Title: It’s Not What We Said, It’s Not What They Heard, It’s What They Say They Heard

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 24, 2018  4:00–5:30 p.m. (Snow date of January 31, 2018)
Informal reception to follow at approximately 5:45 p.m. at East Street Café on the mezzanine level of Union Station.

Speaker: Barry D. Nussbaum, 2017 President of the American Statistical Association and former Chief Statistician of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Chair: Michael Messner, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Sponsors: Washington Statistical Society (WSS) Statistics Education Committee, Gonzaga College High School, and WSS Methodology Program

Location: Gonzaga College High School - 19 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 - Cantwell Hall, Room 222. Please call (202) 336-7100 if you have trouble finding the building.

By Metro: Take the Red Line to Union Station. From Union Station, walk north along North Capitol Street for about 4-5 blocks until you reach St. Aloysius Church (just after the football field). Go through the pedestrian entrance of the gate to the right of the church. To your right are the two academic buildings, Ruesch and Cantwell Halls. Enter through the center entrance of those buildings. You will then be on the 2nd floor. Turn right to where Room 222 is located. More information is at https://www.gonzaga.org/page/about/directions.

By Car: Free parking is available in any empty space in the school parking garage, which is accessible after 3 p.m. More information is at https://www.gonzaga.org/page/about/directions. Coming out of the garage, the building in front of you is Dooley Hall. To the right of Dooley Hall is a pass-through to the other part of the campus. Go down those stairs, through the pass-through and then up the stairs after that. As you come up the stairs you will see the two main academic buildings, Ruesch and Cantwell Halls. Enter through the center entrance of those buildings. You will then be on the 2nd floor. Turn right where Room 222 is located.

RSVP: To be placed on the seminar attendance list, please email Carol Joyce Blumberg at cblumberg@gmail.com by January 20, 2018

Abstract: Statisticians have long known that success in our profession frequently depends on our ability to succinctly explain our results so decision makers may correctly integrate our efforts into their actions. However, this is no longer enough. While we still must make sure that we carefully present results and conclusions, the real difficulty is what the recipient thinks we just said. This presentation will discuss what to do, and what not to do. Several illustrative examples are discussed including some from the speaker's work at the Environmental Protection Agency. These include results used in court cases, executive documents, and material presented for a President of the United States in order to illustrate the principles. The talk is non-technical. This talk is highly relevant to those teaching or studying statistics at any level.

POC email: Carol Joyce Blumberg, cblumberg@gmail.com

No remote access will be available for this seminar