

Young Chun

Current position: Senior Research Scientist, American Institutes for Research

Started: August, 2000

Former Positions: Survey Statistician, U.S. Bureau of the Census (1999-2000); Behavioral Scientist, Bureau of Labor Statistics (1991-1999); Data Archive Specialist, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research (1989 -1991)

Field(s) of Interest: I have devoted to researching nonresponse and response errors last two decades to help improve data quality in large-scale federal surveys. Using social psychological theories, I enjoy conducting split-half experiments in various settings to explore and identify approaches to increasing response rate, measuring nonresponse bias, and reducing nonresponse bias. I find providing methodological consultation is a pleasant yet challenging way to share what I have learned and also to learn from others with similar methodological interests.

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held): This year I've had the 20th learning participation in the annual conference of AAPOR. It's been my home conference where I have presented papers on nonresponse and response, questionnaire design, mode effect, and surveys with special population. It's where I have also enjoyed serving as a discussant and a chair of a number of paper sessions on nonresponse and response over a decade. I have served several times since 1995 in the annual conference committee of AAPOR, reviewing proposals and helping organize conference sessions.

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations): Active member of World Association for Public Opinion Research and American Education Research Association for years. I have been also active in the last 15 years in sharing findings of methodological studies of nonresponse and response in international gatherings such as International Conference on Improving Surveys, International Conference on Business Surveys, American Statistical Association, and American Sociological Association. I have authored or co-authored papers that have been published in *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, *Business Survey Methods* by Wiley, and *American Statistical Association Proceedings on survey research methods*, among others.

Degrees: B.A., Communication – University of Michigan (1987); M.A., Communication Studies - University of Michigan (1989); and Ph.D.- ABD, Sociology - University of Maryland (completed all doctoral requirements but a dissertation)

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR: I love AAPOR being the public sphere where knowledge and experience is freely shared as far as they are related to understanding estimates, opinions, and attitudes in any survey subject. In the first 10 years of my association, I have found it is the *learning* place where survey researchers from all over the states (and around the world every even year) encourage and learn from each other. In the second 10 years, I have learned it is the *sharing* place of knowledge and wisdom to benefit all who are concerned about quality surveys and responsible use of findings for the public good. AAPORites know no border of knowledge and learning; it is my joy to work with them.

Paul Schroeder

Current position: Senior Analyst, Abt SRBI

Started: February, 2006

Former Positions: s

2003-2006 Study Manager, Westat

2000-2003 Research Analyst, University of Virginia Center for Survey Research

Field(s) of Interest:

Sampling Methodology

Survey Management

Data Quality

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held):

2006 DC-AAPOR Treasurer

2007 – 2008 DC-AAPOR Sponsorship Coordinator

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations):

American Statistical Association

Washington Statistical Society

Degrees: Master of Arts, University of Virginia (2001)
Bachelor of Arts, University of Tennessee (1998)

Other Information:

I am honored and humbled to be nominated for the position of DC-AAPOR President. I have been involved with DC-AAPOR since 2003 and have found that the organization has grown tremendously over the past 5 years. I would like to see the organization continue to grow over the coming year by hosting excellent seminars, workshops, and short courses, and a few happy hours to balance things out.

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR:

My favorite thing about AAPOR is the sense of community it fosters. Often when confronted with a problem, I talk to other AAPORites and discover that they are having the same issue. Tackling these issues together, is not only more productive, but also much more enjoyable than when facing something alone. In the rough and tumble world of survey research we all need a place where we can commiserate with others. AAPOR offers this and so much more.

George R. Carter III

Current position: Social Science Research Analyst, U.S. Census Bureau

Started: January 2005

Former Positions: Research Assistant and Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan (1998-2005), Research Assistant, Synectics for Management Decisions, Inc. (1996-1998), Telephone Interviewer, The Smith Company (1996), Research Assistant, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Haverford College (1993-1995)

Field(s) of Interest: Racial Attitudes, Moving Intentions, and Residential Segregation; Housing Policy; Affordable Housing and Homelessness; Measurement of Housing Quality and Neighborhood Quality; Issue Framing and Local Decisionmaking; Development of Visual Methods in Cognitive Interviewing; Surveys of Rare Populations; Coverage of group quarters population.

Have conducted cognitive research on Decennial Census housing unit and group quarters questionnaires and on housing and neighborhood quality questions from the American Community Survey and American Housing Survey. Dissertation examined roles of residential segregation, access to affordable housing, and proximity to homeless services in explaining the African-American overrepresentation among the service-using homeless. Currently involved in the pretesting of the 2009 Spanish language American Housing Survey.

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held): Have attended three national AAPOR annual meetings. At the first, I took a course on Surveys of Organizations, attended talks, and learned I am not a natural golfer. At the second, I presented a poster on cognitive research on group quarters validation, served as a discussant for a panel on racial attitudes, and served as a docent to new members. At the third, I gave a presentation on methodology I developed incorporating virtual tours into cognitive interviews. In DC-AAPOR, I have read broadcast emails and attended social events and talks.

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations): Member of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Population Association of America (PAA), Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), and Social Science History Association (SSHA) (at times between 1999 and the present)

Degrees:

B.A., Sociology and Philosophy, Haverford College (1995)

M.A., Sociology, University of Michigan (2002)

Ph.D., Sociology, University of Michigan (2006)

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR:

I like best AAPOR's commitment to research ethics and the collection of high quality data in both the polling and survey methodology communities. I appreciate AAPOR's role in improving public understanding of survey methods and interpretation (defending good surveys and criticizing bad ones) and how this strengthens and legitimizes our discipline.

John Fries

Current position: Senior Research Advisor, Health Care Team, State Research, AARP

Started: October, 2007

Former Positions: Senior Project Director, Southeastern Institute of Research (1998-2002), Senior Project Director, Alan Newman Research (2002-2005), Group Research Director, Alan Newman Research (2005-2007)

Field(s) of Interest: Questionnaire Design, Mixed Mode and Web Methodologies

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held): Member of AAPOR Membership Committee (currently conducting analysis of AAPOR current & expired members)

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations): (none)

Degrees: BS, Sociology, Bridgewater College
MA, Sociology, University of Virginia

Other Information: I have been conducting public and consumer opinion research for over 15 years. I began at the Center for Survey Research (at University of Virginia) where I received my MA in Sociology and finished there ABD. Life pulled me to Richmond, VA where I joined a marketing research firm as a Senior Project Director. After about four years I moved to another research firm in Richmond, and eventually became Group Research Director overseeing one of the companies two research teams. Approximately 8 months ago I joined the State Research group at AARP as a member of their Health Care Team.

Throughout my career, my focus has been on leveraging the various modes, methods, and techniques of our industry to get clients actionable information in the most cost efficient manner possible. Or as I like to think about it, I'm basically always trying to figure out how to get clients quality data fast...AND cheap (despite the rule of thumb saying you can never have all three). Although I sort of tumbled in to this industry as a grad student looking for a better paying job, I can't imagine myself doing anything else. There is nothing better than seeing the information you collected leading a client to a good decision. I truly love what I do.

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR: In today's climate where so many are ready to challenge and/or dismiss the findings of public or consumer opinion research (including, sometimes, our own clients), it is increasingly important that we truly know the science (and art) of what we do. For me, having a group of professionals (such as those in AAPOR) to turn to and learn with makes what we do seem that much more doable. As I think the number of cell phone sessions and papers at our most recent conference demonstrates, when the industry is faced with a challenge, AAPOR (and by AAPOR I really mean it's members) are committed to defining it, understanding it, and developing practical solutions to meet this challenge, all the while preserving the integrity of what we do. This to me is the best part of belonging to AAPOR. Together, we're all better at what we do.

Danna Basson

Current position: Survey Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc

Started: January 2007

Former Positions: Survey Researcher, University of Wisconsin Survey Center

Field(s) of Interest: Public opinion research; attitude formation and change; respondent-interviewer interactions and their influence on survey participation and measurement; methods to measure and reduce sources of interviewer variance and bias in surveys

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held): Conference presentations at national AAPOR meetings and at MAPOR. Abstract reviewer for AAPOR conference. Presentation at DC-AAPOR "Politics and Polling". Co-chair of the DC-AAPOR Student Paper Competition.

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations): Member, American Political Science Association. Member, Midwest Political Science Association. Member, International Society for Political Psychology. Member, MAPOR (2005-2007) and DC-AAPOR (2007-present). Reviewer, Journal of Official Statistics.

Degrees:

PhD, Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison

MPP, Public Policy, Georgetown University

BA, International Relations, Stanford University

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR: Being able to work with applied professionals and academics who understand the importance of collecting high quality data to inform policymaking and to give voice to the public's beliefs, attitudes and desires.

Andy Zukerberg

Current position: Engagement Manager, The Gallup Organization

Started: January 2008

Former Positions: Branch Chief, U.S. Census Bureau
Product Planner, Microsoft Corporation

Field(s) of Interest: reducing non sampling error in surveys, incentives, qualitative research techniques.

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held):

Session Chair: AAPOR 2001, 2002 and 2006 Conference

Discussant: AAPOR 2008 conference

Reviewer, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 2005 & 2007

Presenter, numerous AAPOR conferences

Degrees:

BA, Sociology, Ithaca College (1993)

MS, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland (1996)

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR:

The opportunity to interact with and learn from colleagues.

Kathleen S. O'Connor (Kathy)

Current position: Survey Statistician, State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – Hyattsville, MD

Started: August 2002

Former Positions: I joined SLAITS in 2001 through an Association of Schools of Public Health research fellowship, and was hired into the Federal statistical system one year later. Before joining CDC I worked for 10 years in numerous research and survey-related positions (survey interviewer, researcher, data analyst, and project director for an array of health behavior and social science research and evaluation projects), and in some jobs which were not survey-related (health instructor; clinical microbiologist).

Field(s) of Interest: monetary incentive use; data quality; dual frame surveys; impact of man-made and natural disasters on survey methods, estimates, and decision-making; field test / pretest procedures, documentation, and subsequent methods revisions; question and questionnaire development; interviewer behavior; measurement, data collection, and data quality when surveying vulnerable or hard to reach populations; disability statistics; survey data dissemination to increase data use especially in multiple-stakeholder situations; indicator development; Federal data collection system, inter/intra-agency collaborations, and data collection clearance processes

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held): Coauthor on numerous oral and poster presentations at national AAPOR meetings since 2002

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations): Member, American Statistical Association (ASA) Survey Research Methods Section, Government Statistics Section, Social Statistics Section; member of ASA Joint Statistical Meeting 2009 planning committee, 2009 program chair for the ASA Social Statistics Section; chair of the planning committee, 2007 CDC & ATSDR Symposium on Statistical Methods; member of the planning committee and presenter, 2007 ASA-sponsored workshop on survey disruptions

Degrees:

BS, Microbiology, University of Maryland (1991)

MPH, Health Promotion - Disease Prevention, George Washington University (1996)

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR: AAPOR is a great organization because of its members, and it has been my pleasure to meet many interesting people along the way. Although we span many disciplines and numerous sectors, we share a core set of values and practices. Members follow ethical standards; pursue high quality collaborative scholarship to solve daunting challenges; explore the practical and theoretical balance between the 'art' and 'science' of survey methods; develop creative applications; and welcome new members and graduates. I am personally invigorated after I attend an AAPOR meeting, and return to work enriched.

Kathy Downey

Current position: Research Psychologist, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Survey Methods Research

Started: February 2004

Former Positions:

2002 – 2004... Senior Project Leader, Methods Development and Evaluation, Arbitron, Inc., Columbia, MD

1999 – 2001... Survey Researcher/Specialist, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., Washington, DC

1999 – 2000... Consultant, ProChange Behavior Systems, Inc., Kingston, RI

1997 – 1999... Project Manager/Director, ORC/Macro International Inc., Burlington, VT

1995 – 1998... Program Analyst, State of Vermont, Department of Personnel and Agency of Human Services

1995 – 1997... Adjunct Instructor, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

Field(s) of Interest:

Cognitive testing, establishment surveys, website usability testing, non-response analyses, form development

National & Local AAPOR activities (e.g., conference presentations, committees, offices held):

Edgar, J., and Downey, K., 2008. "Inter-rater Reliability for Coding Cognitive Interviews," AAPOR, New Orleans, May 2008.

Downey, K., and Edgar, J. 2008. "That didn't make any sense, but let's move on: Issues with scripted probes in cognitive interviewing," AAPOR, New Orleans, May 2008.

Downey, K. & O'Hare, B. (2004) "A Pre- and Post-Test Experiment Investigating the Effectiveness of Voice Training for Telephone Interviewers." AAPOR, Phoenix, May 2004.

Downey, K., & O'Hare, B. (2003) "Interviewer and Respondent Behavioral Sequences that Predict Consents versus HUDIs." AAPOR, Nashville, May 2003.

Related professional activities (e.g., membership/office in sister associations):

Member, American Association of Public Opinion Research

Co-chair, Interagency Group on Establishment Survey Non-response (IGEN)

Member, Interagency Response Error Group (IREG)

Degrees:

2000 Ph.D., Experimental Psychology, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

1995 M.A., Social Psychology, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

1991 B.S., Psychology, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Favorite thing about belonging to AAPOR:

It's the "go to" place to learn about survey research, especially my area of interest (cognitive testing). I've found my colleagues to be very helpful when I need solutions to a survey or testing problem. The DC-AAPOR branch is an active and tight-knit community. It has been great getting to know such bright and interesting people, professionally and personally. Also, having seen colleagues be Program Chair, I think it would be fun!