



**Panel Study Workshop
March 21 – 22, 2008**

University of Houston Hilton
(Waldorf Astoria Ballroom)
4800 Calhoun Street
Houston, Texas 77004

- **Agenda**
- **Panel of Experts**
- **Participant Contact Information**

**This workshop is made possible with the
support of Houston Endowment**

HOUSTON ENDOWMENT INC.

A PHILANTHROPY ENDOWED BY MR. AND MRS. JESSE H. JONES

The University of Houston Center for Public Policy received a \$130,000 grant from Houston Endowment to initiate the creation of a long-term *panel study on social, economic, and behavioral dynamics for the Houston region*. A panel study is a longitudinal design in which a cross-sectional population sample is selected and surveyed at periodic (e.g., annual) intervals. Panel studies are known for their scientific rigor because the observation of the individual at regular intervals through time decreases aspects such as recall error that could lead to less accurate analyses and subsequently to ineffective planning and policy decisions.

A panel design provides the same leverage for socio-economic and behavioral dynamics that can be found in medical protocols (i.e., drug/therapy treatments). For Houston region policy makers and business leaders, an on-going panel study would shed light on issues such as changes in economic mobility, the demographic structure of the population (minority, female, immigrant), family composition, labor force participation, poverty, welfare use, (un)employment, (un)employment duration, earnings, work hours, assets, taxes, mental and physical health, and more.¹

Founded 25 years ago, the University of Houston's Center for Public Policy (CPP) has a distinguished record of service to the university and to the community, notably in the areas of economic forecasting, survey research, and government internships for local university students. In the past year, the CPP has broadened its mission with the aim of becoming a more prominent public policy resource for leaders, planners, scholars, and others working to better understand Houston and help shape its future.

Jim Granato, CPP director, is coordinating the planning process and team. Jim Granato has over 15 years of administrative, teaching, and research experience in quantitative social science. His experience includes serving as Visiting Scientist and Political Science Program Officer at the National Science Foundation (NSF). At the NSF, he led the type of activities described in this proposal. Dr. Granato (and his NSF colleague Frank Scioli) wrote, planned and directed both the ANES recompetition as well as numerous other research projects (see, for example, www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/polisci/reports/eitmreport.jsp).

The planning team involves a mix of local and national experts, each person having specific knowledge (substantive and technical) of the various challenges in the construction of a valid panel survey. In addition to the academic experts, there will be extensive consultation with members of the Houston community who are involved in the private and public sector. These consultations will focus on the substantive issues that need to be addressed in the survey. Granato will also include the CPP Advisory Board for recommendations. Board members include Alice Aanstoos, Rogene Calvert, Doug Carman, Glenn Clements, Robert Dogium, Governor Bill Hobby, Beverly Kaufman, Alison Leland, Elena Marks, Holly Montalbano and Keith Wade.

The potential panel study will be a public resource, with all findings and raw data accessible online on the Center for Public Policy's website (www.uh.edu/cpp) and other websites including those found at Rice University and Texas Southern University.

¹ Examples of panel surveys with substantial academic & policy benefits include the Panel Study on Income Dynamics (PSID) (www.psidonline.isr.umich.edu/) & the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) (www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/). The scientific & policy effects of panel surveys can be seen in the books/articles *The Analysis of Household Surveys: A Microeconomic Approach to Development Policy* by Angus Deaton (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997); *Years of Poverty Years of Plenty: The Changing Economic Fortunes of American Workers and Families* by Greg J. Duncan (University of Michigan, Survey Research Center, 1984); and "How Much Do Americans Move Up and Down the Economic Ladder?" by Daniel P. McMurrer and Isabel V. Sawhill (The Urban Institute, 1996). See www.urban.org/publications/306775.html.

Panel Study Workshop Agenda

Synopsis

Objective: To consider a way that better investigates the long-term economic, social and behavioral dynamics of the Houston region. National and local experts will consider how development of a panel survey or series of panel studies can assist in public policy issues affecting real people over the long term.

Timing of the Workshop: March 21 – 22, 2008

Location of the Workshop: University of Houston Hilton (Waldorf Astoria Ballroom)

Participants: Local and outside experts who are knowledgeable about methodology or substantive issues.

Duration: The Workshop will last a full day Friday, March 21 and a half Saturday, March 22.

Expected Outcomes: A report informed by workshops (such as this one) will outline a specific set of recommendations to create either an omnibus panel survey or series of panel surveys for the Houston region.

SCHEDULE

Friday, March 21, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Waldorf Astoria Ballroom

8:30-9:00am: Breakfast

9:00-9:15am: Introductions and Preliminary Considerations

9:15-10:30am: Overview: The Current State of Panel Surveys

- Topics:
1. Cost of information collection
 2. Sampling mortality
 3. Continuity v. Innovation (“methodological conservatism”)
 4. Overall utility of panel surveys
 5. Other issues

10:30-10:45am: Break

10:45am-12:15pm: Design Issues

- Topics:
1. Large omnibus survey (in PSID mold)
 2. Linking the Klineberg Survey to smaller panels
 3. Alternative designs
 4. Size of geographic area
 5. Time frame for repeated survey (e.g., 4 months, 6 months, annual)

12:15-1:15pm: Lunch

1:15-2:45pm: Design Issues (Continued)

3:00-3:15pm: Break

3:15-4:25pm: Substantive Questions for Houston Region and Best Practice

- Topics:
1. Health
 2. Education
 3. Income
 4. Environmental quality
 5. Crime
 6. Transportation

4:25-4:30pm: Closing Statement and Summary of Agenda for Saturday

Saturday, March 22, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Waldorf Astoria Ballroom

8:30-9:00am: Breakfast

9:00-9:50am: Budgeting

Topics: 1. Successful formulas for sustained support
2. Endowment

9:50-10:00am: Break

10:00-10:45am: Governance and Accountability

Topics: 1. Advisory board
2. Alternative mechanisms and best practice

10:45-11:30am: Human Subject Approval and IRB's

Topics: 1. Summary of major issues

11:30am-12:00pm: Concluding Remarks and Recommendations for the Future

12:00pm: Meeting adjourned

Christopher H. Achen , PhD

Roger Williams Straus Professor of Social Sciences
Professor and Associate Chair, Department of Politics
Princeton University

My principal research area is political methodology, applied particularly to issues arising from empirical democratic theory. Much of my research has focused on American politics, but in recent years I have branched into comparative politics. My co-edited 2006 Cambridge Press book was focused on decision-making the European Union. I have two other book projects underway, one studying voter turnout in international perspective (with Richard Sinnott of University College Dublin), and the second a reconsideration of democratic theory in the light of the last half century of public opinion and voting research (with Larry Bartels).



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Dr. John J. Antel is a Professor of Economics and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Houston. Professor Antel received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley in 1972. In 1983 he received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California at Los Angeles. Before joining the University of Houston Economics Department in 1981, Dr. Antel worked as a labor and population studies consultant to the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California. Dr. Antel served as Department Chair for the Economics Department at the University of Houston from 1997 to 2002. He served on the UH Academic Senate Executive Committee from 1999 to 2002. Professor Antel continues to teach and do research in labor economics, health economics and applied statistics at the University of Houston.



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Paul P. Biemer, PhD

Distinguished Fellow in Statistics
Research Triangle Institute International (RTI)

Dr. Paul Biemer, Distinguished Fellow in statistics, appointed November 2002, has 29 years of postdoctoral experience in survey methods and statistics. He joined RTI in 1991, serving as director of the survey methods program until 1994 and of the Center for Survey Methods and Research from 1994 to 2000. Dr. Biemer's scientific contributions to survey methodology and statistics include developing methodologies for using computer audio-recorded interviewing, using latent class analysis as a survey error evaluation tool, and applying continuous quality improvement to the coding of industry and occupation question responses. He holds a joint appointment with the Odum Institute for Research in Social Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he is associate director for survey research and director of the certificate program in survey methodology. He has written five books, 35 peer-reviewed publications, 17 book chapters and numerous papers and presentations.



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Dr. André Blais is professor in the department of political science at the Université de Montréal, a research fellow with the Centre interuniversitaire de recherche en économie quantitative (CIREQ) and with the Center for Interuniversity Research Analysis on Organizations (CIRANO) and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is past president of the Canadian Political Science Association and a co-investigator of the Canadian Election Study since 1988. His research interests are elections, electoral systems, voting, turnout, public opinion and methodology.

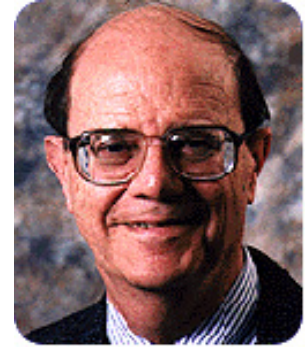


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Dr. Norman M. Bradburn, the Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus, serves on the faculties of the Harris School, the Department of Psychology, the Graduate School of Business, and the College. He is a former provost of the University (1984-1989), chairman of the Department of Behavioral Sciences (1973-1979), and associate dean of the Division of the Social Sciences (1971-1973). From 2000-2004, he was the assistant director for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation. Bradburn is currently a senior fellow at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC). Associated with NORC since 1961, he has been director of NORC and president of its Board of Trustees.



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Karen Callaghan, PhD

Professor, Political Science Department
Texas Southern University

Dr. Karen Callaghan has a Ph.D. in Political Science (SUNY Stony Brook, 1993). Her research interests are political attitude formation and communication. She is the co-editor of *Framing American Politics* (University of Pittsburgh Press) and co-author of a forthcoming book that explores the applicability of theories from economics and cognitive psychology to the behavior of journalists and citizens. Her work has been supported by Harvard University's Shorenstein Center for the Press, Politics and Policy and the National Science Foundation. Her articles appear in *Political Communication*, *Women and Politics*, *the Journal of Politics*, *Research in Micropolitics*, and elsewhere. Dr. Callaghan has been a visiting professor at Vanderbilt University and Rice University and the Ph.D. Director of Quantitative Methods in Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Currently, she is the interim director of the Survey Research Center in the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs where she is leading an interdisciplinary team of faculty in the development of survey methods for hard-to-reach and marginalized populations.



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Dr. Michael Emerson received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is the Allyn and Gladys Cline Professor of Sociology and Founding Director of the Center on Race, Religion and Urban Life at Rice University. In addition to numerous research articles, he is the author of several books, including the award winning *Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America* (Oxford University Press) and *People Of the Dream: Multiracial Congregations in the United States* (Princeton University Press), recently awarded the Oliver Cromwell Cox Award for the book making the most significant contribution to overcoming racism, Awarded by the Racial and Ethnic Minority section of the American Sociological Association. Currently he is directing a multi-million dollar funded research project to follow a racially and ethnically diverse group of 2600 Americans over the next twenty years to understand change and continuity in their religious lives. In partnership with Shell Oil and the Shell Center for Sustainability, he is also principle investigator of a multidisciplinary team studying issues of environmental sustainability in coastal cities of the United States and China.



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Dr. Karl Eschbach is an Associate Professor and Interim Director for the Institute for Demographic and Socioeconomic Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio. In 1995, Dr. Eschbach earned the NICHD post-doctoral fellowship, Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin, Madison. He earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from Harvard University (1992). His research interests include: Demography of racial and ethnic populations, immigration, neighborhoods and health and population health and health disparities. For more information about Dr. Eschbach, please visit his Web Site at UTSA.



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Dr. David J. Francis is the Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished Professor of Quantitative Methods and Chairman of the Department of Psychology at the University of Houston, where he also serves as Director of the Texas Institute for Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics and Co-Director of the Texas Learning and Computation Center. Dr. Francis obtained a doctoral degree in Clinical-Neuropsychology from the University of Houston in 1985 with a specialization in Quantitative Methods. He is a Fellow of Division 5 (Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics) of the American Psychology Association and is currently the Chair of the Executive Board of the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology and a member the Independent Review Panel for the National Assessment of Title I and the National Research Council's (NRC) Board on Testing and Assessment. He was a recipient of the 2006 Albert J. Harris Award from the International Reading Association, and has received the University of Houston's Teaching Excellence Award and the Excellence in Research and Scholarship Award. Dr. Francis' areas of interest include the modeling of individual growth and development in the study of reading and reading disabilities, and the language and literacy development of students at-risk for academic failure, in particular students who are English language learners.

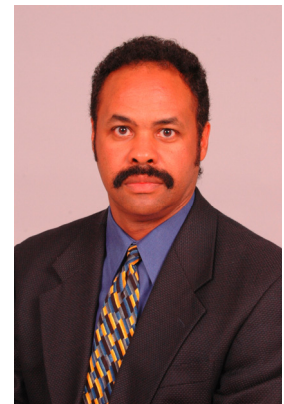
Dashiel J. Geyen, PhD

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Dr. Dashiel J. Geyen is a behavioral scientist and a clinical practitioner. He currently serves as faculty of the psychology department at Texas Southern University. He is also on the clinical staff at the Intra Care Medical Center Hospital and Behavioral Hospital of Bellaire. Dr. Geyen has taught in the University of Houston System, Sam Houston State University and Our Lady of the Lake University. Prior to his academic career, Dr. Geyen was a resident psychologist for the Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County. He is the president and founder of the Behavioral Practice and Research Associates, non-profit 501c3 corporation. He also maintains a professional association that provides treatment for mental illness and substance use disorders. Dr. Geyen has authored and published research papers on the African American Family, HIV Prevention Among At-Risk Black Women, Drug and Alcohol Abuse among College Students, and Depression Among Cancer Patients. Dr. Geyen is a graduate of Lamar University, Texas Southern University, and the University of Texas Health Science Center. He also completed post-doctoral fellowships at the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institutes of Health.



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Guillermina Jasso, PhD

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Dr. Guillermina Jasso (PhD, Johns Hopkins) is Professor of Sociology at New York University. She was the founding director of the Methods Workshop at New York University (1991-1997) and of the Theory Workshop at the University of Iowa (1988-1991), as well as a co-founder of the Life Course Center at the University of Minnesota. She served as Special Assistant to the Commissioner of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (1977-1979) and as Director of Research for the U.S. Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy (1979-1980). Professor Jasso's research interests are theory, justice, status, migration, mathematical methods for theory building and factorial survey methods for empirical analysis. She has published numerous articles in scholarly journals on these topics. Currently she is Co-Principal Investigator of the New Immigrant Survey, the first national longitudinal survey of immigrants in the United States. Professor Jasso was elected to the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars and to the Sociological Research Association and was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She was a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (1999-2000) and is also a Fellow at the Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality at Stanford University and a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). She serves on the Census Advisory Committee of Professional Associations.



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Dr. Mark P. Jones (Ph.D., University of Michigan) is Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Political Science at Rice University. His research focuses on the effect of electoral laws and other political institutions on governance, representation and voting. He has received substantial financial support for this research, including two grants from the National Science Foundation. His recent articles have appeared in journals such as the American Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Electoral Studies and the Journal of Politics. Professor Jones regularly advises several United States government institutions on economic and political affairs in Argentina and has conducted research on Latin American public policy issues for numerous international organizations, including the Inter-American Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme and World Bank.



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Stephen L. Klineberg, PhD

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A graduate of Haverford College near Philadelphia, Professor Klineberg received an M.A. in Psychopathology from the University of Paris and a Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Harvard. After teaching at Princeton, he joined Rice University's Sociology Department in 1972. The recipient of nine major teaching awards and of the 1994/1995 Student Association's Mentor Recognition Award, he is a faculty associate and divisional advisor at Lovett College, where he twice served as Interim Master. In March 1982, he and his students initiated the annual Houston Area Survey, tracking the remarkable changes in the demographic patterns, life experiences, attitudes and beliefs of area residents during a period of remarkable change. No other city in America has been the focus of a long-term longitudinal research program of this scope. None more clearly exemplifies the transformations that are radically refashioning the social and political landscape of urban America. The project has attracted great interests and generous support from foundations, corporations and individuals in the wider Houston community and beyond. Their support has made it possible not only to pay for the professional surveys, but also to fund a post-doctoral research fellowship associated with this research and to expand the surveys each year with additional interviews in Houston's Anglo, African-American and Latino communities. More details about Dr. Klineberg can be found on his Web Site at Rice University.



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Rebecca E. Lee, PhD

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Dr. Rebecca Lee's research is anchored in an ecological framework that incorporates environmental and individual determinants of physical activity, dietary habits and obesity prevention in ethnic minority and underserved populations. Her work combines theory and techniques drawn from behavioral medicine, community psychology, geography, policy science, social ecology and social marketing. Dr. Lee is the Principal Investigator on two grants funded to examine the obesogenic capacity of public housing developments and neighborhoods in Kansas City, KS and MO. Dr. Lee is a co-investigator on Dr. Carlos Poston's NIH-funded grant to examine area of residence and obesity in Kansas City neighborhoods and a co-investigator on Dr. Terry Huang's AHA funded grant to examine correlates and biomarkers of obesity in college students. Dr. Lee is also the director of The Obesity Research Center.



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Dr. Richard Murray is a native of Louisiana with B.A. and M.A. degrees in government from Louisiana State University (1962, 1963) and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Minnesota (1967). Dr. Murray has taught at the University of Houston since 1966 and is the Bob Lanier Chair in Urban Public Policy. After serving as the Director of the University of Houston Center for Public Policy for over nine years, he is now concentrating on the Center's polling operations as the Director of the Survey Research Institute. His academic interests are in Houston and Texas politics, focusing on campaigns and elections, political parties and interest groups and public opinion. Professor Murray has written extensively in these areas including co-authoring *Texas Politics: An Introduction* (6 Editions, 1972-1992), and *Progrowth Politics: Change and Governance in Houston* (1991), while teaching courses ranging from graduate seminars to introductory American Government. Professor Murray has previously consulted in more than 200 political campaigns. He conducts polls for *The Houston Chronicle*, other media, local governments and is the political commentator for the local ABC affiliate, KTRK-TV, Channel 13. In addition, his analyses and commentary are carried by television and radio, as well as print media such as *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *L.A. Times*, and *The Houston Chronicle*.



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Colm O'Muircheartaigh, PhD

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Dr. Colm A. O'Muircheartaigh is a professor in the Harris School and senior fellow in the National Opinion Research Center (NORC). O'Muircheartaigh's research encompasses survey sample design, measurement errors in surveys, cognitive aspects of question wording and latent variable models for nonresponse. He is principal investigator on the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Internet Panel Recruitment Survey and co-principal investigator on NSF's Data Research and Development Center and the National Institute on Aging's National Social Life Health and Aging Project (NSHAP). He is also responsible for the development of methodological innovations in sample design for NORC's face-to-face surveys in the U.S. He joined the Harris School from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Formerly president of the International Association of Survey Statisticians and a council member of the International Statistical Institute, O'Muircheartaigh is actively involved in these and a number of other professional bodies. Please visit Dr. O'Muircheartaigh Web Site at the Harris School for a complete CV.



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Frank P. Scioli, PhD

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For over three decades, Dr. Frank P. Scioli has been the champion of political science at the National Science Foundation. Prior to becoming senior science advisor in the Division of Social and Economic Sciences, he was the political science program director, urban research initiative director and section head. His dedication to the discipline has enabled hundreds of political science scholars to research original and novel topics. Dr. Scioli worked to ensure the fair distribution of research funds and to vigorously educate diverse audiences and the leadership at the NSF on the public and scientific benefits of political science research. This has resulted in maintained or increased levels of funding for the discipline, even during times of criticism. In addition, he labored to inform researchers of the opportunities available to them. Dr. Scioli's constant efforts to promote the discipline have also had positive effects on graduate education. For over three decades at the NSF, he worked to build the discipline's instructional infrastructure. His stewardship has seen the blossom of such tools as the American National Election Studies, one of the longest running and extensively used data collections on the study of elections, parties and politics in the world, in addition to the Time-Shared Experiments in the Social Sciences and the Virtual Library. Not only did he represent the discipline to the NSF, Dr. Scioli also fostered collaboration between the Association and the Foundation on the Methodology, Measurement and Statistics Program and the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute.



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Dr. Joan E. Sieber is Professor Emerita of Psychology (California State University, East Bay), Senior Research Associate at Simmons College and a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. During the last 25 years, she has specialized in empirical research on questions of scientific ethics, culturally sensitive methods of research and intervention, data sharing methodology and whistle-blowing. She served as Acting Director of the National Science Foundation program Societal Dimensions of Engineering, Science and Technology in 2001-02 and is currently involved in research on (gentle) alternatives to whistle-blowing. She has chaired IRBs in academe and industry, serves as a site visitor to IRBs seeking accreditation and serves on various editorial boards and review panels. She is Editor-in-Chief of an international peer-reviewed nonprofit educational journal, the *Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics (JERHRE)*



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