

# SURVEY RESEARCH

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE SURVEY RESEARCH LABORATORY

## AASRO Update: Nonprofit Status!

Larry Hembroff, Office for Survey Research, Institute for Public Policy & Social Research, Michigan State University, and President of AASRO

At the annual meeting of the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations (AASRO), the Executive Committee (EC) announced to those attending that AASRO's application for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status had been approved by the IRS. Members had been encouraging the organization to seek nonprofit status for several years, but the effort to do so really began in earnest in April of 2012.

Former treasurer Martha van Haitsma consulted an attorney on the documentation needed to support the application. The attorney's review prompted the EC to propose revisions to AASRO's bylaws to strengthen the educational focus of the organization's purpose. AASRO's members overwhelmingly approved the revisions to the bylaws in a special election last May.

van Haitsma delivered the application materials to the attorney in June for submission to the IRS. Notification of the final approval arrived in February about a week prior to the annual meetings.

Obtaining 501(c)(3) nonprofit status has important benefits for both AASRO and its members, includ-

ing enabling AASRO to receive payments by credit card. Perhaps most importantly, contributions to AASRO are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

In many ways, this was the highlight of a generally eventful year for AASRO. A brief overview of the year's activities follows.

### Transitions: Expected and Unexpected

With the installation of new officers at the 2012 annual meeting, AASRO's bank accounts had to be transferred from the University of Chicago to another institution where new treasurer Stephanie Kane (University of Idaho) could maintain them. The EC chose to move the accounts to a national bank rather than another university in order to facilitate future transitions without having to transfer the accounts from university to university. Only signature authority would have to change rather than the physical location of the funds. This concern for increasing portability while minimizing transition efforts guided the EC's decisions on a number of issues throughout the year.



As most members know, shortly after the 2012 annual meeting, newly installed President John Tarnai of Washington State became incapacitated by treatments for cancer and subsequently passed away on May 6. Vice President/President-Elect Larry Hembroff (Michigan State) took over as President.

Under the bylaws, the EC was authorized to nominate and conduct a special election for a new VP/P-E to fill the then-vacant position. The EC approved conducting the election electronically rather than by paper ballot as in the past to expedite the vote on a new VP/P-E and on the revisions to the bylaws. The anonymous electronic voting was carried out by the Survey Research Institute at Cornell and went very smoothly. Danna Moore (Washington State) was overwhelmingly elected by the membership.

## Awards

The EC authorized the establishment of the John Tarnai Memorial Scholarship Fund to honor Tarnai by supporting the attendance of young survey research staff members at the annual AAPOR conference or International Field Directors and Technologies Conference (IFD&TC). The EC announced the establishment of the memorial fund the day of Tarnai's funeral and began immediately to solicit contributions to support the fund. AASRO's 501(c)(3) status retroactively makes all contributions to the fund tax deductible.

Over the course of the year, the awards committee, headed by Jolene Smyth (University of Nebraska) and acting on the charge from the EC, developed specifications for the scholarship regarding goals, qualifications, nomination procedures, selection criteria, timelines, and the award value. It also suggested mechanisms to ensure sustained funding. The EC approved the plans.

The committee invited scholarship nominations at the same time it invited nominations

for the John M. Kennedy Achievement Award. The recipients of both were announced at the annual meeting at the University of New Hampshire. The Kennedy Achievement Award was awarded posthumously to John Tarnai who had also been instrumental in the formation of AASRO (among many other accomplishments). The first recipient of the Tarnai Scholarship was Alycia Cameron, Technologies Associate and Manager in the Center for Survey Research at Indiana University.

## AASRO at Other Meetings

As in previous years, AASRO hosted a luncheon session at the 2012 AAPOR meeting both to encourage membership by other academic survey research organizations and to address issues of concern to our member organizations. As noted in an earlier issue of *Survey Research*, the 2012 luncheon organized by Andy Smith (University of New Hampshire) featured Gary Langer of Langer Research Associates and the former Director of Polling for ABC News as the guest speaker. Langer's remarks focused on integrity and accuracy in the reporting of polling results. The luncheon session was attended by 40–50 AASRO members.

AASRO also organized and hosted two sessions at the 2012 IFD&TC. On behalf of AASRO, John Stevenson (University of Wisconsin) organized a session on the challenges of collecting biomarkers and a panel discussion on building a career within survey research.

## Strengthening Member Organizations

The Mentoring and Peer Review Committee of AASRO, chaired by Susan Willis-Walton (Virginia Tech), completed the report on the first external site review of a member survey research organization. With the aid of Tom Guterbock (University of Virginia), the committee developed a template for such reports and a protocol for conducting such reviews, which the EC approved. Later in the year, the committee

conducted its second site review for a different member organization and has received requests for three more to be conducted later this summer or next fall. The feedback has been very positive as to the usefulness of the reviews for the sites.

Another survey organization requested that AASRO conduct a blind peer review of a report for a client. This was a novel request for AASRO, but Hembroff discreetly made arrangements; both the client and the requesting organization found the review reassuring and constructive.

### **Looking out for Member Interests**

A part of the function of AASRO is to scan the survey environment in which member organizations operate and to address potential threats and try to protect our collective interests. In the past, AASRO has written letters of support for member organizations at risk of being closed. Fortunately, that was not necessary this past year; however, other threats did arise. In response to threats to cut funding for the Census Bureau, to make participation in the American Community Survey voluntary rather than mandatory, to defund the American Community Survey, and to prohibit the use of federal monies to offer incentives to prospective survey respondents, the EC became signatory to other professional groups' letters to Congress, sent its own letters to congressional representatives, and prepared letters that AASRO member organizations could send to their congressmen.

AASRO sent the Human Subjects Committee chair (Ron Langley, University of Kentucky) as AASRO representative to the Public Responsibility in Medicine & Research (PRIM&R) and COSSA annual meetings. PRIM&R is highly focused on the ethical standards in conducting biomedical and social science/behavior research and provides an excellent window through which to view or influence thinking on

possible changes in the "Common Rule" and regulations governing human subjects protections. In addition to keeping AASRO abreast of currents that might potentially impact member organizations, the EC asked Langley to focus specifically on any emerging standards regarding collection of data via social media.

The COSSA meetings particularly focus on the state of the social and behavioral sciences, especially regarding public funding. This year's sessions were made more anxious by the political environment and the financial uncertainties of the fiscal cliff.

Langley's summary reports from these two sets of meetings and links to other reports of the meetings are available at AASRO's Web site.

### **Improving AASRO Communication**

AASRO's Web site itself ([www.aasro.org](http://www.aasro.org)) was the subject of considerable effort and progress this past year. The ad hoc Web site committee headed by John Edwards (Mississippi State) reprogrammed the AASRO site using Drupal and has arranged for it to be hosted on a new server site that is more reliably accessible; further, it will be hosted at negligible cost for AASRO as a nonprofit organization. Drupal should be much simpler and easier for a broader group of designated members to help manage the site's content and make updates. The full transition from the University of Virginia Collab site should be accomplished in a matter of months.

One of the things that should soon be added to the site is a summary report of the 2011 Survey of AASRO member organizations. A draft of the report prepared by Education and Advocacy Chair Ed Freeland (Princeton) is awaiting final edits and approval by the EC; the report then will be posted for members.

The 2012 AASRO Survey was conducted again by the team headed by Bistra Anatchkova (University of Wyoming). Anatchkova presented an

overview of the results at the annual meeting in New Hampshire along with some comparisons to past years' results. At the request of the EC, Anatchkova's team reprogrammed the questionnaire in Qualtrics, since that is the most widely used Web survey software among member organizations (according to the survey). Again, using a common software system was intended to increase the portability of the task, reduce costs, and facilitate transitions across committee members for the future.

## Other Actions

Other notable activities for the year included the formation of a new Greeting Committee to welcome new attendees at the annual meeting; development of a new "Member" version of the AASRO logo; repurposing the Collaboration Committee to develop educational or training documents, presentations, or webinars to strengthen survey organization practices and administration; and development of more committee documentation of protocols to facilitate transitions and consistency from year to year.

The 2013 AASRO annual meeting was organized by Andy Smith and hosted at the University of New Hampshire from February 28 through March 2. In addition to announcing the approval of the new nonprofit status, the EC announced the winners of the election of offi-

cers—also conducted electronically—to fill the vacant positions on the EC for the upcoming year. The newly elected Vice President/President-Elect is Susan Willis-Walton (Virginia Tech). The newly elected Secretary/Membership Coordinator is Jolene Smyth (University of Nebraska). The Program Chair for 2014 is Tim Johnson (University of Illinois at Chicago), and the Communications Coordinator is Ashley Bowers (Indiana University).

The Executive Committee for 2012–13 included the following:

**President:** Larry Hembroff (Michigan State),

**VP/P-E:** Danna Moore (Washington State),

**Treasurer:** Stephanie Kane (University of Idaho),

**Secretary/Membership Coordinator:** Kurt Johnson (Penn State),

**Communications Coordinator:** Tim Johnson (University of Illinois at Chicago),

**Program Chair:** Andy Smith (University of New Hampshire), and

**Past President:** Yasamin Miller (Cornell University).

The progress AASRO made this year was made possible by the generous contributions of time and energy of numerous members, including many beyond those identified in this summary. The efforts of all have been enormously valuable and are greatly appreciated.

## Report on the CSDI Workshop 2013 in Stockholm, Sweden

Peter Ph. Mohler

The International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI) was initiated in 2001 by Janet Harkness and formally founded in 2002 at its first meeting in Brussels (Belgium) by a group of researchers long active in cross-national and cross-cultural survey research. The main goal of CSDI is to improve comparative survey design, implemen-

tation, and related analysis and dissemination. Its emphasis is on multinational, multiregional, and multicultural comparative surveys, now known as 3M surveys. Two major achievements of the workshop are the Cross-Cultural Survey Guidelines provided by ISR/SRO at the University of Michigan (<http://ccsg.isr.umich.edu/>). These guidelines define current best practices

in comparative survey research and thus are a valuable benchmark for survey providers and users. The second achievement was the first conference on 3M methodology held 2008 in Berlin. The edited volume of invited papers from the 2008 conference *Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts* has been named the 2013 AAPOR book of the year.

Members of the workshop also organized special sessions at many conferences in America, Europe, Asia, and Australia in the past and are continuing to do so—for instance, at the forthcoming 2013 conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA).

The workshop provides a forum and platform for researchers involved in work related to evaluating and/or developing comparative survey methods and tools. Thus its members include producers as well as users of 3M surveys from private, academic, or official survey research.

This year's workshop, The Eleventh International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation, was held in Stockholm, Sweden, at Stockholm University's Frescati Campus from March 21–23.

Thirty-eight papers were presented during the two-and-a-half day meeting. They covered all current hot issues in 3M research, such as comparability, survey process quality, measurement and error, surveys among hard-to-survey populations, multilingual translation and adaptation, or analysis. All presentations are now available on the CSDI Web site ([www.csdiworkshop.org](http://www.csdiworkshop.org)—follow the links to the 2013 workshop).

The 2014 workshop will be hosted by NORC in its Washington DC Metro location next March. Those interested in taking part in CSDI are invited to contact Beth-Ellen Pennell, Director of International Survey Operations at ISR/SRO ([bpennell@isr.umich.edu](mailto:bpennell@isr.umich.edu)).

## In Memoriam: Robin Bebel



It is with deep sadness that the University of Virginia Center for Survey Research notes the untimely passing of Assistant Director Robin Bebel, on April 21, 2013.

Her husband Dennis and her grown children Nick and Maggie were with her at the end. Robin was a talented, hard-working, and dedicated survey professional for many years, and we miss her very much. Her coworkers are making a donation in her memory to the AASRO John Tarnai Fund; the fund provides travel support to students and young professionals to attend IFDTC or AAPOR meetings.



## CURRENT RESEARCH

*Further information on the studies described in this section should be obtained from the organizations conducting the studies at the addresses given at the beginning of each organization's listing. Neither Survey Research nor the Survey Research Laboratory can provide this information. Study summaries are accepted by Survey Research with the understanding that additional information can be released to others.*

## DELAWARE

### Center for Applied Demography & Survey Research (CADSR)

#### University of Delaware

282 Graham Hall, Academy Street, Newark, DE 19716  
302 831-8406, fax: 302 831-6434  
[rbedford@udel.edu](mailto:rbedford@udel.edu); [www.cadsr.udel.edu](http://www.cadsr.udel.edu)

#### Delaware Trip Monitoring System Survey.

CADSR conducts the Delaware Trip Monitoring System Survey, which is part of the Statewide Improvement Project. This is an ongoing RDD survey that began in 1995 and annually collects approximately

2,400 interviews. The survey gathers information on weekly travel behaviors and preferences of drivers over age 16 across the state. It helps to determine travel patterns, commute times, modes of transportation, and the use of and need for public transportation; its primary purpose is to determine the needs for transportation services throughout the state. The data are spatially mapped using GIS software to provide detailed information for infrastructure planning. *Principal Investigator:* Tibor Toth.

**Delaware Growth and Quality of Life Survey.** CADSR first conducted the DPPI survey in 2007. The 2013 survey (now called Delaware Growth and Quality of Life Survey) is a follow-up to the original study to enable the tracking trends and changing attitudes. Approximately 1,000 RDD interviews will be collected across the state. The primary purpose of the project is to measure how Delawareans feel about important issues facing the state and its residents today and in the coming years, including the role of government, job opportunities, environment, crime, education, and transportation. *Principal Investigator:* Tibor Toth.

**Delaware Tobacco Prevention and Control Program.** CADSR has been conducting this annual survey since 2002. Approximately 1,200 RDD interviews are collected each year. The study gathers information from smokers and nonsmokers on the prevalence of tobacco use, efforts to quit, exposure to secondhand smoke, and the reach of state-sponsored media campaigns. The primary goals are to track trends in tobacco usage and measure the effectiveness of anti-tobacco programs and advertisements. *Principal Investigator:* Tibor Toth.

## GEORGIA

### **Survey Research Center (SRC) Office of Research Services University of Georgia**

303A Stegeman Coliseum, Athens, GA 306022  
706-542-9290; fax: 706-425-3029  
jbason@src.uga.edu

**Georgia Poll.** The Spring 2013 Georgia Poll was conducted between May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013, when a telephone interview was administered to an RDD probability sample of 473 Georgia residents age 18 or older. The purpose of the survey was to assess perceptions of Georgians towards death

and dying and knowledge and perceptions of Emory University in Atlanta. The cooperation rate for the study was 31.5%. *Principal Investigator:* James Bason.

**The 2013 100 Days of Summer Heat Survey.** This survey will be conducted between June 3<sup>rd</sup> and September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013, when a telephone interview will be administered to approximately 400 Georgia residents regarding knowledge of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Annual 100 Days of Summer Heat drunk driving enforcement campaign conducted after Memorial Day and concluding following Labor Day. Two hundred respondents will complete a pretest prior to the enforcement campaign; subsequently, an additional 200 respondents will complete a post-test after the enforcement campaign is completed. The purpose of the study is to determine if post-test respondents report higher levels of knowledge after media and enforcement efforts occur. *Principal Investigator:* James Bason.

## ILLINOIS

### **Survey Research Laboratory (SRL) University of Illinois at Chicago**

412 S. Peoria St., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60607-7069  
312-996-5300; fax: 312-996-3358, or  
616 E. Green St., 203 Tech Plaza, Champaign, IL 61820-5752  
217-333-4273; fax: 217-244-4408  
info@srl.uic.edu; www.srl.uic.edu

**Illinois Medical District Commission (IMDC) Economic Impact Assessment.** SRL assisted the Center for Urban Economic Development at the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) with an economic impact assessment done for the IMDC. SRL conducted phone screeners and main data collection via Web of the IMDC's approximately 80 employers (mainly universities, hospitals, state agencies, and R&D labs). The survey was designed to get information on their industries, employment numbers, wages, nonwage costs, revenues, state and local tax payments, the percentage of revenues that come from within the Chicago metropolitan area, and whether they have spun off any other companies in the Chicago area. *Project Coordinator:* Sowmya Anand.

**Community Health Inclusion Index Development.** SRL is assisting the UIC Center on Health Promotion Research for Persons with Disabilities (led by Yochai Eisenberg) in developing a data collection tool to assess the accessibility of vari-

ous community venues such as schools, hospitals/clinics, employers, community centers, and grocery stores. The tool will be used for community assessments in Illinois, North Carolina, Montana, and Arizona this summer. *Project Coordinator:* Isabel Farrar.

**UIC Library User Survey.** SRL assisted the UIC Libraries with a survey of their users to assess frequency and purpose of visits and to gather information on satisfaction with services. Specifically, SRL assisted with questionnaire development and consulted on Web survey programming and launching. *Project Coordinator:* Sowmya Anand.

**Nurse Workforce Survey.** On behalf of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), SRL conducted a nonresponse analysis of a survey of RNs conducted by the NCSBN and the Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers; SRL also constructed poststratification weights. Prior to the fielding of this national survey, there was no source of current, complete, and consistent information for nursing workforce data. *Project Coordinator:* Linda Owens.

**Analysis of Court-Watching Data.** Each fall, students in the College of Law at the Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and volunteers from the League of Women Voters devote time to observing and systematically recording certain characteristics of court proceedings in Champaign County, such as the demographic characteristics of defendants and the jury pool and the demeanor of those involved in the proceedings, with an eye toward reporting on the functioning of the justice process. For the 2012–13 set of observations, SRL removed duplicates from the data file and analyzed the data. *Project Coordinator:* Linda Owens.

## INDIANA

### Center for Survey Research (CSR) Indiana University

1900 E. Tenth St., Bloomington, IN 47406-7512  
812-855-2833  
csr@indiana.edu; <http://csr.indiana.edu/>

**2013 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE).** CSR is finishing the 2013 administration of the NSSE. The Center for Postsecondary Research at Indiana University partners with the CSR to administer NSSE, which collects data about student

engagement and the undergraduate experience from students at hundreds of four-year colleges and universities across the U.S. (including Puerto Rico) and Canada, with a view to improving policies and practices in undergraduate education. The majority of NSSE data are collected via a Web survey (offered in English, Spanish, and Canadian French) with over one million students invited to participate and over 300,000 of those students responding. *Principal Investigator:* Alexander McCormick (NSSE), *Project Director:* Stacey Giroux.

**Mapping the Study of Religion, Ethics, Values, and Belief Systems at Indiana University.** The Indiana University Office of the Vice President for Research contracted CSR to conduct a survey of all faculty at the eight Indiana University campuses. This survey was intended to map potential pockets of interest in the research areas of religion, ethics, spirituality, values, and belief systems and identify possible collaborations for future projects and the possible development of an institute related to these areas. *Project Director:* Alycia Cameron.

## KENTUCKY

### Survey Research Center University of Kentucky

304 Breckinridge Hall, Lexington, KY 40506-0056  
859-257-4684; fax: 859-323-1972  
langley@uky.edu; <http://survey.research.uky.edu/>

**Life Stresses, Family and Partner Support, and Cancer Care For Women.** This ongoing survey of 5,000 female cancer survivors seeks to assess the level of support from intimate partners and the effect of other life stresses on recovery. *Principal Investigator:* Ann Coker, *Project Director:* Ron Langley.

**Quality of Life Dimensions Survey.** This biennial statewide survey addresses Kentucky adults' quality of life. *Principal Investigator:* Kathy Sheppard-Jones, *Project Director:* Marianne Clark.

**Suicide Bereavement in Military Veterans and Their Families.** This is a dual-frame telephone survey of 2,000 Kentucky veterans and 1,200 non-veterans regarding attitudes about suicide, suicide ideation, and personal experience with loss by suicide. Additionally, veterans are interviewed about personal experience with other (non-suicide) sudden and traumatic deaths. *Principal Investigator:* Julie Cerel, *Project Director:* Ron Langley.

## MICHIGAN

### Survey Research Center (SRC) Institute for Social Research University of Michigan

P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248  
734-647-2223; fax: 734-647-6371  
schardoul@isr.umich.edu; <http://www.isr.umich.edu>

**MDRC Reading Partners Evaluation.** The purpose of this project is to evaluate the efficacy of the Reading Partners program, which is an elementary school tutoring program that operates both during the school day and after school using a proprietary curriculum developed in partnership with the Stanford University School of Education. MDRC is the organization in charge of designing and executing the evaluation, while the Univ. of Michigan has been contracted by MDRC to do the in-school work of administering student assessments and teacher surveys. Each school in the sample contributes an estimated 60 students toward the treatment and control groups, for a total of approximately 1,260 students distributed among grades 2–5. Eligible students were assigned to either the Reading Partners group (treatment) or the control group. Control and treatment students will be assessed using a battery of reading assessments in fall 2012 (baseline) and spring 2013 (follow-up). *Principal Investigator:* Robin Jacob (UM-Survey Research Center), *Project Manager:* Sarah Crane.

**The Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID).** Begun in 1968, PSID is a longitudinal study of several thousand individuals (men, women, and children) and the family units in which they reside. Most information collected is about family composition and changes, income sources and amounts, employment and pensions, and wealth. The main focus is on how these family composition and financial factors interact with each other and how they change over time. PSID uses a CAI application that includes an Event History Calendar to collect employment and health histories. Interviews are conducted primarily via phone. In 2013, PSID will interview over 9,400 families. The study's primary funding source is NSF with substantial additional funding provided by NIA and NICHD. *Principal Investigator:* Charlie Brown (with Vicki Freedman and Narayan Sastry at the Univ. of Michigan Survey Research Center), *Survey Director:* Shonda Kruger Ndiaye.

## PATRONS

- Marketing Systems Group
- Mathematica Policy Research
- National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
- RTI International
- Survey Research Center, University of Michigan
- Survey Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Westat

**Monitoring the Future.** Self-administered questionnaires will be completed in group administration settings by 8<sup>th</sup>-, 10<sup>th</sup>-, and 12<sup>th</sup>-graders in approximately 410 schools nationwide from February through June 2013. Also, a longitudinal panel of around 20,000 who have participated in the 12<sup>th</sup>-grade school surveys since 1975 will receive mail questionnaires in April. Reminder calling for panel respondents who have not returned completed questionnaires will take place from May through August. Topics include drug use, political and social attitudes, work life, and leisure time activities; funding is provided by NIH. *Principal Investigator:* Lloyd Johnston, *Project Manager:* Lloyd Hemingway.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Survey Center University of New Hampshire

Huddleston Hall, 73 Main St., Durham, NH 03824  
603-862-2226; fax: 603-862-1488  
andrewsmith@unh.edu; <http://www.uhn.edu/survey-center>

**Granite State Poll 49, April 2013.** Five hundred and seven (507) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cell phone between April 4 and April 9, 2013. The Granite State Poll is a quarterly survey of public opinion in New Hampshire. This study was conducted to determine present attitudes concerning the New Hampshire

political environment, public policy, and consumer confidence in the state. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 4.4%. Included is a subsample of 171 likely 2016 Republican primary voters (margin of sampling error +/- 7.5%) and 188 likely 2016 Democratic primary voters (margin of sampling error +/- 7.1%). *Principal Investigator:* Andrew Smith.

## NEW YORK

### Survey Research Institute Cornell University

Ithaca, NY 14853  
607-255-3786; fax: 607-255-7118  
surveyresearch@cornell.edu; www.sri.cornell.edu

**Survey of Restaurant Employers.** This is a national telephone survey of 1,100 restaurant employers to examine the relationship between restaurant employment practices, employee turnover, the costs of turnover, and implications for customer service. Data collection will be completed by the end of May.

**New York State Intergovernmental Cooperation Survey.** A survey of New York senior local government officials within municipalities, planners, and school superintendents will assess the possibilities for intergovernmental cooperation across municipalities, school districts, and planners. The goals of the Web-based survey are to identify additional service areas that offer potential for efficiency gains under cooperation and to assess the motivators, obstacles, and outcomes of shared service delivery, to better understand barriers and motivations to cooperation. This study looks to assess the outcomes of cooperation in terms of improvements in service quality and cost savings. Approximately 3,000 individuals have been targeted for participation in this study. Data collection will end by July.

**Marriage Advice Project.** This is a telephone survey of 350 older Americans, asking their advice for marriage for younger people. The survey asks about relationship formation, advice for a happy marriage over many years, and lessons for successful marriage on a number of specific topics. Data collection ended in May.

**Nutrisystem Program Outcomes and Satisfaction Survey.** This longitudinal Web-based survey of 900 overweight and obese adults who make an ini-

tial purchase of a Nutrisystem weight loss program will track characteristics, outcomes, and program satisfaction over a two-year period. Data collection began in January.

### Center for Survey Research (CSR) Stony Brook University

Department of Political Science  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-4392  
631-632-1498; fax: 631-632-1538  
Survey\_Research@sunysb.edu; www.sunysb.edu/surveys

**Long Island Small Business Survey.** At the end of 2012, the Bethpage Federal Credit Union, New York State's largest credit union, commissioned CSR to interview 603 Long Island small business executives by telephone to assess their attitudes on the health of their businesses, optimism about the future, plans for future expansion, and national and Long Island business conditions. A unique set of questions was asked of owners regarding the particular rewards and challenges of business ownership. A targeted sample of Long Island small businesses with revenues of \$10 million or less was used. *Principal Investigator:* Leonie Huddy.

## NORTH CAROLINA

### RTI International

P. O. Box 12194, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  
919-485-2666  
listen@rti.org; www.rti.org

**Access-Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS).** APAIS is a field intercept study of marine recreational anglers conducted in the 13 Atlantic states north of Florida. Funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), APAIS collects data related to fishing participation, effort, and catch by interviewing anglers; identifying, weighing, and measuring available fish; and working with vessel operators and site managers. The APAIS contributes to NMFS's Marine Recreational Information Program, a research program designed to improve fisheries management. *Project Director:* Matt Strobl.

**Making Pre-K Count.** RTI International is working under contract with MDRC to "Collect Data in Support of an Evaluation of the Robin Hood Initiative's Math Curriculum Project—Making Pre-K Count (MPC)." Data for this random-assignment math cur-

riculum evaluation will be collected from selected New York City preschool centers and schools during academic years 2013–14 and 2014–15 and in kindergartens during 2015–16. *Project Director:* Jean Lennon.

## TEXAS

### **Center for Community Research & Development (CCRD) Baylor University**

P.O. Box 97131, Waco, TX 76798-7131  
254-710-3811; fax: 254-710-3809  
larry\_lyon@baylor.edu; www.baylor.edu/ccrd

**Waco Health Survey.** A local hospital asked CCRD to conduct a phone survey of county residents in order to assess views on health-related issues and preference of health service providers. Respondents also were asked about brand-name recognition of hospitals in larger metropolitan areas within the regions of north, central, and south Texas. A total of 1,105 individuals were surveyed; analysis was focused primarily on race, geographic area, age, and income. *Principal Investigator:* Robyn Driskell.

**After-School Program Analysis.** The CCRD was tasked with analyzing a survey conducted by a local business that organizes children's after-school programs. The primary purpose was to gather opinions of parents relating to the quality of the programs. Doctoral students at the CCRD provided the business with a comprehensive report detailing responses. *Principal Investigator:* Robyn Driskell.

**Hospital Location and Market Share.** A doctoral student examined several previous local health surveys performed by the CCRD. The purpose for this was to determine if the location of city hospitals played a role in establishing market share. It was determined that a hospital's market share increased whenever it relocated into developing areas of the city.

## VIRGINIA

### **Center for Survey Research University of Virginia**

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Charlottesville, VA 22903-4827  
434-243-5232; fax: 434-982-5524  
surveys@virginia.edu; http://surveys.virginia.edu

**2012 Loudoun County Survey of Citizens.** CSR recently completed this phone survey of 1,096 Loudoun County (VA) residents using a triple-frame sample design (RDD, listed, and cell numbers) with an oversample of the county's rural area. The questionnaire addressed quality of life, ratings of several county services, employment and telecommuting in the household, opinions about economic dependence on Federal spending, and opinions about priorities for transportation initiatives. *Principal Investigator:* Jim Ellis.

**Chesterfield County Citizen Survey 2012.** CSR recently completed this telephone survey of 528 residents of Chesterfield County (VA) using a dual-frame sample design (listed and cell frames) stratified by five magisterial districts within the county. Listed sample received an advance notification postcard, and interviewing was done in English and Spanish. The survey gathered opinions about quality of life, a variety of county services, as well as open-ended comments regarding regional cooperation among local governments. *Principal Investigator:* Jim Ellis, *Project Coordinator:* Debbie Rexrode.

**Jefferson Area Community Survey (JACS) 3—Spring 2013.** CSR is conducting the third JACS, a recurring omnibus telephone survey of 1,000+ randomly selected adults living in one independent city (Charlottesville) and five surrounding counties in central Virginia. The JACS is once again using a triple-frame sample design, combining a landline-based RDD sample, a sample of directory-listed landline households, and an RDD sample of cell-phone numbers.

The JACS offers area nonprofits, government agencies, and academic researchers a cost-effective way to gather regional information from a representative sample of area residents. JACS 3 includes questions about media use, factors that might influence support for local transportation projects and plans, knowledge and opinions about natural gas service, and general opinions about the economy and the

race for Governor of Virginia. *Principal Investigator:* Thomas Guterbock, *Project Coordinators:* Peter Furia and David Shreve.

## WISCONSIN

### University of Wisconsin Survey Center

#### University of Wisconsin-Madison

4304A Sterling Hall, 475 N. Charter Street, Madison, WI 53726  
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**Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS).** This historic study recently completed a new round of data collection. For the first time, interviews were conducted in person. Over 12,000 graduate and sibling participants were contacted for face-to-face interviews that included cognitive assessments and physical measurements. Interviewers also collected waivers to access Social Security and Medicare records, as well as DNA samples not already given by participants during a previous effort. Also, participants were asked to complete a 72-page self-administered questionnaire. UWSC completed over

9,000 interviews and achieved over an 80% overall response rate for the in-person interviews.

The WLS is a unique, large-scale longitudinal study of adults and their families that covers more than half a century of life. It is a valuable resource for research on aging, life course, intergenerational transfers, relationships, family functioning, long-term effects of education and cognitive ability, occupational careers, physical and mental well-being, and morbidity and mortality.

The WLS began in 1957 with original data collection from 10,317 high school graduates in Wisconsin with subsequent data collection in 1964, 1975, 1992, and 2004. Previous waves consisted of an in-depth telephone interview and a follow-up mail survey with the more than 9,600 surviving men and women in the original sample. A parallel phone and mail survey was conducted with 7,150 randomly selected siblings of the graduates. A shorter telephone survey was conducted with spouses of graduates and siblings.

**Midlife in the U.S. (MIDUS) National Study of Health and Well-Being.** This longitudinal survey

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is entering its third wave of data collection. Starting in the summer of 2013, UWSC begins the follow-up study with nearly 5,000 Americans between age 45–95 who have been MIDUS participants for nearly 20 years. The primary objective of the study is to identify the major biomedical, psychological, and social factors that allow some people to achieve good health, psychological well-being, and social responsibility during their journey through middle life and on into their later years. MIDUS III also will include questions about the recent recession and investigate how this recession has affected the health and well-being of Americans. MIDUS III protocols include a 45-minute telephone interview, a 100+ page mail questionnaire, and a 25-minute cognitive interview via telephone.

**The Wisconsin Family Health Survey (FHS).** This continuous survey conducted by UWSC for over a decade as an RDD telephone survey of 2,400 Wisconsin residents per year for the WI Dept. of Health and Family Services has recently undergone a mode change to become our first RDD telephone survey converted to a mixed-mode survey using an address-based sampling (ABS) frame. In 2011, UWSC conducted a successful pilot survey to test the feasibility of conducting FHS as a mail survey using ABS. We did a test run in 2012; for 2013, we are conducting the survey as a multimode phone and mail survey using an ABS sample of 6,500 addresses, targeting over 2,500 completed telephone surveys. The purpose of this annual survey is to collect statewide health information of Wisconsin residents. Oversampling of minority populations and a stratified sampling frame design allow investigators to discern racial and regional trends, among others.

**California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study (CalYOUTH).** UWSC is beginning data collection for an evaluation of the impact of AB12, the California Fostering Connections to Success Act, on outcomes during the transition to adulthood for foster youth. CalYOUTH is a longitudinal survey of approximately 880 foster care youth in California. Modeled after the Midwest Young Adult study, CalYOUTH seeks to interview youth prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday at Wave 1, then follow-up at age 20 (Wave 2), and age 22 (Wave 3). In collaboration with the California Dept. of Social Services and funded by multiple foundations, CalYOUTH will be conducted over a five-year period. The in-person interviews are approximately

75–90 minutes in length and include audio-CASI for sensitive questions, as well as the eMINI. The study is designed to capture information about a broad range of life experiences. Examples of survey modules include foster care placement characteristics and experiences, experience with the juvenile courts, education, employment, health and development, social support and community connections, service utilization, and plans and attitudes about the future.

## WYOMING

### Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center (WSAC) University of Wyoming

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**Economic Impact of Off-Road Recreational Vehicle (ORV) Use.** In collaboration with the Dept. of Agricultural Economics at the Univ. of Wyoming, WYSAC conducted a survey of ORV users in Wyoming to collect data on the impact of off-road recreational vehicle use on the state's economy. The survey was conducted in two waves to capture a full 12-month period of use. The sample was drawn from all who had purchased a permit for the time period of interest. A dual-mode of survey administration, providing respondents the option to complete the survey online or using a paper questionnaire was used. Over 1,000 total surveys were obtained. The survey of ORV users was preceded with a general population telephone survey to establish ORV ownership and use by Wyoming households. *Principal Investigator:* Trent Holder; *Project Director:* Brian Harnisch.

**Wyoming Women's Issues Survey, 2012.** This is the third iteration of this survey conducted by WYSAC and sponsored by the Wyoming Council for Women's Issues. Its purpose is to measure the intensity of a wide range of problems affecting women in the state and to establish change over time. The first such survey was conducted in 2004. Over 800 telephone interviews were completed on a sample that included landline RDD and cell phone numbers. *Principal Investigator:* Brian Harnisch, *Project Director:* Bistra Anatchkova.

**Wyoming Public Service Commission Telecommunications Survey, 2012.** The purpose of this survey was to assess the public's usage of and preferences for various types of voice communication services in select communities throughout Wyoming. As requested by the sponsor, special attention was paid (in both sampling and survey administration) to households residing in specific locations defined to tie directly to "high-cost" or "low-cost" landline telephone coverage zones. Over 600 telephone interviews were completed on a sample stratified to provide adequate coverage of the geographies of interest. *Principal Investigator:* Michael Dorssom.

**Georgetown, Texas, Citizen Survey, 2013.** WYSAC conduct the newest iteration of this biannual survey using a dual-mode of survey administration, providing respondents the option to complete the survey online or via paper questionnaire. The survey instrument was designed to assess levels of citizen satisfaction with services provided by the City, as well as to gather citizen opinions and preferences about various issues of current importance. WYSAC fielded the survey in December 2012, and had to close it by the end of January 2013. Over 900 completes were obtained. A PowerPoint presentation was delivered in person to the City Council. *Principal Investigators:* Trent Holder and Michael Dorssom.

## PERSONNEL NOTES

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*Survey Research reports on the new appointments and promotions of professional staff at academic and not-for-profit survey research organizations, as well as those of the for-profit organizations that are patrons of the newsletter.*

The Survey Research Center at the Univ. of Michigan is pleased to announce that **Patty Maher** has accepted the position of Director of the Survey Research Operations Unit, while **Beth-Ellen Pennell** accepted a new position as the Director of the SRC International Unit.

**Adam Preston** has joined RTI's Research Computing Division as a Research Programmer/Analyst.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**RTI International** has acquired Berkeley, CA-based education research firm MPR Associates. RTI has partnered with MPR on postsecondary education projects for the U.S. Dept. of Education for the past 20 years. MPR has offices in Berkeley, CA, Washington, DC, and Portland, OR, and about 80 staff members. MPR will be incorporated into RTI's Education Studies Division.

**The Center for Survey Research** at the Univ. of Virginia recently purchased several licenses to the Qualtrics Web-based survey system and anticipates significant reductions in the cost and time required for Web survey development and deployment.

**The Univ. of Wisconsin Survey Center (UWSC)** is proud to announce that we have just completed our 25<sup>th</sup> year providing high-quality survey research services at the UW-Madison. UWSC serves the survey research needs of a wide variety of clients including faculty, staff, and administration at the Univ. of Wisconsin and other universities; federal, state, and local governmental agencies; and not-for-profit organizations.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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*This section contains listings of employment opportunities in survey research organizations. Listings can be sent to the editors at the address in the newsletter or e-mailed to [lrnccall@uic.edu](mailto:lrnccall@uic.edu). Survey Research does not charge a fee for these postings.*

RTI International's Research Computing Division is looking for a **Research Scientist in Cybersecurity**. A fundamental understanding of cybersecurity issues and technologies, experience with interdisciplinary research, and demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication skills are essential. Duties include participating in and potentially leading projects, collaborating on research, contributing to and leading proposals for new funding in cybersecurity research, participating in marketing and development, and contributing to RTI's scientific stature through publications and external presentations. Qualifications include an M.S. and 6 years of

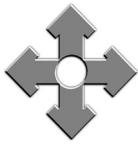
experience or Ph.D. (preferred) in computer science or related discipline and 3+ years of experience in cybersecurity research. To view the entire job requirement, search for job #4483 at [www.rti.org/careers](http://www.rti.org/careers)

## PUBLICATIONS

*The following is a list of publications related to survey research. They are not available from Survey Research nor the Survey Research Laboratory*

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## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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