public administration and public policy from the University of Virginia (UVA), and a Ph.D. in government and public affairs, also from UVA.

We congratulate **William Q. Meeker, Jr.**, distinguished professor of liberal arts and sciences and professor of statistics, Iowa State University, and **Stephanie Shipp**, deputy director and research professor, Social and Decision Laboratory, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute at Virginia Tech, on their recent election as *fellows* of the **American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)**. Both have served on CNSTAT panels or workshop steering committees.

CNSTAT Staff News—

We welcome **Jordyn White**, who joins the CNSTAT staff on December 22, 2014, as a program officer. She will work with Dan Cork on one or more projects and also with staff of the Board on Testing and Assessment on a joint BOTACNSTAT project to evaluate the achievement levels for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Jordyn comes to CNSTAT from having worked for 5 years in various positions with the American Community Survey staff at the U.S. Census Bureau. She has a B.A. in psychology from the University of Pittsburgh and an M.A. in criminal justice from St. Joseph's University. She is co-founder and general manager of the nonprofit, semi-professional Washington Prodigy Women's Full Contact Football League.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

The **24th Annual Hansen Lecture** will be held on **Tuesday, January 20th, 2015**, from 3:30–5:30 pm at the Jefferson Auditorium, U.S. Department of Agriculture South Building, Independence Ave. (between 12th and 14th Sts.), Washington, DC. The program will be followed by a reception. The speaker will be **Danny Pfeffermann**, director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel. The title of his lecture is “Methodological Issues and Challenges in the Production of Official Statistics.” There will be two discussants: **Lawrence Brown**, professor of statistics at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and chair of CNSTAT; and **John Eltinge**, associate commissioner for the Office of Survey Methods Research at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Advance registration is possible here: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Morris_Hansen/.

REPORT *News*

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](#); printed copies will be available shortly. 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.

Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss: A Workshop Summary, was released in prepublication form, September 26, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The workshop was requested by the Economic Research Service/USDA and was chaired by Mary Muth (RTI International).

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The ERS/USDA Food Availability Data System includes several distinct but related series on food and nutrient availability for consumption. The data serve as popular proxies for actual consumption at the national level for over 200 commodities (e.g., fresh spinach, beef, and eggs). The core Food Availability (FA) data series provides estimates of the amount of food available, per capita, for human consumption in the United States with data back to 1909 for many commodities. The Loss-Adjusted Food Availability (LAFA) data series is derived from the FA data series by adjusting for food spoilage, plate waste, and other losses to more closely approximate actual intake. This past fiscal year, as part of its initiative to systematically review all of its major data series, ERS decided to review the FADS data system. *Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss* is the summary of a workshop convened by CNSTAT and the IOM Food and Nutrition Board to advance knowledge and understanding of the measurement and technical aspects of the data supporting the LAFA data series so that these data series and subsequent food availability and food loss estimates can be maintained and improved. The workshop considered such issues as the effects of termination of selected Census Bureau and USDA data series on estimates for affected food groups and commodities; the potential for using other data sources, such as scanner data, to improve estimates of food availability; and possible ways to improve the data on food loss at the farm and retail levels and at restaurants. This report considers knowledge gaps, data sources that may be available or could be generated to fill gaps, what can be learned from other countries and international organizations, ways to ensure consistency of treatment of commodities across series, and the most promising opportunities for new data for the various food availability series.

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CNSTAT’s 127th meeting will be held **May 7–8, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the **8th**, there will be a special program organized by the **NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN)**. More details will be available in the next newsletter, but essentially, there will be four mini-workshops open to the public (space permitting) from 10-noon on statistical topics on which various NCRN nodes have been working; followed by a luncheon of CNSTAT members and staff with statistical agency heads (box lunches will be available for workshop attendees); followed by a public seminar on the NCRN, beginning with light refreshments at 1:30 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm. 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 Ave, 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.

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Department of Agriculture

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–March 2015

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, *Data and Research to Improve the U.S. Food Availability System and Estimates of Food Loss: A Workshop Summary*, released in prepublication form, September 26, 2014; it is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meeting: Workshop held April 8-9, 2014

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: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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–February 2015

Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant, Michael Siri

Chair: Alan Zaslavsky (Harvard Medical School)

Report planned: Final report has cleared review and is being prepared for transmittal and release

Meetings: Last (eighth) meeting held May 28, 2014, in Washington, DC

Panel to Review the 2010 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2009–March 2015

Study director: Daniel Cork; 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

Meetings: Twentieth and last meeting held August 21-22, 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–November 2016

Study director: Carol House; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin

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 the 2020 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

Study director: Daniel Cork; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair-nominee: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Report planned: 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

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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; it is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly.

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: First meeting scheduled for February 19-20, 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

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for January 29-30, 2015, in Washington, DC

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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: First report is being drafted; second report

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting scheduled for April 2015 (specific date/place TBD)

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; project assistant, Michael Siri

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

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Seventh meeting scheduled for February 18-19, 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: Barbara Wanchisen; 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 scheduled for January 26-27, 2015, in Washington, DC

National Science Foundation

Forum on Open Science

NOTE: This project was recently transferred to the jurisdiction of CNSTAT.

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2015

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports planned: 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 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 planned: Workshop summary has cleared review and is being prepared for release

Meeting: Workshop held 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: Christopher Mackie; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting scheduled for January 8-9, 2015, in Washington, DC

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

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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.