

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

23rd Annual Report

1994-1995

The Social Science Research and Instructional Council is the oldest of the 10 disciplinary councils in the California State University system. It began in 1972 as an advisory group to the Office of Information Resources and Telecommunications. Today, the Council continues its liaison with the Chancellor's Office and is dedicated to the purpose of assisting CSU social science students and faculty in their learning, teaching, and research.

Goals and Organization

The Council's goals are to develop and coordinate programs to extend the quantitative skills of social science faculty and students by

- providing a forum for sharing information about social science data and computer products;
- initiating and conducting training programs;
- recommending computerized social science projects in the CSU curriculum;
- encouraging the collection and distribution of social science data and computer-related instructional and research materials; and
- advising CSU administrators on policies related to providing quantitative social science data for research and instruction.

With the assistance of Penny Cranc, Council liaison to the Chancellor's Office, multiple copies of an attractive brochure describing the Council's mission and activities were printed and distributed to all the campuses this year.

The Council, composed of one representative from each of the CSU campuses, meets on various campuses three times during the academic year. During 1994-95 there were four changes in Council membership. Professor Val Smith, Communication Studies, Sacramento, replaced long-time council member Professor Carole Barnes. Professor John Korey, Political Science, went from Pomona to Los Angeles for the year, replacing Professor Nadine Koch, and Professor Barbara Way, Political Science, took Professor Korey's place as the Pomona representative. Professor Patrice Engle, Chair, Psychology and Human Development, replaced Bob Clover at San Luis Obispo.

This year's meetings were hosted by Professor Ellittott Barkan, History, San Bernardino on October 19-20, 1994, by Professor Patrice Engle, Chair, Psychology and Human Development, San Luis Obispo on February 16-17, 1995, and by Professor David Tabb, Political Science, San Francisco on April 27-28, 1995. The council members who served as secretaries pro-tempore and prepared the minutes for the meetings were Professors Don Dixon, Political Science, Sonoma, fall; Larry Giventer, Political Science, Stanislaus, winter; and Professor Richard Taketa, Geography, San Jose, spring.

With the cooperation of Field's Director, Mark DiCamillo, the Council's spring San Francisco meeting was held in the World Trade Club immediately following the 19th Annual Field Institute Workshop. At the April 28 workshop CSU faculty met with colleagues from the UC, Stanford, the Hoover Institution, and with members of the media to discuss constitutional reform, multiculturalism, and the 1996 presidential election.

Curriculum, ICPSR, SSDBA, and the Field Poll

In addition to developing curriculum materials and conducting its own conferences and workshops, the Council is responsible for recommending policies and procedures related to CSU's contracts with the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, the Social Science Data Base Archive, and The Field Poll.

Curriculum Materials. Since 1987 several Council members have developed Social Science Instructional Modules (SSIMs), which contain computer data bases and workbooks in such areas as opinions about AIDS, status of women, immigration, crime, and the attitudes of college students.

Two modules were revised during 1994-95. Sociology Professors Elizabeth and Edward Nelson, Fresno, brought their 1985 module on the status and roles of women up to date; and Professor Jim Ross, Sociology, Bakersfield, completed a survey of college student attitudes on a number of CSU campuses, revising the 1987-88 work of political science Professor Bruce Haston, Humboldt.

A committee of Professors Richard Serpe, Psychology, San Marcos, Elliott Barkan, and John Korey is exploring the best way to publish modules and make them available for faculty to use in their courses.

Faculty Workshops. Short courses have been organized during the academic year and during the summer to help faculty learn new techniques in statistics, graphics, mapping, and data management.

This year two workshops were proposed for the summer of 1996. One to be led by Professor Edward Nelson, Sociology, Fresno, will be sponsored by the SSRIC and teach the Windows version of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), tentatively scheduled for June 24-28, 1996. Another workshop, proposed by Professor Eugene Turner, Geography, Northridge, will teach mapping and Geographical Information Systems, using the software MapInfo. It was endorsed by the SSRIC and will be sponsored by the Geography disciplinary council.

Two half-day workshops in connection with the Council's fall and winter meetings were held for council members, one conducted by Professor Theodore Anagnoson, Political Science, Los Angeles, on StataQuest, and one given by Marsha Epstein, San Luis Obispo, on the CSU Academic Mainframe Specialty Center (AMSPEC).

Student Research Conference. Each year in the spring, the Council sponsors a conference recognizing the best student papers in social science throughout the CSU and presents the Betty Nesvold Award to a graduate student, the Charles McCall award to an undergraduate student, and the Gloria Rummels award for the best paper using quantitative methods on a systemwide computing services data base.

Professor David Tabb, Political Science, San Francisco, directed the 20th Annual SSRIC Student Research Conference, "Student Perspectives on Social and Political Research." The conference, held on the San Francisco State University campus April 27, 1995, was supported by SFSU's Department of Political Science and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Twenty-five students presented papers in the competition. Prizes of \$100 each were awarded for the best papers. Wayne Panchesson of Chico won the Betty Nesvold Award for his "Cardiovascular Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Among Adolescents in the Chico Unified School District: An Analysis of the Social Costs and Benefits." The Charles McCall prize went to Michael Latner of Chico for "A Study of the Influence of Ideology and Party Affiliation on Attitudes Towards Local Taxation." There were two winners of the Gloria Rummels Award. The best undergraduate paper using data from the SSDBA was by Fresno's Vera Guerrero Kennedy on "Racial Differences: White Beliefs About Black's Motivations"; and the best graduate work in the SSDBA category was by Stacy Hammons of Fresno on "Suicide: An Analysis of Attitude."

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR). In odd-numbered years, each October, five members of the SSRIC participate in the business meeting of Official Representatives of the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research to make policy regarding the use of data from such sources as the U.S. government, NORC, Roper, ABC, CBS, and the National Election Studies. Additionally, the Council recruits and selects faculty, staff, and graduate students to attend the Summer Training in Quantitative Methods courses and workshops subsidized by the ICPSR at the University of Michigan.

This ICPSR membership is a bargain. It has been negotiated over the years to provide each of the campuses of the CSU with access to vast resources of machine readable data for the same price as a single campus membership. The ICPSR data base is the foundation of quantitative social science in the nation, in the CSU system, and throughout much of the world. Without membership and access to machine readable data from major national studies the faculty and students in the CSU will be deprived of material necessary for their teaching, learning, and research.

A major concern arose this year regarding continued funding for the CSU consortium membership. To investigate a report that funding for the ICPSR may be in jeopardy I appointed a committee composed of Professor John Korey, Political Science, Los Angeles, Professor Jim Ross, Sociology, Bakersfield and 1995-96 SSRIC Chair-elect, and Professor Edward Nelson, assisted by Don Carder, Director, Social Science Data Base Archive. This committee will report to the Chair of the SSRIC in the next few weeks, and the Council will take appropriate action at its fall 1995 meeting.

The Council nominated one of its former members and outstanding social scientist Professor Richard E. DeLeon, Political Science, San Francisco, to run for election to the ICPSR Council. Professor DeLeon won the book award from the American Political Science Association for his work on *Left Coast City: Progressive Politics in San Francisco, 1975-1991*. He has been a pioneer in using STATA, an exploratory data analysis statistical software package, and in conducting workshops to teach others how to use STATA in their teaching and research. With his colleague, another former SSRIC member, Professor Theodore Anagnoson, Los Angeles, Professor DeLeon has written *StataQuest*, a manual for teaching statistics, graphics, and data management, published by Duxbury Press.

Council members scheduled to attend the October 1995 ICPSR biennial meeting in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the expense of the ICPSR are Professors Jim Ross, Bakersfield; John Korey, Los Angeles; Jon Ebeling, Chico; and Richard Shaffer, San Luis Obispo, who will be rejoining the Council next year after a brief respite.

Three students, two from San Francisco and one from Sonoma, were selected this year by the SSRIC to receive funding from the ICPSR to attend its Summer Program in Quantitative Methods at the University of Michigan. Hadyn Lermal, Social Psychology, Janet Boynton, Social Psychology, and Tricia Longaker, Political Science, will take courses in the following subjects: Mathematics for Social Scientists, Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis II, Advanced Topics in Social Research, Regression Analysis, and Advanced Analysis of Variance.

Social Science Data Base Archive (SSDBA). The Council advises the Social Science Data Base Archive on its collection, storage, and transmission of data from the ICPSR, from the Bureau of Census, and from The Field Institute and arranges for the SSDBA to conduct workshops on the use of its services, including the powerful Legi-Slate and Dow-Jones News programs. Also, the SSDBA funds the travel expenses of each Council member to one SSRIC meeting per year.

At the beginning of the year Don Carder, Director of the SSDBA, reported that data for 737 studies are available on-line, including much of the 1990 Census. He said 354 faculty and 157 students have accounts permitting them to telnet directly to the SSDBA. Each faculty member who downloads a study or subsets variables or cases from a number of studies may use them for a lecture or for laboratory exercises benefitting hundreds of students.

Colin Campbell, SSDBA technical support administrator, has agreed to help establish and maintain a server to put a home page for the SSRIC on the world wide web.

Field Poll. The Field Institute makes available the files of Field Polls of California public opinion through the SSDBA and designates the Council as the body to select student and faculty interns and to choose a number of questionnaire items to be administered by the Poll each year.

At its spring meeting the Council, in cooperation with Field, inaugurated the Penny Crane Field Institute Scholar. Naming the intern for Penny Crane is our way of honoring Mrs. Crane, who provided such valuable relationship between the Council and the CSU system office for many years. This year's Scholar is Michael S. Latner of Chico.

The faculty intern for 1995-96 will be Professor Elizabeth Nelson, Chair, Department of Sociology, Fresno. She submitted a number of questionnaire items on the role of women that will be administered in a Field Poll. As is the custom she will present her results at a workshop sponsored by Field in the Spring of 1996.

A smaller number of questions was submitted by a committee of the Council led by history professor Elliott Barkan, San Bernardino, on the issue related to the proposed California Civil Rights Initiative. Several questions on affirmative action will be asked in a future Field Poll.

Conclusion

It is my opinion that the SSRIC is making a major contribution to the quality of social science teaching, learning, and research in the California State University. I am convinced that faculty and students throughout the system are intellectually stimulated by their association with the SSRIC. I believe this stimulation will endure so long as the CSU is committed to maintaining the SSRIC and its association with the ICPSR, with Field, and with the SSDBA.

Respectfully submitted,

JeDon A. Emenhiser, 1994-95 Chair
CSU Social Science Research and Instructional Council
Professor, Political Science, Humboldt State University

Attachment: Roster of 1994-95 SSRIC Representatives

Roster of 1994-95 SSRIC Representatives

Bakersfield	Jim Ross, Sociology
Chico	Jon Ebeling, Political Science
Dominguez Hills	Margaret Blue, Political Science
Fresno	Edward Nelson, Sociology
Fullerton	Rae Newton, Sociology
Hayward	Nan Chico, Sociology
Humboldt	JeDon Emenhiser, Political Science
Long Beach	Frank Gossette, Geography
Los Angeles	John Korey, Political Science
Northridge	Eugene Turner, Geography
Pomona	Barbara Way, Political Science
Sacramento	Val Smith, Communication Studies
San Bernardino	Elliott Barkan, History
San Diego	Doug Coe, Social Science Research Laboratory
San Francisco	David Tabb, Political Science
San Jose	Richard Taketa, Geography
San Marcos	Richard Serpe, Psychology
San Luis Obispo	Patrice Engle, Psychology and Human Development
Sonoma	Don Dixon, Political Science
Stanislaus	Larry Giventer, Politics and Public Administration