2006-2007 Social Sciences Specialty Center (SSSC) Annual Report

July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

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Introduction

Founded in 1972, the Social Science Research and Instructional Council (SSRIC) is the oldest of the disciplinary councils in the California State University system. With representatives from each of the CSU campuses, the Council is dedicated to assisting students and faculty in their learning, teaching, and research by:

- Facilitating access to social science data and computer-related instructional and research materials
- Promoting quantitative social science research by students via the annual SSRIC student research conference
- Initiating and conducting training programs
- Recommending computerized social science projects in the CSU curriculum
- Providing a forum for sharing information about social science data and computer products
- Advising CSU administrators on policies related to providing quantitative social science data for research and instruction

The SSRIC is the CSU systems' clearinghouse for social science data, notably data from the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) and the Field and Roper polling centers. These data sources provide data to support quantitative social science teaching, research and service by students, staff and faculty, and well as sponsored programs and grant development by CSU research centers.

All the functions described above are performed by faculty representatives as a service. Dues requested of individual campuses primarily defray data subscription costs.

ICPSR

The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) is the largest social science data repository in the world. It is the primary source of social science data for every research oriented university and nearly every other university and college in the United States. Over the past few years, data access from the ICPSR has gone online and interactive under the *ICPSR Direct* system. During academic 06-07, 7,959 datasets were downloaded from ICPSR by CSU students, faculty, and staff. Additionally, 290.612 gigabytes of data were downloaded. The following table summarizes utilization by campus for the 2005-06 and the 2006-07 academic years.

Usage data always requires one important proviso. A single download may be used in a class with many students, but only shows on the usage chart as a single download. Additionally, a single faculty member may download a study to be used for research by multiple faculty members.

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research				
Campus	Data Sets Downloaded		Gigabytes Downloaded	
	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07
Bakersfield	438	247	11.955	8.337
Channel Islands	37	212	3.011	13.223
Chico	597	317	13.861	5.486
Dominguez Hills	97	13	4.056	2.133
East Bay	1059	298	55.964	21.480
Fresno	382	182	27.133	13.134
Fullerton	1,022	729	11.584	22.124
Humboldt	68	140	3.058	5.147
Long Beach	1	870	2.791*	41.188
Los Angeles	224	286	27.959	19.292
Monterey Bay	4	975	0.501	17.538
Northridge	936	147	13.555	3.943
Pomona	88	275	5.919	3.732
Sacramento	366	451	12.538	14.596
San Bernardino	462	201	17.533	13.451
San Diego	329	640	158.685	16.661
San Francisco	495	704	53.487	37.511
San Jose	88	380	6.012	8.166
San Luis Obispo	191	370	19.939	9.754
San Marcos	108	70	2.865	1.574

Sonoma	268	39	12.463	3.420
Stanislaus	611	413	6.923	8.721
Total	7,872	7,959	471.369	290.612
*Long Beach was only a member for the last three months of 2005-06.				

ICPSR maintains a series of topical archives that allow the user to analyze data using the Data Analysis System (DAS) which was written at UC Berkeley. DAS is an online program that allows individuals to access particular studies that have been set up for this program. Information is only available for the system and is not broken down by campus. There was a very substantial increase in the number of times that CSU students, faculty, and staff accessed data through the DAS online program.

Fiscal year	Number of times accessed
2005-06	2,122
2006-07	1,369

ICPSR also offers an extensive summer program in quantitative analysis. Our membership in ICPSR allows us to distributed $3,000 in travel funds to participants in the summer program to help defray their costs. The following table summarizes the number of faculty and students (primarily faculty) that were enrolled in the ICPSR's summer program in 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Summer	Number of enrollees
2005	4
2006	7
2007	2

Roper Center for Public Opinion

The Roper Center provides public opinion data for the nation and the world. More than half of the Roper holdings are international. Studies go back many decades providing the opportunity to do longitudinal research. The CSU established a system wide membership in the Roper Center in October, 2004.   From October, 2004 through September, 2005 the CSU was limited to 50 data sets per year and data had to be ordered through one individual. Starting in October, 2005, CSU students, faculty, and staff could download Roper data directly to their desktop through Roper Express (similar to ICPSR Direct). This resulted in a large increase in utilization of Roper data. The following table summarizes the number of data sets that were downloaded from the Roper Center archive during 2005-06 (in October,

2004 when we established a systemwide membership in the Roper Center) and 2006-07. During academic 06-07, 332 datasets were downloaded from the Roper Center by CSU students, faculty, and staff. The Roper Center also offers iPOLL which is a data base of survey questions which can be used for trend analysis and to select data sets for downloading. This table also reports the number of times that students, faculty, and staff used iPOLL. During academic year 06-07, students, faculty, and staff accessed iPOLL 505 times. The following table summarizes utilization by campus for the 2005-06 and the 2006-07 academic years.

Roper Center for Public Opinion Research				
Campus	Data Sets Downloaded		iPOLL Sessions	
	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07
Bakersfield	17	29	29	25
Channel Islands	0	0	0	1
Chico	4	15	11	10
Dominguez Hills	7	2	80	65
East Bay	28	13	27	15
Fresno	6	8	11	19
Fullerton	60	40	75	41
Humboldt	0	8	2	19
Long Beach	17	21	14	32
Los Angeles	115	9	82	29
Monterey Bay	1	1	9	1
Northridge	3	4	14	8
Pomona	14	3	14	6
Sacramento	32	20	42	31
San Bernardino	1	12	1	18
San Diego	15	89	35	84
San Francisco	13	6	22	4
San Jose	0	5	0	53
San Luis Obispo	2	17	3	17
San Marcos	7	0	15	1
Sonoma	5	18	5	9
Stanislaus	7	12	5	17
Total	354	332	496	505

The Field Institute

The CSU maintains a membership in the Field Institute which provides our students, faculty, and staff access to both current and past Field polls. The Field Institute is one of several state polls that provide current political opinion data for the state on issues of interest to

policy makers, researchers, and students. In addition to access to these polls, our membership in The Field Institute provides faculty with the ability to place up to 18 questions per year on the Field Polls. When work demand allows, we can also place student interns at The Field Institute which has proven to be a very valuable work experience for many students. Field hosts an annual Field Workshop in San Francisco which provides information on many topics of current interest to the state.

The CSU contracts with UC Berkeley to provide access to the data sets we receive from The Field Institute. The following table provides information on the number of times that students, faculty, or staff accessed the Field archive at Berkeley. This refers to the number of times that a person logged onto the Field archive to look for or download data for the 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07 academic years. During academic year 2006-07, 3,709 Field data sets were accessed, an increase from the previous academic years.

Field Polls			
Campus	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Bakersfield	50	293	0
Channel Islands	Not a member	0	0
Chico	0	401	1268
Dominguez Hills	0	317	0
East Bay	14	4	32
Fresno	49	78	11
Fullerton	26	0	0
Humboldt	0	333	394
Long Beach	0	1	256
Los Angeles	0	9	273
Monterey Bay	32	69	97
Northridge	17	0	23
Pomona	55	513	366
Sacramento	40	457	525
San Bernardino	0	1	78
San Diego	10	6	122
San Francisco	0	47	105
San Jose	193	0	0
San Luis Obispo	50	65	83
San Marcos	0	135	5
Sonoma	0	28	1
Stanislaus	20	0	70
Unknown campus	0	105	0
Total	556	2862	3709

Student Research Conference

The SSRIC sponsors an annual student research conference for both undergraduates and graduates where students can present their research in a supportive setting. For many students, this is their first opportunity to present their research at a professional conference. The 2006 conference was held in Northridge with 36 student presentations from 13 CSU campuses. The 2007 conference was held in East Bay with close to fifteen participating campuses.

Training Workshops

Volunteer SSRIC representatives led training workshops on eight campuses during the 2006-07 academic year. Those campuses were Humboldt, Long Beach, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, San Bernardino, East Bay, and Los Angeles. These workshops are intended to promote the use of data and teaching modules and to instruct participants in how to access these resources. Most of those attending were faculty although there were some graduate students. More workshops are planned on numerous campuses this coming academic year, including workshops that will address training for the new Educational Doctorate programs at numerous California State Universities.

Website

The SSRIC Web site is online at **www.ssric.org**. The site consolidates and expands information previously scattered on servers at the Bakersfield, Los Angeles, and Pomona campuses. The new site makes it much easier to communicate information about resources, events, and services provided to students, faculty, and staff through the Council. The site offers among other things:

- Announcements of upcoming events
- A contact list of Council representatives from each campus
- Information for research oriented social science faculty throughout the CSU
- Comprehensive information about the annual SSRIC Student Research Conference
- Instructions for ordering ICPSR, Field, and Roper data
- Information about the Field Fellowship and Question Credits program
- Information about the ICPSR Summer Program
- Curriculum materials contained in the SSRIC Teaching Resources Depository, including various modules and exercises, an SPSS primer, and an online textbook/Web site on research methods

- Curriculum materials contained in POWERMUTT, an online text for teaching research methods in political science and cognate disciplines