Hi,

I have heard that the state of Florida, or probably the Florida State Bar, conducted a survey to measure public attitudes toward direct mailings/solicitation by attorneys. Apparently, the data were used by the Florida State Bar to support its new 30-day ban on attorney mailings to motorists who are involved in auto accidents. Does anyone have all or part of the survey and results? If so, I'd love to see them.

Or, if you know of any other survey data that measures public attitudes toward lawyer solicitations and direct, please offer suggestions. I am
particularly interested in questionnaire construction.

Thanks,
John Bare
jbbare@interpath.com
(919) 968-3382

Mitofsky@aol.com wrote:
>
> The first consistent reports of sampling error in the media were by
> CBS News and the New York Times when they started their joint polling
> in 1975. The reason was not as Werner says "because it provides an
> aura of credibility." He does not know what he is talking about.
> Sampling error was reported because disclosure, as called for by the
> National Council on Public Polls and AAPOR called for complete candor
> with the public about the survey process. The NCPP Code, which I
> helped draft, specifically calls for reporting sampling error. In
> addition to full disclosure about sampling error and any other
> background on their surveys, both news organizations agreed to archive
> their surveys so they would be available for public use.
> For Werner to attribute a reason to "the media," is a disservice to a
> rather concerted effort at full disclosure. Honest researchers
> disagree with him on the value of reporting sampling error. I count
> myself in that number.

This utterly misses the point of what I said. While I hope that Warren will
write me
directly and explain what he was thinking of when we wrote this, I would
like to make my
position clear in the open forum where this appeared.

I have never suggested, here or elsewhere, that the media NOT disclose the
sampling
error of published surveys. In fact, I have in been loudly advocating for
years that
the so-called "margin of error" be referred to as "sampling error" in all
statements.

I am also grateful that, through the strenuous efforts of the likes of
Warren, Shelly
Gawiser and others, we finally appear to have recognition among the more responsible segments of the media that proper disclosure of the methodology used is essential to establish the credibility of published survey results. As an example of how far we have come thanks to their labors, see the description of "How the Poll Was Conducted" in the section of last Friday's Wall Street Journal devoted to the latest WSJ/NBC News Poll (Page R2), which I consider to be a model of clarity and exposition.

But I still have two major complaints:

The first, for which I see no solution, is that, for all the good work of those who conduct surveys for the likes of the NY Times, CBS News, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, LA Times, etc., there remain far too many reporters and editors who could care less what types of error are involved, as long as they can use numbers from surveys to make their point, and, if mentioning "a margin of sampling error", gives their words more weight, and makes them seem more knowledgeable, so much the better.

The second, which I believe needs to be addressed before it develops into an issue that affects the credibility of all survey research, is that full disclosure of methodology and instrument wording is not enough. Unless information about the actual conditions of data collection are also provided, including response rates, we really have no basis for evaluating whether the methodology has been properly applied. While I may be inclined to do so for the organizations mentioned above, among others, I am not willing to be as trusting of the thousands of other surveys mentioned every year in the press.

Last November, the National Council on Political Polls hosted a conference in New York on conducting and reporting polls. Significantly, while the attendees included a virtual Who's Who of survey researchers, very few reporters or editors were in evidence. Those who did attend heard automated polls derided as "crap" because of response rates that could be as low as 10%. Yet they also received a preliminary report on the CMOR research that shows refusal rates (successful contacts who refuse to be interviewed,) averaging nearly 60% in telephone surveys. This latter data was more fully presented at the AAPOR conference in Salt Lake City.
What scientific principle decrees that reaching 40% of a selected sample allows proper computation of the sampling error of a survey, but 10% does not? What is the dividing line? 15% or 25% or 35% or 75% or 95%? What evidence backs this up? What evidence is there that non-response effects in exit polls (far easier to determine) are comparable to those found in telephone polls or other survey methods?

One major reason for establishing consistent guidelines for reporting response rates, and for including them in all survey methodology disclosures, is that until this is done, we will not be able to build a body of data that can be used to study non-response and whether its causes and its nature are evolving.

Survey researchers need to acknowledge these questions and to tackle the problems they create, because the alternative is that others with greater clout will discover them and use them to challenge unfavorable results.

From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Thu Jul 4 10:27:55 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP id KAA23397 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:27:54 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost) by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP id KAA00737 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:27:54 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:27:54 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Symposium: Intellectual Property
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960704102330.437A-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

From: Paul Evan Peters <paul@cni.org>
Subject: Economics of Digital Information and Intellectual Property

John F. Kennedy School of Government
Center for Science and International Affairs
and
Center for Business and Government
Harvard Law School
Institute for Information Technology Law and Policy
Harvard University Library
Council on Library Resources
Coalition for Networked Information
"The Economics of Digital Information and Intellectual Property"
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA  
January 23-25, 1997  
First Announcement and Call for Papers

Harvard University is hosting this symposium to broaden and deepen understanding of emerging economic and business models for global publishing and information access and the attendant transformation of international information markets, institutions, and businesses. The goal is to provide managers in public, private, and nonprofit sectors with a practical framework for developing program strategies and assessing the efficiency and competitiveness of new information markets and institutions.

The symposium will address:
-- What will be the principal pricing models for information in an advanced global Internet?
-- How will pricing models be affected by different technological factors and market environments?
-- What will be the relationships between classic production costs, transaction costs, and the economic value of intellectual property?
-- How will different pricing practices at lower layers affect the pricing of information?
-- What are likely long-term trends and scenarios for different pricing models? What will be the effect of bundling or unbundling of information services?
-- How will changing cost structures change the allocation of rights between authors and publishers and other intermediaries?
-- How will markets for complementary products and services affect the pricing and use of information?
-- What are the policy implications of different pricing models? How do these reflect policy values associated with different kinds of information?

BACKGROUND: The rapid growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web is transforming the way information is accessed and used in business, education, and the home. New models for distributing, sharing, linking, and enhancing information are appearing, often embodied in software or infrastructure.

No change is more dramatic than the shift to user-initiated retrieval for text-based information formerly distributed in the form of physical objects by publisher-initiated manufacturing and delivery. A similar shift may be underway for sound and video. However, the considerable differences in bandwidth and storage requirements between text, images, sound, and video may dictate different cost and pricing models in the near and mid-term.

As production and distribution costs decline, transaction costs and the value of intellectual property may assume greater prominence. On the other hand, standards and software may work to substantially reduce transaction costs over the long run. With barriers to entry reduced by technology, information markets may become extremely competitive, reducing margins and possibly lowering the economic value of many forms of intellectual property.

The Internet and the World Wide Web are characterized by explosion of information along with an explosion of new tools for navigating information. Competition for attention intensifies as companies extend their marketing, sales, and support functions into the Internet. Useful or entertaining information may have greater value in attracting customer attention in an increasingly competitive marketplace for information. Accordingly, it has
been argued that information will be valued less as intellectual property and more in terms of the access it provides to other markets and the value it adds to relationships. As a practical matter, copyright may be overshadowed by the growing use of contracts as a means of both securing value and defining expectations in continuing relationships.

Positions in simple distribution chains are likely to erode as a result of disintermediation and intense competition. In particular, reduced production costs and the desire to avoid residual transaction costs may force vendors away from complex pricing models. For example, usage-based pricing may give way to subscription pricing. Such dynamics may lead to new institutional arrangements for managing life-cycle costs of information, especially in small markets where users are also producers.

Similarly, as production costs decrease, the costs of information may be assimilated by the underlying infrastructure or assumed by users. This trend may be seen in the pricing of online services and in the massive volunteering of content on the World Wide Web. The Web, including software and servers, enables editorial and navigation functions traditionally performed by publishers and libraries to be performed in increased measure by individual authors and end users.

Cost analysis in this environment may hinge on identification and evaluation of critical bottlenecks -- with the understanding that many technological limitations may be short-lived. Congestion may lead to new methods of supplementing point-to-point transmissions, such as caching, mirroring, and satellite broadcast. These new mechanisms may raise intellectual property and interconnection questions that may be addressed both as business and policy issues.

Congestion may also hasten the implementation of type of service priority at either the network or server levels. Negotiation over quality and scope of service may become extremely complex, and vendors may be tempted to price to as many dimensions of value as possible. However, simple pricing models may have surprisingly strong appeal, as they have had in the analog environment. Sequential distribution windows for motion pictures illustrate the potential for simple price differentiation in a technologically complex environment. Price differentiation is now playing an increasingly important role in the marketing of software and databases. In fact, there may be public policy arguments for price differentiation, not only for reasons of efficiency but to enable some level of access for those who cannot afford access under standard terms, just as public libraries have offered access for those who could not afford to buy.

The Information Infrastructure Project emphasizes communication and sharing of insight among scholars and practitioners with different skills and backgrounds. Papers should be written in a clear, non-technical manner (technical appendices may be permitted) for a mixed, interdisciplinary audience that will include publishers, librarians, economists, lawyers, and policy-makers.

Prospective authors should submit short abstracts for review and comment as soon as possible. Extended abstracts or outlines should be submitted by October 15, 1996, to ensure consideration for the program. Acceptances of abstracts and outlines are conditional pending receipt of a satisfactory draft by December 15, 1996. Papers and supplementary material will be published as a volume in the Project's series with the MIT Press. Copyright
assignment is not required, and parallel publication of individual papers in journals is encouraged.

PLEASE SEND PAPER PROPOSALS AND REQUESTS for subsequent announcements to:
iip@harvard.edu

OR SEND MAIL to:
Tim Leshan
Information Infrastructure Project
John F. Kennedy School of Government
79 John F. Kennedy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-496-1389
Fax: 617-495-5776

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>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Thu Jul  4 10:33:17 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
    id KAA23751 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:33:16 -0700
(PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id KAA00996 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:33:16 -0700
(PDT)
Date: Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:33:16 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: SAPOR Call for Papers
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960704102849.437B-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

From: JIM BASON <JBASON@UGA.CC.UGA.EDU>
Subject: 1996 SAPOR

1996 SAPOR CALL FOR PAPERS

Southern Association for Public Opinion Research
Annual Conference
October 3-4, 1996
Raleigh, North Carolina
North Carolina State University Faculty Club

The Southern Association for Public Opinion Research invites proposals for papers or presentations at its annual conference, to be held October 3-4 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Topics are invited in all areas of opinion research, including political communication, public opinion, electoral behavior, the media, market research and consumer behavior, group differences in attitudes, evaluation research, applied sampling, questionnaire design, survey methodology, focus groups, CART technology, computer-assisted interviewing and alternative approaches to public opinion research.
The site of the SAPOR conference will be the North Carolina State University Faculty Club.

Please submit a brief proposal outlining your paper or presentation to: James Bason, University of Georgia, Survey Research Center, 114 Barrow Hall, Athens, Georgia 30602. E-mail: JBASON@UGA.CC.UGA.EDU Submission Deadline is August 31, 1996.

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>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Thu Jul  4 10:35:46 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
  by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
  id KAA23815 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:35:46 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
  by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
  id KAA01154 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:35:46 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:35:45 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: SAPOR Student Paper Competition
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960704103319.437C-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

From: JIM BASON <JBASON@UGA.CC.UGA.EDU>
Subject: 1996 SAPOR Student Paper Competition

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SAPOR Student Paper Competition
For Research in Social Science and Public Opinion

The Southern Association for Public Opinion Research announces the James W. Prothro Student Paper Competition from students in business, communication, journalism, marketing, economics, political science, psychology, sociology, survey methods, and related fields.

Papers dealing with social science or public opinion research, broadly defined, including works on theory, methods, or specific substantive issues, are welcome. These students should advance in some way our understanding of public opinion processes, social behavior, or mass communications.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Any student research, undergraduate or graduate, including that derived from work on theses or dissertations, is eligible. Papers co-authored with faculty or other non-students are not eligible. Papers generally should be of article length, that is 20-25 pages.

From the papers submitted, one winner and as many honorable mention awards as appropriate will be given. Evaluation of the
papers will be made by an interdisciplinary panel of social science researchers.

THE AWARD:

A prize of $250.00 will be awarded for the winning paper, and its author will be invited to present the paper at the SAPOR Annual Conference on October 3-4, 1996, to be held on the campus of North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. The authors of honorable mention papers will also be invited to present their papers at the conference.

Deadline for Submissions is August 31, 1996.

Send four copies of papers to: Gary D. Gaddy
Institute for Research in Social Science
21 Manning Hall
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3355

Contact Dr. Gaddy at (919)962-0516 or by e-mail at gaddy.irss@mhs.unc.edu

The James W. Prothro Southern Association for Public Opinion Research Student Paper Competition is sponsored by the Institute for Research in Social Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Thu Jul  4 10:42:32 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP id KAA25112 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:42:31 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP id KAA01538 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:42:29 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Thu, 4 Jul 1996 10:42:29 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Request: Response Format Effects
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960704103952.437E-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Date: Wed, 03 Jul 1996 10:51:21 +0800
From: "Priya Raghuribir: Tel: 2-358-7713" <MKPRIYA@usthk.ust.hk>

*************************************************************************
*** Mainly for Marketing Research Practitioners ***
Geeta Menon, Norbert Schwarz and I are looking at the effect of response
formats on the accuracy of responses for that question as well as carryover effects to subsequent questions (along the lines of Schwarz. et al, POQ, 1985).

Specifically, in one of our papers, we are examining the effect of asking behavioral frequency questions (such as "How often do you ...?") using closed-ended response alternatives, on the accuracy of data on a subsequent question related to past/ future expenses in a related category (e.g., "How much do you spend on ...?"). It is our understanding that it is very common for commercial market research to elicit behavioral frequency data prior to eliciting expense data. However, we need specific examples of surveys which use this particular format to better motivate our paper.

We would be most obliged if you could give us some examples of where your company has used a questionnaire which has first asked for behavioral frequency data and then followed this with a question asking for future expense estimates. We can assure that the information you provide shall be completely confidential: we can disguise the name of both your company and that of your client at the time of writing the research report.

Please do email Geeta Menon at (gmenon@stern.nyu.edu) or me (mkpriya@usthk.ust.hk) directly if you can help us.

Thank you,

Priya Raghubir
Assistant Professor, Department of Marketing
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Clearwater Bay, Kowloon, HONG KONG
Phone: (852) 358-7713; Fax: (852) 358-2429; Email: mkpriya@usthk.ust.hk

We are preparing a survey on equal opportunity in the military that focuses on harassment and discrimination. However, the military unlike most other organizations involves a 24 hour a day mentality; members of the military socialize with each other, much as on a college campus. We are also concerned with networking and work-related information that gets shared in social settings. This could also extend to such settings as dining halls--do people sit in race-segregated groups by choice or as the result of
social pressure from their own or other race/ethnic groups?

Does anyone have items that have been used to measure a person's desire to socialize with others of their own race/ethnicity versus those of a diverse background? How about items on the diversity of social contacts and whether this has changed over time?

-------------------------------------------------------------------

Timothy W. Elig, Chief
Market Analysis, Survey, and Program Evaluation Division Defense Manpower Data Center 1600 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400 Arlington, VA 22209-2593 USA
703.696.5858 (voice) 703.696.1461 (fax) (DSN prefix 426)
eligtw@dmceast.fmp.osd.mil

>From morishim@u.washington.edu Fri Jul 5 07:11:15 1996
Return-Path: morishim@u.washington.edu
Received: from homer22.u.washington.edu (morishim@homer22.u.washington.edu [140.142.77.2]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP id HAA01857 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 5 Jul 1996 07:11:13 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost by homer22.u.washington.edu (5.65+UW96.04/UW-NDC Revision: 2.33 ) id AA112392; Fri, 5 Jul 96 07:11:12 -0700
Date: Fri, 5 Jul 1996 07:11:11 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Morishima <morishim@u.washington.edu>
To: "'aapornet'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Cultural diversity and social contact
In-Reply-To: <31DD1E50@smtpgate.fmp.osd.mil>
Message-Id:
<Pine.A32.3.92a.960705071041.144576C-100000@homer22.u.washington.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Try contacting Fred Fiedler, Professor Emeritus, at the University of Washington's Department of Psychology.

| ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ |
| |
| James K. Morishima, Ph.D. |
| Professor, Educational Psychology Chair, American Ethnic Studies |
| (206) 685-1499 (206) 543-5401 |
| (206) 543-8439 (FAX) |
| morishim@u.washington.edu (e-mail) |
| |
| ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ |

>From ssa2@csd.uwm.edu Fri Jul 5 09:15:14 1996
Return-Path: ssa2@csd.uwm.edu
Received: from batch1.csd.uwm.edu (root@batch1.csd.uwm.edu [129.89.7.9]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP id JAA13566 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 5 Jul 1996 09:15:12 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from alpha2.csd.uwm.edu (ssa2@alpha2.csd.uwm.edu [129.89.169.2]) by batch1.csd.uwm.edu (8.7.1/8.6.8) with ESMTP id LAA20169 for
The Social Science Research Facility at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee has a tenure track position in Sample Surveys/ Information Processing Consultant open for recruitment. This is an Academic Staff position and also requires a limited teaching. Person should have a strong background in sample survey methods and experience in designing and implementing large surveys. A master degree in social sciences is required. The dead line for applying for this position is August 5, 1996. If interested, please write or call for further information to:

Professor Swarnjit S. Arora, Director
Social Science Research Facility
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, Wi 53201

Phone: 414-229-6617
FAX: 414-229-3860
Email: ssa2@csd.uwm.edu
From: "Richard S. Halpern (Dick)" <rshalp@cris.com>
Subject: Media Information Source

The Parrot Media Network website <http://www.parrotmedia.com> offers a
great deal of information about newspapers, radio and tv stations and cable
systems in the US that could be helpful. It provides entire listings by
state and city along with info about ownership and whom to contact at each
one.

********************************************************************************
Richard S. Halpern, Ph.D.         Phone/Fax: (770) 434 4121
Halpern & Associates            E-Mail: rshalp@cris.com
3837 Courtyard Drive            E-Mail: rshalp@concentric.net
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-4248
********************************************************************************

>From 6710GRIFFINR@vms.csd.mu.edu Sat Jul  6 07:18:02 1996
Return-Path: 6710GRIFFINR@vms.csd.mu.edu
Received: from VMSE.CSD.MU.EDU (vmse.csd.mu.edu [134.48.20.6])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
    id HAA19388 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 6 Jul 1996 07:18:01 -0700
    (PDT)
From: 6710GRIFFINR@vms.csd.mu.edu
Received: from vms.csd.mu.edu by vms.csd.mu.edu (PMDF V5.0-7 #14229) id
    <01I6QWIZ2B8I91WPMN@vms.csd.mu.edu> for aapornet@usc.edu; Sat, 06 Jul 1996
    09:16:51 -0500 (CDT)
Date: Sat, 06 Jul 1996 09:16:51 -0500 (CDT)
Subject: Re: AAPORNET digest 313
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Message-id: <01I6QWIZ2B8I91WPMN@vms.csd.mu.edu>
X-VMS-To: IN"aapornet@usc.edu"
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

We are preparing a telephone survey of adults in two communities situated on
the Great Lakes concerning their perceptions of health risks stemming from
the Great lakes, and their perceptions of the environmental health of the
Great Lakes themselves. Some past research suggests that religious beliefs
might impact on environmental perceptions, etc. While we are not
concentrating on religious beliefs as predictors in this study, we do want
to account for any major influences on environmental perception and risk
perceptions that might stem from religiosity.

Therefore, can any AAPORNETTers recommend a BRIEF measure of religiosity
that might be used in this setting? Church attendance might not capture the
dimensions we need. We realize that there are many dimensions to
religiosity that cannot be captured in a brief measure, but we'd like to
account for as much as we can. Environmental perceptions might be affected
by religious dimensions related to stewardship, use/protection of the
natural world, perceptions of the role of humanity in the natural world,
etc. Risk perceptions might be affected by some of the same religious
dimensions, as well as trust in a supreme being/trust in self to overcome
health risks and conditions. Perhaps some cross-religion measure of
fundamentalism is what we are after? (The emasure should not be limited to
traditional Western religions, although most of the respondents in our surveys who hold religious beliefs will probably hold traditional Western religious beliefs.)

Thank you in advance. Please do not respond to AAPONET as a whole, but to me at: 6710GriffinR@vms.csd.mu.edu

Bob Griffin

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Mon Jul  8 09:35:59 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP id JAA20620 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 8 Jul 1996 09:35:58 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP id JAA28294 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 8 Jul 1996 09:35:57 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Mon, 8 Jul 1996 09:35:57 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPONET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: 6th Internatl Demography Conference
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960708091924.26656C-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Date: Sat, 6 Jul 1996 10:36:19 -0400
From: Applied Demography Conference Information <kvrao@bgnet.bgsu.edu>
Subject: Sixth International Conference on Applied and Business Demography

The Conference on Applied and Business Demography is to be held in Bowling Green, September 19 to 21, 1996. The Preliminary Program will be mailed to a select list of PAA members and Canadian Population Society members, in addition to those who are participating, in the next week or so.

Meanwhile, we have established a web site with conference information and updates for those who have access to the Internet.

The Conference web page is located at:

http://www.bgsu.edu/~kvrao/

A preliminary program and online registration form are available at that location. Please send your early registration by 1 August 96 if you wish to participate at the meetings. All participants must register for the conference, and doing so early would help us prepare your folders, etc.

Sincerely yours,

K.V. Rao
Chair, Organizing Committee

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Mon Jul  8 10:28:04 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Miami University. Department of Sociology, Gerontology, and Anthropology invites applications for a full-time Visiting Assistant Professor position in sociology for the 1996-1997 academic year. The successful candidate should be able to teach basic undergraduate sociology courses; with expertise in population/demography also preferred. The successful candidate should have strong teaching credentials; a completed Ph.D. is preferred. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy, teaching evaluations, if available, and names of three references to:

Dr. Robert Applebaum (RAPPLE@miamiu.muohio.edu),
Chair, Department of Sociology, Gerontology, and Anthropology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056.

For additional information, call 513-529-2628. We will fill the position as soon as possible. Miami University is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and encourages women and minority candidates.

Please spread this announcement as widely as possible. This announcement is also available at:

http://miavx1.muohio.edu/~ajjipson/position.html

Thank you.

-Art

Art Jipson
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Oxford, Ohio 45056
513-529-2637 (o)
513-529-2628 (d)
Can anyone recommend a statistics program that produces impressive crosstabs? We've used SPSS in the past and have found the crosstabs function to be limited/a bit difficult. The only requirement is that it needs to run in a Windows (3.1) environment.

Please respond directly to kcbreese@christa.unh.edu with any suggestions.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Kara Breese
Information Specialist
UNH Survey Center
On Mon, 8 Jul 1996, Kathryn Breese wrote:

> Can anyone recommend a statistics program that produces impressive
crosstabs? We've used SPSS in the past and have found the crosstabs
function to be limited/a bit difficult. The only requirement is that
it needs to run in a Windows (3.1) environment.

You may want to check out SimStat for Windows by Provalis Research.
Their homepage is

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/simstat/

If you don't have web access, you can reach the author of the program,
Normand Peladeau at 71760.2103@compuserve.com

Kathryn,
I decided to share this with the whole list in case anyone else is
looking for a recommendation...

> Can anyone recommend a statistics program that produces impressive
> crosstabs? We've used SPSS in the past and have found the crosstabs
> function to be limited/a bit difficult. The only requirement is that
> it needs to run in a Windows (3.1) environment.

I would recommend you try UNCLE. I am not sure if it functions in
the Windows 3.1 environment but I will include a number you can call
to ask.

Using an HP IV laser printer we can set it up so that it prints
landscape and we use a small font that allows us to have 22 columns of data
across the page yet still is readable.

Just a suggestion. Here is their contact info:

The Uncle Group, Inc.
3490 U.S. Route 1
Princeton, NJ 08540

(800) 229-6287 phone
(609) 452-8655 fax

Hope you find what you need...

Bill Thompson
Senior Project Director
Public Opinion Strategies
Alexandria, VA

> From Bonnie.Fisher@UC.Edu Tue Jul 9 18:38:10 1996
Return-Path: Bonnie.Fisher@UC.Edu
Received: from jazz.san.uc.edu (jazz.san.uc.edu [129.137.32.224])
by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
id SAA21716 for <aapornet@usc.EDU>; Tue, 9 Jul 1996 18:38:06 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from cin-oh3-11.ix.netcom.com by UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU
(PMDF V5.0-7 #15949) id <01I6VTSLXUVI8Y86J3@UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU> for
aapornet@usc.EDU; Tue, 09 Jul 1996 21:37:25 -0500 (EST)
Date: Tue, 09 Jul 1996 21:37:25 -0500 (EST)
Date-warning: Date header was inserted by UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU
From: Bonnie.Fisher@UC.Edu (Bonnie Fisher)
Subject: fax response rates
X-Sender: fisherbs@ucbeh.san.uc.edu
To: aapornet@usc.EDU
Message-id: <01I6VTSLXUVI8Y86J3@UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU>
MIME-version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.3
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Is anyone familiar with any studies that have examined the response rate
when using the FAX as a means to respond to a survey? Has anyone had an
experience with using the FAX in this manner? Any citations are welcomed as
well as an ancedotes.

Thank you.

Bonnie Fisher
The following message is posted to AAPORNET on behalf of Rex Wilderstrom, who is not on our list and consequently will not see anything posted here. Please send all responses directly to him unless what you have to say might be of general interest to AAPOR members, in which case please post to AAPORNET and cc Mr. Wilderstrom. -- jb

******

Date: Tue, 09 Jul 1996 10:13 +1200
From: Rex Widerstrom <WIDERSTR@msmail.poli.govt.nz>
Subject: Democracy by phone

Greetings from New Zealand.

New Zealand First is one of four parties elected to the NZ Parliament in 1993 (the first election it ever fought) and, on present polling, looks like it will be a part of the first government formed when NZ votes under proportional representation for the first time on October 12 this year.

One of the central tenets of the party is ensuring that it's elected representatives are more accountable, and I'm currently exploring cost-effective ways of allowing an MP's constituents to communicate their views to him or her.

I understand that there are systems available whereby each registered voter is sent by post a PIN number which enables them to use a telephone to dial up a system which records their vote on an issue.

What we'd like to know is:

* Are such systems in common use in other parts of the world?
* From where were they sourced?
* What has been the cost of establishment and operation?
* What level of response have they engendered?

* Are there ways around the yes/no answer? Are such systems effective in registering strength of opinion - i.e. "Press 9 if you strongly agree, 0 if you strongly disagree, or a number in between to indicate how you feel on this issue" type questions?

* Are there better alternatives to these systems, which encourage better levels of response?

* Anything else we should know?

My e-mail address is widerstr@msmmail.parliament.govt.nz

Thanks for your help. If we implement this, I'll be sure and let you know how it works 'down under'.

Rex Widerstrom
Policy and Media Advisor
New Zealand First

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In response to Bonnie Fisher's request....


In two tests, the authors found that fax-transmitted questionnaires generated response rates similar to those of the mail-transmitted questionnaires. In both cases, however, response rates were quite low (in the 20%-plus range), so you might want to look carefully at the content and assumptions in their study.

Respondents were given the option of returning q-aires by fax or by mail. One problem with returning q-aires by fax, the authors note, is that respondent anonymity is compromised. They recommend that respondents be advised to turn off the "sender ID" on their FAX
machines.

They also recommend that, for FAX transmission of q-aires:
--Print questions in large, bold letters to minimize transmission noise
--Use WATS lines (etc.) to reduce costs
--Use computerized automatic dialing.

One should note that the prevalence of FAX capabilities among respondents
selected for a survey could potentially affect results (e.g., Does it
make a difference in other ways if people get questionnaires by fax?
Although use of FAX seems to be widespread among businesses and other
organizations, are there other factors that discriminate among users
and non-users that could confound results?).

Hope this helps.

Bob Griffin
Center for Mass Media Research
College of Communication
Marquette University
Milwaukee WI

>From BWARD@habaco.com Wed Jul 10 10:47:41 1996
Return-Path: BWARD@habaco.com
Received: from habaco.com ([199.97.248.193])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id KAA29096 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jul 1996 10:47:39 -0700
(PDT)
Received: from rcgva-Message_Server by habaco.com
    with Novell GroupWise; Wed, 10 Jul 1996 13:53:56 -0500
Message-Id: <s1e3b5f4.031@habaco.com>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 4.1
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 1996 13:47:22 -0500
From: Bryan Ward <BWARD@habaco.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: CATI Software Packages

Is there a FAQ available re: CATI software packages?

Has anyone recently evaluated available CATI
packages that would be willing to share their findings?

We are currently using CASES and are interested in
comparing CASES with other packages.

If this is not the right forum for this issues, please let
me know.

Thanks,

Bryan Ward
Hagler Bailly Consulting, Inc.

bward@habaco.com
>From today's DAILY REPORT of The Chronicle of Higher Education:

MAGAZINES & JOURNALS

A glance at the July/August issue of "Foreign Affairs":

As Russia and its former Warsaw Pact allies open their records to researchers, some historians are re-evaluating the Cold War and the roles that the Soviet Union and the United States played in it, writes Melvyn P. Leffler, a professor of American history at the University of Virginia. Contrary to common belief, Mr. Leffler writes in "Inside Enemy Archives: The Cold War Reopened," recently released documents show that Soviet leaders were not eager to promote worldwide revolution and had no specific plans to turn Eastern Europe communist. Josef Stalin, Mr. Leffler says, knew that the Soviet Union was operating from a position of weakness, and wanted to avoid war with the United States. At the end of World War II, he writes, Stalin based his foreign policy on a balance of power between the British and the Americans in which the U.S.S.R. would capitalize on their anticipated rivalries. Stalin's successor Nikita Khrushchev, in an effort to gain America's respect and fear, contributed greatly to the spiraling arms race. But Mr. Leffler says that new research shows that actions by the United States increased distrust and raised the stakes. "Americans must acknowledge that the U.S. government acted not from moral revulsion against Stalinism but out of fear of Soviet power in the international system," Mr. Leffler writes.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Reposted from AAPORNET, April 5, 1996, by popular request:

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FREE EMAIL SERVICE FOR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES--CUSTOMIZABLE

Opportunity Alert is a free e-mail service that delivers items about research and education funding opportunities within a user's areas of interest. A forms based questionnaire is provided that allows the user to customize the items received by choosing keywords from among thirteen subject categories. Once this registration procedure is completed, announcements of funding opportunities are automatically delivered via e-mail. The announcement includes information about the funding and a pointer to the FEDIX URL with complete information. A service of the Federal Information Exchange, Opportunity Alert is an excellent way to keep appraised of FEDIX's funding opportunities for research and education.

http://nscep.fie.com/wincgi/fed/all/any/any/foa/any/keywords.exe/Menu

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POLITICAL AND CAMPAIGN WEB SITES

Reposted from AAPORNET, April 15, 1996, by popular demand:

30 BEST GENERAL POLITICAL AND CAMPAIGN SITES
ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

1--General Political Sites  5
2--Campaign '96: Non-Partisan Sites  6
3--Campaign '96: Major Party Sites  4
4--Other Unabashedly Partisan Sites  5
5--Congressional Sites  2
6--Less Serious Political Sites  5
7--Parody Sites  3

(1)  GENERAL POLITICAL SITES

CAMPAIGN '96 ONLINE: A GUIDE TO POLITICS ON THE INTERNET
Intended as "a comprehensive guide to online politics," 96.com is a good
jumping-off place for access to a wide variety of political links--to the
media, political parties, both conservative and liberal Web sites, other
advocacy groups, general election information, and other directories.
<http://96.com>

THE JEFFERSON PROJECT
Self-described as "the most complete archive of political resources in
existence today," the Jefferson Project might well live up to its own
billing. It includes, for example, links to some 70 political magazines
and a wide variety of political watchdog groups.
<http://www.stardot.com/jefferson/>

THE C-SPAN NETWORKS
On this site for the two C-SPAN Networks can usually be found RealAudio
news conferences, plus a 1996 primary campaign schedule, profiles (with photographs) of cabinet members and members of Congress, and a host of other political materials. <http://www.c-span.org/>

CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS
The Web site for "The Magazine for Political Professionals," Campaigns & Elections Online offers articles from the current issue, archives of past ones, subscription information, and sales of political campaign ad memorabilia and other political resources. <http://www.camelect.com/>

CALIFORNIA VOTER FOUNDATION
Not only an invaluable data source for winning the largest single block of presidential electoral votes, the CVF site also contains many links to good national sources. It includes a "starter" page, intended for newcomers to politics on the Web, with links to several online voter guides and information on how you might create a similar page for your own community. <http://www.webcom.com/cvf>

(2) CAMPAIGN '96: NON-PARTISAN SITES

FEC: FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
The FEC's new Web page includes information on campaign finance law and huge, downloadable files on candidates and PACs--a potential treasure trove of data on how politics really work. <http://www.fec.gov/>

CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY'S AMERICAN VOTER '96
With material straight from the venerable Beltway publication, this CQ site includes the usual candidate profiles and links to other political sites. Especially useful are search functions that enable you to gather data on any current member of Congress. <http://voter96.cqalert.com/>

ELECTNET--A STATE RESOURCE
CNN has called ElectNet "probably the most comprehensive place around to find information on state politics." Simply click on any state on the U.S. map to jump to a detailed listing of links and information about that state. <http://www.el.com/GOV/gov.html>

ON THE ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE
This site claims to have been the first 1996 election site online (since March 1995). Along with the usual links to candidate, party and government sites, it includes a "Virtual Voting Booth" where you can vote for any candidate of your choice, including a write-in (will Colin Powell heed this call?). <http://www.ipt.com/vote/>

VOTE-SMART WEB SITE
Project Vote Smart, a self-proclaimed "scrupulously non-partisan" effort, intends this site to be "your one-stop shopping center for political information." Much of it is here, including the U.S. Constitution--plus lists of favored positions supplied by most of the Republican candidates in this year's presidential primaries. <http://www.vote-smart.org>

POLITICSUSA
The American Political Network and The National Journal combine their talents in PoliticsUSA, a current, timely and gossipy site purporting to be the "premier" political site on the World Wide Web. You can judge for yourself. <http://PoliticsUSA.com/>
(3) CAMPAIGN '96--MAJOR PARTY SITES

DNC: DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
A clearinghouse for Democratic Party news, this site includes everything from petitions to save Medicare to links to Party organizations in each state. <http://www.democrats.org>

RNC: REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE
A GOP Main Street: Click on the newsstand for the latest Republican Party news or go to the travel store to jump to other political sites on the Net (I wouldn't drink the water, however). <http://www.rnc.org>

LAMAR WATCH: A PAGE FROM TENNESSEE

REFORM PARTY OFFICIAL WORLD WIDE WEB SITE
THE place to keep an eye on Ross Perot's Reform Party. Here you might read the party's guiding principles, identify the party contacts who live closest to you, or monitor the party's progress in getting on ballots in various states. <http://www.reformparty.org>

(4) OTHER UNABASHEDLY PARTISAN SITES

THE MOJO WIRE
CNN describes The MoJo wire, the Web site for Mother Jones Magazine, as "hip graphics and left-leaning irreverence." The site itself proclaims the more modest aim "to follow in the footsteps of the likes of Hunter S. Thompson and Bill Greider." As regular readers might expect, MoJo Wire evaluates all politicians and officials--at all levels--in the light of traditional liberal issues. <http://www.mojones.com/election_96/hunt.html>

>FROM THE LEFT
This self-described "Home of Liberalism on the Web" is single-mindedly devoted to chronicling liberalism's triumphs and defining its future directions. <http://www.cjnetworks.com/~cubsfan/liberal.html>

>FROM THE RIGHT
Claiming to be "the most ridiculed, spoofed and imitated site on the Web," this venerable site, founded in May 1994, offers a wide range of information with a conservative slant (like copious Whitewater coverage) and links to many other rightish sites, including fan pages for Newt Gingrich and Rush Limbaugh. <http://www.clark.net/pub/jeffd/index.html>

NEWTWATCH
The NewtWatch site, sporting the logo of Newt Gingrich as crybaby, continually tabulates the Speaker of the House's congressional record, his contributors and expenditures, and the ethics complaints leveled against him. <http://www.cais.com/newtwatch/>
This Webzine, barely a year old, intends to explore "the diversity of black political, cultural and artistic thought." The current issue includes essays by an African-American woman living in Japan and reviews of recent music and film releases. <http://www.clark.net/pub/conquest/one/home.html>

(5) CONGRESSIONAL SITES

THOMAS: LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET
A service of the U.S. Congress through the Library of Congress, THOMAS is the place to read the full text of legislation, browse the Congressional Record, or find a full array of links to useful Capitol Hill gophers. In the opinion of CNN, THOMAS is "a dream site for policy wonks and informed citizens, or those who want to be." <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

CAPWEB--A GUIDE TO THE U.S. CONGRESS
The CapWeb site is nothing less than a labor of love, not an "official" product of the U.S. Congress so much as, in its own words, the "product of a couple of impatient Capitol Hill staffers who felt it was an effort worth undertaking." In the words of CNN, CapWeb offers "links to many 'Inside the Beltway' resources and has valuable information on Capitol Hill people and legislation." <http://policy.net/capweb/congress.html>

(6) LESS SERIOUS POLITICAL SITES

GEORGE MAGAZINE
George Magazine, which is to the self-styled political elite what Wired Magazine is to America's so-called digerati, lives up to expectations with this colorful Web site. Current offerings include feature articles like "Limbaugh for President: A Preview," a weekly poll, useful "Web Site Reviews" (each site is rated from one to four Georges) and the inevitable political trivia quiz. <http://www.georgemag.com/>

CAPITOL STEPS
The well-known Beltway spoof troupe, star of C-SPAN and CNN, gives its site over to original songs which might be downloaded and played, and to political cartoonery. <http://pfm.het.brown.edu/people/mende/steps/>

DOONESBURY ELECTRONIC TOWN HALL
Here well-known characters from the Doonesbury comic strip serve as gateways to various rooms in a "Town Hall." Along with the pervasive humor can be found political news courtesy of The Hotline and PoliticsUSA, various straw polls described as "highly accurate albeit completely meaningless," and a search engine for Doonesbury strips dating back to 1972. <http://www.doonesbury.com/>

JOHNSTON & MURPHY'S PRESIDENTIAL FOOTNOTES CAMPAIGN '96
Sponsored by Johnston & Murphy, "maker of fine footwear for every U.S. President since Millard Fillmore," this whimsical site--also known as "The 'Sole' Site of the 1996 Presidential Campaign"--explores politics, shoes and the politics of shoes. On its more serious side, it does offer a good collection of jumps to candidate and media pages and to other Web sites of political information. <http://www.infi.net/jmshoe/>

HOW TO TELL REPUBLICANS FROM DEMOCRATS
This site is entirely given over to the single purpose of determining how to tell one major U.S. political party from the other. <http://rohan.sdsu.edu:80/home/elewis/Parties.html>

(7) PARODY SITES

BOB DOLE FOR PRESIDENT
This gentle parody of the official Dole for President Web site introduces its own choice for the White House as "The Ripe Man for the Job." <http://www.dole96.org/dole96.html>

FIDEL '96
Were Fidel Castro eligible to run for the White House, his Web site might well look very much like this. It includes a trial-balloon list of potential vice presidential running mates. <http://www.slugs.com/imagesmith/fidel/>

LIST OF PARODY PAGES
Should the previous two political parody sites leave you longing for more, here is the best place to link to all the rest, including those clever enough to make even long-time subscribers to POR think they are the genuine article. If you can key in this Web address without a mistake, certainly you deserve a good laugh. <http://www.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Humor__Jokes__and_Fun/Parody/Political_Parodies/>

#####

>From RUSCIANO@enigma.rider.edu Wed Jul 10 13:05:39 1996
Return-Path: RUSCIANO@enigma.rider.edu
Received: from enigma (enigma.rider.edu [192.107.45.2])
  by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
  id NAA19322 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jul 1996 13:05:31 -0700 (PDT)
From: RUSCIANO@enigma.rider.edu
Received: from enigma.rider.edu by enigma.rider.edu (PMDF V4.3-7 #15764)
  id <01I6WGW2164W8WW47T@enigma.rider.edu>; Wed, 10 Jul 1996 16:04:25 EDT
Date: Wed, 10 Jul 1996 16:04:25 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: Political Web Sites
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Message-id: <01I6WGW22S018WW47T@enigma.rider.edu>
X-VMS-To: IN"aapornet@usc.edu" "Aapornet members"
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

For political junkies who miss CNN daily, one might add

http://allpolitics.com/

It shows the CNN news of the day about the election.
Last week I sent out a request for items/information on measures of a
person's desire to socialize with others of their own race/ethnicity versus
those of a diverse background. I received several helpful replies. Many of
them concerned diversity on college campuses. Two particularly helpful
items were suggested from a Los Angeles Times poll. We have adopted them to
our opscan format for a mailed questionnaire and our pretesting them now --
see items 77 and 78 below. Here is the set of items that we are currently
pretesting on preferences. In an earlier section of the questionnaire, we
also ask them if they feel that during the previous year they themselves
were excluded from social activities of their work group because of
race/ethnicity.

64. To what extent . . .
   Don't know
   Very large extent
   Large extent
   Moderate extent
   Small extent
   Not at all
   a. Are racial/ethnic relations good on your installation/ship?
   b. Are racial/ethnic relations good in the local community around
your installation/port?
   c. Are you included in after work social activities of your work
   group?
   d. Do people feel free to sit wherever they choose in dining halls on
your installation/ship regardless of race/ethnicity?
   e. Do people feel free to use whatever rec facilities on your
installation/ship they choose regardless of race/ethnicity?
   f. Are several members of a racial/ethnic group treated as if they
   are a gang when they get together on your installation/ship?
   g. Do personnel on your installation/ship prefer to socialize with
members of their own racial/ethnic group when they are off duty?
77. Do you have friends of a different race/ethnicity who you entertain in your home or quarters?  
    Yes  No

78. Do you have close personal friends who are of a different race/ethnicity?  
    Yes  No

79. Think about your friends. Are the group of people with whom you now spend personal time, more or less diverse in race/ethnicity than right before you entered the military?  
    More diverse now  About the same  Less diverse now

80. In your opinion, have race relations in our nation gotten better or worse over the last 5 years?  
    Better today  About the same as 5 years ago  Worse today

81. In your opinion, have race relations in the military gotten better or worse over the last 5 years?  
    Don't know—I have been in the military less than 5 years  Better today  About the same as 5 years ago  Worse today

Thanks to all the helpful AAPORNETers for their suggestions.

Timothy W. Elig, Chief
Market Analysis, Survey, and Program Evaluation Division
Defense Manpower Data Center
1600 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400
Arlington, VA 22209-2593 USA
703.696.5858 (voice) 703.696.1461 (fax) (DSN prefix 426)
eligtw@dmdceast.fmp.osd.mil

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Thu Jul 11 10:59:39 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
    id KAA10571 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jul 1996 10:59:37 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id KAA08327 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jul 1996 10:59:36 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Thu, 11 Jul 1996 10:59:35 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Bowling Alone--1st Cent. A.D.
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960711105730.7939B-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
As AAPORNetters interested in our recent discussion of "Bowling Alone" probably noted in Sunday's New York Times (July 7, 1996, p. 3), Buddhist scholars have just pushed the origin of the "bowling alone" idea back to the second or first century A.D.

Writing from London on July 6, Times staffer John Darnton reports on the British Library's discovery of what are believed to be the oldest known Buddhist manuscripts, including fragments of perhaps 20 different texts.

Purchased for a "five figure sum" by an anonymous donor who presented them to the British Library through an anonymous dealer, the manuscripts consist of 13 scrolls of birch bark rolled up inside of clay pots. "When the material first reached us, it looked like a set of badly rolled cigars that somebody had sat on," said Graham Shaw, deputy director of Oriental and India Office Collections at the library.

By carefully unrolling the fragile scrolls after moistening them overnight in a bell jar, and then using tweezers to flatten them out and press them under glass, scholars have been able to study the content of the manuscripts over the past 18 months.

"The importance of these new manuscripts for the study of Buddhism is potentially comparable to that of the Dead Sea Scrolls to Judaism and early Christianity," said Richard Salomon, a University of Washington professor and expert in Gandhari, an ancient Buddhist dialect. Despite the scrolls' rarely-studied Kharosthi script, Salomon managed to decipher and roughly date them.

The translated fragments range from treatises to sermons to poetry. Among the poems is "The Rhinoceros Horn," which includes the sage advice of the following verse:

People keep you company and
serve you for a motive;
real friends are hard to
find these days.

People are insincere, clever in
pursuing their own ends;
wander alone like
the rhinoceros.

Substitute the verb "bowl" for "wander" in the final phrase (meter won't matter in this translation) and we have a focus-group level insight, 1,800-1,950 years old, into why some people these days might choose to, in effect, "bowl alone like the rhinoceros."

The question for modern survey researchers of course remains: Has anything really changed in the past 19 centuries? -- jb
OFFICE MEMO
Surveying Rural Physicians
Date: 7/10/96

Re: Surveying rural physicians providing HIV care.

We are planning a study focusing on the educational and consulting needs of physicians providing care for persons with HIV/AIDS in rural areas. As there is no national "directory" of these providers, and their numbers remain small, it is akin to looking for a needle in a haystack, also evidenced in a pilot study we have done. - Does anyone have suggestions for viable solutions to this problem? In addition, we're looking for any data on the HIV-experience of rural physicians, and the incidence or prevalence of HIV in rural counties. Any information on these topics will be much appreciated. Please contact my colleague Petra Liljestrand directly at:

Petra Liljestrand, PhD
San Francisco AIDS Education and Training Center
SF General Hospital, Bldg 80, ward 83
San Francisco, CA 94110

E-mail: PETRAL@ITSA.UCSF.EDU
Phone: (415) 476-7164
Fax: (415) 476-3454
I'm interested in putting together a reading list focusing on the role of public opinion research in non-democratic contexts. I'm most familiar with the Central European case (e.g., the ZIJ in the former DDR), but am open to any and all suggestions. In particular, I'm interested in 1) how non-democratic regimes use survey research, 2) how non-democratic regimes attempt to control survey research (limit access to populations, limit access to findings, and so forth), and 3) how public opinion research has been used in the democratization process (e.g., how public opinion research may have played an instrumental role in the revolutions of 1989). Please respond to me directly; I'll be happy to compile the contributions and share them with others, if there is an interest.

Allan L. McCutcheon  mccutche@udel.edu
Dept. of Sociology
Univ. of Delaware

BEACH READERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!

>From today's DAILY REPORT of The Chronicle of Higher Education:
A glance at the spring issue of "Transition":

As reports of the collapse of Marxism drown out hints of its survival, scholars should reflect on the theory's demise, says Russell Jacoby, an intellectual historian at the University of California at Los Angeles. In "Wither Marxism?" Mr. Jacoby reviews four recent books that try to answer what he considers the critical question: What remains of a theory that once gripped historical, sociological, and literary scholarship?

Each of the books (Ronald Aaronson's "After Marxism," Jacques Derrida's "Specters of Marx," Anthony Gidden's "Beyond Left and Right," and "Whither Marxism?" an essay collection edited by B. Magnus and S. Cullenberg) considers Marxism's seeming downfall with varying degrees of success, Mr. Jacoby writes. In his view, Mr. Derrida's book "seems to float" on affirmations of Marxism that don't jibe with history; Mr. Gidden appears to be most interested in "defining a future of radical politics"; Mr. Aaronson is not afraid to say Marxism "is over"; and the "Whither Marxism?" essays lack coherence but at least ask the right question. And what is Mr. Jacoby's assessment? "Any global summary of the state of Marxism is surely impossible," he writes. "We have entered a period of objective uncertainty."

---

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>From RFunk787@aol.com Thu Jul 11 17:52:54 1996
Return-Path: RFunk787@aol.com
Received: from emout15.mail.aol.com (emout15.mx.aol.com [198.81.11.41])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id RAA29668 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jul 1996 17:52:50 -0700
(PDT)
From: RFunk787@aol.com
Received: by emout15.mail.aol.com (8.6.12/8.6.12) id UAA01468 for
    aapornet@usc.edu; Thu, 11 Jul 1996 20:53:32 -0400
Date: Thu, 11 Jul 1996 20:53:32 -0400
Message-ID: <960711205332_154072360@emout15.mail.aol.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Bowling like a Rhino

"jb" wrote:

Substitute the verb "bowl" for "wander" in the final phrase (meter won't matter in this translation) and we have a focus-group level insight, 1,800-1,950 years old, into why some people these days might choose to, in effect, "bowl alone like the rhinoceros."

The question for modern survey researchers of course remains: Has anything really changed in the past 19 centuries? -- jb

Dear jb:
No, nothing has, not even for the past 50 centuries. Read Volume I of Lasswell, Lerner and Speier's "Propaganda and Communication in World HIstory"
if you doubt it. For e.g., on one of the pyramids in Egypt is inscribed the following bit of career advice (among others): "Be nice to the people you meet on the way up, because you might meet them on the way down."

Ray Funkhouser

>From cra@fox.nstn.ca Fri Jul 12 11:54:06 1996
Return-Path: cra@fox.nstn.ca
Received: from Fox.nstn.ca (fox.nstn.ca [137.186.128.12])
   by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
   id LAA19057 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 12 Jul 1996 11:54:02 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from ts13-14.hfx.iSTAR.ca (ts13-14.hfx.iSTAR.ca [198.53.122.54])
by Fox.nstn.ca (8.7.5/8.7.3) with SMTP id PAA10997 for <aapornet@usc.edu>;
Fri, 12 Jul 1996 15:53:52 -0300 (ADT)
Date: Fri, 12 Jul 1996 15:53:52 -0300 (ADT)
Message-Id: <199607121853.PAA10997@Fox.nstn.ca>
X-Sender: crainc@fox.nstn.ca
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: cra@fox.nstn.ca (Keith Neuman)
Subject: Re: fax response rates
X-Mailer: <PC Eudora Version 1.4>

>Is anyone familiar with any studies that have examined the response rate when using the FAX as a means to respond to a survey? Has anyone had an experience with using the FAX in this manner? Any citations are welcomed as well as an anecdotes.
>
>Thank you.
>
>Bonnie Fisher
>
>Bonnie Fisher
>Associate Professor
>Department of Political Science
>University of Cincinnati
>Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0375
>
>
I have been involved in using FAX surveys for our local Chamber of Commerce (in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada), who have used this as means of canvassing members on policy issues. We used a patented technology called IFAX (developed by a local company) which can send out faxes in large numbers efficiently using a pre-coded format; FAXed replies are sent back to the IFAX number and the results are automatically tabulated (written responses are more difficult to deal with). We used this technology about six or seven times over a two year period. The initial survey yielded a response of over 50%, but then it began to tail off, ending up around 40%.
This technology is well-suited to surveys that are short (1 page max) using structured questions. I can provide a contact name for IFAX to anyone who is interested.

Keith Neuman
Corporate Research Associates
e-mail CRA@fox.nstn.ca

>From Usapolls@aol.com Fri Jul 12 19:15:25 1996
Return-Path: Usapolls@aol.com
Received: from emout08.mail.aol.com (emout08.mx.aol.com [198.81.11.23])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id TAA10683 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 12 Jul 1996 19:15:24 -0700
    (PDT)
From: Usapolls@aol.com
Received: by emout08.mail.aol.com (8.6.12/8.6.12) id WAA23076 for
    aapornet@usc.edu; Fri, 12 Jul 1996 22:16:03 -0400
Date: Fri, 12 Jul 1996 22:16:03 -0400
Message-ID: <960712221602_154897861@emout08.mail.aol.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: fax response rates

We conduct a fax survey of a civic / business / professional organization.
As with any survey, response rates are a function of level of interest among
other factors. Voluntary organizations will generally produce better
results than the general population (which doesn't have a fax anyway) due to
affinity.

We have generally gotten 50% to 67% with these surveys of senior business
executives largely on the strength of their affinity with the organization,
though of late some surveys have slipped below 50% (loss of novelty?). We
generally make 3 attempts, though due to time, sometimes only 2.

N.B. We do press releases from these, get a lot of local news coverage for
the organization and send all members a copy of the press releases from each
survey, which I suspect provides a benefit and reinforcement for responding.

Mike O'Neil
O'Neil Associates, Inc.
412 East Southern Ave
Tempe AZ 85282

IN RESPONSE TO THE
FOLLOWING:--------------------------------------------------
--
-----------------

>From: 96-07-09 21:49:41 EDT
>>Sender: owner-aapornet@usc.edu
Is anyone familiar with any studies that have examined the response rate when using the FAX as a means to respond to a survey? Has anyone had an experience with using the FAX in this manner? Any citations are welcomed as well as anecdotes.

Thank you.

Bonnie Fisher

Bonnie Fisher
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0375

We've used Data Muncher, from Conceptual Software, for some time now and are very pleased. It is a dedicated table-making program, and yes, it runs under Windows 3.1 up.

It reads data from just about any stat program, database, or spreadsheet (the same company makes DBMSCopy, a rosetta stone package). If the source has an internal dictionary (like SPSS), it even picks up the variable_and_value labels. You have full control over nesting, banners, and tabs, and can put a large number of statistics in each cell window. Can create/transform variables with a wide variety of functions. Tables can even be
written out as spreadsheets! Makes turning output into HTML form easy. Great control of fonts, spacing, border styles, etc.

Makes presentation quality tabs without learning a new statistic package. I've gotten great support directly from the developer. It's hard to say how enthusiastic I am about this product. It has really helped us produce some great output--really worth looking at (the program, that is).

Contact info:

Conceptual Software, Inc.
9660 Hillcroft #510
Houston, TX 77096
713-721-4200
henry@conceptual.com

I have no connection other than being a satisfied customer. I'm sending a copy of this to the developer so he'll know where any queries originated.

Original question:
=================================================================
Can anyone recommend a statistics program that produces impressive crosstabs? We've used SPSS in the past and have found the crosstabs function to be limited/a bit difficult. The only requirement is that it needs to run in a Windows (3.1) environment.

Please respond directly to kcbreese@christa.unh.edu with any suggestions.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Kara Breese
Information Specialist
UNH Survey Center
=================================================================

Shap.Wolf@ASU.Edu
Survey Research Laboratory, Arizona State University

>From ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU Sat Jul 13 13:48:25 1996
Return-Path: ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU
Received: from hcrelay.hunter.cuny.edu (hcrelay.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.128.2])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id NAA27461 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 13 Jul 1996 13:48:23 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from shiva.hunter.cuny.edu (ksherril@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.128.96]) by hcrelay.hunter.cuny.edu (8.6.12/george0995) with SMTP id QAA28538; Sat, 13 Jul 1996 16:47:48 -0400
Date: Sat, 13 Jul 1996 16:50:24 -0400 (EDT)
From: Kenneth Sherrill <ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU>
How do you say Gender Gap? Of course, the sample is far from random. I'm willing to bet that the women most predisposed to using Women's Wire hold progressive views...

Ken

---------- Forwarded message ----------
Date: Sat, 13 Jul 1996 13:08:32 -0800
From: Jim McClure <jmcclure@without-repression.com>
To: gaynet@queernet.org
Cc: queerlaw@abacus.oxy.edu, glaad@glaad.org, NGLTF@aol.com,
    phil.attey@hrusa.org
Subject: *QL*: Women's Wire Poll on Same-Sex Unions

The polls that we have been given have shown high numbers against same-sex marriage. I have a poll from my place of employment that shows a stark difference in numbers. These numbers are almost identical to other polls; however, in the opposite direction.

Please note: Although these numbers are a result from a poll on Women's Wire, I am not authorized to speak on their behalf. I am simply forwarding this information.

Questions regarding the Backtalk area on Women's Wire may be sent to that organization.

However, any comments on this posting should be directed towards Without Represssion. (admin@without-repression.com)

The URL for this poll can be found at:


Last week: Same-sex marriage [05/15/96]

U.S. House hearings on the so-called Defense of Marriage Act are under way. The bill, sponsored by several Republican congressmen, aims to outlaw lesbian and gay unions on the federal level by narrowly defining the term "marriage" to include one man and one woman. But over half of the 450 of you who responded support same-sex marriages. (Congresspeople and President Clinton, are you listening?) Here's what you said:

1. Do you think same-sex marriages should be legal? A vocal 62% say YES. Some 30% say no; 8% don't know.

2. Should each state be allowed to decide for itself? A
narrow majority -- 53% -- says NO. Some 37% say yes; 10% are undecided.

3. If some states legalize same-sex marriages, should other states have to honor them? Some 55% say YES (36% say no; 9% don't know).

Karen in Wisconsin:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
I don't understand what the problem is with same-sex marriages. Two people love each other, and they get married. What's the big deal?

Pamela in California:
Q1 yes, Q2 don't know, Q3 yes
Considering the Constitution, same-sex couples should have equal rights. It saddens me to think a bond of love through marriage wouldn't be recognized.

Susan in Alaska:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
I am sick of heterosexist institutions and attitudes trying to dominate issues that are in the sphere of individual rights between two consenting adults.

Chauncey in Arkansas:
Q1 no, Q2 yes, Q3 no
From what I have read and believe in the Bible, God made Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve.

Deborah in California:
Q1 don't know, Q2 yes, Q3 no
The Federal government has no business making laws in reaction to laws created at the state level. What's the point of having local government if the Feds can outlaw local codes?

d-l in Geneva:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
Marriage is about commitment and building a life together. It is about becoming an economic unit. Much damage is done in the name of the family.

Lesley in Scotland:
Q1 yes, Q2 yes, Q3 no
As long as people are not infringing upon other people's civil liberties, then they should be allowed to live their own lives. There is far too much interference into how other people live, especially by the media.

Deborah in the United Kingdom:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
Marriage is a public statement of a commitment from one person to another. Whether that commitment is between a heterosexual couple or a homosexual couple should not be the issue. People should be free to make that commitment regardless of their sexuality.
Mia in Sweden:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
In Sweden, and in Denmark I think, these marriages are allowed. The people can't get married in churches, but they can get a blessing if they find a friendly priest. Most people have some kind of non-religious ceremony. They do get the same rights as a straight couple....

Briana in Texas:
Q1 yes, Q2 yes, Q3 yes
There is only one thing to say, "FREEDOM OF CHOICE!!"

Kristen in Washington:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
Same-sex marriages should be allowed -- as unconditionally as heterosexual marriages. And by the way, I am straight. :-)

Patrice in Illinois:
Q1 yes, Q2 no, Q3 yes
Suggesting that the same sex cannot marry is the same as suggesting that people shouldn't marry due to race or religion.

--
Jim McClure  (Founder of Without Repression)
******************************************************************************
                jmcclure@without-repression.com                *
                http://www.without-repression.com                *
******************************************************************************
            Without Repression                          *
            Creating ideologies for the new millennium.      *
            Real Times. Real Issues. Real People.           *
******************************************************************************

******************************************************************************
*  To subscribe to QUEERLAW, send mail to: majordomo@abacus.oxy.edu *
*  In the mail message, enter ONLY the words: subscribe queerlaw *
*  To unsubscribe to QUEERLAW, send mail to: majordomo@abacus.oxy.edu *
*  In the mail message, enter ONLY the words: unsubscribe queerlaw *
*  Words in the Subject: line are NOT processed! *
*  There is also a QUEERLAW-DIGEST mailing list available         *
******************************************************************************
**
>From Teri.Nelson@nau.edu Mon Jul 15 09:21:40 1996
Return-Path: Teri.Nelson@nau.edu
Received: from logjam.ucc.nau.edu (mailgate.nau.edu [134.114.96.14])
          by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
Recently, Bryan Ward wrote:

>Is there a FAQ available re: CATI software packages?
>Has anyone recently evaluated available CATI packages that would be willing to share their findings?
>We are currently using CASES and are interested in comparing CASES with other packages.
>If this is not the right forum for this issues, please let me know.
>
>Thanks,
>
>Bryan Ward
>Hagler Bailly Consulting, Inc.
>
>bward@habaco.com

Bryan,

Our university lab recently purchased the Sawtooth Ci3 CATI system. Although we are not fully trained and proficient in its use yet, I did research CASES and made some calls to other similar labs that are AAPOR members regarding the various types of systems. From my discussions, we decided to go with Ci3. I have been informed that this CATI system is less programmer intensive up front, although its statistical capabilities may not be as extensive as CASES.

Also, at the recent AAPOR conference, there was a display of its capabilities, of which we found useful. Brett Jarvis of Sawtooth has been most helpful in educating me over the phone and sending me information to research. If you are interested in investigation, the phone # in Evanston, IL is: 847-866-0876.

Good Luck!

Teri Nelson
Social Research Lab
Northern Arizona University
Bryan--

I think this is a perfect forum for your question. I'd appreciate all replies to your query being posted on the list. Like Teri, we at the Virginia Tech Center for Survey Research use Sawtooth's Ci3 and have been pleased with it. But we're always interested in other's experiences, and particularly any formal comparative evaluations of alternatives.

--Alan

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>  
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>   >>
>   >>Thanks,
>   >>
>   >>Bryan Ward
>   >>Hagler Bailly Consulting, Inc.
>   >>
>   >>bward@habaco.com
>   >
>   >Bryan,
>   >
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Teri Nelson
Social Research Lab
Northern Arizona University

************************************************************************
Please note change of e-mail address and of telephone area code.
************************************************************************

Alan E. Bayer  e-mail: yogib@vt.edu
Center for Survey Research  phone: (540)231-3676
207 W. Roanoke St.  fax: (540)231-3678
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0543 USA

************************************************************************ *
*** Never play leapfrog with a unicorn. ***
*************************************************************************
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Bryan Ward
Hagler Bailly Consulting, Inc.
bward@habaco.com

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Good Luck!

Teri Nelson
Social Research Lab
Northern Arizona University

************************************************************************
Please note change of e-mail address and of telephone area code.
************************************************************************

Alan E. Bayer                           e-mail: yogib@vt.edu
Center for Survey Research              phone: (540)231-3676
207 W. Roanoke St.                      fax: (540)231-3678
Virginia Tech                           Blacksburg, VA 24061-0543 USA

*************************************************************************
*** Never play leapfrog with a unicorn.  ***
*************************************************************************

From t00001@TIGGER.STCLOUD.MSUS.EDU Mon Jul 15 11:42:58 1996
We recently installed Sawtooth CI3 and are very pleased with it. What I especially like is their follow-up support over the phone and by fax/email. The manuals are also well written. We first tried a small scale survey anticipating problems and we got them—most due to our low level on the learning curve. We are now just finishing a major RDD statewide survey where we are breaking the state into six regions and using quotas for each region. We have some complicated skip questions and numeric questions with skips and it is handling them quite well.

The program works well with importing sample data from outside sources such as our Administrative Computer center where we imported student names and phone numbers and data such as year of birth and with RDD data from Survey Sampling. There are a couple of bugs I would be glad to share with anybody.

We have really pestered Sawtooth with questions and so far they just keep working with us. Hopefully our point on the learning curve is getting to a level where we don't need them as much.

As was recently noted the analysis in the program compares to a basic frequencies procedure in a package such as SPSS but it is easy to convert the file to ASCI or SPSS or other format. The contained respondent selection procedure is limited to Kish-Wat. so we have adapted our own within the instrument.

If others have any questions I would be glad to respond.

Of course there's a lot of knowledge in universities: the freshmen bring a little in; the seniors don't take much away, so knowledge sort of accumulates.

Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell

---

Steve Frank, Department of Political Science
St. Cloud State University St. Cloud, MN. 56301 FAX (320)-654-5198
We are preparing a set of questions related to the use of answering machines and caller IDs. If anyone has items that have been used in a previous survey or knows of a study that has been conducted about this subject, please respond to:

survey@uts.cc.utexas.edu

Thanks

Veronica Inchauste

------------------------------------------------------------------------
Veronica Inchauste (512) 471-2101
Director (512) 471-4980
Office of Survey Research FAX (512) 471-8500
CMA 3.110 survey@uts.cc.utexas.edu
University of Texas
Austin TX, 78713

>From ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU Mon Jul 15 12:51:47 1996
Return-Path: ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU
Received: from hcrelay.hunter.cuny.edu (hcrelay.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.128.2]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP id MAA20532 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 15 Jul 1996 12:51:45 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from shiva.hunter.cuny.edu (ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU [146.95.128.96]) by hcrelay.hunter.cuny.edu (8.6.12/george0995) with SMTP id PAA00445; Mon, 15 Jul 1996 15:51:27 -0400
Date: Mon, 15 Jul 1996 15:54:02 -0400 (EDT)
From: Kenneth Sherrill <ksherril@shiva.Hunter.CUNY.EDU>
To: kenslist <kenslist@queernet.org>
c: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: 6th Internatl Demography Conference (fwd)
Interesting comments below:

Ken

---------- Forwarded message ----------
> On Sat, 13 Jul 1996, Sean Crist wrote:
> 
> > > Is there an lgb angle to this?
> > > Ken
> > > Well, I would imagine so. The example I'm thinking of is as follows.
> I'm
> > on one of Nielsen's marketing panels, which means that I use a hand-held
> > bar code scanner to report every bar-coded product I buy (I get silly
> > gifts for doing this, but my main motivation is to represent my
> unorthodox
> > buying patterns). Their most recent annual demographic questionnaire
> > insisted "remember, there should be only ONE male and/or ONE female head
> > of household."
> > > I wrote to them and explained how offensive this was to gay people; many
> > of us live in households with two male or two female heads of household,
> > and their survey wording comes across as a moral condemnation. They
> > politely responded that the standard demographic model in the marketing
> > industry is that used by the U.S. Census, and that until that model
> > changes, they are not in a position to change their model.
> > > I responded that I can see why this is convenient for them to be able to
> > simply project their findings onto Census figures. But surely they are
> > aware that the Census model is informed not so much by a serious
> > scientific assessment of what should be studied, but rather by the
> > political interests of Congress, who often find it convenient to assume
> > that gay people don't exist. If Nielsen is interested in studying market
> > reality rather than Congressional fiction, then they should find some
> way
> > to not ignore the existence of this buying group. I recommended that they
> > lead a consortium of their peers in developing a model which strikes a
> > balance between compatibility with the Census model and recognition that
> > there are important social factors which the Census model overlooks.
> > Unsurprisingly, I never heard back from them.
> > > If there's a gay angle to this conference, I would imagine that it is that
> > existing demographic models generally systematically ignore the
> existence
> > of a group which has been very visible for over 20 years now.
> > >
> >>
> > > > Forwarded message  
> >>
> > > > Date: Mon, 8 Jul 1996 09:35:57 -0700 (PDT)
> > > > From: James Beniger <beniger@alnitak.usc.edu>
The Conference on Applied and Business Demography is to be held in Bowling Green, September 19 to 21, 1996. The Preliminary Program will be mailed to a select list of PAA members and Canadian Population Society members, in addition to those who are participating, in the next week or so.

Meanwhile, we have established a web site with conference information and updates for those who have access to the Internet.

The Conference web page is located at:

http://www.bgsu.edu/~kvrao/

A preliminary program and online registration form are available at that location. Please send your early registration by 1 August 96 if you wish to participate at the meetings. All participants must register for the conference, and doing so early would help us prepare your folders, etc.

Sincerely yours,

K.V. Rao
Chair, Organizing Committee
We have used QPL for CATI surveys for four years. It is very easy to use and permits the very efficient fielding and analysis of surveys. We have used it for studies as large as 1800 completes, but its simplicity permits its use on even the shortest and smallest of studies. It has most of the features of the bigger systems, although it lacks automatic scheduling. The price is FREE, downloadable from the GAO website http://www.gao.gov/qpl/qpl.htm. A description from the website follows.

> Questionnaire Programming Language Version 4.0
>
> The Questionnaire Programming Language (QPL) consists of a set of MS/DOS programs that can be used to automate many of the activities involved in gathering and preparing survey data for analysis. Using this software, complex computer-aided telephone interview (CATI) or data-entry programs can be created that are easy to use and provide a high degree of control over what information may be entered. Interviewers can be trained to use the CATI software in only minutes and completed interview records can be edited quickly and accurately.

Once a questionnaire program has been written, other QPL system programs can be used to generate formatted questionnaire documents, SPSS or SAS analysis programs, Lotus or dBase data files, or askSam text-based data files.

Version 4.0, released in April 1996, adds the capability to setup and monitor a network-based CATI or data-entry project. Two new programs, NCOLLECT and MONITOR, allow multiple interviewers to simultaneously share the same data and case control files. This ability can greatly simplify the administration of a project. The project supervisor can remotely keep track of what cases have been attempted and completed.

For a complete list of changes from Version 3.2, see appendix II in the QPL Reference Manual.

QPL Version 4.0 for MS-DOS is available in the following files. Select the following links to download each file. You will need all files.

1. Information files and Installation Instructions
   - filelist.txt Text file listing the files contained in the QPL40.EXE self-extracting ZIP file.
   - install.txt Text file describing how to install the files from the QPL40.EXE file.
   - readme.txt Text file containing information about modifications of the software since the Version 4.0 manuals were prepared.
we are using the interviewing-programs from Sawtooth since 1990. The first studies are conducted with Ci2. With this program we have also realized a 5-wave panel with 2 different questionnaires and it was a lot of work to create the questionnaire, because we need one dataset for all waves.

Than we bought the new version Ci3 and Ci3 CATI, which was easier to handle than Ci2. I have information about a lot of different CAI-programs (for example Quantime, Bellview, Surveycraft, The Survey System and so on) and each program has his own advantages or disadvantages. If you want for example create a diary with Ci3, it's nearly impossible, but with Surveycraft it's possible. I think you must know what kind of studies are primary conducted, than make a checklist and check the programs with this list.
And another aspect is important: the price. I think that the programs from Sawtooth are not too expensive, specially if you need the program not so often. Some CAI-programs you can rent (with support, updates), but they are expensive, if you use the program only one time a year.

I have realized beginning 1995 a fax-survey with market instituts in South-America, Asia, Africa and Australia about the use of CAI-programs and the instituts who answered the questionnaire are using the following programs: 1) Ci2, Ci3 from Swatooth 2) Surveycraft 3) SRG CATI/CAPI 4) Quantime 5) Other programs.

Last month I have realized a fax-survey in Europe and the instituts are using the following programs: 1) Quantime 2) Bellview 3) Ci3 4) Other programs. In most cases the instituts have developed own programs.

Kind regards
Michael Schneid
Estimated percentage of adults in the U.S. using the World-Wide Web: 7.7

Number of states with organized programs for schools on NetDay '96: 27

Number of Internet Service Providers, worldwide (July, 1996): 3,054

Estimated size of Internet access market in 1997, in billions of dollars: 2.5

Proposed tax on Internet access providers serving Tacoma, WA, in percent: 6

Number of US states taxing on-line services: 6

Number of private Internet providers in Egypt: 7

Ratio of number of e-mail messages to number of phone calls to InterNIC Registration Services during April, 1996: 4.8:1

As of April, 1996, number of domains in .COM: 316,271

Number of domains registered in Liechtenstein (.LI): 100


Estimated volume of sales generated by the World Wide Web in 1998 (in millions of dollars): 46,000

Cost of the report detailing these estimates, in dollars: 795

Percentage of online users in the San Francisco Bay area who are female: 47

Number of atomic clocks in the US Naval Observatory mean time scale: 52
POSITION AVAILABLE
Columbia University School of Social Work

TITLE:                     Project Manager
LOCATION:                New York City
START DATE:              Immediate Opening
SALARY:                  up to $40,000 per year, full University benefits, 11-month contract
TERM:                    Two-year grant-funded position with plans for continuation thereafter.

DUTIES:                  Incumbent is responsible for day-to-day operation of The New York City Social Indicators Survey Center, a 10-station CATI facility in the School of Social Work. The Center conducts an annual assessment study of New York City and additional survey projects. Project Manager oversees, coordinates and maintains Center facilities and interviewing staff. Manages data bases and on-going data collection, supervises the writing of system programs and scripts utilizing CATI software. Maintains effective communication with Center personnel and potential collaborators in other University departments. Assists in study and questionnaire design, analysis and preparation of reports, policy statements and publications and performs related duties as assigned. Trains interviewing staff in standardized survey interviewing techniques. Must be able to work independently.

QUALIFICATIONS:
Minimum Bachelor's degree in social science with emphasis on survey research, computer science or related field. Advanced degree strongly preferred. Minimum 2 years experience in project and data collection management or its equivalent in education and experience required. Interviewer training experience and strong background in UNIX systems and proficiency in CATI systems preferred.

Interested candidates should submit resumes to:

Prof. Irv Garfinkel
Columbia University School of Social Work
622 West 113th Street
New York, NY 10025
(212)854-8489
e-mail: ig3@columbia.edu OR kmc40@columbia.edu

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jul 17 12:45:42 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
  by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
  id MAA25501 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 12:45:38 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
  by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
  id MAA14316 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 12:45:38 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 1996 12:45:38 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Positions: Social Statistician
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960717124252.9579I-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

>From: Barbara Dobson <B.M.Dobson@lut.ac.uk>
To: SOSIG@mailbase.ac.uk
Subject: Research post

Research Post: Social Statistican

The Centre for Research in Social Policy (CRSP) is one of the most successful university based centres undertaking independent research in the fields of living standards, employment issues and community care.

CRSP is now seeking further to strengthen its international reputation for advanced quantitative analysis with appointments at senior and junior levels depending on experience. Proposals for part-time employment or job-share arrangements will be given serious consideration.

Successful candidates will wish to apply their statistical expertise and data handling skills in an applied setting and, if not already
policy-literate, will be keen to become so. They will also be enthusiastic, self-motivated, committed to excellence, and enjoy working in teams. A good Honours degree in a relevant subject (including social science, statistics, computing, mathematics or operational research) is needed, and a postgraduate qualification would be an advantage.

To be considered for a senior appointment, candidates will be required to demonstrate proven expertise in research design, dexterity in the practical application of a range of statistical analysis and modelling techniques, and research management experience.

Salary will be on the Research Scale 1A (14,317 - 21,519 pounds per annum), or Research Scale II (19,848 - 26,430 pounds per annum), depending on qualifications and experience.

For further details contact the Personnel Office, Loughborough University of Technology, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU or Tel: (01509) 222173 (24 hours). Closing date: Wednesday, 19th July 1995.

---------------------------
Barbara Dobson
Centre for Research in
Social Policy
Dept of Social Sciences
Loughborough University
Loughborough
Leics
LE11 3TU

tel: 0509 223372
fax: 0509 238277

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jul 17 12:51:26 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
  by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
  id MAA26898 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 12:51:25 -0700
(PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
  by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
  id MAA14852 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 12:51:25 -0700
(PDT)
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 1996 12:51:25 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Position: Reproductive Statistics
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960717124621.9579J-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

From: Li, Rose Maria <LiR@hd01.nichd.nih.gov>
Subject: FW: chief, reproductive statistics branch
Dear Colleagues:

Attached is the position announcement for a Supervisory Statistician (health), (demography), or (survey), GS-1530-14. This position will be vacant as of July 29 and is located in the Division of Vital Statistics. As Chief of the Reproductive Statistics Branch, the incumbent will be responsible for all areas of natality statistics, maternal and child health statistics, reproductive-related followback survey activities, and the National Survey of Family Growth. Perhaps you know of someone who would be interested in this position. If so, would you please pass this announcement along to them or distribute it in your area. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Mary Anne Freedman
Director
Division of Vital Statistics

*****************************************************************************
In responding, please refer to VACANCY NUMBER: PSA5NW96020X

OPENING DATE: June 26, 1996
CLOSING DATE: July 31, 1996

POSITION: Supervisory Statistician (Health), (Demography), or (Survey), GS-1530-14

SALARY: $62,473.00 - $81,217.00

LOCATION: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Vital Statistics, Reproductive Statistics Branch, Hyattsville, Maryland

NOTE: Moving/travel expenses are not authorized.

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: Career or Career-Conditional/Full-Time

DUTIES: The incumbent serves as Chief of the Reproductive Statistics Branch, and is responsible for directing the planning and development of the full range of programs and activities relating to reproductive health statistics. This includes data collection and analysis, methodological research and evaluation of program activity in all areas of reproduction, maternal and child health, family formation, growth, and dissolution. Incumbent provides oversight in the planning, collection, processing and tabulation of data on several major national-level projects; directs a nationwide computer-assisted survey of the reproductive age population; directs the overall planning, development and execution of the national reproductive related followback survey activities; participates in the development of national and international standards and definitions relating to reproductive statistics; provides advice and guidance in policy and program planning and development; carries out the full range of supervisory and managerial responsibilities involved for the programs; and represents the Center in various committees, professional meetings and conferences.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must meet the basic qualification requirements outlined in OPM Qualification Standards Handbook. Specifically, applicants must have successfully completed one of the
following: (A) a full 4-year course leading to a bachelor's degree in an accredited college or university which has included 15 semester hours in statistics (or in mathematics and statistics, provided at least 6 semester hours were in statistics), and 9 additional semester hours in one or more of the following: physical or biological sciences, medicine, education, or engineering; or in the social sciences including demography, history, economics, social welfare, geography, international relations, social or cultural anthropology, health sociology, political science, public administration, psychology, etc. or (B) A combination of education and experience which includes courses as shown in A above, plus appropriate or additional education. The experience should include a full range of professional statistical work such as (a) sampling, (b) collecting, computing, and analyzing statistical data, and (c) applying statistical techniques such as measurement of central tendency, dispersion, skewness, sampling error, simple and multiple correlation, analysis of variance, and tests of significance. In addition, candidates must have one year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the Federal service. Specialized experience is that which has equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) to successfully perform the duties of the position, such as planning, development, and coordination of health data collection methods and management of the implementation of various survey integration activities, providing expertise on vital statistics systems and developing standards and definitions relative to reproductive statistics.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES (KSA's): KSA's are the specific characteristics that applicants should possess in order to perform the major duties of the position. Applicants should address the specific KSAs on a separate sheet of paper as an attachment to your application.

1. Knowledge of the national vital statistics system, and reproductive and related statistical health data.

2. Ability to plan, evaluate and direct large scale, nation-wide surveys.


4. Skill in writing scientific communications.

NOTE: Since this is a supervisory position, candidates must have also demonstrated or shown the potential to develop the necessary supervisory knowledge, skills, and abilities. A supervisory probationary period may be required. Applicants should describe any previous experience or responsibility which could be used in relation to these requirements.

WHO MAY APPLY: All citizens of the United States. No previous Federal experience is required.

FILING DEADLINE: Applications must be postmarked or received no later than the closing date.

BASIS OF RATING: All applicants will be rated on the basis of education, experience, and KSAs responses appropriate to this position. Only education and experience acquired by the filing deadline will be considered. Unpaid or voluntary experience related to the position will be considered in determining qualifications.
NOTE: ICTAP candidates must provide the Notice' of their status to participate in the program.

LENGTH OF ELIGIBILITY: Applications accepted under the announcement listing will be considered only for the specific announcement number identified on your application.

FORMS REQUIRED: Applicants may submit one of the following forms: SF-171, OF-612, Curriculum Vitae, a Resume, or any other application (call 301-436-6052 for special filing instructions pertaining to a Resume or Curriculum Vitae). An SF-15 (Application for 10-point Veterans Preference) and written verification must accompany application in order to receive 10 pts. preference. A copy of college transcripts. (If selected, official college transcripts must be provided.)

MAIL FORMS TO: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, 6525 Belcrest Road, Room 1175, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, Attention: Leyla Desmond, or call Ms. Desmond at (301) 436-6052 and request for application forms and additional filing instructions to be mailed.

From Judith Rowe <JUDITH@PUCC.PRINCETON.EDU>
Subject: Data Services Specialist

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
DATA SERVICES SPECIALIST, PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL STAFF.

Description: Provides consulting services for faculty and students in the social sciences who use machine-readable data and various forms of
related statistical analysis for teaching, learning, and, independent research in the social sciences and related fields. Retrieves and manipulates complex data from a variety of physical sources, including multivolume datasets, CD-ROMS, and Internet archives; transfers data between platforms for use in multiple computing environments, including UNIX, Windows, and Mac OS; provides extracts and tables based on electronic data, including government census and survey data, public opinion polls, and various academic research data. Provides assistance in choice, application and interpretation of quantitative techniques. Support includes individual consultation, group instruction, and documentation. Responsibilities include hiring, training, and supervising several graduate student assistants. May require some evening and weekend work. Reports to Head, Social Science Reference Center.

Qualifications: Advanced degree in a quantitative social science is required. A strong background in computing and quantitative data analysis is required. Essential technical skills include: expertise with the major statistical packages, e.g., SAS, SPSS, and Stata; experience in using complex machine-readable data, especially government survey and census data; programming ability; and familiarity with UNIX, mainframe, and microcomputer environments. MLS from an ALA accredited library school useful. Experience providing public and technical services in an academic setting strongly preferred.

Benefits: Twenty-four (24) vacation days a year, plus eleven (11) paid holidays. Annuity program (TIAA/CREF), group life insurance, health coverage insurance, and disability insurance, all paid for by the University. Salary & Rank: Dependent upon qualifications and experience. To ensure full consideration, candidates should send application, including resume and the names, titles, addresses and phone numbers of three references to be contacted, postmarked by August 12, 1996 to: Data Services Specialist Search Committee c/o Maria G. Gopel, Human Resources Librarian, Princeton University Libraries, One Washington Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08544.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.
Conference on the Need for a New Economics of Science
Conference Announcement and Call for Papers
University of Notre Dame
March 13-16, 1997

Final deadline: September 30, 1996

Sponsored by: National Science Foundation, John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values, and Office of Graduate Research

Many recent works in science studies have adopted economic or quasi-economic metaphors for understanding science. Inspired by trends toward the actual practice and culture of science, many sociologists of scientific knowledge have come up with stories about interests, action, and exchange that look like the product of economic analysis. However, these metaphors are generally not fully elaborated. Motivated by movements toward economic perspectives on traditionally non-economic issues, many economists have started applying the tools of economic analysis to the behavior of scientists. However, these studies are largely silent about the influence of these analyses on the content of science. In response to tendencies toward anti-foundationalism and naturalism, many philosophers of science have argued that scientific knowledge is constructed out of an economic process. However, these explanations typically sidestep problems associated with welfare economics and the assumption of instrumental rationality in economics. Concomitantly, historians have noted a recent shift in social support for scientific research and science policy experts have analyzed issues such as the recent changes in financial support of science.

The different perspectives on (quasi-)economics of science and/or scientific knowledge can be organized in terms of old and new economics of science. Old economics of science consists of an institutional approach to science, an argument that science is a market, a unity-of-science approach, and a clear definition of the organizational framework of scientific research. New economics of science consists of a contextual approach to science, an argument that science cannot be commodified, a disunity-of-science approach, and a questioning of the units of organization in science. The purpose of this conference is to bring together science studies scholars, economists, philosophers of science, historians, science policy experts, and scientists in order to evaluate and clarify the increasing gulf between old and new economics of science, economics of science and economics of scientific knowledge, and quasi-economic metaphors and economic metaphors of science.

The conference will start a constructive dialogue about the promises and problems of alternative economic theories of the behavior of scientists and comparisons of science to a market. Particular topics that will be covered are: the intellectual history of theories of an economics
of science, evolving formats of university/government and university/industry relations, labor economics perspectives on scientific careers, feminist economics views on science, the economics of the dissemination and validation of findings, the conception that science is a public good, the economics of fraud in science, the causes and consequences of the division of labor in science, and the economics of intellectual property rights.

Proposals for papers, accompanied by an abstract of roughly 500 words, or requests for further information, should be directed to either Philip Mirowski or Esther-Mirjam Sent, Department of Economics, University of Notre Dame, IN 46556, U.S.A. The final deadline for proposals is September 30, 1996. The conference has an e-mail address (econsci.1@nd.edu) and a Web-site (http://www.nd.edu:80/~econsci).

Conference on the Need for a New Economics of Science
Philip E. Mirowski and Esther-Mirjam Sent
Department of Economics
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556
U.S.A.

phone: (219)631-7580/6979
fax: (219)631-8809
e-mail: econsci.1@nd.edu
Web-site: http://www.nd.edu:80/~econsci

* Call for Expression of Interest *
CHAIR IN MARKETING INFORMATICS
Faculty of Management
Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada

** More details about this Chair at: http://www.mgmt.dal.ca **
An innovative, NEW position with research focusing on: interface design & evaluation; human/computer interaction; information useability; information access & filtering mechanisms

The School of Library and Information Studies in collaboration with the School of Business Administration, two units of the Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University are establishing a Chair in Marketing Informatics. Funding for this exciting, new development is being provided by a private sector donor and confirmation of additional partners is expected later this year.

We are now seeking expressions of interest by potential candidates for the chair holder positions. Two, five-year appointments will be made: one in the School of Library and Information Studies, and the other in the School of Business. In addition, one, half-time junior chair holder will complement the interdisciplinary research team.

For further information, potential candidates for the chair positions should contact: Dr. Bertrum H. MacDonald, Director, School of Library and Information Studies, Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3H 3J5. Phone (902) 494-2472; Fax (902) 494-2451; e-mail: Bertrum.MacDonald@dal.ca

or

Dr. Philip Rosson, Dean of the Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3H 3J5. Phone (902) 494-2582; Fax (902) 1195; e-mail: Philip.Rosson@dal.ca.

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jul 17 15:39:15 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135]) by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP id PAA23628 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 15:39:13 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id PAA29532 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 15:39:15 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 1996 15:39:14 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Conference: Competitive Intelligence
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960717153253.28237D-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=UTF-8

SOCIETY OF COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE PROFESSIONALS
SEEKING SPEAKERS

The Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP) is holding its annual international conference in San Diego,
California, May 28-31, 1997, at the San Diego Hyatt Regency. Speakers interested in discussing Competitive Intelligence (CI) from a technology point of view are invited to send in their proposals. Presenters are needed for conference sessions and half-day workshops. Topics of particular interest include:

Which software analysis tools help the CI professional better analyze information.

How to choose a CI system that supports the work of the CI unit and provides access to the rest of the organization.

The Intranet: examples of best practices, case studies on how they were created, and types of information included.

Managing a successful intelligence operation: case studies on what has and what has not succeeded when creating a CI operation, including best practice examples from leading companies and guidelines on setting up a global network with both internal and external sources.

Analytical tools and techniques that help the CI professional create intelligence out of information.

CI in the Pacific Rim: what makes it unique and best resources.

Other topics of general interest to the CI professional.

Conference Theme: Global Competitive Leadership in the 21st Century: Competitive Analysis for Winning Strategies

Contact Patti Stephens
Tel: +1 703-739-0696, ext 103
Fax: +1 703-739-2524
E-mail: pstephens@scip.org
WWW: http://www.scip.org

******************************************************************

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jul 17 15:49:18 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
    id PAA24565 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 15:49:17 -0700
(PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id PAA00812 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jul 1996 15:49:19 -0700
(PDT)
Date: Wed, 17 Jul 1996 15:49:18 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: NSF Award Programs: CAREER and PECASE
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960717153950.28237E-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
From: Barbara Blaustein <bblauste@nsf.gov>
Subject: U.S. ACADEMIC RESEARCHERS - NSF CAREER and PECASE Programs

The Database and Expert Systems (DBES) program of the National Science Foundation is committed to encouraging and supporting promising junior faculty members in the areas of data management, information retrieval, etc. Here's the currently available information on an important NSF program...

The program announcement for the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) program will appear on the internet later this week. The number is 96-115. Printed copies are expected to be available by July 29. **PLEASE REQUEST ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELECTRONIC OR PRINTED) DIRECTLY FROM NSF PUBLICATIONS -- DO NOT ASK ME FOR THEM**

This year's announcement includes a description of NSF's component of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). This multi-agency program is described in a brochure which is available on NSF's web pages in the "Staff and Organization" section, under "cross-disciplinary activities." Hard copies are available from Forms and Publications.

**Beginning in FY97 (this year), nominees for PECASE will be identified from CAREER awardees who have applied to this year's deadline. The Presidential Faculty Fellows (PFF) program is terminated for FY97.**

Some of the highlights of the new CAREER announcement are:

-- All proposals are due to NSF by the *DEADLINE* of October 17, 1996 (THIS IS A *DEADLINE*, NOT A TARGET DATE: CAREER PROPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER OCTOBER 17, 1996, WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.)

--Award size and duration: $200K-$500K for 4 or 5 years

--One-page statement from department head is required as part of the project description; the maximum number of pages is 15 pages, plus one page from the department head, for a total of 16 pages. The department head should describe how the career-development plan will be supported by the institution.

--As in the past, the department head continues to be required to sign the annual reports from CAREER awardees, as an indication of continued partnership in the awardee's career development

--Awardees are eligible for supplements which may provide matching support for GENUINE partnerships that further the goals of the project

--Awardees from the group submitting to the October 17, 1996, deadline are eligible to be nominated by NSF for a PECASE award, if they are US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents, and have submitted a PECASE release form **WITH THEIR PROPOSALS**. (Form 1317A is provided in the CAREER announcement.) If a PECASE award is made, NSF will increase the recipient's CAREER award to $100K/yr for 5 years.
Position Announcement: Research Analyst
Social Development Research Group
University of Washington
50-100%

Position Description:

The Social Development Research Group, directed by J. David Hawkins and Richard F. Catalano, seeks a research analyst for the Seattle Social Development Project (SSDP). The SSDP has focused on understanding childhood and adolescent risk and protective factors predictive of substance abuse, violence, and related health and behavior problems, and prevention of health and behavior problems in children and adolescents. The sample is a multiethnic urban panel of 808 males and females, constituted in 1985 when subjects entered the fifth grade in 18 elementary schools, and has been tracked and interviewed over an eleven-year period.
through 1996 when subjects are 21 years old. SSDP has received funding from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to examine the development of alcohol and other substance use and abuse. Other ongoing analyses examine the development of gang membership, violence, and delinquency, and the long-term effects of preventive interventions. A more complete overview of the Social Developmental Research Group is available on our web site.

http://weber.u.washington.edu/~sdrg

Responsibilities:

* Work with a mature research team to design and execute longitudinal analyses for etiological studies of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, delinquency, gang membership and related health and behavior problems.

Analyses will include correlation, regression, ANOVA, logistic regression, survival/hazard analyses, structural equation modeling, and hierarchical linear modeling. Other analysis procedures may be required as needed.

* Assist the project team in developing and maintaining analysis datasets.
* Work collaboratively with principal investigators, project director and other collaborators in the design of analysis plans, conduct of analyses, interpretation of findings, and testing of theoretical models.
* Participate in the development of research grant proposals.
* Write scholarly articles, and present findings at national conferences.

Qualifications:

Required:
* Ph.D. in social sciences or related field; or master's degree in related field and three years relevant experience.
* Expertise in statistical analysis and research design.
* Thorough knowledge of SPSS or SPSS for Windows required. Knowledge of EQS (or Amos or LISREL).
* Facility with the following analysis methods: scaling (including reliability analysis), correlation, regression, logistic regression, structural equation modeling.
* Demonstrated writing and publishing skills.

Desired:
* Experience in prevention research.
* Experience analyzing longitudinal data sets.
* Knowledge of the substance abuse and/or delinquency literatures.
* Hierarchical linear modeling, survival/hazard analyses.

Salary range: $3085-$3600/month (100%)

For further information, contact: Karl G. Hill, khill@u.washington.edu

Send resume and letter of application by August 2 to:
Administrator
Social Development Research Group
146 N. Canal Street, Suite 211
Seattle, WA  98103
CODA, Inc. is a small social science research firm specializing in surveys, epidemiologic research and health communications. Our primary clients are the Federal Government, universities and other non-profit organizations. Our current projects range in subject matter from health and health care to evaluating programs for ex-Marines, residents of public housing and low-income parents. Our survey respondents vary from physicians to caregivers of Alzheimer's patients to residents of a public housing project.

We are currently seeking experienced survey staff. We are particularly interested in persons who have experience in managing small survey efforts and/or in overseeing the data reduction phase of a survey. Ideally, applicants will have some formal training in questionnaire design and sample design and some experience in overseeing data collection in telephone (preferably CATI) and mail surveys. Applicants should also be knowledgeable about data quality issues as they pertain to the development of CATI programs and post-CATI data preparation or in post-data collection processing on hard-copy studies.

CODA is located in Silver Spring, MD, near the Silver Spring Metro station. Please send resume to:
Doris R. Northrup
President
CODA, Inc.
1100 Wayne Avenue, Suite 750
Silver Spring, MD
20910

or FAX to 301-588-0417
or email to coda89@aol.com
Nominations Sought for the
Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science

Dean Harvey V. Fineberg and Department of Biostatistics Chair, Nan M. Laird, of the Harvard School of Public Health are pleased to announce the establishment of the Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science.

This annual award is supported by colleagues, friends and family to honor Dr. Marvin Zelen. It will recognize an individual in government, industry, or academia, who by virtue of his/her outstanding leadership has greatly impacted the theory and practice of statistical science. While individual accomplishments will be considered, the most distinguishing criterion will be the awardee's contribution to the creation of an environment in which statistical science and its applications have flourished. The award recipient will deliver a public lecture on statistical science at the Harvard School of Public Health and will be presented with a citation and an honorarium. The awardee will be chosen by a selection committee formed by the Department of Biostatistics.

Nominations for the first award, to be given in May, 1997, should be sent to the Marvin Zelen Leadership Award Committee, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 677 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115. Nominations should include a letter describing the contributions of the candidate, specifically highlighting the criteria for the award, and a curriculum vita. Supporting letters and materials are welcome but not required. All nominations must be received by January 1, 1997.

########
Call for Papers

SOCIOLOGIES OF CYBERSPACE

The board of the Virginia Review of Sociology invites the submission of candidate chapters for a special volume titled "The Sociologies of Cyberspace." This volume will address whether and to what extent cyberspace represents, presents, or conduces social change of significance -- that is, the manners in which and the degrees to which cyberspace is different from other social arenas, and whether and how this is sociologically significant. For purposes of this volume, we conceive cyberspace to include all forms of computer-mediated and -enhanced communications and interactions.

We will give preference to those submissions that advance methodological approaches to, explicitly account for empirical findings about, and develop theoretical understandings of cyberspace. We are particularly interested in papers that go beyond a psychological and individualistic analysis, and particularly encourage those submissions that make comparative use of several online services and/or social groups. We hope to include a variety of empirical, methodological, and theoretical approaches to cyberspace, and intend to emphasize the possible diversity of such approaches.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to: patterns of social life online, including demographic distributions as well as patterns of social control, boundary enforcement, role enactment, community building, resource allocation, and collective behavior; political, economic, and other determinants of online social life; and political, economic, religious, and other social consequences and implications of cyberspace, particularly including interactions between online and offline social life.

Manuscripts should be submitted in triplicate, printed in double spacing on only one side of each page. Citations and references should conform to that system prescribed by and for the American Journal of
Sociology.

Submissions should have a target date of October 31, 1996. Any acceptance of submissions beyond that date is at the discretion of the volume editor. We would appreciate a brief notice of intent by September 30, 1996.

Comments and queries are welcomed and encouraged. For further information, or to submit a paper, please contact the editor of the volume J. Ellington ("Ellis") Godard, Cabell Hall 539, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903 (jeg5s@virginia.edu). The faculty advisor for this volume will be Thomas M. Guterbock, and the series editor is Donald Black.

The Virginia Review of Sociology is a series of volumes published by JAI Press, and coordinated and edited by the graduate students and faculty of Sociology at the University of Virginia. Each volume explores and reflects current empirical and theoretical development within the field of sociology. Themes of previous volumes have included law and conflict management, and cultural conflict in modern America.

J. Ellington ("Ellis") Godard Jr. -- (804) 296-9692 -- lemuria@virginia.edu
Doctoral Candidate, UVa Sociology -- http://faraday.clas.virginia.edu/~jeg5s
Instructor, SOC 219 (Microcomp Apps) 520 Caroline Ave, Charlottesville 22902

NIELSEN COUNTS ON THE NET
After triggering controversy last year over its Internet user counting methodology, the A.C. Nielsen company is back -- with even higher figures. The company was roundly criticized when it projected some 24 million North American Internet users, but after going back and reinterviewing 2,800 of the original 4,200 survey participants, Nielsen now says that the only problem with the first numbers is that they were a little low.
Issue Brief Writer

The American Institutes for Research (AIR) is seeking an education/social science writer to write non-technical reports highlighting policy-relevant statistical results in education. Must be able to identify and write about statistics relevant to education policy concerns in a style understandable by non-statisticians and interesting to non-technical education community. Position requires skills communicating statistical findings to a non-technical audience and ability to think analytically. Knowledge of policy issues in education preferred. Writer will work full-time with Education Statistics Services Institute (ESSI), which assists the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in improving the quality, relevance and usability of data developed and maintained by NCES. Background could be in demography, education, journalism, political science, psychology, sociology, or statistics. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume to Human Resources-IBW, AIR/ESSI, 1000 Thomas Jefferson St., NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20007 or fax 202-944-5454. EOE
Does anyone else notice that as the Internet grows, so does the number of surveys with self-selected samples making it into print or onto various online fora?

The latest example is in the business section of today's New York Times (p. D5 in city editions, C5 national, or if you subscribe to the Web version, http://www.nytimes.com/library/cyber/week/0722games.html), under the headline "Looking Glass: The Games People Play." Results are based on nearly 2,000 responses to an online survey at a games-software Web site. The blurb at the top does say, "No broad conclusions can be drawn from the self-selected people who responded to the questionnaire." But that statement was preceded by several broad conclusions and followed by nearly half a page of pie and bar graphs with broad conclusions.

Among other things, the graphs detail how women's responses differed from men's -- but just 55 of the respondents said they were women. Let's see: 2 percent of women said "Mechwarrior" is their favorite game ... that must be a grand total of approximately 1 woman. (And of course there likely is no way to know if online respondents lied about demographics, submitted multiple responses or otherwise "gamed" the survey.)

Another example that got some play in the computer press -- which seems particularly prone to using these things -- was the Zona Research browser "census," at http://www.zonaresearch.com/Pubs/Census/3.html. The company's claim that this survey is "representative of Internet/intranet users" would be laughable, except that it's not funny at all. (I do, however, appreciate the disclosure of the use of Snickers bars as an incentive.)

Seems to me these types of surveys threaten to diminish legitimate survey research the same way that 1-900 polls and other SLOPs do. But since these online surveys aren't "listener"-oriented, we could use a new acronym ...

Mike Mokrzycki
Associated Press (but the opinions above are strictly my own)
mikemokr@ap.org

>From EXP12@PSUV.PSU.EDU Tue Jul 23 06:25:53 1996
Return-Path: EXP12@PSUV.PSU.EDU
Received: from PSUV.PSU.EDU (psuv.psu.edu [128.118.56.2])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
    id GAA27680 for <aapornet@USC.EDU>; Tue, 23 Jul 1996 06:25:52 -0700 (PDT)
Message-Id: <199607231325.GAA27680@usc.edu>
Received: from PSUV.PSU.EDU by PSUV.PSU.EDU (IBM VM SMTP V2R2)
    with BSMTP id 6351; Tue, 23 Jul 96 09:22:48 EDT
Received: from PSUV.PSU.EDU (NJE origin EXP12@PSUV) by PSUV.PSU.EDU
    (LMail V1.2a/1.8a) with RFC822 id 5201; Tue, 23 Jul 1996 09:22:48 -0400
Date: Tue, 23 Jul 96 09:22 EDT
From: "Eric Plutzer 814-865-6576" <EXP12@PSUV.PSU.EDU>
Subject: Re: AAPORNET digest 326
To: aapornet@usc.edu
In-Reply-To: aapornet AT usc.edu -- Tue, 23 Jul 1996 00:03:29 PDT

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>research the same way that 1-900 polls and other SLOPs do. But since these
>online surveys aren't "listener"-oriented, we could use a new acronym ...

> Mike Mokrzycki
> Associated Press (but the opinions above are strictly my own)
> mikemokr@ap.org

First, for the general case, how about:
Obviously BIased Samples: OBIs

And for online versions:
Web Oriented BIased Samples: WOOBIs

On Tue, 23 Jul 1996, Eric Plutzer 814-865-6576 wrote:

> Seems to me these types of surveys threaten to diminish legitimate survey
> research the same way that 1-900 polls and other SLOPs do. But since
> these
> online surveys aren't "listener"-oriented, we could use a new acronym ...
First, for the general case, how about:

Obviously Biased Samples: OBIs

And for online versions:

Web Oriented Biased Samples: WOOBIs

I would prefer to lump the results from all these near-worthless data collection efforts under the moniker of SLAMs: statistics lacking any merit.

My entry in the "Name Those Bad Online Polls" contest:

How about "POLYPS"?

Pseudo OnLYne PollS

Well, it's a stretch, but seems somehow fitting.

--
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Scott Keeter
Survey Research Laboratory
and Department of Political Science
and Public Administration
Virginia Commonwealth University

Phone: 804.828.8035

Richmond, VA 23284-2028 USA

Fax: 804.828.7463
The latest Keystone Poll is available from the Center for Politics and Public Affairs at Millersville University, Millersville, PA. The Keystone Poll is produced for the Philadelphia Daily News, KYW-TV3, Philadelphia, and the Harrisburg Patriot. It's available at http://www.millersv.edu/~politics. The recent poll shows Bill Clinton with 56% to Bob Dole's 32% in PA. The poll results also include Clinton job performance, name recognition and favorables, Governor Tom Ridge as a possible Dole running-mate, Ridge's job approval and other results.

G. Terry Madonna
Director
Center for Politics & Public Affairs
tmadonna@mu3.millersv.edu
(717) 872-3488

INTERNET: THREE NEW SURVEYS

CANADIAN INTERNET USE
The number of Canadians surfing the Internet more than doubled last year, according to a new survey by Andersen Consulting. The study reveals 29% of Canadians have used the Internet at least once in the past year, compared with 12% in 1994, with the majority using the Internet less than 10 hours per month. It also showed a variety of other new media on the Infobahn -- including the Internet, electronic banking, online systems, interactive voice-response systems, interactive TV and electronic kiosks -- are being used by 70% of companies to deliver customer service and support, and by 40%...
to sell goods and services. Among the companies surveyed, 25% have a Web
site. (Toronto Financial Post 23 Jul 96 p5)

NEW THEORIES ON PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPUTERS
A Stanford University economist has some new ideas on why investment in
computers doesn't necessarily translate into identifiable economic growth.
The Stanford Computer Industry Project has interviewed more than 80
mid-level managers in large companies, and findings indicate several reasons
why effective use of technology lags well behind its invention: 1)  
Information technology must be localized before it has its greatest impact,
and 2) Technology often isn't used to lower costs, but to improve quality.
For instance, ATM machines allow people to bank around the clock, but don't
necessarily lower costs. The good news, according to the director, is that
research suggests many companies haven't put technology to its fullest use,
which means potentially large benefits may still be reaped. (Investor's
Business Daily 23 Jul 96 A8)

SYSTEM MANAGERS SAY INTERNET IS OVERHYPED
A Computerworld magazine poll of 100 senior systems managers found that 36%
have diverted resources to Internet projects as a direct result of top
management reading media reports about the technology; 28% spend "more time
than I should" responding to inquiries prompted by other employees exposed
to media coverage of technology; and 16% feel that that "overinflated
expectations about the Internet have caused us to waste money."
(Computerworld 22 Jul 96 p1)

Selected from Edupage (7/23/96), edited by John Gehl and Suzanne Douglas.

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jul 24 16:46:28 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
   by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
   id QAA21669 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 24 Jul 1996 16:46:26 -0700
   (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
   by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
   id QAA07369 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 24 Jul 1996 16:46:24 -0700
   (PDT)
Date: Wed, 24 Jul 1996 16:46:24 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Request: Citation Abuse
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960724164052.4103E-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Please reply to the address immediately below; Eugene Garfield is
NOT on AAPORNET.

*****

Date: July 18, 1996
Dear Colleagues:

I have been asked to prepare a review of the research literature and of any previously unpublished information that could form the basis of a discussion of actual and potential abuses of citation data or analysis.

As many of my colleagues will recall, the possible misapplication of citation data was forecast. There has been a significant increase in the use of citation analysis for legitimate purposes by responsible investigators. However, there are also misuses by those who are either not qualified to interpret raw citation data or by those with questionable objectives.

If you are able to cite or describe any examples of the various kinds of misuses, I shall attempt to synthesize responses for the review. If your examples are of a confidential nature, then simply omit names and places. Of course, do cite published examples.

I hope to present the results of this study at the forthcoming International Conference on Peer Review in Prague in 1997.

Best wishes,
Eugene Garfield

Eugene Garfield, Ph.D.
Chairman Emeritus, ISI, 3501 Market St, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Publisher, THE SCIENTIST, 3600 Market St, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Tel: (215)243-2205 // Fax: (215)387-1266
E-mail: garfield@aurora.cis.upenn.edu
Home Page: http://165.123.33.33/eugene_garfield
http://www.the-scientist.library.upenn.edu/eugene_garfield
******************************************************************
The American Society of Journalists and Authors, the leading national organization of freelance nonfiction writers, has called on Senator Orrin Hatch to stop the rush to overhaul the United States Copyright Office. ASJA suggested that writers send faxes to Hatch, disapproving what appears to be a move to ram the proposal through, with virtually no public discussion, before Congress recesses in early August.

Under a Senate bill (S1961) just introduced, the Copyright Office would be switched from the Library of Congress to the executive branch of government, where a new agency, to be called the United States Intellectual Property Organization, would be established to oversee patents, trademarks and copyrights.

ASJA President Claire Safran, in a letter to the senator, called the proposal "far-reaching legislation that deserves careful study and sufficient time for public debate." The bill, The Omnibus Patent Act of 1996, was filed July 16; the Senate Committee on the Judiciary has scheduled a hearing for July 23. A committee staff member conceded today that such speed is "not typical."

The letter from the ASJA leader urged Hatch "to avoid trying to cure a low-grade fever with an untested medication that may have grave side effects for the entire creative community."

According to an outline prepared by the Judiciary Committee, the plan would require copyright operations to be self-supporting. Advocates of writers and other copyright holders who heard of the Hatch bill before it was filed have expressed alarm that the arrangement would require drastic increases in copyright registration fees. The Copyright Office has estimated that the cost of registering an item—even a single article, poem or photograph—could rise from the current $20 to $100.
Some have also expressed concern over putting copyright matters into the purview of political appointees. At the same time, skeptics are questioning why Congress should be in a hurry to give up its own control of the Copyright Office.

ASJA, in a memo to members today, suggested they and other concerned writers send faxes to Hatch at 202-224-6331, telling him to delete the proposal for the new agency from the omnibus bill. The text of Safran's letter to Hatch follows:

July 17, 1996

Senator Orrin G. Hatch
Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20510-6275

Dear Senator Hatch:

The members of the American Society of Journalists and Authors are startled by the haste with which Senate Bill 1961 is being put forward. For us as writers, this bill, which would create a new "United States Intellectual Property Organization," would be far-reaching legislation that deserves careful study and sufficient time for public debate.

We urge you to avoid hurry-up hearings and the possibility of a precipitous vote on so vital and complex a matter.

These days, more than ever, writers need the protection of registered copyrights to guard against a startling epidemic of illegal use of our work, particularly in new media. Thus, among other serious concerns about the proposed structure change in the copyright office, we are especially alarmed by any new barriers that might be placed between us and that copyright protection. A recent budget study of the Office of the Register of Copyrights indicates that the removal of the Copyright Office from its current home could lead to a rise in the cost of copyright registration from its current $20 to $100 or more. Particularly for authors of magazine and newspaper articles, who may produce scores of articles each year, anything approaching this change would leave many naked and unprotected in the face of illegal use of their work.

We understand that all may not be perfect in the current arrangement. Still, you are a serious and responsible legislator, and we call on you to avoid trying to cure a low-grade fever with an untested medication that may have grave side effects for the entire creative community.

Sincerely,

Claire Safran
President

cc: Senator Leahy
Senator Daschle
Senator Kennedy
BUDGET PLANS THREATEN RESEARCH

From Academe Today's NEWS UPDATE for Wednesday, July 24, 1996

Balanced-Budget Plans Would Hurt Research, Science Group Says

President Clinton's balanced-budget plan could reduce support for civilian research and development by nearly 20 per cent by 2002, adjusted for inflation, the American Association for the Advancement of Science estimated Tuesday.

But the current plan of the Republican Congress is even tougher, requiring a cut of about 23 per cent, according to Albert H. Teich, director of science and policy programs for the A.A.A.S. Testifying at a hearing of the House Science Committee, Mr. Teich added that spending for the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration would be higher under the Republican plan. Research programs at the Departments of Commerce and Energy would receive stronger support under the President's version, Mr. Teich said.

Rep. Robert S. Walker, the Pennsylvania Republican who chairs the committee, criticized the Administration for claiming that it had a plan to eliminate deficit spending while offering few details about the impact on science programs in later years.

In contrast, Mr. Walker argued, the Republican Congress has laid out its plans program by program. The Republicans had to make hard choices in setting priorities, he said, and last year came under fire for calling for reductions in some research and development programs and the elimination of others. Now Administration officials have tried to devise a way to balance the budget, he added, and "lo and behold, they also had some of
the same problems."

The two-day hearing, which continues today, was itself the subject of controversy. The committee had hoped to hold the hearing last week or earlier. But Administration witnesses who had been scheduled to testify canceled their appearances. Mr. Walker suggested that they were trying to avoid the subject, and then rescheduled the hearing.

Tuesday he raised questions about how serious the Administration's plan to balance the budget really was. Some federal research officials, he added, have said that they had been told by the White House Office of Management and Budget that they could ignore the projections for reduced spending in the last years of the plan.

Meanwhile, Rep. George E. Brown, Jr., the senior Democrat on the committee, called the two plans "equally distasteful" and a "continued erosion of our public investment" in research.

--Colleen Cordes

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RE: EPISTEMOLOGY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

From today's DAILY REPORT of The Chronicle of Higher Education:

MAGAZINES & JOURNALS

A glance at the August 8 issue of "The New York Review of Books":

To Steven Weinberg, a Nobel Prize winner in physics, the "Sokal hoax" -- as it is often called -- rightly exposes the problems that arise when objective, scientific laws are interpreted as subjective. The hoax was perpetrated by Alan Sokal, a New York University physics professor, who submitted what he considered a nonsensical essay to a journal on postmodern issues called "Social Text." The editors of the journal did not detect the prank and published his essay. In "Sokal's Hoax," Mr. Weinberg, a University of Texas professor, concludes that the "gulf of misunderstanding between scientists and other intellectuals" is vast. As sociologists, anthropologists, and others claim to find cultural differences that influence scientific laws, they ignore that "the laws of physics are understood in the same way by scientists of every nation, race, and -- yes -- gender." The languages used to describe the laws "are certainly created socially," he writes, but "we did not create the laws of physics."
FLIGHT-800 on LISTSERV@HOME.EASE.LSOFT.COM

INTERNET DISCUSSION LIST ON FLIGHT 800

There is now an Internet mailing list for discussing the recent flight 800 airline disaster. Named FLIGHT-800, this mailing list will serve both as a news vehicle and as a virtual forum for the discussion of the steps needed to prevent further incidents of this kind. Press clips will be posted to the mailing list as they become available (courtesy of PR Newswire).

To join the list or just browse through the discussions, simply go to http://www.lsoft.com/flight-800.html. You may also send E-mail to LISTSERV@HOME.EASE.LSOFT.COM with the command

    SUB FLIGHT-800 yourfirstname yourlastname

in the body.

####

> From Bonnie.Fisher@UC.Edu Thu Jul 25 21:12:19 1996
Return-Path: Bonnie.Fisher@UC.Edu
Received: from jazz.san.uc.edu (jazz.san.uc.edu [129.137.32.224])
    by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
    id VAA25117 for <aapornet@usc.EDU>; Thu, 25 Jul 1996 21:12:17 -0500
(PDT)
Received: from cin-oh4-06.ix.netcom.com by UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU
    (PMDF V5.0-7 #15949) id <0117IBUL7C7Y8YDIH0@UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU> for
    aapornet@usc.EDU; Fri, 26 Jul 1996 00:11:52 -0500 (EST)
Date: Fri, 26 Jul 1996 00:11:52 -0500 (EST)
Date-warning: Date header was inserted by UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU
From: Bonnie.Fisher@UC.Edu (Bonnie Fisher)
Subject: Re: New Acronyms
X-Sender: fisherbs@ucbeh.san.uc.edu
To: aapornet@usc.EDU
Message-id: <0117IBUM12TC8YDIH0@UCBEH.SAN.UC.EDU>
MIME-version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.3
In response to the sampling and self-selection comments, if anyone is interested in sampling issues and survey research in cyberspace, Dave Resnick, Mike Margolis, George Bishop and I wrote a paper entitled "Survey Research in Cyberspace: Breaking Ground on the Virtual Frontier" that was published in the Proceedings of the International Conference on Survey Measurement and Process Quality, April 1-4, 1995, Bristol UK (Thanks to Karen Goldenberg at BLS who gave us detailed and insightful comments on the paper). In the paper, we discuss sampling issues, including limitations concerning defining a population, sampling frame, probability and nonprobability samples, representativeness, self-selection bias and refusals. We also have some good citations that may interest some folks. For example, see Welch et al.'s article in Volume 56 of POQ (pp.241-244).

If after you have searched high and low for a copy of the paper, and still cannot find a copy, I can snail mail you one. Please send your snail mail address directly to me and I will get a copy to you.

Cheers,

Bonnie Fisher

> On Tue, 23 Jul 1996, Eric Plutzer 814-865-6576 wrote:
> 
> >> >Seems to me these types of surveys threaten to diminish legitimate survey
> >> >research the same way that 1-900 polls and other SLOPs do. But since these
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> >> 
> >I would prefer to lump the results from all these near-worthless data collection efforts under the moniker of SLAMs: statistics lacking any merit.
> >
> Jem Wolf Internet: jamwolf@indiana.edu
> Consulting Sociologist Voice: (317) 255-9621
> 6332 N. Guilford - Suite #207 FAX: (317) 255-9714
> Indianapolis, IN 46220 Home: (317) 257-7062
BUDGET PLANS THREATEN RESEARCH, PART 2

House Science Committee Hearings, Day 2

-----------------------------------------------------------------

GOP Lawmakers Blast Clinton on Effects of Budget Plan on Research
Republican lawmakers Wednesday accused President Clinton of
failing to offer details on how his balanced-budget plan would
affect spending on research and development.

"The President seems effortlessly to shift back and forth
between two sets of books," said Sen. Christopher S. Bond, a
Missouri Republican. "In one speech, he's a tough budget cutter.
In the next speech, he is the mainstream protector against the
extremists who are cutting or gutting favored programs."

Senator Bond testified at the second day of a two-day hearing
before the House Science Committee. The committee convened to
examine the effects of the Administration's six-year
balanced-budget plan on civilian research and development.

Mr. Clinton's budget plan could reduce support for civilian
research and development by nearly 20 per cent by 2002, adjusted
for inflation, the American Association for the Advancement of
Science estimated at the hearing Tuesday. But the current plan
of the Republican Congress is even tougher, requiring a cut of
about 23 per cent, the association said.
Rep. Robert S. Walker, the Pennsylvania Republican who heads the Science Committee, criticized the Administration for claiming that it had a plan to eliminate deficit spending while offering few details about the impact on science programs in later years.

Daniel S. Goldin, administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, testified that NASA takes the President's budget projections seriously. But he added, "I don't believe we're going to take any precipitous action" toward cutting research spending when the agency submits its 1998 budget.

The A.A.A.S. study showed that to meet the President's budget projections, NASA's research budget would have to be cut by almost $1-billion in 1998.

--Siobhan Gorman

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DOES PUBLIC OPINION HAMPER BRITISH SCIENCE?

(From today's DAILY REPORT of The Chronicle of Higher Education)

A glance at the August/September issue of "Prospect":

Contrary to the assertions of several historians, scientific research is not declining in Britain, nor is the culture "anti-technology," writes David Edgerton, author of the book "Science, Technology and the British Industrial 'Decline' 1870-1970" (Cambridge University Press). Rather, Mr. Edgerton writes in "Myths of Decline," Britain has been one of the great scientific powers of the 20th century, at times spending more on research and development than any of its European counterparts. Claims that the quality and the amount of scientific research in Britain has declined since the 1960s because so few scientists and engineers hold top positions in
industry or government are ridiculous, he writes; those people have simply gone in other directions. British universities, Mr. Edgerton writes, have stressed technology, with 65 per cent of students studying science, technology, or medicine in 1968, during the supposed "decline" of British technology. But the continuing assertions that scientists and engineers are underpaid and lack status in British society is damaging the country's scientific development and ability to attract bright students to scientific fields, he says. "One cannot hope to develop decent policies for science and technology, for the universities, or for industry on the basis of lurid historical fantasies," he writes.

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PROFESSORS, TAs, PARENTS--ALERT!

The good news is that most commercial term paper mills will soon be out of business. The bad news:

A new library available on the World-Wide Web may prove to be a valuable resource -- mostly for dishonest students.

The Web site, called "School Sucks," was created in early July by Kenneth A. Sahr, a student at Florida International University. Mr. Sahr says the library will eventually include thousands of college-level research papers on all kinds of topics -- all free to any student who visits the site.
The site's slogan, "Download your workload," suggests that it is the '90s version of the term-paper mills listed in the backs of magazines -- except that most of those services charge for their products. But Mr. Sahr argues that the site is not intended to promote plagiarism. In fact, he says, offering students papers at no charge makes the library more of a service for professors than for students.

His argument: While students do have open access to the archive, so do professors, who will be able to check texts available on the site against papers about which they have suspicions. Mr. Sahr boasts that pay-for-paper services, which professors generally don't have access to, will be driven out of business by his site.

He calls the site a "checks-and-balances system" for coping with plagiarism.

The library has created quite a stir among professors in several on-line discussion groups. A "Plagiarism Websource Alert" was circulated across the Internet on faculty mailing lists soon after the site was announced. "That got me more publicity than a two-page ad in The New York Times," Mr. Sahr says.

Eric W. Crump, a graduate student at the University of Missouri at Columbia who edits an on-line writing journal, has created a Web site with dozens of messages from mailing lists on which the topic was debated.

Most of the 20 or so works currently available on the site seem best suited -- in topic and quality -- for introductory English courses. But a few papers are more specialized, such as a business essay about the soft-drink industry, "Coke vs. Pepsi: Fighting for Foreign Markets." Mr. Sahr says he has received about 50 other submissions. He hopes the service will eventually offer thousands of papers in many subject areas -- and draw advertising dollars, which he says will allow him to hire a staff and expand the service.

Missouri's Mr. Crump agrees with Mr. Sahr's defense of the archive. "I confess I'm delighted to see the paper-mill site on the Web," Mr. Crump says. "For one thing, it's a very visible version of the underground paper mills that exist and thrive on many college campuses. Its visibility brings attention to the practice."

The more important check, Mr. Sahr argues, is on professors themselves. He says that professors who assign overly broad topics for term papers invite students to go shopping in paper mills. On the other hand, he says, assignments that are based on students' interests and are closely related to classroom discussions are not easily filled with plagiarized papers.

Here Mr. Crump disagrees. "I don't think the problem has so much to do with how broad or narrow the topic is," he says. In fact, he says, a sufficiently large archive could provide
papers on any topic. "What defeats plagiarism is not increasing particularity in assignments but increasing self-motivation as the force driving writing," he argues. Students who are truly interested in a subject and engaged in the class "will find plagiarism utterly irrelevant to their work," he says.

So far, much of the negative reaction to the site seems to have been aimed at its irreverent name. According to Mr. Sahr, the site's name and the "Download your workload" motto were meant simply to get people's attention. "I don't mean it literally," Mr. Sahr says.

But if "School Sucks" or sites like it do grow, Mr. Crump says, plagiarism will be easy for willing students. "When I was an undergraduate student, I wouldn't have known who to ask even if I'd wanted to borrow a paper," he says, "Now, anybody with a computer and Net access can find paper mills with a quick and easy search of the Web."

-- Kelly McCollum

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>From jtrewn@cms.cc.wayne.edu Fri Jul 26 10:57:59 1996
Return-Path: jtrewn@cms.cc.wayne.edu
Received: from CMS.CC.WAYNE.EDU (CMS.CC.WAYNE.EDU [141.217.1.3])
   by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
   id KAA28690 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 26 Jul 1996 10:57:58 -0700 (PDT)
Date: Fri, 26 Jul 1996 10:57:58 -0700 (PDT)
Received: from [141.217.22.34] by CMS.CC.WAYNE.EDU (IBM VM SMTP V2R2) with TCP;
   Fri, 26 Jul 96 13:57:55 EDT
Message-Id: <v01540b02ae1e7e10d32c@[141.217.22.34]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: jtrewn@cms.cc.wayne.edu (Jayant Trewn)
Subject: Reaching households with no telephones
Cc: wscott@waynest1

We are attempting to sample a small group of households with no phones in a telephone survey to figure out bias of no reaching these households via an RDD telephone sample. Any references to articles, studies? Please respond to wscott@cms.cc.wayne.edu
Thanks

Regards.

|Jayant Trewn Ph: (313) 577-2124 |
|Research Analyst FAX: (313) 577-1274 |
|Center For Urban Studies E-Mail: jtrewn@cms.cc.wayne.edu |
Revisiting a venerable issue...

I toss out a familiar question for anyone with direct experience or recommendations of recent literature reviews to consult on the topic: Which of the following 3 types of incentives is likely to elicit the best response from a general sample -- a sample of an insurance company's customers, in this case -- to a 4-page questionnaire (sponsorship anonymous) about purchasing/switching insurance policies:

(A) A dollar bill enclosed with the questionnaire?

(B) A chance to win a substantial prize (such as a large-screen color TV) in a lottery drawing?

(C) Offering to make a contribution to a charity of the responder's choice (amount not specified, though it would probably be $1/responder)?

A corollary question is: Would any of these make a non-trivial difference (vs. offering no incentive) in the response rate, and, if so, which?

Since answers might be of interest to a wide audience of subscribers to AAPORNET, replies can be sent to the list (or, if preferred, to my e-mail address: shds11a@Prodigy.com).
We have investigated the use of monetary incentives and found that enclosing 50 cents in the first mailout was more cost-effective than the use of either 20 cents or $1. It was also more effective than 20c, 50c or $1 enclosed in the second mailout. We also found that prize draws ($200 cash prize and $200 voucher prize) had a negligible effect on the response rates and were consequently extremely costly (this work is reported in the Journal of the Market Research Society, 1991, 33 (3), 229-241). This study used a sample of the general public; I'm not sure how well the results will generalise to other populations.

Later work, reported in the MARKETING BULLETIN (vol. 4, 1993, 43-51), confirms the cost-effectiveness of a 50 cent incentive. This later study also examined the effectiveness of promised donations to charity and found that this was less effective (in terms of response rate increases) and less cost-effective than the direct inclusion of a 50 cent incentive.

I have recently heard of a mail survey that obtained a 90% response rate; this was attributed to the inclusion of a tea bag together with an invitation to have a break and complete the questionnaire at the same time. However, the report provided no further details and I don't know whether any other treatments were also used. We hope to test this type of incentive later this year.

You might also like to check recent work by Don Dillman; his work on mail surveys is extremely interesting and he is almost sure to have conducted recent studies in this area.

Janet Hoek

Janet Hoek                       Phone:      646 350 5583 (Bus)
Senior Lecturer in Marketing     Fax :      646 350 5608
Massey University                Email:      J.A.Hoek@massey.ac.nz
Palmerston North
New Zealand

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Mon Jul 29 12:46:42 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
   by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
   id MAA28461 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 29 Jul 1996 12:46:41 -0700 (PDT)
CALL FOR PAPERS: MARKETING BULLETIN

The MARKETING BULLETIN publishes experimental, theoretical and review papers that are concerned with matters related to marketing, market research practice, and marketing education. Book reviews and short research notes are also accepted, as are commentaries.

The format and style of manuscripts should conform to the conventions specified in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 3rd edition (1983). Manuscripts will be reviewed by the editorial committee, and published at the editor's discretion. The MARKETING BULLETIN is published annually, in May.

For notes to contributors, please contact:

The Editor
MARKETING BULLETIN
Department of Marketing
Massey University
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Telephone (64) 6 356 9099
Facsimile (64) 6 350 5608
e-mail M.Brennan@Massey.ac.nz

or visit our Web site at: http://www.massey.ac.nz/~wwmarket

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Professor Phil Gendall 
email: M.C.MacDonald
Professor of Marketing 
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fax (+64) 6 350 5608
Palmerston North
New Zealand

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Mon Jul 29 13:44:06 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
I am interested in obtaining any information on national, state, or community studies on homelessness.

A local consortium of not-for-profit and government groups on housing is interested in conducting a study to measure the number of homeless (served & unserved) in the community and also assess future need. Although this is not the type of research that we do, I will pass any info you have on to them.

Please e me directly with:

1. any references to studies or groups that have attempted to obtain a measure of families and individuals that are homeless

2. any suggestions as to how the unserved homeless may be identified and need measured

3. any references to instruments which have been used to interview individuals who are homeless on current and future needs.

Thanx for any information or ideas you might be able to share.

Barbara Carvalho, PhD
Director, Marist Poll
b.carvalho@marist.edu
>From the DAILY REPORT of The Chronicle of Higher Education:

MAGAZINES & JOURNALS

A glance at the July issue of "Commentary" and the July/August issue of "Tikkun":

Daniel J. Goldhagen's controversial book, "Hitler's Willing Executioners" (Alfred A. Knopf, 1996), does a chillingly good job of detailing the atrocities committed by what the author calls "ordinary Germans" during the Holocaust, but it lacks historical perspective in explaining why those individuals behaved as they did. That's the view of two professors at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem who have written several books on anti-Semitism. Mr. Goldhagen, a Harvard University scholar, has portrayed a feverish anti-Semitism as overcoming the "vast majority" of Germans -- and thereby fanning the violence of the Holocaust -- but the book presents an overly nationalistic view of history, the professors argue. What about the role of Austria?, asks Robert S. Wistrich in the "Commentary" review, "Helping Hitler." Official encouragement of anti-Semitic acts under the Hapsburg dynasty -- acts that point to Austria as the "crucible of Nazi-style anti-Semitism" -- cannot be ignored, Mr. Wistrich writes. In "Tikkun"'s "Reconceiving the Holocaust?," Steven E. Aschheim argues that Germany wasn't nearly as united as Mr. Goldhagen claims. Writes Mr. Aschheim: "Goldhagen's rendering of anti-Semitism as a kind of disembodied, autonomous force determining the course of modern German history results in a grossly imbalanced portrait."

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Hi folks,

We are looking at the relative merits of using Survey Sampling vs. Genesys for obtaining/generating samples. We have been purchasing samples from SSI, but are now considering Genesys as an alternative, primarily on the basis of cost. However we want to make sure we are not giving up quality.

So, any comments on the relative merits of SSI and Genesys would be appreciated. If anyone has experience with both, how do you think they compare on quality, service, cost, anything else?

Thanks,
Barbara Alderson
SRC, CSUC
balderson@campuspo.csuchico.edu

The Survey Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Chicago has a postdoctoral position open for an individual interested in the effects of televised interventions on smoking cessation, minority health issues and health survey research more generally. We are looking for an individual with a strong statistical background, including understanding and experience with structural equation modeling (LISREL) and/or hierarchical regression. Candidates should be proficient in SAS, have excellent oral and written communication skills and have all components of their degree completed. The successful candidate will be expected to work as part of a team of experienced investigators and will have the opportunity to develop research
topics as a collaborator. The position is available immediately.

For full consideration, applications should be received by August 30, 1996. Submit cover letter, vitae and writing sample to:

Richard B. Warnecke
Survey Research Laboratory
910 W. Van Buren, Suite 500
Chicago, IL 60607

In an upcoming presentation at this year's ASA meetings in New York (August 19, 8:30 am to be exact) I will discuss using the Web as a teaching resource, in particular my idea of an "Electronic Reserve Shelf (ERS)". I have used an ERS extensively in a class on "Social Movements" as well as in a class on "Social Statistics". However, I see particular use for it in classes on "Public Opinion". The paper addresses both the pedagogical issues and the practicalities of setting up and maintaining an ERS -- under very limited resources. It is available as an HTML document at our departmental web site:

http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/facpaper/

Hope you visit and share your comments and/or suggestions. MK.

Manfred Kuechler
Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
695 Park Avenue, NY, NY 10021
Tel: 212-772-5588 Fax: 212-772-5645
Web: http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/
I conducted the change of venue surveys for the Timothy McVeigh-Terry Nichols petition to move their trial out of Oklahoma. I conducted surveys in six different venues using a GENYSIS RDD sample. The government conducted surveys in five venues and I think they used samples from SSI. The information was presented verbally at the trial, so I am not 100% certain they were SSI samples. But regardless, the government and I asked a number of the questions that were very similar. The results were almost always within 2 or 3 percent for each venue in the 5 surveys the government conducted and the five I conducted. Since the government had pretty much unlimited resources in doing their survey work, I presume their samples were of high quality. The important point is that the GENYSIS samples generated virtually identical results.

I might also note I have found the GENYSIS people very helpful to work with. I have used a number of their samples in my consulting work, and I have them an A+ on all fronts.

Kent Tedin
Chairman, Political Science
University of Houston

How to follow Pipe Bomb, the cultural phenomenon, on the World Wide Web:

>From TOURBUS for Monday, July 29, 1996

By now everyone knows that a pipe bomb exploded early Saturday morning in the Centennial Olympic Park in the heart of Atlanta. One person was killed, and 110 were injured.

The latest news from ACOG (the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games) is that

On Tuesday morning, 30 July 1996, Centennial Olympic Park will be reopened to the public. All activities within and around the Park which have been suspended pending completion of law enforcement's work will be resumed. Additional security measures will be employed in the area consistent with its status as a place of public access. --A.D. FRAZIER, Chief Operating Officer, ACOG

Within hours of the explosion early Saturday morning, dozens of Web sites popped up offering the latest information on the bombing and the ongoing search for the terrorist who planted the bomb. The "official" Olympic site for information about the bombing is at


This page has links to ACOG's and the IOC's (International Olympic Committee's) official press statements, as well as to pictures of the bomb site provided by Agence France-Presse. This "official" site also has the complete transcript of Tom Brokaw's Interview of Billy Payne (Tom Brokaw is the anchor of the NBC Nightly News in the United States, and Billy Payne is the President of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games).

The folks at Yahoo were also quick to set up a special Web page for the latest news about the bombing at

http://www.yahoo.com/headlines/special/bomb/

This page is updated several times a day with the latest news from the Reuters news service, so you may want to visit this page often. You can also find links to other Olympic Park bomb information Web sites by going to

http://sports.yahoo.com/olympics/

and then clicking on the words "Pipe Bomb Explodes in Olympic Park" at the top of the page, or by jumping directly to

http://www.yahoo.com/News/Current_Events/Pipe_Bomb_Explodes_in_Olympic_Park/

The most comprehensive Web page on the explosion, however, is at


CNN's global headquarters is only a couple hundred yards from the edge of the Centennial Olympic Park, so it is not surprising that CNN has the most comprehensive Web site about the bombing. CNN’s page has Quicktime movies of the explosion (courtesy of amateur photographer Robert Gee), maps of Atlanta showing you where the explosion occurred in relation to the other Olympic venues, information about the investigation, reaction from around the world, a look at how security at the games has changed, and links to
* ENDING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION in medical-school admissions may result in fewer doctors to serve people who are poor or who are members of minority groups, according to a report released Monday by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.


MAGAZINES & JOURNALS

A glance at the July 26 issue of "Slate":

Conservatives who claim that Martin Luther King, Jr., would have opposed affirmative action are "quite wrong," writes Eric Foner, a history professor at Columbia University, in "Stolen Dream." Opponents of affirmative action are quick to point to King's "I Have a Dream" speech to label him a champion of "colorblind laws," Mr. Foner writes, but such arguments ignore several of King's comments about "special measures for the deprived." The civil-rights leader's writings and actions show that he "was a strong supporter of what today would be called 'affirmative action,'" Mr. Foner writes. "The phrase itself was not widely used during his lifetime, but King spoke repeatedly of granting blacks special preferences in jobs and education to compensate for past discrimination." The misreading of King, Mr. Foner argues, is additional proof of "the absence of any sense of history" in current discussions of civil rights, race, and affirmative action. (The article may be found at
AAPORNETers,

I welcomed the question from Barbara Alderson and the response from Kent Tedin concerning the relative merits of SSI and Genesys, because we are in the process of choosing a company from which to purchase samples. We have been generating them ourselves.

In addition to SSI and Genesys, does anyone have any experience with Scientific Telephone Samples, which is another company that has been recommended to us?

I'd also like to ask for any citations on research comparing straight RDD samples with list-assisted ones, in terms of bias vs. efficiency or any other relevant comparisons.

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Linda Hawkins
Social Science Research Facility
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
EMAIL: lhawkins@csd.uwm.edu
PHONE: 414-229-4199
FAX: 414-229-3860
I am putting together an estimate for a longitudinal study on patients who receive psychiatric care and I need some advice from researchers familiar with this population.

The study design calls for respondents to be given a baseline interview and then a follow-up interview every 3 months for one year (5 interviews). Data collection will be conducted by telephone. The sample will consist of employed individuals who have been recently treated for a psychiatric illness (other than dementia).

I would like to end up with 2,000 remaining in the sample at the end of one year. I would appreciate any suggestions for predicting sample attrition with this population (apart from "usual" types of non-response -- refusals, unlocatable, etc). What, if any, are the special characteristics of this sample which will increase attrition?

Please respond to me directly.

Andy

Andrew Williams
Survey Projects Manager
Statistical Laboratory
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
(515) 294-5244
andywill@iastate.edu
the comparison between list assisted and RDD. The paper makes the argument that the difference is negligible and really does not justify the added costs (RDD sample is cheaper but is less efficient to call). I am sure they would be happy to provide you a copy of the paper.

Bryan K. Ward
Hagler Bailly Consulting

>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jul 31 15:27:30 1996
Return-Path: beniger@almaak.usc.edu
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.135])
   by usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with ESMTP
   id PAA15206 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 31 Jul 1996 15:27:29 -0700
   (PDT)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
   by almaak.usc.edu (8.7.2/8.7.2/usc) with SMTP
   id PAA14915 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 31 Jul 1996 15:27:28 -0700
   (PDT)
Date: Wed, 31 Jul 1996 15:27:28 -0700 (PDT)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: New ARL E-Journal & List Directory
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.92.960731151446.9733B-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

From: ARL Publications <pubs@cni.org>

ARL Directory Highlights
Continued Increase in Electronic Publishing

The Association of Research Libraries is pleased to announce the availability of The Directory of Electronic Journals, Newsletters and Academic Discussion Lists, 6th Edition, the standard hard copy reference work for serials available via the Internet. This new edition of the Directory is a compilation of entries for over 3,000 academic and professional discussion lists and 1,688 electronic journals, newsletters, and newsletter-digests, representing a 257% increase in journals and a 26% increase in lists since the 1995 Edition. The Directory is a tool for assisting individuals in locating Internet resources as well as assisting librarians in building electronic collections.

Web Versions:
<http://arl.cni.org/scomm/edir/> - Journals and Newsletters
<http://www.n2h2.com/KOVACS> - Discussion Lists

Electronic publishing has gained unprecedented momentum since the Directory was first published in 1991. Summary analysis of the 6th Edition indicates that the number of peer-reviewed titles are increasing. The majority of journals and newsletters continue to be available for free, although this edition indicates a slight
increase in fee-based titles over last year. In the 1996 Edition, 168, or 10% of the titles, are available on a fee basis only.

The Directory is organized to assist the user in finding relevant publications and discussion groups and connecting to them quickly, even if he or she is not completely versed in the full range of user-access systems. A short description of each title in the Directory is included as well as access information. A URL is provided for over 90% of the journal and newsletter titles. Included also are ISSN, costs, first issues, peer review, frequency, back issues, and submissions. For the discussion lists section, entries include moderator contact information, and indicate whether the lists are edited and archived. A combined index for the two sections includes keyword, title, and institutional affiliation.

Diane Kovacs, Kovacs Consulting, and The Directory Team created again this year the academic and professional discussion lists section, while Dru Mogge and the ARL Directory staff compiled the journals and newsletters section. The introduction to the Directory is by Ann Okerson, Yale University.

The Association of Research Libraries is a not-for-profit membership organization comprising 120 libraries of North American research institutions. Its mission is to shape and influence forces affecting the future of research libraries in the process of scholarly communication.


Web Versions:
<http://arl.cni.org/scomm/edir/> - Journals and Newsletters
<http://www.n2h2.com/KOVACS> - Discussion Lists

For complete information please contact:
Patricia Brennan, Information Services Coordinator
pubs@cni.org
************
ASSOCIATION FOR SURVEY COMPUTING  
Second International Conference On  
SURVEY AND STATISTICAL COMPUTING  

Wednesday, September 11 to Friday, September 13, 1996  
Imperial College, London  

To celebrate its Silver Jubilee, the Association for Survey Computing (ASC) is hosting its Second International Conference on Survey and Statistical Computing.

The Conference is built around a strong and varied programme of both invited and contributed papers which will be published in a set of Proceedings, available to participants on registration.

PROGRAMME  
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On Wednesday, September 11 and Friday, September 13, the following presentations by invited speakers will be made to plenary sessions:

Keynote Address: The Impact of Information Technology on National Statistics  
DR TIM HOLT (OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS)

Why We Do What We Do: A Review of What We Think We Do, Reflections on Why We Do It, and Whether or Not It Does Any Good  
PROFESSOR ROBERT WORCESTER (MORI)

Computer Aided Interviewing: Has It Ever, and Will It Still Work?  
WILLIAM E CONNETT (UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN)

Maximising Returns From Census and Survey Data: Serving the Public Interest or Invading Privacy?  
PROFESSOR ANGELA DALE (UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER)

Synergy between Survey Computing, Data Quality and Methodological Improvement  
GEOFF LEE (AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS)

Organising Meta-Data for Large Collections of Survey Data  
ATLE ALVHEIM, BJORN HENRICHSEN (NORWEGIAN SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA SERVICES)

The Diffusion of Technological Innovation: Computer Assisted Data Collection in the United Kingdom  
COLM O'MUIRCHEARATAIGH (LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE)
On Thursday, September 12, forty-two contributed papers will be presented to one of four parallel sessions: SURVEY DATA, SURVEY ANALYSIS, SURVEY RESULTS and SURVEY SOFTWARE.

FEES
----

All three days:

380.00 pounds stlg (for ASC members)
395.00 pounds stlg (for Non-ASC members; fee includes ASC membership)

Academic participants are eligible for a discount of 40.00 pounds sterling.

Thursday, September 12 only (no discounts apply):

190.00 pounds stlg (for ASC members)
205.00 pounds stlg (for Non-ASC members; fee includes ASC membership)

All fees include lunch, dinner and dancing on Thursday, September 12, and lunch on Wednesday, September 11 (if applicable). Accommodation is not included.

FURTHER INFORMATION
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An e-mail to
asc96-info@essex.ac.uk
will automatically reply with further information about the Conference, including the Scientific Programme, a booking form as well as details of how to arrange accommodation.

An e-mail to
asc96-abstracts@essex.ac.uk
will automatically reply with a copy of the Scientific Programme including abstracts of all the presentations.

Alternatively, please contact the ASC Administrator, Diana Elder, at:
PO Box 60, Chesham, Bucks, UK HP5 3QH
tel/fax: +44 (0)1494 793033; e-mail: asc@essex.ac.uk

Randy Banks (randy@essex.ac.uk)
Association for Survey Computing
ESRC Research Centre on Micro-Social Change
University of Essex
Colchester
Essex
United Kingdom
CO4 3SQ
SURVEYING THE NET--NELSEN AND BEYOND


How many people are on the Internet?
Marian Hank justhank@mcs.com

A direct answer to this question is not easy. It is a bit like the fable of the blind men and the elephant where each blind man comes away with a different idea of "elephantness" depending which part of the elephant he happens to be touching.

Consider this page a good starting point for gaining an understanding of the elephant. The following sites are places where data is being collected and compiled to help find the answer.

Looking at the Whole Elephant

There are several companies that have done extensive research in the area of internet demographics. Here are a few of the more prominent studies.

Nielsen Internet Surveys
Long famous for their surveys on television viewing, Nielsen has conducted some extensive surveys about the Internet. The full report is $5000. However, one can learn a lot by reading the executive summary. An example from the summary:

The results of the CommerceNet/Nielsen Internet Demographics Survey provide the most definitive answers to date about the Internet. Some of the key findings are:
- 17% (37 million) of total persons aged 16 and above in the US and Canada have access to the Internet.
- 11% (24 million) of total persons aged 16 and above in the US and Canada have used the Internet in the past three months.
- Approximately 8% (18 million) of total persons aged 16 and above in the US and Canada have used the WWW in the past three months.
- Internet users average 5 hours and 28 minutes per week on the Internet.
- Total Internet usage in the US and Canada is equivalent to the total playback of rented video tapes.
- Males represent 66% of Internet users and account for 77% of Internet usage.
- On average, WWW users are upscale (25% have income over $80K), professional (50% are professional or managerial), and educated (64% have at least college degrees).
- Approximately 14% (2.5 million) of WWW users have purchased products or services over the Internet.

**CyberAtlas**

CyberAtlas is an excellent resource for current and useful information on everything from demographics to providers to web usage patterns.

http://www.nielsenmedia.com/demo.htm

**Project 2000**

This academic site is amazing. It is a "research program on marketing in computer-related environments." You'll find many interesting things here, including a reanalysis of the data collected by Nielsen.

http://www2000.ogsm.vanderbilt.edu/

**GVU WWW User Surveys**

The information is collected from internet users who voluntarily fill out the survey. There are several ways of viewing the data (try the bulleted lists), that make it fairly easy to digest.

http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user_surveys/

**Internet Demographics: the MIDS Internet Demographic Surveys**

MIDS conducts on-line surveys to measure how the internet is growing. The site is packed with food for thought. The article What is the Internet, Anyway? is a great introductory document for things to consider when reviewing internet statistics.

http://www2.mids.org/ids/ids.html

**Defining the Internet Opportunity**

O'Reilly & Associates have made their studies available on-line, one focuses on the U.S. internet population and the other focuses on business opportunities available on the net.

http://www.ora.com/survey/users/index.html
Exploring Web Marketing Techniques - Demographics
This is part of a very interesting series of articles by Carl Kline. It includes links to various studies and resources on internet demographics.
http://www.referrals.com/articles/old-art.htm#column2

Sizing up the Internet by Measuring Parts

The following sites measure very specific aspects of the Internet such as how many domains are there, and what kind of servers are being used to house web sites.

Internet Domain Survey
"The Domain Survey attempts to discover every host on the Internet by doing a complete search of the Domain Name System. The next survey will be done in late July 1996."
http://www.nw.com/zone/WWW/top.html

The Netcraft Web Server Survey
"The Netcraft Web Server Survey is a survey of Web Server software usage on Internet connected computers. We collect and collate as many hostnames providing an http service as we can find, and systematically poll each one with an HTTP request for the server name. In the June 1996 survey we received responses from 252,685 servers."
This site also offers a very interesting article, Business Models for the Web, which gives Mike Prettejohn's thoughtful opinion on some of the objectives a web site can help your business accomplish.
http://www.netcraft.co.uk/Survey/

HTTP Server Distribution
Another look at who is serving up the sites!

WebCrawler's Web Size: 145,166 servers!
The graph on this page really shows how quickly the web has grown!

Fun with Statistics

Internet Index
This newsletter gives quick stats compiled from a wide variety of resources. The resources are documented so if you are curious about where the figure comes from, you can check the reference.
http://www.openmarket.com/intindex/

Irresponsible Internet Statistics Generator
This site makes it very clear that the figures generated here are not to be taken as gospel. What it does offer is a concise view of how hard it is to "capture" numbers on the internet and offers the visitor a bit of speculative fun.
http://www.anamorph.com/docs/stats/stats.html#iStat
GNN's U-Do-It Internet Estimator
Since the article was written in 1994, the numbers don't quite hold up, but the basic principle still applies. This tongue-in-cheek look at ways of measuring the Internet will give you a good idea of why it is so difficult to come up with hard numbers.

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