

**The California State University
Social Science Research and Instructional Council**

19th Annual Report

1990-1991

The Council, composed of one representative from each of the 20 campuses in the CSU, meets three times per year at different CSU campuses. Its purposes are:

- (A) To encourage the use of quantitative methods in teaching social science;
- (B) To support and implement the collection and distribution of social science data and computer related instructional materials;
- (C) To support and implement the use of computerized projects in the CSU curriculum; and
- (D) To support and improve the quantitative skills of CSU students and faculty.

1990-1991 was the 19th consecutive year the Council met. Professor J. Theodore Anagnoson, Chair of the Department of Political Science at Cal State Los Angeles, was chair of the Council during 1990-1991. The fall meeting was held in October, 1990 at CSU Fresno; the Winter meeting was held February 22-23, 1991 at CSU Dominguez Hills, and the Spring meeting was held May 9-10, 1991, at CSU Hayward.

SSRIC functions and activities, as well as the actions taken during 1990-1991, include:

1. Acting as an advisory committee to the CSU federated membership in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research and the systemwide memberships in the Field Institute Academic Consortium and Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

In 1990-1991, these functions were transferred from CSU's Chancellor's Office of Information Resources and Telecommunications to the Social Science Database Archive (SSDBA) at California State University, Los Angeles, under the direction of Don Carder, Director, Academic Technology Support, and to the Census Information Center (CIC) at Sonoma State University, under the direction of Larry Shinagawa, Assistant Professor.

The Council will continue to act as an advisory body to each of these organizations. Individual Council members were designated to act as liaisons over the transition period of Summer, 1991.

The Council's role and positions in regard to the controversy over the reorganization and decentralization of IRT is detailed in item #7 of this report, below.

2. Sponsoring an Annual Student Research Conference.

The Council sponsors an annual student research conference, which is now in its 16th year. This year's conference was held on Thursday, May 8th, at CSU Hayward, supported by the Dean of the School of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences, the ALSS Student Council and the Department of Political Science. The luncheon speaker was Mervin Field, founder and director of the Field Institute and California Field Poll, who spoke on the topic: "The Dismal Decline in Political Participation: Can It Be Reversed?"

Approximately thirty student papers, representing 10 CSU campuses, were presented at the conference. Lunch was served to all participants and SSRIC members.

A reception and awards presentation was held late in the afternoon at the CSU Hayward Faculty Club. The winners of the three \$100 "best paper" awards were:

The Betty Nesvold Award for Best Graduate Paper went to Randye Kay, Department of Political Science, Cal State LA, for her paper entitled "The Committee for Economic Development and Health Policy, 1965-1989."

The Charles McCall Award for Best Undergraduate Paper went to Lynn Ewing and Deena Foraker, Department of Psychology, CSU Hayward, for their paper entitled "Dieting History of Mature Eating Disordered and Non-Eating Disordered Women."

The Gloria Rummels Award for the Best Paper Using Quantitative Methods on Systemwide Computing Services Data Bases went to Steven C. Velasco, Department of Sociology, CSU Bakersfield, for his paper entitled "Gender Differences in Pro-Force Political Attitudes Among California State University Students."

3. Coordinating and making policy decisions concerning the system's membership in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research [ICPSR]. The ICPSR is the source of the datasets used extensively by social scientists for secondary analysis, research and instruction, as well as the sponsor of an extensive program of quantitative social scientific training held each summer on the campus of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

SSRIC coordinates the selection of graduate students and faculty to attend the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, held in Ann Arbor each summer.

In May, 1991, the Council selected the following faculty for attendance at the 1991 ICPSR Summer Workshops. Each faculty member received a portion of the \$3,000 that the Council had received from the ICPSR to allocate for Summer support. The Council decided to divide the support funds among the faculty in proportion to the number of weeks each intended to spend in Michigan, with \$400 being allocated for each for transportation, and \$175 per week at Michigan in addition.

Faculty going to Michigan for the Summer Quantitative Methods Program were:

Bob Ross, Political Science, Chico, 4 week session -- \$1,100.
 Michael King, Psychology, Chico, 2 week session -- \$750.
 Peter Haas, Political Science, San Jose, 1 week session, \$575.

Jon Ebeling, Political Science, Chico, 1 week session, \$575.

4. *Selecting the Field Institute Faculty Fellow, Question Credits and Student Intern.*

The CSU system is a member of the Field Institute Academic Consortium (as in Field Polls of Californians). As a member, we select a CSU student to be a student intern in the Field Institute in San Francisco each semester or quarter. Students Mary McCallahan from San Luis Obispo and Harold Diaz from Los Angeles were interns during the last academic year.

The Council also selects one faculty member as the Field Institute Faculty Fellow (\$2,000 stipend), whose questions are asked on a Field Poll and who writes a report that Field publishes. The fellow usually delivers a paper on the report at the annual Field Research Conference in early Fall.

CSU also has the use of several "question credits," with Field Institute approval, that can be awarded to faculty or students, where the user's questions are asked on a Field Survey.

In May, 1991, the SSRIC selected the 1991-1992 faculty fellow, Assistant Professor Barbara Mori of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, whose topic is "American Perceptions of the Japanese Economy." One of the other proposals was suggested for Field question credits.

5. *Producing Student Instructional Materials.*

Several Council members had received an ACE (Academic Computing Enhancement) Institute grant of \$25,000 several years ago to complete several modules on modern techniques of quantitative social science using California based datasets.

As of May, 1991, five Social Science Instructional Modules (SSIMS) have been completed, published and copyrighted. They are available for purchase through Kinko's. The five are:

- Barkan, Elliott (History, San Bernardino). "*California's New Americans.*"
- DeLeon, Richard (Political Science, San Francisco). "*AIDS, Homophobia and Political Tolerance: Public Opinion in California.*"
- Haston, Bruce (Political Science, Humboldt). "*Opinions and Behavioral Characteristics of College Students.*"
- Nelson, Edward and Elizabeth (Sociology, Fresno). "*The Status and Roles of Women.*"
- Ross, James (Sociology, Bakersfield). "*Crime and the Quality of Life in California.*"

In 1990-1991, the question arose of the extent to which additional authors could use material already published in one of the Social Science Instructional Modules. The Council adopted a set of guidelines regulating such use in the May, 1991 meeting.

Plans are underway for revision of several of the modules for second editions during the 1991-1993 period.

6. Sponsoring and conducting workshops for faculty on quantitative analysis.

Over the years, faculty from the SSRIC have submitted competitively selected proposals on five occasions for systemwide training funds and conducted one to two week workshops on quantitative data analysis, microcomputer statistical packages and, most recently, a workshop on exploratory data analysis.

During 1990-1991, SSRIC faculty had been funded to conduct a workshop on quantitative methods for social scientific data analysis, but the systemwide training funds which would have funded the workshop were eliminated from the CSU budget.

The most recent workshop funded from CSU funds was a workshop, held at CSU Fullerton, on exploratory data analysis using microcomputers and the Stata statistical package. Twenty-three faculty from most of the campuses attended from early Friday through Sunday afternoon in late January, 1990.

This workshop led to the submission of a grant application to the National Science Foundation to run two one week workshops on the same topic in Summer, 1991, at CSU Fullerton. This grant was funded. Forty-three faculty from throughout the United States, including four from the California State University and one CSU graduate student, attended the two one week workshops held on the same topic. The principal investigators and instructors for this project were the same three from the earlier EDA workshop, Ted Anagnoson (Political Science, CSU Los Angeles), Richard DeLeon (Political Science, San Francisco State University) and Richard Serpe (CSU Fullerton).

7. Speaking Out for CSU's Faculty in Issues Relating to the Council's Goals, in Particular Relating to the Decentralization of CSU's Office of Information Resources and Technology.

The decentralization of IRT had the potential of affecting the Council's work substantially and of negatively impacting every social science faculty member who used ICPSR datasets in the CSU system.

The decentralization announced in September contained no concrete plans for the future of the ICPSR federated membership, the source of the data used by faculty on every campus in the system for teaching and research. IRT's Academic Computing Support Group was simply discontinued. Without the support of appropriate staff, the decision had the potential of discontinuing the federated memberships to the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, the Field Institute Academic Consortium and the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Without the federated memberships, faculty on campuses which did not join these organizations individually would lose the right to use any previously obtained data in the classroom or to publish articles based on Consortium data.

Consortium data available to all members -- and except for Census data, free with the submission of a tape to the ICPSR -- include thousands of datasets in the following categories:

- a. Census data, including the decennial censuses, annual housing surveys, current population surveys, city-county data books, etc.
- b. Community and Urban Studies
- c. International Conflict, Aggression, Violence, Wars

- d. Economic Behavior and Attitudes
- e. Education
- f. Elites and Leadership
- g. Geography and the Environment
- h. Governmental Structure, Policies and Capabilities
- i. Health Care and Health Facilities
- j. Instructional Packages and Computer Programs
- k. International Systems: Linkages, Relationships and Events
- l. Legal Systems
- m. Legislative bodies
- n. Mass Political Behavior and Attitudes
- o. Organizational Behavior
- p. Social Indicators
- q. Social Institutions and Behavior

As can be seen, the range of data is broad. CSU orders about 250 data sets per year for the CSU system as a whole, and the list of datasets we have on the Central Cyber is contained in a computer printout that is three inches thick.

The Council fought very hard during this academic year for two principles and points:

- a. that some individual or organization within the CSU should continue the federated membership, that it was not adequate under any circumstances to leave faculty who were using data obtained from these sources up to the vagaries of campus decision making, decision making which in the past had not supported these activities and had led to the development of the centralized, federated memberships in the first place; and
- b. that faculty needed to continue universal access to the data that faculty have been using for over a decade and a half without charge.

As of this writing, the plans enumerated by IRT's Committee of the Whole (the Joint Committee of IRM representatives, Academic Computing Planning Committee representatives, and the discipline Council chairs including SSRIC's) include universal access and use of the data either free or at a minimum charge.

8. Holding Quarterly Meetings

Meetings scheduled for 1991-1992 are as follows:

Fall	October 17-18, 1991	Sonoma
Winter	February 20-21, 1992	San Luis Obispo
Spring	May 7-8, 1992	Long Beach

Professor Margaret Blue of the Department of Political Science, CSU Dominguez Hills, was elected chair of the Council for 1991-92.

Membership Changes: One SSRIC member retired after 19 consecutive years of Council membership and service. Professor Bruce Haston, Humboldt State's representative to the Council, was presented with two plaques and a resolution honoring his many contributions to the Council's work, especially his Social Science Instructional Module on the "Opinions and Behavioral Characteristics of College Students."

A plaque and resolution were also presented to the Council's support person from Information Resources and Technology's Academic Computing Support Group, Mr. Jeffrey Johnson, who moved during the academic year to a new position supporting social science computing at CSU Fullerton.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Theodore Anagnoson
Professor and Chair
Department of Political Science
California State University, Los Angeles
1990 - 1991 Chair, CSU Social Science
Research and Instructional Council

The California State University
Social Science Research and Instructional Council (SSRIC)

(1990-1991)

Bakersfield
 Chico
 Dominguez Hills

Prof. Jim Ross (Sociology)
 Prof. Jon Ebeling (Political Science)
 Prof. Margaret Blue (Political Science --
 1991-1992 SSRIC Chair)
 Prof. Edward Nelson (Sociology)
 Dr. Richard Serpe (Director, Social Science
 Research Center)

Fresno
 Fullerton

Hayward
 Humboldt
 Long Beach
 Los Angeles

Prof. Dan Graves (Political Science)
 Prof. Bruce Haston (Political Science)
 Prof. Frank Gossett (Geography)
 Prof. Ted Anagnoson (Political Science --
 1990-1991 SSRIC Chair)
 Prof. Gene Turner (Geography)

Northridge

Pomona
 Sacramento
 San Bernardino
 San Diego
 San Francisco

Prof. John Korey (Political Science)
 Prof. Carol Barnes (Sociology)
 Prof. Elliott Barkan (History)
 Prof. Richard Hofstetter (Political Science)
 Prof. Rich DeLeon (Political Science)

San Jose
 San Marcos
 San Luis Obispo
 Sonoma
 Stanislaus

Prof. Peter Haas (Political Science)
 Prof. Therese Baker (Sociology)
 Prof. Dick Shaffer (Social Sciences)
 Prof. Don Dixon (Political Science)
 Prof. Larry Giventer (Politics and Public
 Administration)

IRT Representatives:

Mr. Jeff Johnson (IRT - Network Access)
 Ms. Penny Crane (IRT - Network Access)
 Dr. Jim Hightower (IRT)

Chancellor's Office:

Dr. Terry Dunn (Analytical Studies)

CSU Census Information Center
 (Sonoma State University)

Dr. Larry Shinagawa

CSU Social Science Database
 Archive (SSDBA) (Los Angeles)

Mr. Don Carder (Director, Academic Technology
 Support)