PLEASE FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO EDUCATORS, STUDENTS AND OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC

Title: Statisticians in the Federal Government: Producing Data on the Criminal Justice System

Date/Time: Tuesday, February 5, 2019   4:00–5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Jeri Mulrow, Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics

Chair: Glenn White, National Academies of Sciences

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

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 Paul Buckley at pbuckley@gonzaga.org by February 1, 2019

Abstract: The Federal Statistical System is decentralized consisting of 13 principal statistical agencies and over 100 statistical offices spread across the federal government. The Bureau of Justice Statistics is one of the 13 principal statistical agencies. This presentation will first describe the Federal Statistical System and the value of official federal statistics, then present some of the data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and challenges faced with collecting and analyzing these data. It will end with a discussion on how statisticians and data scientists can contribute to the success of the system. The mission of the Bureau is to collect, analyze, publish, and disseminate information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. These data are critical to federal, state, and local policymakers in combating crime and ensuring that justice is both efficient and evenhanded. This seminar will only assume a knowledge of introductory statistics for most of the talk.

POC email: Paul Buckley at pbuckley@gonzaga.org

No remote access will be available for this seminar
Title: Combining GIS and Statistics: Data Visualization to Communicate Findings

Date/Time: Thursday, March 7, 2019   4:00–5:30 p.m.
Informal reception to follow at approximately 5:45 p.m. at East Street Café on the mezzanine level of Union Station.

Speaker: Kristen Hocutt, Solution Engineer, ESRI

Chair: Maura Bardos, Mathematical Statistician, Analytics Center of Excellence, Social Security Administration

Sponsors: WSS Statistics Education Committee, WSS Methodology Section and WSS Defense & National Security Program Committee

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood Conference Center, Rooms 1/2 (Please check board in case of change of room)

BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

RSVP: To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, date of the seminar and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after ‘wss’) by noon on Monday, March 4. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar.

Abstract: A Geographic Information System (GIS) provides a powerful collection of tools to help organizations manage, explore, analyze, and present data. When combined with spatial statistics methods in ArcGIS, the approach helps analysts make full use of geographic context when generating the information that helps organizations make better decisions. In this talk, we discuss how solving spatial problems related to classification, clustering, and regression helps organizations in the domains of business, public health, and natural resources. Specific examples cover the use of Kriging, Density-based Clustering, and integrating your own R-driven processes with the R-ArcGIS Bridge. Applying these workflows can be the first step to help you explore spatial data relationships and design the models that help determine the right course of action in your research and organization. For the majority of this talk, only a knowledge of introductory statistics will be assumed.

Remote Access: WebEx link:
https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=m94a73734295911a08ac35d4cb756270f
Note: Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx

For audio: Call (866) 865-9536 or (517) 966-0857
Attendee access code: 744 124 3

POC email: Carol Joyce Blumberg, cblumberg@gmail.com
Title: Role of Statistics in Today's Changing Society: 2020 Census

Date/Time: Monday, April 1, 2019  4:00–5:30 p.m.
Informal reception to follow at approximately 5:45 p.m. at East Street Café on the mezzanine level of Union Station.

Speakers: Julia Coombs, Chief, Census Experiments Branch, Decennial Statistical Studies Division, U.S. Census Bureau and Marisa T. Hotchkiss, Chief, Content, Language and Data Products Branch, Decennial Census Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau

Chair: Martha McRoy, Research Methodologist, Pew Research Center


Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood Conference Center, Rooms 7/8 (Please check board in case of change of room)

BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

RSVP: To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, date of the seminar and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon on Thursday, March 28. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar.

Abstract: Since 1790, a census of the U.S. population has been conducted every 10 years, as required by the U.S. Constitution. Decennial census data are used to apportion seats allocated to the states for the House of Representatives and to define the representative boundaries for congressional and local governmental districts. The American Community Survey (ACS) and dozens of current surveys conducted by the Census Bureau also rely on decennial census results, and the results of these surveys are used to support important government functions, such as appropriating federal funds to local communities (an estimated $675 billion annually); calculating monthly unemployment, crime, and poverty rates; and publishing health and education data.

While these data inform the public about population change, the decennial census must also adapt to a changing environment. Changing use of technology, declining response rates, complex living arrangements, and mobile populations, along with other factors, can result in a population that is harder and more expensive to enumerate. To prepare for the 2020 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts testing throughout the decade, including qualitative testing of materials and questionnaires, field testing of data collection instruments, and data analysis. This talk will provide a brief history of the decennial census and an overview of preparation for the 2020 Census, including a discussion of the mid-decade statistical work that informs the 2020 Census. Only a knowledge of introductory statistics will be assumed for most of the talk.

Remote Access: WebEx link:
https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=mc036c5cfd74bfb8fe30494a4702ebcde
Note: Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx

For audio: Call (866) 865-9536 or (517) 966-0857
Attendee access code: 744 124 3

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