



# NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— January 27, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **William (Bill) Sabol** on his appointment as *director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics*, to be effective in early February. He has served as acting BJS director since early 2014, when Jim Lynch resigned to return to academia, heading the University of Maryland's Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. He has also been serving since August 2014 as acting director of the National Institute of Justice, a sister agency to BJS in the Office of Justice Programs in the Department of Justice. Bill joined BJS in 2006 as chief of the corrections statistics unit and became principal deputy director for statistical programs in 2010. Previously, he served from 2003 to 2006 as the associate director of homeland security and justice at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), where he also had worked from 1991 to 1995. He also served as associate director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change at the Mandel School of Applied Sciences at Case Western Reserve University (2000 to 2004) and senior research associate at the Urban Institute (1995 to 2000). His research efforts over the years have focused primarily on criminal justice policy issues, notably on sentencing policy, the effects of incarceration on communities, and statistical issues and methods. Prior to completing his Ph.D. in 1988 from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, he was a Fulbright Scholar at the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University.

We congratulate **Nathaniel (Nat) Schenker** on his appointment in November 2014 as *deputy director of the National Center for Health Statistics*. Nat joined NCHS in 1999 from UCLA, where he had appointments in the departments of Biostatistics and Biomathematics. In 2010, he was appointed associate director of the Office of Research and Methodology, which is responsible for the Center's research and development in support of its complex data collections, including work on sample design, questionnaire development and testing, analytic techniques, and dissemination. NCHS honored him with the prestigious Elijah White Outstanding Scientist Award in 2010. In addition to his role at NCHS, he serves as past president of the American Statistical Association (ASA). He has served three terms on the ASA Board of Directors, was previously a vice president, was elected a fellow in 1995, and received the Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics in 2006 and the Founders Award for distinguished service in 2011. Nat received his A.B. from Princeton and his S.M. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, all in statistics. Earlier in his career, he served on the staff of the Statistical Research Division at the U.S. Census Bureau. He is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and the Delta Omega honorary public health society. He is also an adjunct professor, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland. He served on CNSTAT's Panel to Review the 2010 Census and is a member of its new Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations.

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

The *Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics (CATS)*, in the Division of Physical and Engineering Sciences of the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council, is holding a workshop, **February 26–27, 2015**, in the Lecture Room of the main NAS building, 2101 Constitution Ave NW, on *Statistical Challenges in Assessing and Fostering the Reproducibility of Scientific Results*. For more information about the workshop and to register, visit this [site](#).

Specific workshop objectives include:

- What are appropriate metrics and study designs that can be used to quantify reproducibility of scientific results? Variability across studies is a well-known phenomenon and has given rise to the field of research synthesis and meta-analysis. How should this variability be assessed? What degree of variability would lead to concerns about lack of reproducibility?
- How can the choice of statistical methods for study design and analysis affect the reproducibility of a scientific result? How does routine statistical hypothesis testing with widely used thresholds for test significance affect the reproducibility of results? How do standard methods for study design and choice of sample size affect reproducibility?
- Are there analytical and infrastructural approaches that can enhance reproducibility, within disciplines and overall? Do we need new conceptual/theoretical frameworks for assessing the strength of evidence from a study? Do we need broad adoption of practices for making study protocols and study data available to the scientific community? How can this be achieved?

Nominations are now invited for the **2015 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics**. The Award is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Contributions can be in development of new statistical measures, statistical research, use of economic statistics to analyze and interpret economic activity, development of statistical tools, management of statistical programs, or application of data production techniques. The 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. A nomination form is available [here](#). Completed nominations must be received by March 16, 2015. For more information please contact Thomas Evans, [evans.thomas@bls.gov](mailto:evans.thomas@bls.gov), or call (202) 691-6354.

## REPORT *News*

*Realizing the Potential of the American Community Survey: Challenges, Tradeoffs, and Opportunities*, the final report of the Panel on Addressing Priority Technical Issues for the Next Decade of the American Community Survey (ACS), was released in prepublication form on January 16, 2015. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The panel was chaired by Alan Zaslavsky, Harvard Medical School, for the U.S. Census Bureau.

### **The Report in Brief—**

The ACS was conceptualized as a replacement to the census long form, which collected detailed population and housing data from a sample of the U.S. population, once a decade, as part of the decennial census operations. The long form was traditionally the main source of socioeconomic information for areas below the national level. The data provided for small areas, such as counties, municipalities, and neighborhoods, is what made the long form unique, and what makes the ACS unique today. Since the successful transition from the decennial long form in 2005, the ACS has

become an invaluable resource for many stakeholders, particularly for meeting national and state level data needs. However, due to inadequate sample sizes, a major challenge for the survey is producing reliable estimates for smaller geographic areas. This is also a good time to assess other aspects of the survey in order to identify opportunities for refinement based on the experience of the first few years. *Realizing the Potential of the American Community Survey* provides input on ways of improving the ACS, focusing on two priority areas: identifying methods that could improve the quality of the data available for small areas, and suggesting changes that would increase the survey's efficiency in responding to new data needs. This report considers changes that the ACS Office should consider over the course of the next few years in order to further improve the ACS data.

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

**The Report in Brief—**

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

***Reliability Growth: Enhancing Defense System Reliability***, the final report of the CNSTAT Panel on the Theory and Application of Reliability Growth Modeling to Defense Systems, was released in prepublication form on November 12, 2014. It is available in [PDF](#); 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 print and in [PDF](#). 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.

**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 126<sup>th</sup> 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 127<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 7–8, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the **8<sup>th</sup>**, there will be a special program organized by the **NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN)**. More details will be forthcoming, but essentially, there will be four mini-workshops open to the public (space permitting) from 10:30-12:15 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. The main seminar presentation will be given by **Stephen Fienberg** and **John Abowd** on *Can Government-Academic Partnerships Help Secure the Future of the Federal Statistical System? Examples from the NSF-Census Research Network*. For more information about the NCRN and what the various nodes have been up to, see <http://www.ncrn.info/>.

**CNSTAT's 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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–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: 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; available in print and in [PDF](#)

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: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for April 16-17, 2015 at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC

**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: Final report, *Realizing the Potential of the American Community Survey: Challenges, Tradeoffs, and Opportunities*, released in prepublication form, January 16, 2015; available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

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: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning; it will also stand up a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's Economic Census and economic surveys

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for February 23-24, 2015 in Washington, DC

## **Department of Defense**

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

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

Duration: September 2009–December 2014

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Arthur Fries (Institute for Defense Analyses)

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

### **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 in review; 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 held January 26-27, 2015, in Washington, DC; fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for first week in May 2015



## **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 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

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

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2013–April 2015

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

Chair: Lester Salamon (Johns Hopkins University)

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

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

## **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**

### **Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration**

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

Duration: May 2013–October 2015

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for May 8–9, 2015, in Washington, DC

• **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

— February 26, 2015 —

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

## PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Rebecca Blank**, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Madison and former acting and deputy secretary and undersecretary for economic affairs in the U.S. Department of Commerce, who was named the **2015 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize Winner** by the *American Academy of Political and Social Science*. The Moynihan Prize honors individuals who use sound analysis and social science research to inform public policy and who contribute to the public discourse on society's most pressing issues. Previously, Becky served a term on the Council of Economic Advisers, as dean and professor of public policy and economics in the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan, on the faculty at Northwestern University and Princeton University, and as a fellow at the Brookings Institution. Her Moynihan Lecture on Social Science and Public Policy—"What Drives American Competitiveness"—is open to the public and is scheduled for the afternoon of May 7, 2015, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Becky served on several CNSTAT panels, including those that produced *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach* in 1995 and *Measuring Racial Discrimination* in 2004.

CNSTAT welcomes two new staff members:

- **Eileen LeFurgy** joined CNSTAT as program coordinator on February 2; her primary responsibilities are supporting Connie Citro and CNSTAT meetings and operations, including the CNSTAT website. She comes to CNSTAT having worked for 2 years as a project coordinator on grants from the Department of Justice at the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Alexandria. Prior positions include as project coordinator/research assistant for Development Services Group, Inc., in Bethesda; research specialist for National Corporate Research, Ltd., in Washington, DC; and archives technician with the National Archives and Records Administration in College Park. She has a B.A. in criminology and criminal justice and sociology from the University of Maryland–College Park and an M.S. in justice, law, and society from American University.
- **Seth Hauser** returned on February 23 as a senior program officer on a temporary assignment to CNSTAT, where he served from 2002 to 2003, contributing to two reports: *Measuring Racial*

*Discrimination* (2004) and *The 2000 Census: Counting Under Adversity* (2004). In the interim, Seth spent more than a decade as an analyst and manager of analysts in the U.S. intelligence community, focused largely on security dynamics in East Asia. Seth received his Ph.D. in sociology and M.A. in statistics from the University of Michigan and his B.A. in social policy from Carleton College.

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**The Report in Brief—**

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

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

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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:

**CNSTAT’s 127<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 7–8, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC. On the **8<sup>th</sup>**, there will be a special program organized by CNSTAT and the **NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN)**.

**CNSTAT’s 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 129<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **NAS Keck Center of the National Academies** in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

## Active PANELS & WORKSHOPS

[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]

### Department of Agriculture

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair-designate: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

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: 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; available in print and in [PDF](#)

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: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for April 16-17, 2015 at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC

**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: Final report, *Realizing the Potential of the American Community Survey: Challenges, Tradeoffs, and Opportunities*, released in prepublication form, January 16, 2015; available in [PDF](#) and in print

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

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 Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

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

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held February 23-24, 2015 in Washington, DC; second meeting 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; 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: Second meeting scheduled for May 27-28, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

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

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting held January 29-30, 2015, in Washington, DC; workshop/second meeting on Serious Emotional Disturbance in Children scheduled for June 11-12, 2015, in Washington, DC; workshop/third meeting on Specific Mental Illness Diagnoses with Functional Impairment scheduled for September 24-25, 2015; workshop/third meeting on Trauma and Recovery from Substance Use or Mental Disorder 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 in review; second report

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

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

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

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

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

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

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

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

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

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

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2013–April 2015

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

Chair: Lester Salamon (Johns Hopkins University)

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

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

## **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**

### **Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration**

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

Duration: May 2013–October 2015

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Sixth meeting scheduled for May 8–9, 2015, in 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 26, 2015 —

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

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

## PEOPLE *News*

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

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

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

## REPORT *News*

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

### **The Report in Brief—**

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

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

### **The Report in Brief—**

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

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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.

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

**CNSTAT's 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 129<sup>th</sup> meeting* will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **NAS Keck Center of the National Academies** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

## *Active* **PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

*[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]*

### **Department of Agriculture**

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2015

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

#### **Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA**

Sponsor: Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2015

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

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary

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

## Department of Commerce

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

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

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

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

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

## Department of Defense

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

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

Duration: September 2009–December 2014

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Arthur Fries (Institute for Defense Analyses)

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

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

## Department of Education

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

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

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

Report planned: Final report

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



## **Department of Health and Human Services**

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

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

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

## **Department of Homeland Security**

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

Sponsor: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

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

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

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

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

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

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

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

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

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

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2013–April 2015

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

Chair: Lester Salamon (Johns Hopkins University)

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

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

## **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: TBD

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

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

Upcoming Meetings: TBD

### **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

Study director: TBD

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**

#### **Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration**

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

Duration: May 2013–October 2015

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

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

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

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

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



# NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— May 1, 2015 —

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

## PEOPLE *News*

We note with profound sadness the recent deaths of two people—**Janet Norwood** on March 27 and **Richard Suzman** on April 16—who were giants in the fields of federal statistics and social and behavioral research, respectively, and whose wisdom, initiative, and high standards of excellence and integrity will be much missed. Both supported the mission of CNSTAT, and CNSTAT, in turn, greatly valued their service toward improved federal statistics and enhanced social and behavioral knowledge. We attach an obituary from the *New York Times* for Janet and a memorandum of appreciation of Richard from Richard Hodes, director of the National Institute on Aging. To the information contained therein, we add notes about the associations of these two outstanding people with CNSTAT and the National Academies:

- **Janet Norwood**, as commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, was a core supporter of CNSTAT and commissioned a study that resulted in *Counting Injuries and Illnesses in the Workplace: Proposals for a Better System* (National Research Council, 1987). Subsequent to her retirement from BLS in 1991, she wrote *Organizing to Count: Change in the Federal Statistical System* (The Urban Institute Press, 1995) and served on CNSTAT from 1992–1999. Over a 20-year period, she chaired CNSTAT panels to review the statistical procedures for the decennial census, statistical programs and practices of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, and the USDA measurement of food insecurity and hunger and, served as a member of CNSTAT panels on census requirements in the year 2000 and beyond and methods for assessing discrimination. She also served on standing units and study panels in other parts of the National Academies. She was a mentor to many CNSTAT staff and a valued colleague to members.
- **Richard Suzman**, director of the Division of Behavioral and Social Research in the National Institute on Aging, was a core supporter of CNSTAT and commissioned several dozen studies over a 25-year period from CNSTAT and its sister Committee on Population. Topics of these studies included disability statistics, aging policy statistics, disclosure limitation and data access, health policy modeling, elder abuse, accounting for health and health care, best practices for biosocial surveys, and measuring subjective well-being. Many of these topics were relevant for the broader federal statistical and research communities. Richard also supported major surveys

related to retirement, health, and aging and contributed to other important surveys, such as the American Time Use Survey.

We note with great sadness the death on April 28 of **Eva Jacobs**, retired from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and professionally active her entire life, of congestive heart failure at age 94. *[Please see the notice of funeral arrangements at the end of the newsletter.]* Eva had a 40-year career with BLS. From 1972 to 1993, she was chief of the Division of Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE), overseeing the conversion of the CE from a decennial activity to a continuous program beginning in 1980. From 1972 to 1982, she was also responsible for the BLS Family Budget Program, which estimated the cost of an adequate standard of living for a U.S. urban working family in various cities using hypothetical family budgets. She previously held positions in BLS's Productivity Division and Economic Growth Division. Retiring in 1993 from BLS, she served as an advisor to government agencies and private sector groups on construction of price indexes, including chairing a technical panel to advise the Safe Harbor Working Group on cost-of-living adjustments for salaries of federal employees in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. She edited numerous editions, the last in 2009, of *Handbook of U.S. Labor Statistics: Employment, Earnings, Prices, Productivity, and Other Labor Data*, published by Bernan Press. She was a fellow of the American Statistical Association and served on its Board of Directors. In 1998, she received the Julius Shiskin Award for Economic Statistics, sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, National Association of Business Economists, and ASA Business and Economics Statistics Section, "for her management of the Consumer Expenditure Survey Program, her work on the use of the Consumer Expenditure Survey data to analyze and interpret the economy, and her responsiveness to customer needs." She received her B.A. in economics from Brooklyn College and had graduate training in statistics, econometrics, and survey methodology from George Washington University. She was active in ReSET, an organization of retired scientists, engineers, and technicians, who engage elementary school students in hands-on science learning. She was also for almost 30 years a member of a small book club, which meets monthly and includes Wendy Bradburn, Connie Citro, Lynda Carlson, Marcia Field, Cynthia Thomas, and Barbara Torrey, all of whom will miss Eva's life force immensely.

We also note with sadness the death on April 3 of **Norman Nie**, research professor in the Stanford Department of Political Science and director of the Stanford Institute for the Quantitative Study of Society, of cancer at age 72. He co-founded SPSS in 1975, having co-developed the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences while studying for his Ph.D. at Stanford, and in 1998 co-founded Knowledge Networks. Among his many honors, he received the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) award for exceptionally distinguished achievement in public opinion research, received a lifetime achievement award from AAPOR for his contributions to survey analytics as well as his work in political behavior, and was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He served on the CNSTAT panel that produced *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy* (National Research Council, 2013).

We congratulate **Rebecca Blank**, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on receiving the **2015 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize** from the **American Academy of Political and Social Science**. Named after the late senator, the Moynihan Prize honors individuals who use sound analysis and social science research to inform public policy while also contributing to the public discourse on society's most pressing issues. Becky became chancellor at UW-Madison in 2013. From 2009 to 2013, she served as under secretary for economic affairs and then was named deputy secretary and acting secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce. She was a member of the Council of Economic Advisers from 1997 to 1999 and a fellow at the Brookings Institution before joining Commerce. From 1999 to 2008, she served as dean and professor of public policy and economics in the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, and she has held faculty positions at Northwestern University and Princeton University. She has a B.A. in economics (summa cum laude) from the University of Minnesota and a



Ph.D. in economics from MIT. For CNSTAT, she chaired the panel on methods for assessing discrimination and served as a member of the panel that produced the 1995 report, *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*. When at Commerce, she was instrumental in the implementation of a new Supplemental Poverty Measure based on the 1995 report. For the National Academies, she also served on the Division of Behavioral and Social Science and Education's committee on the fiscal future of the United States and the DBASSE division advisory committee. She will deliver a lecture as part of the Moynihan prize ceremony (see Events below).

We congratulate **David Friedman** on his appointment as associate commissioner for the Office of Prices and Living Conditions at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, effective April 19, 2015. David has worked at the Bureau since 1978. The first 24 years of his career were spent in various positions within the Division of International Prices in OPLC. In 2003, he became the first chief of the new Program Standards Group (PSG) within the Office of Compensation and Working Conditions, in support of both the National Compensation Survey (NCS) and Occupational Safety and Health Statistics. From January through August 2008, he served as chief of the Division of Compensation Data Estimation, leading staff in the production, compilation, and validation of NCS estimates. Since September 2008, David has served as assistant commissioner for industrial prices and price indexes, leading the PPI program through several significant accomplishments including development and implementation of the new Final Demand-Intermediate Demand aggregation indexes. He also initiated closer collaboration efforts between IPP and PPI, including the start of the innovative joint Industrial Price Systems investment. He received an MBA from the University of Maryland, and a B.A. from George Washington University and an M.A. from Johns Hopkins University, both in International Affairs

We congratulate the following members of the CNSTAT community who were elected to membership in the *National Academy of Sciences* at its annual meeting, April 28, 2015:

- **Angus Deaton**, Dwight D. Eisenhower professor of economics and international affairs, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and Department of Economics, Princeton University. He served on CNSTAT from 1989 to 1992 and as a member of the CNSTAT panels on measuring poverty and cost-of-living indexes.
- **Catherine Kling**, Charles F. Curtiss distinguished professor of agriculture and life sciences, professor of economics, and director, Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, Iowa State University. She served on the CNSTAT panel to review the USDA Agricultural Resource Management Survey.
- **James Poterba**, Mitsui professor of economics, Department of Economics, MIT. He contributed to the CNSTAT panel on modeling retirement income and served on the National Academies Board on Science, Technology and Economic Policy and Committee on the Long-Run Economic Effects of the Aging U.S. Population.
- **Bruce Western**, professor of sociology and Daniel and Florence Guggenheim professor of criminal justice, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He served on the CNSTAT panel to review programs of the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

We welcome four new staff members to CNSTAT:

- **Brian Harris-Kojetin** is joining CNSTAT on May 4, 2015, as deputy director and study director for the new panel on improving federal statistics for policy and social science research using multiple data sources and state-of-the-art estimation methods. He comes from OMB where he served as senior statistician in the Statistical and Science Policy Office. He chaired the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology and was the lead at OMB on issues related to standards for statistical surveys, survey nonresponse, survey respondent incentives, and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA). He also served as the

desk officer for the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the demographic programs of the U.S. Census Bureau. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and an adjunct faculty member at the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland. Prior to joining OMB in 2001, he was senior project leader, Research Standards and Practices, the Arbitron Company; and research psychologist in the Office of Survey Methods Research, Bureau of Labor Statistics. He has a B.A. from the University of Denver and a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Minnesota. Brian can be reached at [bkojetin@nas.edu](mailto:bkojetin@nas.edu).

- **Seth Hauser** joined CNSTAT on February 23, 2015, working temporarily as a senior program officer for the panel on modernizing U.S. crime statistics. He previously worked at CNSTAT in 2002–2003, contributing to two reports: *Measuring Racial Discrimination* (2004) and *The 2000 Census: Counting Under Adversity* (2004). Since then, he spent more than a decade as an analyst and manager of analysts in the U.S. intelligence community, focused largely on security dynamics in East Asia. Seth received his Ph.D. in sociology and M.A. in statistics from the University of Michigan and his B.A. in social policy from Carleton College. Seth can be reached at [shauser@nas.edu](mailto:shauser@nas.edu).
- **Eileen LeFurgy** joined CNSTAT February 2, 2015, as program coordinator working directly for Connie Citro and the CNSTAT members. She previously worked as a project coordinator on grants from the Department of Justice at the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Alexandria, VA; project coordinator/research assistant for Development Services Group, Inc., in Bethesda, MD; research specialist for National Corporate Research, Ltd., in Washington, DC; and archives technician with the National Archives and Records Administration in College Park, MD. She has a B.A. in criminology and criminal justice and sociology from the University of Maryland–College Park and an M.S. in justice, law, and society from American University. Eileen can be reached at [elefurgy@nas.edu](mailto:elefurgy@nas.edu).
- **Glenn White** joined CNSTAT on April 27, 2015, as senior program officer directing the new study on reengineering the Census Bureau’s annual economic surveys. In 2014 he retired from Ernst & Young LLP after 16 years where he was the survey practice leader for the Quantitative Economics and Statistics group located in Washington, DC. Previously, he was a mathematical statistician with the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Census Bureau. Glenn has been an adjunct faculty member of George Washington University, teaching a graduate course in survey management. He has held elected and appointed offices in the American Statistical Association and Washington Statistical Society. He received his M.S. in biostatistics from the University of Vermont and his B.A. in mathematics/biology from the University of San Diego. Glenn can be reached at [gdwhite@nas.edu](mailto:gdwhite@nas.edu).

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

### ***2015 Moynihan Lecture: What Drives American Competitiveness?***

Rebecca Blank, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Madison and former acting U.S. Secretary of Commerce, who was recently named the 2015 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize Winner (see above), will give a public lecture on May 7, 2015, in Washington, DC, in which she will identify the critical levers for economic competitiveness. The lecture will take place at 2:30 p.m., at the National Press Club. If you plan to attend the lecture, please register [here](#). If you cannot join in person but would like to participate, visit the [AAPSS website](#) on May 7 to watch the lecture live.

## REPORT *News*

***Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums—Report 1***, the first report of the Water Science and Technology Board, Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Applications, and CNSTAT

Committee on the Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums, was released in prepublication form on March 26, 2015. It is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The committee is chaired by Leonard Shabman, Resources for the Future, for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**The Report in Brief—**

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

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

**The Report in Brief—**

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

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

**CNSTAT’s 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 129<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **Keck Center of the National Academies** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

## Active PANELS & WORKSHOPS

*[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]*

### Department of Agriculture

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Teleconference, July 7, 2015

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014– September 2016  
Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper  
Chair: TBD  
Report planned: Workshop summary  
Upcoming meetings: TBD

**Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA**

Sponsor: Economic Research Service  
Duration: September 2014–September 2015  
Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; co-study director: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper  
Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)  
Report planned: Workshop summary is being prepared  
Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015 at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC

**Department of Commerce**

**Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau’s Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: May 2015–May 2018  
Study director: Glenn White; senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper  
Chair: TBD  
Report planned: Final report  
Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: September 2013–November 2016  
Study director: Carol House; project assistant, Agnes Gaskin; research assistant: Adrienne Bradford  
Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)  
Report planned: Final report  
Upcoming meetings: Third meeting held November 20-21, 2014, in Washington, DC; fourth meeting TBD (after data analysis completed)

**Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: September 2014–September 2019  
Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Anthony Mann  
Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)  
Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning; it has just stood up a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau’s annual economic surveys. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).  
Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for June 29-30, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Education**

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

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

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

Report planned: Final report

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

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

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

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

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

## **Department of Homeland Security**

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

Sponsor: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

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

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



## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

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

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

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

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

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: March 2015 – March June 2016

Study director: TBD; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: TBD

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also stand up workshops or consensus panels

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2013–April 2015

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

Chair: Lester Salamon (Johns Hopkins University)

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

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

### **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

#### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair-designate: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Census Bureau's Research Data Center network. The First Phase AOS is intended to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

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

Chair-designate: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**

#### **Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration**

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

Duration: May 2013–October 2015

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

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

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

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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.

Janet Norwood Dies at 91; Led Labor Statistics Bureau

**By DANIEL E. SLOTNIK**

MARCH 31, 2015, *The New York Times*



Janet L. Norwood in 1991.

Credit Jose R. Lopez/*The New York Times*

Janet L. Norwood, who ran the Bureau of Labor Statistics throughout the 1980s and maintained objectivity when politicians wanted her to interpret jobs data in a way that furthered their parties' agendas, died on March 27 in Austin, Tex. She was 91.

The cause was Alzheimer's disease, her son Stephen said.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, which is part of the Labor Department, is the federal agency charged with measuring and disseminating information on the state of America's economy, including the unemployment rate and the Consumer Price Index.

Dr. Norwood ascended through the bureau and was appointed commissioner by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. She was the first woman to hold the position, which she retained until 1991.

"Objective, methodical, unflappable under sometimes hostile congressional questioning, Norwood measures our prosperity and tells the man on the street whether the next line he stands in is likely to be at the bank-teller window or the unemployment office," a 1983 profile in *The Washington Post Magazine* said.

As commissioner, Dr. Norwood explained the bureau's findings in a report to Congress every month, striving to present her data in a nonpartisan fashion.

"I find it a stimulating challenge," Dr. Norwood said in an article in *The New York Times* in 1982. "There are always a variety of innovative senators and representatives who raise questions that I have to be very careful to answer in a completely objective framework."

Dr. Norwood also asserted the bureau's independence from the rest of the Labor Department, pressing for autonomy on personnel issues and on the scientific contents of the bureau's news releases. She arranged for the bureau to take over the National Longitudinal Survey when the Employment and Training Administration planned to discontinue it, updated the bureau's data-gathering process and helped develop the Employment Cost Index, a quarterly measure of the changes in labor costs for businesses in the United States.

"Simply put, all U.S. policy makers, businesses and families can make better decisions every day because of Janet Norwood's work at B.L.S.," Erica L. Groshen, the bureau's current commissioner, wrote in a statement.

Janet Sonya Lippe was born on Dec. 11, 1923, in Newark and grew up in Irvington, N.J. She received a bachelor's degree in government from the New Jersey College for Women (now Douglass College, part of Rutgers University) in 1945. She received her master's degree in 1946 and her doctorate in 1949 from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

She married Bernard Norwood in 1943. He survives her, as do her son Stephen; another son, Peter; and three grandchildren.

Dr. Norwood taught economics at Wellesley College while her husband completed his doctorate, then left the work force when he got a job with the foreign service in Belgium. She did not start working for the Bureau of Labor Statistics until her 40s.

After retiring, Dr. Norwood joined the Urban Institute, where she published papers and testified before Congress on political issues. She was also the president of the American Statistical Association. The School of Public Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham named an annual award for outstanding achievement by a woman in statistical sciences after her.

**From:** Hodes, Richard (NIH/NIA) [E]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 16, 2015 11:09 AM  
**To:** NIA Staff  
**Subject:** Richard Suzman

Dear NIA colleagues,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that Dr. Richard Suzman, director of NIA's Division of Behavioral and Social Research, passed away last night. He was 72. As some of you may know, Richard had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Richard was one of the most creative and innovative scientists I know, who with an unrivaled energy and determination helped transform the behavioral and social sciences. He modernized the science of demography and developed new fields, including the bio-demography of aging. In his 30 years of distinguished federal service, Richard brought us several new transdisciplinary fields of study, including neuro-economics, social neuroscience, and behavioral genetics. His

career changed our understanding of longevity and aging, integrating economic and social behavior with biological and clinical aspects of advancing age.

At NIH, his vision contributed to important trans-NIH initiatives. The Common Fund's interest in the Science of Behavior Change and Health Economics are already making a difference, through studies of new ways to intervene in health behaviors, including tobacco use, diabetes management, and the dissemination of and adherence to medical regimens. His understanding of how economics can affect health and aging has already changed trajectories for participation in pension savings in the U.S., for the benefit of today's older Americans and generations to come.

Perhaps his key achievement is the U.S. Health and Retirement Study, which has grown to encompass a group of connected international surveys that cover more than half the world's population. These related surveys allow researchers to compare data on aging cross-nationally, demonstrating how both common and unique biological, cultural, institutional, and policy features can impact health and well-being with age. The loss of Richard will not only be felt here, but internationally.

Richard was a tireless advocate for the best in science and for the health of older people and their families. In the coming weeks and months, we will be talking a lot about Richard Suzman, both the scientist and the irascible character, whom we will remember with admiration and affection. At a personal level, Richard was for me a constant example of what can be accomplished through vision, energy, and intellect. If I was ever tempted to lapse into complacency, Richard made it clear that this would not be tolerated. I will follow up with you all soon, as we plan and join tributes and remembrances for our colleague and friend.

## Obituary Notice for Eva Jacobs

*The Washington Post*, May 1, 2015

Eva Eisenberg Jacobs, internationally respected statistician, force of nature, loving wife and mother, fabulous and generous friend, died surrounded by her family on Tuesday, April 28, 2015. She was 94. She is survived by her son, Jonathan, of Atlantic Beach, FL (Elizabeth Sams), and her daughters, Alice, of Chevy Chase, MD (George Roman), and Abby, of Boston, MA (Hugo Carozza). She was predeceased in 1995 by her beloved husband, Leon.

A memorial service will be held at Danzansky-Goldberg Memorial Chapel, 1170 Rockville Pike, on Sunday, May 3, at 2 p.m. Interment will be Monday, May 4, at Quantico National Cemetery at 2 p.m. The family will be receiving visitors at her residence in Bethesda, Sunday and Monday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to Brooklyn College, ReSET, or the charity of your choice.





# NEWS *from* CNSTAT

— June 1, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

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

We offer deep thanks to three *outgoing members* of CNSTAT, whose terms will end June 30, 2015, 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:

- **David Card**, professor of economics, University of California, Berkeley
- **Sallie Keller**, director and professor of statistics, Social and Decision Analytics Lab, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute at Virginia Tech, Arlington, VA
- **Lisa Lynch**, provost and professor of social and economic policy, Brandeis University

We are delighted to welcome three *new members*, appointed to 3-year terms beginning July 1, 2015:

- **Francine Blau** is Frances Perkins professor of industrial and labor relations and professor of economics at Cornell University, and research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. She has written extensively on gender issues, wage inequality, immigration, and international comparisons of labor market outcomes. She has served as president of the Society of Labor Economists, the Midwest Economics Association, and the Labor and Employment Association, and as vice-president of the American Economic Association. She is also a fellow of the Society of Labor Economists, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and the Labor and Employment Relations Association. She is former editor of the *Journal of Labor Economics* and serves or has served on the editorial boards of the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, the *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Labour Economics*, and the *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, among others. In 2001, she received the Carolyn Shaw Bell Award from the American Economic Association Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession for furthering the status of women in the economics profession, and in 2010 she received the IZA Prize for outstanding academic achievement in the field of labor economics—she was the first woman to receive this prestigious award. Dr. Blau has a B.S. in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in economics, both from Harvard University. She is currently chairing the NRC Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration.
- **Susan A. Murphy** is H. E. Robbins professor of statistics, a professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and a research professor in the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. She received her B.S. from Louisiana State University and her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina. She was affiliated with Pennsylvania State University prior to her appointment to the faculty of the University of Michigan. She is also a principal

investigator at the Methodology Center of Pennsylvania State University. She served on the NRC Panel on Handling Missing Data in Clinical Trials and the Committee to Improve Research Information and Data on Firearms. She was named a MacArthur fellow in 2013.

- **Roberto Rigobon** is the Society of Sloan Fellows professor of management and professor of applied economics at the MIT Sloan School of Management. He is also a visiting professor at the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administración (Institute of Advanced Studies in Administration, IESA) in Venezuela and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Dr. Rigobon is a Venezuelan economist whose areas of research are international economics, monetary economics, and development economics. His research has addressed the causes of balance-of-payments crises, financial crises, and the propagation of them across countries—the phenomenon that has been identified in the literature as contagion. Currently, he is studying the properties of international pricing practices and how to produce alternative measures of inflation. He is one of the two founding members of the Billion Prices Project as well as a co-founder of PriceStats. He is a member of the Census Bureau's Scientific Advisory Committee and president of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association. He has been an associate editor for the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Economia*, and *Emerging Markets Review*, and an editor for *Economia Panel*. Dr. Rigobon received a B.S. in electrical engineering from Universidad Simon Bolivar (Venezuela), an MBA from IESA, and a Ph.D. in economics from MIT.

We are also delighted to welcome back three members for their *second 3-year terms*:

- **Constantine Gatsonis**, professor and chair of biostatistics, Brown University
- **James House**, professor of survey research, public policy, and sociology, University of Michigan
- **Edward Shortliffe**, professor of biomedical informatics, Columbia and Arizona State Universities

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
- **Michael Chernew**, professor of health care policy, Harvard Medical School
- **Donald A. Dillman**, professor of sociology, University of Washington
- **Thomas L. Mesenbourg**, former acting director and deputy director of the U.S. Census Bureau
- **Sarah Nusser**, vice president for research and professor of statistics, Iowa State University
- **Colm A. O'Muircheartaigh**, professor and former dean (2009-2014) of the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy Studies, and senior fellow with NORC at the University of Chicago

We are delighted to welcome a new staff member to CNSTAT:

- **Cynthia Thomas** joined CNSTAT on May 18, 2015, as senior program officer. She will direct a standing committee for NSF on the future of NSF's social science surveys and a planning meeting on principles and practices for federal evaluation programs, funded by a consortium of agencies. Cynthia has more than 30 years of experience directing large-scale research and evaluation projects on such topics as aging and health care, disability, welfare and poverty, social services, housing, and employment. She has organized and chaired expert panels, developed questionnaires, managed research and data collection staff, and prepared reports and issue papers for federal agencies. She has taught at several universities and served as associate clinical professor of epidemiology and population health at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. She worked at Westat from 1992 through fall 2014 as a senior study director. She

previously worked at NORC at the University of Chicago and Mathematica Policy Research. She has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Rochester.

We congratulate **Alicia Carriquiry**, professor of statistics at Iowa State University and former CNSTAT member, and her colleagues on receiving a grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to establish a **Center of Excellence in Forensic Sciences at Iowa State**. The center's goal will be to build a statistically sound and scientifically solid foundation under two branches of forensics—pattern evidence (including fingerprints and bullet marks) and digital evidence (including data from cell phones and computers). Alicia will direct the center in collaboration with **David Baldwin**, director of the Midwest Forensics Research Center at Iowa State and adjunct associate professor of chemistry; **Stephen Fienberg**, Maurice Falk university professor of statistics and social science at Carnegie Mellon, former CNSTAT chair, and NAS member; **Karen Kafadar**, Commonwealth professor and chair of statistics at the University of Virginia and former CNSTAT member; and **Hal Stern**, Ted and Janice Smith Family Foundation Dean of the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences and professor of statistics at UC Irvine and former CNSTAT member. A 2009 report by the National Research Council, *Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward*, found serious problems with the country's forensic science system and called for major reforms and new research. With the exception of DNA analysis, the report said forensic methods needed substantial research to validate techniques, assess limitations, and discover the sources of errors. To address those problems, the report recommended establishment of a national forensics institute to lead research, establish standards, and oversee education. In addition to its scientific work, the new center will also address forensics training and education for judges, lawyers, forensic examiners, and students.

We congratulate **Jim House**, professor of survey research, public policy, and sociology, University of Michigan, NAS member, and CNSTAT member, on publication of his book, ***Beyond Obamacare: Life, Death, and Social Policy*** (June 2015), by the Russell Sage Foundation. According to the RSF publicity blurb: Jim “advances a provocative analysis of our health care crisis. How is it possible that the United States spends more than any other nation on health care, yet has experienced a decline in population health relative to other wealthy—and even some developing—nations? In *Beyond Obamacare*, House shows that health care reforms, including the Affordable Care Act, cannot resolve this crisis because they do not focus on the underlying causes for poor health outcomes, which are largely social, economic, environmental, psychological, and behavioral. And it is these poor health outcomes that drive unparalleled spending on health care, now approaching 20% of GDP. House notes that socioeconomic determinants such as education and income have significant consequences for individuals' health outcomes. . . . Educational differences in death rates grew for both men and women during this time period, as mortality rates declined more rapidly for the highly-educated. And, House points out, ‘Analyses in Canada found much the same, even after a quarter-century of national health insurance.’”

We congratulate **Brent Moulton**, associate director for national economic accounts, Bureau of Economic Analysis, for receiving the **2015 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics**. The award recognizes unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Brent is recognized for his leadership in implementing major innovations into the U.S. national accounts (e.g. treating research and development as an investment rather than an expense and expanding BEA's efforts to incorporate intangible assets in the national accounts by recognizing artistic originals as capital assets); international standards for national accounts (e.g., helping to initiate the 2008 update of the System of National Accounts); and expanded integration of U.S. statistical programs. He is also recognized for his work at the Bureau of Labor Statistics in developing innovations that improved the reliability of the Consumer Price Index. He is the 43<sup>rd</sup> recipient of the award; he will be honored at events hosted by the three sponsors: the Washington Statistical Society, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Section of the American Statistical Association. Brent previously received the BLS

Distinguished Service Award in 1997, the Department of Commerce Gold Medals in 2001 and 2007, and the Presidential Rank Award in 2011. He has a B.A. and M.S. in economics at Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago.

We congratulate **Barry Nussbaum** on his recent election as *president-elect of the American Statistical Association*. Barry is chief statistician of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Office of Environmental Information. He has worked at the EPA since 1975, and his work has included statistical analyses leading to new emissions programs, support for enforcement cases, the phase-down of leaded gasoline, the regulation of fuel additives, and the assessment of motor vehicle emission control tampering. For these efforts, he has been awarded two EPA Silver Medals for Superior Service. He also chaired the Section on Statistics in the Environment of the American Statistical Association in 2000, and has taught graduate courses in statistics at George Washington University and Virginia Tech. He received a B.A. in mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an M.A. and Ph.D. in operations research from George Washington University.

## REPORT *News*

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

### **The Report in Brief—**

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

**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 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 seminar will feature developments in measuring consumer prices and expenditures as a tribute to the late BLS commissioner, Janet Norwood.

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

**CNSTAT’s 130<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 5-6, 2016**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 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: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Teleconference (closed), July 7, 2015

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014– September 2016

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA**

Sponsor: Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2015

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

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary is being prepared

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015 at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC

## **Department of Commerce**

### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau’s Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

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

Chair-designate: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting held November 20-21, 2014, in Washington, DC; fourth meeting TBD (after data analysis completed)

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

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

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting scheduled for June 29-30, 2015, 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: Third meeting (closed) scheduled for July 6, 2015, by teleconference

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

### **Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data**

**Collection Programs** (joint with the DBASSE Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the IOM Board on Health Sciences Policy)

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

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

## **Department of Homeland Security**

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

Sponsor: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

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

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

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

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

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Ninth meeting scheduled for August 4-5, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: March 2015 – June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: TBD

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also stand up workshops or consensus panels

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair-designate: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also stand up workshops or consensus panels; this committee will stand up workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Census Bureau's Research Data Center network. The First Phase AOS is intended to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

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

Chair-designate: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**

### **Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration**

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

Duration: May 2013–October 2015

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Seventh meeting to be held in September

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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

— July 14, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

We note with sadness the deaths of two long-retired pillars of the federal statistical system, **Yvonne Bishop** and **Herman Miller**. Yvonne died May 26, 2015, in Washington, DC. She was for many years the director of the Office of Statistical Standards at the Energy Information Administration. Her classic text, *Discrete Multivariate Analysis: Theory and Practice*, co-authored with Stephen Fienberg and Paul Holland and first published in 1974, was republished in 2007. Herman died July 7, 2015, in Phoenix, AZ. He was chief of the Population Division at the U.S. Census Bureau around the time of the 1970 census and wrote extensively on income statistics.

We note with great interest the announcement on July 6, 2015, that the Council of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has approved the nomination of **Marcia K. McNutt**, editor-in-chief of the *Science* family of journals, for election as **president of the Academy**, to succeed Ralph J. Cicerone when his second term as NAS president ends on July 1, 2016. In her capacity as president of the NAS, she will also chair its operating arm, the National Research Council. A geophysicist, Dr. McNutt earned her B.A. in physics at Colorado College and her Ph.D. in earth sciences at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego. Her research concentration is in marine geophysics, where she has used a variety of remote sensing techniques from ships and space to probe the dynamics of the mantle and overlying plates far from plate boundaries on geologic time scales. She was Griswold professor of geophysics at MIT and served as director of the Joint Program in Oceanography & Applied Ocean Science & Engineering sponsored by MIT and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. She later served as president and chief executive officer of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and as professor of geophysics at Stanford University. From 2009 to 2013 she was director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). While at the USGS, she helped lead the response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, for which she was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by the U.S. Coast Guard. She also oversaw completion of the ground station for Landsat 8, which was launched in February 2013 and continues Landsat's 40-year record of satellite imaging of natural and human-induced changes on the global landscape. She became the 19th editor-in-chief of *Science* in 2013. She was elected to the NAS in 2005, and has served on more than 30 Academies committees and boards. Most recently, she chaired an expert panel that evaluated options for slowing or offsetting global climate change. Her name will be presented to the full membership for formal ratification on December 15. That ballot will also contain the names of candidates for the Academy's treasurer and for four positions on the Council. Balloting is to be completed on January 31.

We congratulate the following members of the Washington statistical community on their election as *fellows* of the *American Statistical Association*. They will be honored at the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Seattle, WA, taking place August 8-13, 2015.

- **Kennon Copeland**, senior vice president and director, Statistics and Methodology Department, NORC at the University of Chicago
- **Jill Dever**, senior research statistician, RTI International
- **Linda Jacobsen**, vice president, U.S. Programs, Population Reference Bureau
- **Peter Miller**, chief scientist, Center for Survey Measurement, U.S. Census Bureau
- **Frank Potter**, senior fellow, Mathematica Policy Research
- **Diane Willimack**, methodology director for measurement and response improvement in the Economic Programs Directorate, U.S. Census Bureau

## REPORT *News*

**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.

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

On July 1, 2015, the institutional complex in which CNSTAT is housed rebranded itself as the *National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*. A key part of this change is that the Institute of Medicine (IOM) became the National Academy of Medicine (NAM). There remain four components of the complex, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS – president Ralph Cicerone), the National Academy of Engineering (NAE – president C. D. Mote, Jr), the National Academy of Medicine (NAM – president Victor Dzau), and the National Research Council (NRC – chair Ralph Cicerone).

On July 10, 2015, Bureau of Labor Statistics commissioner Erica Groshen announced a year-long celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BLS flagship publication, *Monthly Labor Review* (MLR). Each month from July 2015 through June 2016 will feature one or more "visioning essays" about the likely future of the American economy and society that will affect what statistics BLS collects and *MLR* dissects.

## 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 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 seminar will feature developments in measuring consumer prices and expenditures as a tribute to the late BLS commissioner, Janet Norwood.

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

**CNSTAT's 130<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 5-6, 2016**, in the **NAS main building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 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: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting, November 12-13, 2015, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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–December 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary is being prepared

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC

## **Department of Commerce**

### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau’s Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

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

Chair-designate: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

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

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

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

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for September 8-9, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Education**

### **Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels**

**Evaluation** (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

Chair: Christopher Edley, Jr. (University of California, Berkeley)  
Report planned: Final report  
Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting (closed) held August 25, 2015, by teleconference

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

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

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/third meeting on Specific Mental Illness Diagnoses with Functional Impairment scheduled for September 24-25, 2015; Workshop/fourth meeting on Trauma scheduled for December 17-18, 2015; Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings 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: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly; second report being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

### **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

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

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

Reports planned: Interim report is being drafted; final report

Upcoming meetings: Ninth meeting scheduled for August 4-5, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: March 2015 – June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair-designate: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also stand up workshops or consensus panels

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

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

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

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for October 15-16, 2015, 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 is being drafted

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

### **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

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

Chair-designate: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for September 4-5, 2015, in Washington, DC

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

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



# NEWS from CNSTAT

— August 29, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Norman Bradburn**, senior fellow with NORC at the University of Chicago, on receiving the first **Monroe G. Sirken Award in Interdisciplinary Survey Methods Research**. He delivered the 2015 Sirken Lecture, “Surveys as Social Interactions,” at a session of the Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, WA, on August 12. It would be hard to think of a more deserving first awardee—someone who has written classic texts on asking survey questions and made seminal contributions to survey research. Norman served as CNSTAT chair from 1993–1998 and as vice chair and member beginning in 1987. He received a B.A. from the University of Chicago, a B.A. in philosophy, politics, and economics from the University of Oxford, and an M.A. in clinical psychology and a Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University. Most recently, he was the assistant director for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at the National Science Foundation. He is Tiffany and Margaret Blake distinguished service professor emeritus at the University of Chicago and former vice president and director of research at NORC. He was provost of the University of Chicago from 1984–1989. He chaired the National Research Council’s Board on International Comparative Studies in Education and was a member of its Advisory Committee for Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, a fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

We wish all the best to **Manuel de la Puente** on his retirement from the **Social Security Administration** (SSA), where he served as associate commissioner for research, evaluation and statistics, and thank him for his many years of distinguished service to the federal statistical system. He joined SSA in March 2008 to serve as associate commissioner in the Office of Research and Statistics (ORES). From August 2013 through March 2014 he served as acting assistant commissioner in the Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, returning to his previous position in ORES as associate commissioner in April 2014. Prior to joining SSA, Manuel worked for the U.S. Census Bureau for 18 years. He began his career in the federal government in February 1984 and has extensive knowledge and experience in survey methodology as well as in research and evaluation methods. He received a B.A. in political science and sociology from Saint Peter’s College in New Jersey, an M.A. in sociology from Fordham University, and both a Ph.D. and an M.Phil. in sociology from Columbia University.

We congratulate **Stephen Fienberg**, Maurice Falk university professor of statistics and social science at Carnegie Mellon University, on his selection to give the **R.A. Fisher Lecture** at the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, WA, which occurred August 12. The R.A. Fisher Lectureship was established in 1963 by the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS) to honor both the contributions of Sir Ronald Aylmer Fisher and the work of a present-day statistician for her or his advancement of statistical theory and applications. We further congratulate Steve on receiving the **2015 Jerome Sacks Award for Cross-Disciplinary Research** from the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS).



According to NISS, Steve received the award “for a remarkable career devoted to the development and application of statistical methodology to solve problems for the benefit of society, including aspects of human rights, privacy and confidentiality, forensics, survey and census-taking” and for “exceptional leadership in a variety of professional and governmental organizations, including the founding of NISS.” At Carnegie Mellon, Steve holds appointments in the Department of Statistics, the Heinz College, the Machine Learning Department, and Cylab. He served as a member of CNSTAT from 1978–1987 and as chair, 1981–1984 and 1985–1987. He received a B.Sc. in mathematics and statistics from the University of Toronto and an A.M. and Ph.D. in statistics from Harvard University. He previously served as vice president of York University, Toronto, and was on the faculty of the University of Minnesota. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, served on the advisory committee of the Academies’ Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, and co-chairs the Academies’ Report Review Committee. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the International Society for Bayesian Analysis, the Royal Society of Canada, and the Royal Statistical Society, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

We congratulate **Susan Murphy**, H.E. Robbins distinguished university professor of statistics, professor of psychiatry, and research professor at the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, for her selection as the **2015 [Abraham] Wald Memorial Lecturer** at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, WA, August 11-13. She gave three (!) lectures: “Sequential Decision-Making and Personalized Treatment: The Future Is Now,” “Offline Data Analysis Methods and Learning Algorithms for Constructing Mobile Treatment Policies,” and “Continual, Online Learning in Sequential Decision-Making.” Susan is a new member of CNSTAT, a fellow of the American Statistical Association, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the College on Problems in Drug Dependence, a former editor of the *Annals of Statistics*, president-elect of the Bernoulli Society, a member of the National Academy of Medicine, and a 2013 MacArthur Fellow. She served as a member of the CNSTAT panel that produced the 2010 report, *The Prevention and Treatment of Missing Data in Clinical Trials*.

We congratulate **Kenneth Prewitt**, Carnegie professor of public affairs at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, on being named **president** of the **American Academy of Political and Social Science (AAPSS)** as of May 2015. Previously, Ken was named 2001 Harold Lasswell Fellow of AAPSS. Ken is a former member of CNSTAT and chairs the Academies’ Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education’s Advisory Committee. Previous positions he has held are: director of the U.S. Census Bureau, president of the Social Science Research Council, senior vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation, director of the National Opinion Research Center, and professor at the University of Chicago. Among his awards are a Guggenheim Fellowship, honorary degrees from Carnegie Mellon and Southern Methodist University, a Distinguished Service Award from the New School for Social Research, and The Officer’s Cross of the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He chaired a recent CNSTAT panel that produced the 2014 report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy*.

We note with sadness the just-received news of the passing of **Al Zarate**, formerly of the **National Center for Health Statistics**, on August 27, 2015. Al served for many years as the confidentiality officer for NCHS and was a great contributor to interagency work on privacy, confidentiality, and statistical disclosure limitation. Al was active in the ASA Privacy and Confidentiality Committee and the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology’s Confidentiality and Data Access Committee.

## REPORT *News*

**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.

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

The *Association of Public Data Users* (APDU) invites attendance at its **2015 Annual Conference on Innovating with Public Data**, September 1-2, 2015, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA. From the conference announcement: "Federal data agencies serve as the mainstay for evidence-based policymaking, but budget cuts and traditional thinking are bogging down the statistical system. Adaptable data producers are considering new ways to gather and share information. Discerning data users are seeking out the most creative data aggregation and dissemination tools. Creative producers and users alike are linking existing administrative records to survey data to help close information gaps and reduce data collection costs. In short, data innovations are integral to solving the public data resource crisis. Join us at the APDU conference where experts and novices alike come together to learn more about how Federal agencies and their stakeholders are creating new data products, developing new methods for sharing data, and identifying creative ways to collect data while reducing response burden." **Robert Groves**, provost, Georgetown University, and former U.S. Census Bureau director and former CNSTAT member, will give the keynote luncheon address on September 1.

The *Bureau of Labor Statistics* invites attendance at a meeting, September 17, 2015, at the BLS Conference Center in Washington, DC, to celebrate the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Longitudinal Surveys**. BLS notes: "For 50 years, the NLS has followed nationally representative samples of men and women to gather extensive information about their employment experiences, education, training, health, children, and much more. NLS data have informed social science research, policy, and the public about issues of vital concern. Join us as we look back over the last 50 years of the NLS and look forward to the future of this rich data resource."

The *Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology* (FCSM) invites attendance at the **2015 FCSM Research Conference** hosted by the *Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics* (COPAFS). The conference will be held December 1-3, 2015, at the Washington Convention Center. Based on the preliminary agenda, the conference looks to offer dynamite sessions on innovative developments at many leading federal statistical agencies. According to the conference site: "The 2015 FCSM Research Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including: adaptive survey design, address-based sampling, administrative records, Bayesian statistical methods, coding, confidentiality and disclosure, crowdsourcing, data quality, economic statistics, editing, frame development, imputation, mobile devices, multi-mode and web data collection, nonresponse and measurement error, paradata and metadata, questionnaire and survey design, record linkage, small area estimation, survey redesign, variance estimation, and weighting." The keynote speaker is **Raj Chetty**, Bloomberg professor of

economics at Harvard University, co-director of the Public Economics group at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and editor of the *Journal of Public Economics*. His widely cited research on tax policy, unemployment, and education makes innovative use of IRS administrative data and other sources.

The *National Center for Health Statistics* is seeking an *associate director for research and methodology* (to replace the irreplaceable Nat Schenker who is now deputy director of NCHS). The associate director serves as a member of the NCHS Senior Staff and directs the Office of Research and Methodology (ORM), which comprises an Office of the Director and three staffs: Questionnaire Design and Research Laboratory; Statistical Research and Survey Design Staff; and NCHS Research Data Center. The position will be filled at the level of Title 42 Distinguished Consultant or via a term-limited appointment under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act. It is open to all groups of qualified persons, including U.S. citizens, noncitizens (permanent residency required), and Public Health Service Commissioned Officers. No previous federal experience or tenure is required. A candidate for the position should have a doctoral degree in statistics, biostatistics, or a related field; a strong record of research and applications; an appreciation for the importance of all aspects of measurement, collection, analysis, and dissemination of data; knowledge of and experience with survey sampling; and a demonstrated ability to lead. Salary is based on qualifications and experience. Relocation expenses may be authorized. A complete application consists of a curriculum vitae, a cover letter addressing the qualifications listed in the previous paragraph, and contact information for three references. Application materials should be sent to Jackie Smith of NCHS by e-mail ([jasmith@cdc.gov](mailto:jasmith@cdc.gov)) or regular mail (3311 Toledo Road, Room 7217, Hyattsville, MD 20782). Review of applications will begin September 1 and continue until the position is filled. For further information, contact Dr. Nathaniel Schenker, Deputy Director, NCHS, by e-mail ([nschenker@cdc.gov](mailto:nschenker@cdc.gov)) or phone (301-458-4483).

## 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 128<sup>th</sup> meeting*** will be held ***October 22–23, 2015***, in the ***National Academy of Sciences Building*** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 seminar will include a tribute to the late BLS commissioner, Janet Norwood, and presentations and discussion on the nature of “evidence.” Stay tuned for more information.

***CNSTAT’s 129<sup>th</sup> meeting*** will be held ***February 11–12, 2016***, at the ***Keck Center of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

***CNSTAT’s 130<sup>th</sup> meeting*** will be held ***May 5–6, 2016***, in the ***National Academy of Sciences Building*** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 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.

***NOTE:*** Presentations from the joint CNSTAT/NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN) set of workshops and public seminar at the May 8, 2015, CNSTAT meeting are available on the NCRN [site](#).

## *Active* **PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

*[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]*

### **Department of Agriculture**

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for November 12-13, 2015, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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–December 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary is in review

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, at the NAS Keck Center in Washington, DC

### **Department of Commerce**

#### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau’s Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

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

Chair: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

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

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's annual economic surveys (see above) and will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting (closed) scheduled for September 8-9, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Education**

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

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

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

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for September 21, 2015, by teleconference

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

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

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/third meeting on Specific Mental Illness Diagnoses with Functional Impairment scheduled for September 24-25, 2015; Workshop/fourth meeting on Trauma scheduled for December 17-18, 2015; Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings 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: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in print and [PDF](#); second report being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

### **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–March 2016

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

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

Reports planned: First report is being drafted; second report is being planned

Upcoming meetings: Tenth meeting (closed) scheduled for November 17-18, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

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

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: March 2015 – June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First Phase AOS is intended to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for October 15, 2015, 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–March 2016

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



Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)  
Report planned: Final report is being drafted  
Upcoming meetings: Seventh and final meeting (closed) scheduled for September 11-12, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

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

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for September 4-5, 2015, 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 of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to improve the statistical methods and information on which public policy decisions are based. The committee carries out studies, workshops, and other activities to foster better measures and fuller understanding of the economy, the environment, public health, crime, education, immigration, poverty, welfare, and other public policy issues. It also evaluates ongoing statistical programs and tracks the statistical policy and coordinating activities of the federal government, serving a unique role at the intersection of statistics and public policy. The committee’s work is supported by a consortium of federal agencies through a National Science Foundation grant.



# NEWS from CNSTAT

— September 28, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate the following winners of the *American Statistical Association (ASA) Founders Award*, presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, August 11, 2015:

- **James H. Albert**, professor of mathematics and statistics at Bowling Green University, for “outstanding leadership and efforts in statistical education and relationship building between academia and industry; for service as editor of *The American Statistician* and the *Journal of Quantitative Analysis of Sports* and as a member of the *Significance* editorial board; for major contributions as associate editor of several ASA journals; for chairing and participating in numerous ASA committees and councils devoted to statistics education, Bayesian statistics, and sports statistics; and for heightening interest in statistics through the use of sports examples and applications presented in papers, technical reports, lectures, blogs and books.”
- **David L. Banks**, professor of the practice of statistics at Duke University, for “outstanding leadership in the discipline, in its interfaces, and in the ASA; for consistent and varied professional contributions in areas of particular public interest, such as human rights, counterterrorism, immigration and public health; for editorial work and a commitment to modernizing our publications, including as a founding editor of *Statistics and Public Policy*, as editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and as publications representative on the ASA Board; for service in multiple sections, local chapters and committees; and for significant contributions on National Academies committees, to federal agencies and to the National Institute of Statistical Sciences and Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute.”
- **Sally C. Morton**, professor and chair of the biostatistics department in the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and former member of CNSTAT, for “sustained thoughtful leadership of the ASA as its 2009 president, as a representative to other organizations and as a member of the Development Committee; for commitment to maintaining the relevance of the ASA to applied statisticians, as evidenced by the development of the Conference on Statistical Practice and the ASA’s accreditation program; for serving on and chairing numerous ASA committees; for editorial service on several journals, including as a founding editor of *Statistics and Public Policy*; and for advancing statistical methodology through service on National Academies committees and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.”

We congratulate **Stephen Cohen**, senior fellow in the Center for Excellence in Survey Research at NORC at the University of Chicago, on receiving the **2015 Pat Doyle Award**, established by the Executive Committee of the ASA Government Statistics Section (GSS) in 2005 soon after her death as a tribute to Pat’s dedication to the statistical field and the GSS during her lifetime. Pat left her imprint on an astonishingly wide range of projects and activities in the U.S. federal statistical community. The award is given to a person who contributes to the GSS in a way that leaves a lasting impact on GSS and ASA.

Prior to joining NORC, Steve had a long career in federal statistics, including positions in the Bureau of Labor Statistics and as chief statistician with the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics. He has similarly been active in ASA for many years, serving terms as chair of GSS and also the ASA Survey Research Methods Section, as ASA representative to the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, and in other capacities. He is a fellow of ASA.

We congratulate **John Eltinge**, associate commissioner for the Office of Survey Methods Research at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, on receiving a **2015 Distinguished Service Award** from the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS). Nell Sedransk, newly appointed director of NISS, announced the awards on August 10, 2015. The NISS Distinguished Service Awards were established by the Board of Trustees in 2005 to recognize individuals who have given extraordinary service that significantly advances NISS and its mission. Eltinge received the award for bringing insight and implementing the vision for NISS as a multisector institute, especially through his leadership in the Affiliates Program. Before joining BLS, John served as associate professor in the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University, specializing in sample design, survey nonresponse, measurement error, small domain estimation, quantile estimation and time series analysis. From June 1999 to January 2004, he served as senior mathematical statistician in the BLS Office of Survey Methods Research. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, a member of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, an associate editor for *Survey Methodology* and the *Journal of Official Statistics*, and a former associate editor for the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and *The American Statistician*. He received a Ph.D. in statistics from Iowa State University, an M.S. in statistics from Purdue University, and a B.S. in Mathematics from Vanderbilt University.

We congratulate **Jennifer Madans**, associate director for science at the National Center for Health Statistics, on receiving the **2015 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award will be presented at a meeting of the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) on November 18, 2015, at 1:30 pm at the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. Roger Herriot was the associate commissioner of statistical standards and methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) 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. Soon after his death, the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of ASA along with WSS established an award in his name to recognize individuals who develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data collection programs. Jennifer's award recognizes her innovative contributions in many areas of federal statistics, including improved reporting, classification, and interpretation of health-related differences by race and ethnicity; and the development of internationally consistent definitions and measures of disability, including chairing two UN-sponsored international efforts—the Budapest Initiative on core measures of health status and the Washington Group on Disability Measurement, a collaborative effort that has involved over 60 countries over its 8-year history. Earlier in her career, she spearheaded the collection of longitudinal data in the NHANES I Epidemiologic Study and the National Nursing Home Followup Study. She has also led the development of linked data bases to enhance the analytical potential of NCHS's population-based surveys. Jennifer has a B.A. from Bard College and an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Michigan, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale University. She is a fellow of ASA and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

On World Statistics Day, Tuesday, October, 20, 2015, at 11 a.m., the U.S. Department of Labor will induct BLS commissioners **Carroll D. Wright** and **Janet L. Norwood** into the **Labor Hall of Honor**. Carroll Wright was the first BLS commissioner, serving from 1885 to 1905. Janet Norwood, who passed away recently, was the first woman to serve as BLS commissioner and led the Bureau for 12 crucial years (1979-1991), modernizing it and raising the profile of its work. Both former commissioners ensured that BLS produced the high quality of statistics necessary to the proper functioning of a democratic

government. This will be the first time BLS commissioners will be inducted into the Labor Hall of Honor, which was established in 1988 to honor Americans whose distinctive contributions in the field of labor have elevated working conditions, wages, and over-all quality of life of America's working families. During their time as commissioner, Wright and Norwood each strongly emphasized the necessity of accurate data to help workers suffering from economic hardships.

We wish all the best to **Steven Cohen** on his retirement from the **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)**, as of September 30, 2015, to accept a position as vice president of the Division of Statistics and Data Science at RTI International. Steve has been director of the Center for Financing, Access, and Cost Trends at AHRQ since 2000 and served for 37 years with AHRQ. The Center conducts research and develops and sponsors large primary data sets, including the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), to support health care policy. Steve has authored over 100 journal articles and publications in the areas of biostatistics, survey research methodology, estimation, survey design, and health services research. He is co-author of the text, *Methodological Issues for Health Care Surveys*. He has also served as an associate professor at the Johns Hopkins University and the George Washington University and as a member of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology and is a fellow of ASA. He has a Ph.D. in biostatistics from Duke University.

We are pleased to learn from chief statistician Katherine Wallman that **Robert Sivinski** has joined the **Statistical and Science Policy Office at OMB**. Bob is to contribute to the development of government-wide statistical policy and coordinate interagency working groups designed to promote methodological development and collaboration within the decentralized statistical system. In addition, he will be working with Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) desk officers to ensure the quality and utility of statistical surveys submitted to OMB for approval pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act. Bob comes from the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), where he provided statistical consultation for a variety of research, statistical, and regulatory activities, including the design and implementation of nationally representative surveys. Most recently, he provided technical expertise to the redesign and modernization of NHTSA's large-scale annual crash data survey, the National Automotive Sampling System. Bob has an M.A. in statistics from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and a B.A. in psychology from the University of Texas at Austin.

We note with sadness the just-received news of the passing of **Mary Grace Kovar**, who had a long career with the **National Center for Health Statistics**, on September 21, 2015. After retiring from NCHS, Mary Grace was associated with NORC at the University of Chicago. There will be a service for Mary Grace at 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 30, in the Auditorium at Collington Continuing Care Retirement Community, 10450 Lottsford Rd, Mitchellville, MD 20721.

We also note with sadness the death of **Barney Cohen**, at age 56, following a very brief illness, on September 19, 2015. Barney was a former colleague of ours in the Academies' Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. In 1992, Barney joined our sister **Committee on Population (CPOP)** as a staff officer. From 1998 to 2012, Barney served as director of CPOP. In August 2012, Barney was appointed chief of the Population Studies Branch and deputy director of the Population Division of the United Nations. Barney's work at the Academies encompassed a wide variety of domestic and international projects, including studies on fertility, morbidity, mortality, housing, urbanization, migration, aging, and HIV/AIDS. He also served as the liaison of the Academies to the Academy of Science of South Africa and the Ghanaian Academy of Arts and Sciences as part of a larger project aimed at supporting the development of academies of science in Africa. A memorial service for Barney will take place from 1:00–3:00 pm on Thursday, October 1, 2015, at the Columbus Club of Arlington, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207.

## REPORT *News*

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**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.

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

The *Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology* (FCSM) invites attendance at the **2015 FCSM Research Conference** hosted by the *Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics* (COPAFS). The conference will be held December 1–3, 2015, at the Washington Convention Center. Based on the preliminary agenda, the conference looks to offer dynamite sessions on innovative developments at many leading federal statistical agencies. According to the conference site: "The 2015 FCSM Research Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including: adaptive survey design, address-based sampling, administrative records, Bayesian statistical methods, coding, confidentiality and disclosure, crowdsourcing, data quality, economic statistics, editing, frame development, imputation, mobile devices, multi-mode and web data collection, nonresponse and measurement error, paradata and metadata, questionnaire and survey design, record linkage, small area estimation, survey redesign, variance estimation, and weighting." The keynote speaker is **Raj Chetty**, Bloomberg professor of economics at Harvard University, co-director of the Public Economics group at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and editor of the *Journal of Public Economics*. His widely cited research on tax policy, unemployment, and education makes innovative use of IRS administrative data and other sources. [Registration](#) is now open. There is a registration fee.

## 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 128<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the *National Academy of Sciences Building* at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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 seminar will include a tribute to the late BLS commissioner, Janet Norwood, and presentations and discussion on **"Reengineering the 2020 Census."** Information about the seminar and how to register is attached. We hope to see you there!

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

**CNSTAT's 130<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 5-6, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**NOTE:** Presentations from the joint CNSTAT/NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN) set of workshops and public seminar at the May 8, 2015, CNSTAT meeting are available on the NCRN [site](#).

## *Active* **PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

*[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]*

### **Department of Agriculture**

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for November 12-13, 2015, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

Study director: TBD; project assistant: TBD

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014– September 2017

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–December 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary is in response to review

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Commerce**

### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau's Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

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

Chair: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

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

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's annual economic surveys (see above) and will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for January 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD



### **Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American Community Survey**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–December 2015

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **Department of Education**

#### **Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels**

**Evaluation** (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

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

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Seventh meeting (closed) scheduled for October 12, 2015 (teleconference)

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

#### **Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data**

**Collection Programs** (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the Board on Health Sciences Policy)

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/fourth meeting on Trauma scheduled for December 17-18, 2015; Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings in Washington, DC)

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

Sponsor: Office of Minority Health

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

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: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in print and [PDF](#); second report being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–December 2016

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

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

Reports planned: First report is being drafted; second report is being planned

Upcoming meetings: Tenth meeting (closed) scheduled for November 17-18, 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–December 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports: Forums do not issue reports; they meet for discussion among a wide range of stakeholders; they can also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–March 2018

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: Directorate on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2011–June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: October 6, 2015 (teleconference by invitation)

**Workshop on Prioritizing and Implementing Improvements to Innovation Indicators**

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

**The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

**Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First Phase AOS is to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for October 15, 2015, 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–March 2016

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

### **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–September 2017

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

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting and first workshop scheduled for December 15-17, 2015, in Washington, DC (public workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup>)

#### **• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •**

Committee on National Statistics  
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(202) 334-1616 or 3096

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

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



# NEWS from CNSTAT

— October 20, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

On World Statistics Day, Tuesday, October, 20, 2015, the U.S. Department of Labor inducted commissioners of labor statistics **Carroll D. Wright** and **Janet L. Norwood** into the **Labor Hall of Honor**. Carroll Wright was the first commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), then the Bureau of Labor, serving from 1885 to 1905. He simultaneously served as superintendent of the census from 1893 to 1897, finalizing work on the 1890 census. Janet Norwood, who passed away recently, was the first woman to serve as BLS commissioner and led the Bureau for 12 crucial years (1979–1991), modernizing it and raising the profile of its work. Both former commissioners ensured that BLS produced the high quality of statistics necessary to the proper functioning of a democratic government. This was the first time BLS commissioners were inducted into the Labor Hall of Honor, which was established in 1988 to honor Americans whose distinctive contributions in the field of labor have elevated working conditions, wages, and over-all quality of life of America's working families. During their time as commissioner, Wright and Norwood each strongly emphasized the necessity of accurate data to help workers suffering from economic hardships.

We congratulate **Angus Deaton** on winning the **2015 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel** “for his analysis of consumption, poverty, and welfare.” His work “linking detailed individual choices and aggregate outcomes” has helped to “transform the fields of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and development economics.” Professor Deaton is a Britain-born economist, who earned his Ph.D. in economics at Cambridge University before moving to America; he is now the 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. In Britain he taught at Cambridge University and the University of Bristol. He is a corresponding fellow of the British Academy, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the Econometric Society, and the first recipient (in 1978) of the Econometric Society's Frisch Medal. He was president of the American Economic Association in 2009. In 2012 he received the BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award. In April 2014, he was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society, and in April 2015, he was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He served a term on CNSTAT (1989–1992) and was a member of the CNSTAT panels that produced *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach* (1995) and *At What Price? Conceptualizing and Measuring Cost-of-Living and Price Indexes* (2002). He is currently serving on the CNSTAT Standing Committee on the Future of Major NSF-Funded Social Science Surveys. He gave the CNSTAT seminar in May 2014 on his book, *The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality*, published in 2013.

We note with sadness the passing of **Robert F. Gillingham** at age 70 in late September 2015. He was most recently an independent consultant from Potomac Falls, VA, whose clients included the

International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and OECD. Prior to becoming a consultant, he held several positions at the International Monetary Fund, including chief of the Expenditure Policy Division and chief of the Poverty and Social Impact Analysis Group. He also worked at the U.S. Department of the Treasury—the last 10 years as deputy assistant secretary for economic policy. He began his career at BLS, rising to the position of deputy associate commissioner for prices and living conditions. He was a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and served on the board of the Western Economic Association International and as an associate editor of the *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*. He was widely published in the field of international economics and fiscal policy. He received a B.A. from Haverford College, an M.A. from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in economics from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. He served on the CNSTAT panel that produced *Measuring What We Spend: Toward a New Consumer Expenditure Survey* (2013).

We say a fond farewell to **Seth Hauser**, who worked as a senior program officer on a temporary assignment to CNSTAT from February 23, 2015, to October 16, 2015. He previously worked at CNSTAT from 2002 to 2003, contributing to two reports: *Measuring Racial Discrimination* (2004) and *The 2000 Census: Counting Under Adversity* (2004). Seth has returned to his work as an analyst and manager of analysts in the U.S. intelligence community, focused largely on security dynamics in East Asia. We are grateful to Seth for his outstanding efforts in support of the Panel on Modernizing the Nation's Crime Statistics and in organizing a planning meeting for the National Institute on Aging on the design and analysis of observational studies to enhance their usefulness in providing causal inference.

## REPORT *News*

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

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

**Reminder:** Slides from previous CNSTAT public seminars are available on the CNSTAT [public seminars and symposia](#) page; slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website.



## EVENT & OTHER *News*

We take this opportunity to thank the many agencies that contribute **core support** to the Committee on National Statistics. Core funds enable CNSTAT to maintain a small executive staff who, among other things, organize the CNSTAT meetings, prepare the newsletter, are active in the Washington statistical community, develop new projects of interest to the entire statistical system, and every 4 years prepare a new edition of CNSTAT's flagship publication, *Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency*, now in its 5<sup>th</sup> edition (2013) and scheduled to be released in a 6<sup>th</sup> edition in early 2017. Agencies contributing core support during fiscal 2015 include:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, DHHS
- Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Bureau of Transportation Statistics
- Economic Research Service, USDA
- Energy Information Administration
- Food and Nutrition Service
- Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics Program, NSF
- National Agricultural Statistics Service
- National Center for Education Statistics
- National Center for Health Statistics
- National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
- National Institute on Aging
- Office of Policy Development and Research, HUD
- Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics, Social Security Administration
- Statistics of Income Division, IRS
- U.S. Census Bureau
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Research Evaluation Division

The 25<sup>th</sup> **Annual Morris Hansen Lecture**, sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, Westat, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, will be held Tuesday, November 17, 2015, from 3:30–5:30 pm at the USDA South Building, Jefferson Auditorium, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, followed by a reception in the USDA Whitten Building Patio across the street. The speaker is **Dr. Steve Thompson**, Shrum chair in science, professor of statistics, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, Canada; his topic is “Adaptive and Network Sampling in Changing Populations.” His talk will be discussed by **Mark S. Handcock**, professor and chair of statistics, University of California, Los Angeles, and **Andrew Gelman**, professor of statistics and political science and director of the Applied Statistics Center, Columbia University. **ABSTRACT:** See the announcement for the program abstract and more information. **REGISTRATION:** Please [pre-register](#) for this event online to help facilitate access to the building. Registration will close on November 13, 2015.

The **Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology** (FCSM) invites attendance at the **2015 FCSM Research Conference** hosted by the **Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics** (COPAFS). The conference will be held December 1–3, 2015, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Based on the preliminary agenda, the conference looks to offer dynamite sessions on innovative developments at many leading federal statistical agencies. According to the conference site: “The 2015 FCSM Research Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to federal government statistical programs. Each day



of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including: adaptive survey design, address-based sampling, administrative records, Bayesian statistical methods, coding, confidentiality and disclosure, crowdsourcing, data quality, economic statistics, editing, frame development, imputation, mobile devices, multi-mode and web data collection, nonresponse and measurement error, paradata and metadata, questionnaire and survey design, record linkage, small area estimation, survey redesign, variance estimation, and weighting.” The keynote speaker is **Raj Chetty**, professor of economics at Stanford University (visiting at Harvard through December 2015), co-director of the Public Economics group at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and editor of the *Journal of Public Economics*. His widely cited research on tax policy, unemployment, and education makes innovative use of IRS administrative data and other sources. [Registration](#) is now open. There is a registration fee.

## CNSTAT Meetings

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**CNSTAT’s 129<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **Keck Center of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

**CNSTAT’s 130<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 5–6, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**NOTE:** Presentations from the joint CNSTAT/NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN) set of workshops and public seminar at the May 8, 2015, CNSTAT meeting are available on the NCRN [site](#).

## Active PANELS & WORKSHOPS

[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]

## **Department of Agriculture**

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for November 12-13, 2015, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

Study directors: Christopher Mackie and Tom Plewes; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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–December 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary is in response to review

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Commerce**

### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau's Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

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

Chair: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

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

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting held October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC; fifth meeting TBD

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's annual economic surveys (see above) and will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for January 13-14, 2016, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American Community Survey**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–December 2016

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **Department of Education**

### **Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels**

**Evaluation** (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

### **Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data**

**Collection Programs** (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the Board on Health Sciences Policy)

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/fourth meeting on Trauma scheduled for December 17-18, 2015; Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings in Washington, DC)

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

Sponsor: Office of Minority Health

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

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: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in print and [PDF](#); second report is in review

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–December 2016

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

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

Reports planned: First report is being drafted; second report is being planned

Upcoming meetings: Tenth meeting scheduled for November 17-18, 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–December 2015

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

### **National Science Foundation**

#### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports: Forums do not issue reports; they meet for discussion among a wide range of stakeholders; they can also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–March 2018

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: Directorate on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2015–June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for January 20-21, 2016, in Washington, DC

**Workshop on Prioritizing and Implementing Improvements to Innovation Indicators**

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

**The Carnegie Corporation of New York****Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First Phase AOS is to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held October 15, 2015, in Washington, DC; second meeting 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–March 2016

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

**The Laura and John Arnold Foundation****Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods**

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–December 2017

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

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting and first workshop scheduled for December 15-17, 2015, in Washington, DC (public workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup>)

**• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •**

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

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





# NEWS from CNSTAT

— November 23, 2015 —

## PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **Ken Prewitt** on receiving the **SAGE-CASBS Award for 2015** from SAGE and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University (CASBS). Established in 2013, the award “recognizes outstanding achievement in the understanding and advancement of the behavioral and social sciences as they are applied to pressing social issues.” Ken was honored because he “has expertly bridged the theoretical and the practical, and as a result has made a lasting impact on American government and America’s citizens. He is a forward-thinker, a champion of the federal statistical system, and a pioneer in advancing and advocating for the value of scholarly knowledge. In recent years, he has worked tirelessly to uphold the value of the social and behavioral sciences [with] policymakers.” He is the Carnegie professor of public affairs at Columbia University and previously served as director of the U.S. Census Bureau at the time of the 2000 census, director of the National Opinion Research Center, president of the Social Science Research Council, and senior vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation. He is presently chair of the Advisory Committee of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; president of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences; and vice-chair of the Board of NORC at the University of Chicago. He previously served as a member of CNSTAT and chaired its panel that produced the report, *Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy* in 2014 for the Corporation on National and Community Service. He has authored or coauthored more than 100 articles and book chapters as well as ten books, most recently *What is Your Race? The Census and Our Flawed Effort to Classify Americans* (Princeton, 2013). Among his awards are a Guggenheim Fellowship, honorary degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and Southern Methodist University, and a Distinguished Service Award from the New School for Social Research.

We congratulate **Ruth Peterson** on beginning her term as **president** of the **American Society of Criminology (ASC)**; **Candace Kruttschnitt** on becoming **past president** of the **ASC**; and **James Lynch** on becoming **president-elect** of the **ASC**. Ruth is professor of sociology (emerita) at the Ohio State University, a current member of CNSTAT, a past member of the Committee on Law and Justice at the Academies, and served on several CNSTAT panels. Candace is professor of sociology at Toronto University and co-chaired the CNSTAT panel that produced the report, *Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault* in 2014 for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). Jim is chair of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland, previously served as director of BJS, served on the CNSTAT panel that evaluated BJS programs, and currently serves as a member of the CNSTAT Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods and as a consultant to the CNSTAT Panel on Modernizing the Nation’s Crime Statistics.

We wish **David Johnson** the best in his new position as **research professor** and **co-principal investigator** of the **Panel Study of Income Dynamics** at the **University of Michigan Survey Research Center** and thank him for his service to the federal statistical system. Over a 25-year career in federal statistics, he held positions at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the U.S. Census Bureau, and, most recently, as chief economist at the Bureau of Economic Analysis. He will be commuting between DC and Ann Arbor.

## REPORT *News*

***Measuring Serious Emotional Disturbance in Children: Workshop Summary*** was released in prepublication format on November 23, 2015. This report summarizes the discussions at a CNSTAT workshop, chaired by Kathleen Merikangas (NIMH), held in June 2015 for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The workshop was organized under a CNSTAT standing committee that has the goal of assisting SAMHSA in its responsibilities for expanding the collection of behavioral health data in several areas. This workshop brought together experts in child mental health, psychiatric epidemiology, and survey methods to facilitate discussion of the most suitable measures and mechanisms for producing estimates of serious emotional disturbance in children, which are necessary to enable the distribution of block grants that support state-level mental health services for children. The report discusses existing measures and data on mental disorders and functional impairment, challenges associated with collecting these data in large-scale population-based studies, as well as study design and estimation options. [PDFs](#) of the prepublication report are available for free download at the National Academies Press web site; printed copies will be available shortly.

***Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for the Economic Research Service: A Workshop*** was released in prepublication format on November 9, 2015. This report summarizes the discussions at a CNSTAT workshop held in April 2015 for the Economic Research Service, USDA, and chaired by David Brown (Cornell University). ERS maintains four highly related but distinct geographic classification systems to designate areas by the degree to which they are rural. The original urban-rural code scheme was developed by the ERS in the 1970s, when rural America was very different from rural America today. At that time migration to cities and poverty among the people left behind were central concerns. The more rural a residence, the more likely a person was to live in poverty, and this relationship held true regardless of age or race. Since the 1970s the interstate highway system was completed and broadband was developed. Services have become more consolidated into larger centers. Some of the traditional rural industries, farming and mining, have prospered, and there has been rural amenity-based in-migration. The urban-rural poverty gap has narrowed considerably. The CNSTAT workshop convened participants to explore the data, estimation, and policy issues for rationalizing the multiple classifications of rural areas currently in use by ERS in light of the changed social and economic environment. [PDFs](#) of the prepublication report are available for free download at the National Academies Press web site; printed copies will be available shortly.

***The Integration of Immigrants into American Society***, the final report of a panel organized under CNSTAT's sister Committee on Population, was released in prepublication format on September 21, 2015. The panel was chaired by Mary Waters (Harvard University) and funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the National Science Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. The report examines social factors that affect the well-being of immigrants as they integrate into American society through the identification of such measurable outcomes as socioeconomic status, language abilities, and employment. The report finds that, as immigrants and their descendants become integrated into U.S. society, many aspects of their lives improve, including educational attainment, occupational distribution, income, and language ability, but

their well-being declines in the areas of health, crime, and family patterns. At the same time, several factors impede immigrants' integration into society, such as their legal status, racial disparities in socioeconomic outcomes, and low naturalization rates. [PDFs](#) of the report are available for free downloading at the National Academies Press website. Meanwhile, a report of the CNSTAT Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration is nearing completion.

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

**Reminder:** Slides from previous CNSTAT public seminars are available on the CNSTAT [public seminars and symposia](#) page; slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website.

## EVENT & OTHER *News*

The *Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology* (FCSM) invites attendance at the **2015 FCSM Research Conference** hosted by the *Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics* (COPAFS). The conference will be held December 1–3, 2015, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Based on the preliminary agenda, the conference looks to offer dynamite sessions on innovative developments at many leading federal statistical agencies. According to the conference site: "The 2015 FCSM Research Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including: adaptive survey design, address-based sampling, administrative records, Bayesian statistical methods, coding, confidentiality and disclosure, crowdsourcing, data quality, economic statistics, editing, frame development, imputation, mobile devices, multi-mode and web data collection, nonresponse and measurement error, paradata and metadata, questionnaire and survey design, record linkage, small area estimation, survey redesign, variance estimation, and weighting." The keynote speaker is **Raj Chetty**, professor of economics at Stanford University (visiting at Harvard through December 2015), co-director of the Public Economics group at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and editor of the *Journal of Public Economics*. His widely cited research on tax policy, unemployment, and education makes innovative use of IRS administrative data and other sources.

## 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 129<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **Keck Center of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

**CNSTAT's 130<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 5–6, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads, followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 2 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm. The **agency head lunch** will provide an opportunity for statistical agency leaders to provide input on the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of ***Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency***, to be released in early 2017.

**CNSTAT's 131<sup>st</sup> meeting** will be held **October 20-21, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

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

## *Active* **PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

*[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]*

### **Department of Agriculture**

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting held November 12-13, 2015, in Washington, DC; second meeting TBD.

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

Study directors: Christopher Mackie and Tom Plewes; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2015– September 2018  
Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper  
Chair: TBD  
Report planned: Workshop summary  
Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA**

Sponsor: Economic Research Service  
Duration: September 2014–December 2015  
Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper  
Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)  
Report planned: Workshop summary, *Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for the Economic Research Service: A Workshop*, publicly released in prepublication format, November 9, 2015; free [PDFs](#) are available; printed copies will be available shortly.  
Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Commerce**

### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau’s Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: May 2015–May 2018  
Study director: Glenn White; senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper  
Chair: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)  
Report planned: Final report  
Upcoming meetings: Second full panel meeting scheduled for February 4 (in Suitland, MD) and February 5, 2016 (in Washington, DC)

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: September 2013–November 2016  
Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin; research associate: Adrienne Bradford  
Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)  
Report planned: Final report  
Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting held October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC; fifth meeting TBD

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: September 2014–September 2019  
Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Anthony Mann  
Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)  
Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau’s annual economic surveys (see above) and will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).  
Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for January 13-14, 2016, in Washington, DC



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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American Community Survey**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–November 2016

Study director: Brian Harris-Kojetin; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

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

Report planned: Workshop summary

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

## **Department of Education**

### **Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels**

**Evaluation** (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

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

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

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

### **Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data**

**Collection Programs** (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the Board on Health Sciences Policy)

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

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

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

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

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

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/fourth meeting on Trauma scheduled for December 17-18, 2015;  
Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings in Washington, DC)

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

Sponsor: Office of Minority Health  
Duration: September 2015–September 2016  
Study director: Jordyn White; senior program officer: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin  
Chair: TBD  
Report planned: Workshop summary  
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: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in print and [PDF](#); second report has cleared review and is being prepared for release in prepublication format, December 11, 2015  
Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Duration: September 2013–December 2016  
Study director: Daniel Cork; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Michael Siri  
Chair: Janet Lauritsen (University of Missouri–St. Louis)  
Reports planned: First report is being drafted; second report is being planned  
Upcoming meetings: Eleventh meeting scheduled for March 3-4, 2016, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
Duration: September 2013–December 2015  
Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Richard Pain; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; Board on Human-Systems Integration director: Poornima Madhavan; TRB Studies and Special Programs Division director: Stephen Godwin; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin



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

Report planned: Final report is in review

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports: Forums do not issue reports; they meet for discussion among a wide range of stakeholders; they can also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–March 2018

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: Directorate on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2015–June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for January 20-21, 2016, in Washington, DC

### **Workshop on Prioritizing and Implementing Improvements to Innovation Indicators**

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First Phase AOS is to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held October 15, 2015, in Washington, DC; second meeting 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–March 2016

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

### **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–December 2017

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

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting and first workshop scheduled for December 15-17, 2015, in Washington, DC (public workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup>)

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

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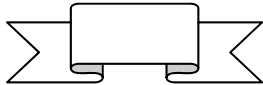
– See our website for previous issues of *News from CNSTAT*, under “CNSTAT News” –

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

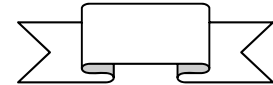


# NEWS from CNSTAT

— December 21, 2015 —



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



## PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **John Abowd** on his appointment through an interagency personnel agreement as the new **associate director for research and methodology** and **chief scientist** at the **U.S. Census Bureau**. The appointment will be effective June 1, 2016. He replaces **Tom Louis**, professor of biostatistics in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and former CNSTAT member, who steps down as associate director, January 5, 2016, and continues as part-time adviser until John's term begins (John will also continue serving as a part-time adviser until June 1). John joined the faculty of Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations in 1987. He is currently the Edmund Ezra Day professor of economics, statistics, and information science. He began his long association with the Census Bureau in 1998 when he joined the team of distinguished senior research fellows that helped found the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics program. He has served continuously since 1998 as a scientific adviser to that program and others at the bureau. Since 2011, he has been the principal investigator for the Cornell University node of the National Science Foundation-Census Research Network and co-principal investigator of its coordinating office. John is a fellow and past president of the Society of Labor Economists, a fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Econometric Society, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He currently serves on the National Academies' Committee on National Statistics and the American Economic Association's Committee on Economic Statistics. He chaired a CNSTAT panel for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that produced the 2013 report ***Collecting Compensation Data from Employers***. He received his B.A. (with highest honors) in economics from the University of Notre Dame and his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago.

We congratulate **Brian Harris-Kojetin** on receiving the **DC-AAPOR (American Association for Public Opinion Research) Annual Outstanding Achievement Award for 2015**. This award is intended to recognize local members of the Baltimore-Washington area research community, who have (a) made an outstanding contribution to the theory, methods, or applications of survey research, public opinion research, market research, or other related fields, or (b) substantially contributed to the vitality, strength, and spirit of the local research community. Previous award winners include Gordon Willis (2014), Nancy Bates (2013), Stanley Presser (2012), Adam Safir (2011), Clyde Tucker (2010), Scott Keeter (2009), Jennifer Rothgeb and Robie Sangster (2008), and Helen Crossley (2007). Brian was cited for his strong

commitment to the survey research field and his long standing involvement in the DC-AAPOR community as follows (paraphrased):

Through his previous role at the Office of Management and Budget and in his current role as **deputy director of the Committee on National Statistics**, Brian has led many survey researchers through the wilds of survey production and statistical research and has not only made their work better, but also made each person better along the way. Brian genuinely cares about the well-being of the survey research field and each person in it. He brings unmatched energy and enthusiasm to everything he does and sets an example of dedication and hard work, directed to keeping survey researchers focused on making survey research better.

We congratulate **Michael Cohen** and **Julia Kisa** on receiving **staff awards** from CNSTAT's parent **Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE)**, November 10, 2015. Mike is a senior program officer with CNSTAT, who has directed many studies and is also a valued resource for others in the Academies on statistical matters. He received his award for "Longterm Achievement." Julia is CNSTAT's valued and exceptionally able financial associate and received her award for "Achievement in a Support Role."

We congratulate the following members of the CNSTAT community on their election last month as **2015 fellows** of the **American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)**:

- **Michael P. Cohen**, American Institutes for Research;
- **David Goldston**, National Resources Defense Council;
- **Patricia A. Jacobs**, Naval Postgraduate School;
- **Alan F. Karr**, RTI International; and
- **Alyson G. Wilson**, North Carolina State University.

We congratulate the following members of the CNSTAT community on receiving awards from the **American Statistical Association Health Policy Statistics Section** at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Health Policy Statistics, October 9, 2015:

- **Constantine Gatsonis**, Brown University Department of Biostatistics and CNSTAT member, who received a **Long-Term Excellence Award**; and
- **Elizabeth Stuart**, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who received a **Mid-Career Award**.

We note with pleasure the news that the **National Institute of Statistics Sciences (NISS)** honored **Ingram Olkin**, professor emeritus and chair of statistics and education at Stanford University and a NISS founder, as part of NISS's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at a reception during the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2015. Ingram served on CNSTAT in its earliest days, from 1977–1983; chaired a CNSTAT panel that produced a landmark 3-volume report on **Incomplete Data in Sample Surveys**, published in 1983 by Academic Press; and served on a panel to review the 2000 census, which produced **The 2000 Census: Counting Under Adversity**, published by the National Academies Press in 2004. Throughout his distinguished career he has been an active supporter of women and people beginning their academic careers in statistics.

## REPORT *News*

**The Bicentennial Census: New Directions for Methodology in 1990—30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition** was released on December 18, 2015. This report was first issued in 1985 by a CNSTAT panel chaired by John Pratt of the Harvard University Graduate School of Business and staffed by Connie Citro and Mike Cohen. The study was requested by the U.S. Census Bureau to investigate three broad areas: (1) the uses

of statistical models for adjusting census counts for differential undercoverage of population groups; (2) the uses of sampling in the census, specifically, the costs and benefits of sampling for coverage improvement and nonresponse follow-up; and (3) the uses of administrative records for improving the accuracy of census counts and the efficiency of census operations. Since the report's release, many of the panel's observations and recommendations have proven to be prescient, while some have proved infeasible to carry out within the time constraints for delivering population totals for purposes of congressional redistricting. Yet the panel's report remains of interest for its comprehensive review of census methods in the United States and abroad and of statistical methods that could improve the count. The report has long been out of print, and it was never available electronically. CNSTAT decided to remedy this lack by reissuing the report on the occasion of its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Print copies may be ordered from the National Academies Press, and free [PDFs](#) for downloading are available from the NAP web site.

***Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums: Report 2*** was released in prepublication format on December 11, 2015. The report was prepared by a committee organized under the Water Science and Technology Board, with input from the Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Applications, and CNSTAT. The committee was chaired by Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future) and funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency pursuant to a congressional mandate. [PDFs](#) of the prepublication report are available for free download at the National Academies Press web site; printed copies will be available shortly.

The report identifies an approach for FEMA to evaluate policy options for making premiums through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) more affordable for those who have limited ability to pay. The recommended approach is microsimulation modeling, which could estimate premiums and future flood damage claims at the individual policyholder level and, for example, allow FEMA to compare the price of NFIP premiums that reflect true flood risk—as called for in the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012—with measures of policyholders' ability to pay. The agency then could evaluate how different premium and mitigation assistance programs might be designed to make premiums affordable for cost-burdened households. The report says that FEMA currently does not have the policy analysis capacity or necessary data to comprehensively analyze different options for making flood insurance more affordable. For example, the NFIP's database lacks first-floor elevation data for many properties, making it difficult to estimate those properties' risk of flood damage or the premiums they would face under a risk-based pricing structure. Moreover, the NFIP database does not contain data on policyholders' income, wealth, or housing costs. The report identifies some limited analyses FEMA can do now, and describes ways that the agency can build its modeling capacity and data resources to enable such analyses. The pace at which FEMA's modeling capacity grows will depend on the resources available, access to appropriate expertise, and the support of agency leadership.

***Measuring Serious Emotional Disturbance in Children: Workshop Summary*** was released in prepublication format on November 23, 2015. This report summarizes the discussions at a CNSTAT workshop, chaired by Kathleen Merikangas (NIMH), held in June 2015 for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The workshop was held under the auspices of a CNSTAT standing committee that has the goal of assisting SAMHSA in its responsibilities for expanding the collection of behavioral health data in several areas. This workshop brought together experts in child mental health, psychiatric epidemiology, and survey methods to facilitate discussion of the most suitable measures and mechanisms for producing estimates of serious emotional disturbance in children, which are necessary to enable the distribution of block grants that support state-level mental health services for children. The report discusses existing measures and data on mental disorders and functional impairment, challenges associated with collecting these data in large-scale population-based studies, as well as study design and estimation options. [PDFs](#) of the prepublication report are available for free download at the National Academies Press web site; printed copies will be available shortly.



***Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for the Economic Research Service: A Workshop*** was released in prepublication format on November 9, 2015. This report summarizes the discussions at a CNSTAT workshop held in April 2015 for the Economic Research Service, USDA, and chaired by David Brown (Cornell University). ERS maintains four highly related but distinct geographic classification systems to designate areas by the degree to which they are rural. The original urban-rural code scheme was developed by the ERS in the 1970s, when rural America was very different from rural America today. At that time migration to cities and poverty among the people left behind were central concerns. The more rural a residence, the more likely a person was to live in poverty, and this relationship held true regardless of age or race. Since the 1970s the interstate highway system was completed and broadband was developed. Services have become more consolidated into larger centers. Some of the traditional rural industries, farming and mining, have prospered, and there has been rural amenity-based in-migration. The urban-rural poverty gap has narrowed considerably. The CNSTAT workshop convened participants to explore the data, estimation, and policy issues for rationalizing the multiple classifications of rural areas currently in use by ERS in light of the changed social and economic environment. [PDFs](#) of the prepublication report are available for free download at the National Academies Press web site; printed copies will be available shortly.

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

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

***Reminder:*** Slides from previous CNSTAT public seminars are available on the CNSTAT [public seminars and symposia](#) page; slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website.

## 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 129<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **February 11–12, 2016**, at the **Keck Center of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine** at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

**CNSTAT's 130<sup>th</sup> meeting** will be held **May 5–6, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads, followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 2 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm. The **agency head lunch** will provide an opportunity for statistical agency leaders to provide input on the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of ***Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency***, to be released in early 2017.

**CNSTAT's 131<sup>st</sup> meeting** will be held **October 20–21, 2016**, in the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 21st, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads, followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 2 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm.

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

## *Active* **PANELS & WORKSHOPS**

*[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under “Our Work.”]*

### **Department of Agriculture**

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting held November 12–13, 2015, in Washington, DC; second meeting TBD.

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–September 2017

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2015– September 2018

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

### **Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA**

Sponsor: Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–December 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary, *Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for the Economic Research Service: A Workshop*, publicly released in prepublication format, November 9, 2015; free [PDFs](#) are available; printed copies will be available shortly.

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Commerce**

### **Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau's Annual Economic Surveys**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

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

Chair: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second full panel meeting scheduled for February 4 (in Suitland, MD) and February 5, 2016 (in Washington, DC)

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–November 2016

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

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting held October 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC; fifth meeting TBD

### **Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

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

Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on

reengineering the Census Bureau's annual economic surveys (see above) and will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).  
Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for January 13-14, 2016, in Washington, DC

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

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: September 2015–September 2016  
Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Anthony Mann  
Chair: TBD  
Report planned: Workshop summary  
Upcoming meetings: TBD

#### **Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American Community Survey**

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau  
Duration: September 2015–November 2016  
Study director: Brian Harris-Kojetin; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin  
Co-chairs: Linda Gage (California Department of Finance, retired) and Joseph Salvo (NYC Department of City Planning)  
Report planned: Workshop summary  
Upcoming meetings: Workshop scheduled for March 8-9, 2016, in Washington, DC

### **Department of Education**

#### **Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels**

**Evaluation** (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics  
Duration: September 2014–March 2016  
Study director: Judith Koenig (BOTA); program officer: Jordyn White (CNSTAT); project assistant: Kelly Arrington (BOTA)  
Chair: Christopher Edley, Jr. (University of California, Berkeley)  
Report planned: Final report is being drafted  
Upcoming meetings: Eighth (last) meeting (closed) held November 16-17, 2015, in Irvine, CA

### **Department of Health and Human Services**

#### **Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data**

**Collection Programs** (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the Board on Health Sciences Policy)

Sponsors: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Duration: August 2014–July 2016  
Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officer: Jeanne Rivard (BBCSS); senior program officer: Adrienne Stith Butler (BHSP); project assistant: Michael Siri  
Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)  
Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee is facilitating workshops on the topics of measuring serious emotional disturbance in children (workshop summary released in prepublication format on November 23, 2015, available in [PDF](#)); specific mental illness diagnoses with any

functional impairment (summary is in review); trauma (summary is being drafted); and recovery. A website is maintained for the committee at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings in Washington, DC)

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

Sponsor: Office of Minority Health

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

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: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in print and [PDF](#); *Report 2* released in prepublication format, December 11, 2015; available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

## **Department of Justice**

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

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–December 2016

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

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

Reports planned: First report is being drafted; second report is being planned

Upcoming meetings: Eleventh meeting scheduled for March 3-4, 2016, in Washington, DC

## **Department of Transportation**

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

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–December 2015

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Richard Pain; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; Board on Human-Systems Integration director: Poornima Madhavan; TRB Studies and Special Programs Division director: Stephen Godwin; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin  
Co-chairs: Hal Stern (University of California, Irvine); Matthew Rizzo (University of Nebraska Medical Center)

Report planned: Final report is in response to review

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

## **National Science Foundation**

### **Forum on Open Science**

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

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

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports: Forums do not issue reports; they meet for discussion among a wide range of stakeholders; they can also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities under development

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

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–March 2018

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: Directorate on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2015–June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for January 20-21, 2016, in Washington, DC

### **Workshop on Prioritizing and Implementing Improvements to Innovation Indicators**

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair-designate: Scott Stern (MIT)

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

## **The Carnegie Corporation of New York**

### **Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase**

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate workshops on the design and research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First Phase AOS is to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First meeting held October 15, 2015, in Washington, DC; second meeting 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 2016

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

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

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

## **The Laura and John Arnold Foundation**

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

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–December 2017

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

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting and first workshop held December 15-17, 2015, in Washington, DC (public workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup>, from which slides will be posted); third meeting planned for February 25-27, 2016, in Palo Alto, CA

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