ICPSR Council Minutes
June 6-7, 2013

Attendees

Council Members: Rogelio Saenz (Chair), Christopher H. Achen, Marilyn Andrews, Tony N. Brown, G. Sayeed Choudhury, Paul N. Courant, Catherine A. Fitch, John Fox, Gregory N. Price, Barbara Schneider and Linda Waite

ICPSR Staff: JD Alford, George Alter, Rita Bantom, Shuming Bao, Bryan Beecher, Dieter Burrell, Linda Detterman, Peter Granda, Lynette Hoelter, Susan Jekielek, Jared Lyle, John Marcotte, Michelle Overholser, Amy Pienta, Darleen Poisson (guest Staff), David Thomas, Mary Vardigan, Lisa Wiltse (guest Staff) and Diane Winter

Visitor: York Sure-Vetter, President, GESIS

ICPSR Interns: Melinda Ashe (Case Western Reserve University), working with NAHDAP; Lorraine Blatt (Grinnell College), working with CCEERC; Denzel Caldwell (Morehouse College), working with General Archive; Elise Giammanco (Beloit College), working with NACJD; John Leverso (University of Illinois at Chicago), working with NACJD; Sruthi Naraharisetti (Michigan State University), working with RCMD; and Ryan Thompson (University of Akron), working with General Archive

Director’s Report

Minutes from the March 2013 Council meeting were reviewed, voted on and passed.

ICPSR Director George Alter welcomed everyone to the June 2013 Council meeting and introduced meeting visitors York Sure-Vetter, President of GESIS, and staff visitors Darleen Poisson and Lisa Wiltse, both from Grants and Contracts in ICPSR Administration.

Alter began his Director’s Report by noting that ICPSR membership currently stood at 735 with 44 members added and 5 dropped since the last meeting. The FY2013 membership revenues were forecast to be $3,649,000, of which 98 percent had been collected.

According to Google Analytics, from June 1, 2012 – May 1, 2013, there were 317,783 ICPSR website visitors from the U.S., 11,380 from Canada, 10,561 from China, and 6,994 from the UK. In terms of social media, there were over 1,139 followers on Twitter, 781 Facebook fans, 99 YouTube subscribers, and 1,400+ email subscribers.

Alter reported that the ICPSR Council Nominating Committee met on May 23 and came up with a short list of Council nominees for the term beginning in 2014. The Budget and Policy Committee will review the list of nominees, after which Alter will begin to contact them with the goal of having the slate in place by early fall in time for the OR Meeting.
For FY2014 ICPSR was projecting a total budget of $18.6M with a deficit of $639K. A large portion of that deficit ($494K) was being driven by the Indirect Cost Recovery budget. The FY2014 Membership budget was nearly balanced with revenue at $3.60 million and expenses at $3.63 million. The Council was to vote on the budget at the end of the meeting.

The FY2013 forecast was more positive than the budget presented last June to the Council. The original budget showed a $653K deficit, but the most recent forecast was for a $183K deficit. The Membership budget had improved by $165K.

Alter reviewed the proposals that had been funded since March 2013 and highlighted the following:

- Sharing Geo-referenced Research Data with a Virtual Data Enclave (Association of American Geographers; NSF Prime)
- National Archive of Criminal Justice Data – University of Michigan Archive Services (Department of Justice)
- Data Processing of American Psychological Association Data Sets (American Psychological Association)
- Sustaining Populations and Landscapes at Risk: Adaptation in the American Grasslands (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development)
- National Drug Abuse and HIV Data Program (National Institute of Drug Abuse)

Alter reported that the top five studies (measured in number of downloads) released in the previous six months (as of May 28, 2013) were:

- National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2011 (SAMHDA)
- National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS), 2001 (SAMHDA)
- New Family Structures Study (ICPSR)
- Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN), 2011 (SAMHDA)

Alter also reported that the 2013 Summer Program had 78 courses scheduled, with 21 four-week courses and 27 short workshops, and as of June 4, 1,142 participates had registered. Two new remote locations were added: Chapel Hill, NC, and Montreal, Quebec.

Alter also introduced the ICPSR Summer Interns. There were over 200 applications for the internship program this year. Seven interns were selected and they will work in the areas of Education and Child Care, National Addiction and HIV Data Archive Program, Resource Center for Minority Data, National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, and the General Archive. The Council was to have an opportunity to meet the interns at the Council-Intern Luncheon.

In the Membership and Marketing area, the webinar program had been very active, with at least one or two webinars a month, which were well attended. New issues of DataByte and the ICPSR Bulletin were recently been published. Work was also under way on the 2013 OR meeting. Registration opened on April 30, 2013. This year a one-day Data Seal of Approval conference
will be held the day before the OR meeting starts on October 8. The Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 9. The OR meeting is October 9-11, with a variety of workshops on Wednesday, the 9th.

Alter reported that ICPSR had been actively working on the Strategic Plan, and the most recent version was provided to Council. This draft had also been shared with the ICPSR staff through a series of meetings at the unit level, with the staff providing useful feedback. After Council approval, this draft was to be circulated to the ORs with a final draft available in July-August and full review by staff after that. Council will need to approve the final version by email vote in September so that the new Plan can be online for the OR Meeting.

With funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, George Alter, Mary Vardigan, Elizabeth Moss, and Russ Hathaway are working on a project titled “Building Community Engagement in Data Citation and Open Access to Data.” Through this grant, ICPSR recently ran a Challenge Grants competition on the related themes of improving data citation, data access, and research transparency. Out of 26 applications four were selected:

- **Thomas Carsey**, “Implementing a Data Citation Workflow within the State Politics and Policy Journal,” University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- **Lisa Neidert**, “OPEN Data Through a Restricted Data Portal,” University of Michigan

The grant also funds three meetings. The first, a meeting of editors of social science journals, was to be held on June 13-14, with a focus on how data are cited in journals and policies around replication of data. The second meeting will bring together representatives from a diverse set of domain repositories on June 24-25. The goals for this meeting are to encourage a conversation among repositories on data stewardship issues and to draft a set of recommendations for funding domain repositories that the group could bring to the attention of sponsors. The third meeting will involve funders themselves.

**Plenary Session**

Jared Lyle and Linda Detterman presented on the topic of “Advice to Federal Agencies on Open Data Policies,” ICPSR’s response to the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) memorandum dated 2/22/13 entitled “Increasing Access to the Results of Federally funded Scientific Research.”

Lyle began by presenting the details of the OSTP memo and noting that ICPSR does most of this already. The challenge is how do we communicate this to those that need to know what ICPSR can offer. ICPSR decided to approach this in two ways:
• Passive outreach – Make it easy for agencies to find ICPSR as they do their research (i.e.,
  enhance the website, ensure that Google searches send them to us)
• Active outreach – Contact relevant agencies to make them aware of who we are; conduct
  webinars as we did in response to the data management plan policy by NSF.

Other responses planned include:

• Emphasizing the value of preservation and curation
• Speaking to issues of confidentiality
• Showing off examples of successful archives already meeting the 10 access objectives
• Providing materials and resources – let agencies cut and paste from our resources
• Having materials to help staff speak to agencies

Lyle further explained that the next steps are:

• Coordinate a response to the memo; agencies need to have preliminary plans by August
• Revamp the Data Management website
• Develop outreach strategies
• Develop a timeline for implementation

Jared highlighted the elements of revamping the website, stating the driving forces will be to
make the content easier to use, make the concepts and ideas comprehensible, tailor the language
to be matched up with requirements, create and provide boilerplate language, and visually
enhance the website with much less text. Jared then walked the meeting participants through a
prototype of the new website.

Linda Detterman discussed outreach strategies, which are:

• Press releases, inventory of agencies that need to comply, and a list of contacts
• Educational webinars, and getting on the program at conferences/meetings
• Tools – create boilerplates
• Social media – publicize our attendance at meetings

Staff were eager to get input from Council on the strategies outlined, and planned to publish the
new website by the end of June. The webinar series would be launched shortly after the website
launch.
Budget and Policy Committee

Council: Rogelio Saenz (Chair), Marilyn Andrews, Tony N. Brown, Paul N. Courant, Gregory N. Price, Barbara Schneider
Staff: JD Alford, George Alter, Rita Bantom, Diane Winter

I. Financial and Administrative Issues

A. Financial Updates

a. FY2013 Year-End Financial Projection
Staff reported that the forecast for ICPSR’s organizational finances continued to look more favorable than the original budget. The current projection was that ICPSR would end the year with a deficit of $180K versus the budgeted deficit of $650K. Key drivers included increased Membership revenue coinciding with a decrease in expenses, a budgeted large deficit created by timing of sponsored revenue not materializing, and an improvement in the Summer Program’s fiscal year bottom line.

b. FY 2014 Proposed Budget
Staff presented the FY2014 budget proposal to the Budget and Policy committee. ICPSR’s budget anticipated the organization ending FY2014 with a deficit of $639K. Changes were made to the Membership budget that resulted in a nearly balanced budget. Staff spent some time discussing the indirect cost budget, which is where a bulk of the deficit resided. Highlights included a decrease in indirect cost revenue while expenses had increased due to the FLAME project and the I/O Split (ICPSR’s share of ISR central operating expenses). Staff also discussed the possible impacts of the Affordable Care Act (starting January 1, 2014), University Shared Services, and a future tax that the UM Provost Office may impose on ISR. The committee agreed that the additional tax from the Provost office was the most problematic as this might add $150K per year to ICPSR’s expenses. This expense was expected to start in FY 2015.

The committee finished the FY2014 budget discussion with a look at ICPSR’s fund balance. While reviewing at the various commitments against the fund balance, Council questioned which commitments were properly attributed to Membership versus indirect cost revenue. This resulted in two action items for the October meeting:

1. Create a committee to review the Membership Budget in relation to the overall budget
2. Report on guidelines for ICPSR reserves

The proposed FY2014 budget was recommended for approval by the committee and passed by the full Council during the committee report session.
B. Personnel Update

A display of ICPSR’s staffing profile along with new hires and open positions was presented to the committee. Staff pointed out that the display implemented the new census race codes (“Two or More Races”) and that all current openings at ICPSR were considered replacements and not additional FTEs. A brief discussion, continued from previous meetings, regarding the diversity of the labor market pool versus ICPSR hires took place.

C. Diversity Strategic Plan Update

The Diversity Strategic Plan update included in the Council binder was not discussed at length during the committee meeting.

II. Governance Issues

A. Strategic Plan Update

ICPSR leadership was continuing to receive constructive feedback from staff on the latest version of the Strategic Plan. Over the next few months, feedback from stakeholders was to be incorporated into the plan. Staff received Council approval to send the current draft to the ORs for comments.

B. Summer Program Leadership

It was reported to Council that Summer Program Director William Jacoby would be stepping down in October of this year. The Summer Program committee produced an action item that outlined the succession plan.

C. Council Nominations

Staff shared the list of Council nominees with the committee. The areas of focus included economics, education, geography, health, political science, and ORs. The committee approved the list and ICPSR would begin contacting the nominees.
**Collection Development Committee**

Council: Christopher H. Achen (Chair), G. Sayeed Choudhury, Chaterine A. Fitch, John Fox, Carl Lagoze, Linda J. Waite

Staff: Bryan Beecher, Linda Detterman, Peter Granda, Amy Pienta

Guests: Darleen Poisson, York Sure-Vetter

I. **Strategic Plan Update**

Staff updated the Committee on Strategic Plan activities regarding Direction I (Leadership) and Direction III (Broadened Collections).

ICPSR staff was planning to visit the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in July for a few days to discuss data archiving, preservation, and dissemination issues. Located in New Delhi, NCAER has done pioneering research work in areas of applied economics with an emphasis on policy analysis and application of modern quantitative techniques to development issues, regional development and planning, household income, consumption, savings/investment, and energy.

ICPSR was invited to serve as a founding member of the Advisory Board for DataFirst, a data service based at the University of Cape Town, and attended the first Board meeting, which took place on May 2-3. Staff provided information about ICPSR to other Board members and offered suggestions for the extension of services and the continued growth of DataFirst.

ICPSR received its first data deposit in connection with a new Agreement executed with the American Psychological Association (APA), which provides archiving services in conjunction with a new electronic journal, *Archives of Scientific Psychology*.

Finally, staff presented a poster at the recent IASSIST meeting about the possibility of creating a disciplinary repository of data objects associated with developing analytic and methodological tools for examining the ethical, legal, and social impacts (ELSI) of nano-science and emerging technologies.

The Committee approved ICPSR involvement in these initiatives.

II. **Report on the Child Care and Early Education Research Connections Archive (CCEERC)**

The new Director of this Archive, Susan Jekielek, provided an overview of the various projects that comprise this archive. These include not only Child Care and Early Education research but also the Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) project as well as the NCAA Student-Athlete Experiences Data Archive, the Prek-3rd Data Resource Center, and the Education Research Data Sharing Initiative sponsored by the American Educational Research Association (AERA). The
Archive conducted a sold-out workshop at the recent AERA annual meeting on working with MET data and also held a post-workshop session with members of the media. The NCAA is sending additional data for the Archive to process and disseminate on a restricted basis.

Jekielek mentioned that all of the projects comprising CCEERC were up for renewal this year, resulting in extensive work in coming months to prepare and submit proposals to continue funding beyond 2013. One of her major questions was about the diversity of these projects and how well they fit within the scope of CCEERC.

III. Data Hosting Service

Linda Detterman circulated a revised document on this topic, which was generated after extensive discussion with Council members in March and with ICPSR staff between March and the June Council meeting. The document included the following key points:

**Purpose**

Key to launching the technological and outreach development phase to data hosting is to identify: 1) How the product will be directed (to individuals or to institutions), and 2) how closely to affiliate the system (product) with ICPSR. Decisions on these options must be obtained for further development to proceed.

**Data Hosting Concept Options**

- **Product Option 1 – Individual-directed deposit.** This option is fully self-deposit directed (self-serve).

- **Product Option 2 – Individual-directed deposit with ICPSR-enhanced Metadata.** This option is part self and part professionally directed (self-serve initially with ‘lite’ professional curation by ICPSR).

- **Product Option 3 – Members-only Institutional Repository.** This option is open only to current members of ICPSR with the deposit system, thus open only to individuals at member institutions.

*Note that product options are not exclusionary. All three can be pursued for development (though not simultaneously due to development resource limitations).*

**ICPSR Data Hosting Branding Options**

There are two branding approaches ICPSR can use for its data hosting product – one that utilizes the credibility of the ICPSR brand as the backer of the product, and one that places some distance between ICPSR and the product.
Selection of the approach should take into consideration issues of the current operating environment including regulatory issues, costs of initiating a new brand, and ability of ICPSR to manage crisis.

- **Brand Option 1: Close to the ICPSR Brand.** This approach fully showcases ICPSR as the sponsor of the brand. The product name may likely contain ‘ICPSR’ in the name itself, such as OpenICPSR.

- **Brand Option 2: Distant to the ICPSR Brand.** This approach places distance between the self-deposit/open access product and ICPSR. ICPSR is presented as a sponsor of the product with some name akin to: DataShare – *powered by ICPSR*.

**Council Discussion**

Committee members recognized that ICPSR needs a presence in this space because of the increased national and international emphasis on open access to data. The discussion focused on brand protection, cost and legal issues, and restricted data. Council stressed the importance of making certain that any liability regarding possible confidentiality issues resides with the depositor, although it was equally important for ICPSR to have a good disaster recovery plan to account for possible problems in this area. There should be some automated or low-cost way of checking for direct identifiers with all incoming deposits ingested through the data hosting service. Questions raised:

- If we only keep non-curated data for five years, doesn’t such a policy violate the purpose of assigning DOIs to these collections?
- In a world of open access to data, how do you encourage long-term sustainability of these resources?
- Will ICPSR accept all types of data under this system or try to limit it to the general realm of social science data as described in the Collection Development Policy?

Committee members rejected Option 1 as providing the smallest benefit at the highest cost. They suggested that the current Publication-Related Archive (PRA) could continue to serve the goal of self-deposit for replication data. However, Council encouraged staff to keep this approach on the table for possible later development should circumstances warrant. Committee members recommended adoption of Option 2 (low-level curation) but only after the specific procedural and cost options were thoroughly vetted internally to make certain they did not include any curation services that are provided through the General and various Topical Archives at ICPSR. There was agreement about the importance of providing restricted data under this system in a manner that covers ICPSR costs for providing such access.

Finally, members of the Committee agreed with staff about the importance of soliciting feedback from our Official Representatives at the OR meeting in October, which would eventually lead to a formal legal document before the service is introduced.
IV. Replication Data Requirements and ICPSR Data

The Committee approved a proposal submitted by the staff to deal with replication datasets that are based on data processed from member dues:

Authors may comply with journal replication data requirements and the ICPSR Terms of Use in these ways.

a. Data citation and program code

ICPSR recommends complying with journal requirements by:

- Citing the data using the recommended citation including the digital object identifier (DOI)
- Archiving program code (e.g., scripts for statistics packages) for all of the steps from the original data to the results in the publication

Accumulating all of the steps to move from original data to results for publication in a single program or workflow is a best practice in research data management. Storing all the steps for data management and analysis in one place makes it easier to return to a project when a journal asks for revisions. Program code deposited in an institutional repository or ICPSR’s Publication Related Archive (PRA) is publicly available and may be cited in future publications.

b. Replication data, data citation, and program code

If a journal requires a replication dataset, the author should provide:

- A data file including only the variables and cases required to produce the published results
- A full citation to the original data
- Program code for creating the replication data from the original data
- Program code for creating the published results from the replication data

An authors may deposit a replication data file that is limited to the subset of variables and cases used in his or her publication in a repository linked to or cited by a journal. The complete data file obtained from ICPSR may not be re-distributed or deposited anywhere without explicit permission from ICPSR or the owner of the data. If the journal does not operate a data repository, authors should use an established repository at their institution, the DataVerse Network, or ICPSR’s Publication-Related Archive.
Member Services Committee

Council: Catherine A. Fitch (Chair), Marilyn Andrews, Tony N. Brown, Rogelio Saenz
Staff: Linda Detterman, David Thomas, Lynette Hoelter, Lisa Wiltse (Guest)

I. Strategic Plan Progress

Staff mentioned that the progress on the response to the OSTP memo was reviewed during the plenary.

II. Membership Activity and Utilization

Linda Detterman stated that a new member mailing was sent to 563 individuals across 204 institutions. The mailing included an introductory letter highlighting the varied resources available from ICPSR including data management tools and instructional resources. The targets of the mailing included people who have expressed interest in membership, non-member HBCUs or HACUs, and former members.

The early collection of membership payments for the fiscal year matched the average of early payments over the years. The total collected at the time of the meeting was approximately $225,000. There had been a net gain of 33 member institutions.

ICPSR Membership Outreach

It was suggested that ICPSR explore conference sponsorships. ICPSR has been a continuing IASSIST sponsor and has also sponsored a few other conferences.

Detterman reported that moving the organization’s videos to an ICPSR YouTube channel had been successful. SlideShare was now sending statistics on views and downloads so that ICPSR could measure and track usage of its slides. In addition, Detterman undertakes a yearly social media “facelift” that involves assessing the ICPSR presence on social media, utilizing new social media, and updating the current social media presence, when appropriate.

In terms of the ICPSR “Welcome Back” efforts, Detterman indicated that of the 12 institutions that were extended an invitation, 6 had taken ICPSR up on the offer. West Virginia University had been downloading and Morgan State and Xavier Universities have been very active in downloading content.

In preparation for the October 2013 Official Representatives (OR) meeting, Detterman stated that people had already started to register. She would send reminder to the ORs about registration.
III. Update on RCMD Activities

John Garcia’s term as RCMD director ends in late 2014, if not earlier. It was pointed out that supporting the next RCMD director may require additional funds from the ICPSR membership budget since some of Garcia’s funding currently comes from University of Michigan provost. Tony Brown suggested that ICPSR inquire of the provost what money is available to hire a new director similar in status and renown to John Garcia.

IV. Update on Instructional Resource Activities

Lynette Hoelter reviewed the instructional resources report found in the Council binder and noted that the ICPSR Paper Competition will add another category for students using data from the National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG).

Hoelter reported that the Instructional Resources staff made campus visits to Ball State and South Dakota State, and also attended the Southwestern Social Science Association (SSSA) conference in New Orleans. At South Dakota State, Hoelter gave seven presentations to faculty and staff over the course of two days. In addition, the IR staff presented at the IASSIST conference in Germany and at the Pacific Sociological Association meeting in Reno.

It was noted that a new tool -- the Crosstab Assignment Builder, which is different from the SDA crosstab utility -- was up and running. The Builder allows an instructor to create “canned” cross-tabulations, which can then be sent to students so that they can play with the data on their own. Hoelter was working on a resource for data harmonization with NAHDAP. Also, ICPSR would soon be hosting Carmine Scavo and Charles Pryby, authors of the SETUPS modules based on the National Election Studies, to work on the 2012 module with an intended launch in Fall 2013.

Preservation and Access

Council: Paul N. Courant (Acting Chair), Carl Lagoze, Linda J. Waite
Staff: Bryan Beecher, Jared Lyle, Darleen Poisson, Mary Vardigan
Visitor: York Sure-Vetter

I. Strategic Plan Update

The group discussed recent ICPSR accomplishments related to leadership in the areas of preservation and access:

- **Response to OSTP memo.** The full Council had a discussion of this topic the day before and noted that approaching agencies about ICPSR’s services requires a different model from the one used in approaching individual investigators with data management plan materials. Agencies may not have a full understanding of the requirements set forth in the memo, and reaching the right people in the agencies and providing the information they need to comply with the OSTP memo will be challenging.
Selection policies for agencies will be important as it will not be possible or useful to preserve all data generated. It was also pointed out that some disciplines in which sharing data is not the norm will need some time to make the needed shift in culture.

- **Collaborations with University of Michigan.** ICPSR has recently had more frequent interactions with others at the University of Michigan and is increasingly seen as a leader on campus in managing, preserving, and disseminating research data.

- **Work with the Research Data Alliance.** The Research Data Alliance (RDA) is an international effort to encourage data sharing and interoperability. ICPSR has representatives on several of the RDA working groups. Currently the RDA Certification Group is discussing a new collaboration between the Data Seal of Approval initiative, in which ICPSR is an active participant, and the World Data System, a similar certification effort that has emerged in the natural sciences.

- **New curation tools and services Web page.** ICPSR is often asked about our procedures and tools for data curation. To address this, the staff has developed a list of curation services that are non-proprietary and that can help others in managing and curating data.

- **Webinar with invited expert.** ICPSR recently hosted a webinar on data governance issues, presented by MacKenzie Smith, University Librarian at University of California, Davis. This paves the way for ICPSR to bring in more outside expertise to enhance our already very successful webinar series.

- **Collaboration with ImpactStory.** ICPSR is working with the developers of the altmetrics site ImpactStory to provide an API to ICPSR’s data utilization measures. Understanding how to measure the impact of research data is an important goal and ICPSR is eager to be part of these efforts.

## II. Update on Data Curation Course

ICPSR was to hold a course on “Curating and Managing Research Data for Reuse” on July 29-August 2, 2013 with course instructors Jacob Carlson (Purdue), Jared Lyle (ICPSR), Ron Nakao (Stanford), and Mary Vardigan (ICPSR). Enrollment was nearly at capacity (25) with participants coming from a range of institutions, large and small. Council pointed out that there is a growing need for such training. The School of Information has a data curation course as well, and it may be fruitful to collaborate.

## III. Summary of Recent UM Preservation and Access Events

Staff provided greater detail about recent UM events in which ICPSR participated. Four staff members were invited to speak at the UM Library about ICPSR’s “work in encouraging open access to data and closer links between publications and data, collaborative data curation, and improving data discovery and reuse.” ICPSR also helped to organize a UM Digital Preservation and Curation Meet-up at ICPSR. There were 25 participants from across campus, including the
Bentley Historical Library, UM Publishing, and campus museums. The group will meet quarterly going forward. ICPSR also attended a Michigan Digital Preservation Practitioners meeting at Wayne State University.

IV. Additional Discussions

The committee discussed the challenges in archiving and replicating “big data” from social media companies and online search engines. These data are often covered by non-disclosure agreements that prevent the data from being reused and archived, and it is often the case that one needs to have a contact person at the company to obtain data. Researchers are in the position of having to trust some of these companies to preserve their digital history.

This may be an area in which ICPSR could provide leadership. We could convene a meeting with representatives from some of these companies to outline the problems and discuss solutions. Our German colleagues are also interested in this issue and would like to collaborate.

The group also discussed a range of potential funding opportunities related to the impact of research data and to data science in general. In terms of finding support for such work, it was pointed out that there is a mechanism to write joint proposals to fund collaborative projects with support from the NSF in the US and its counterpart in Germany -- the German Research Foundation (DFG). This is a good partnership to pursue.

Summer Program Committee

Council: Gregory N. Price (Chair), Christopher H. Achen, John Fox, and Barbara Schneider
Staff: Dieter Burrell and John Garcia

Staff reported on various efforts to achieve the objectives listed in the ICPSR Strategic Plan, under Strategic Direction IV. The Summer Program continues to expand and innovate. The 2013 Program began on May 27 with a five-day workshop held at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec. This was one of two new remote locations for 2013, along with Fordham University, New York, NY. Early enrollment was near last year’s records numbers, and the staff felt that 2013 would be another very good year for enrollments. Staff reported that the Program’s instructional faculty continued to expand, both in size and diversity. In addition, the Program continued its activities to reach new constituencies, both by discipline and other diverse audiences. This was the second year of the Program’s five-year plan for promoting diversity within the Summer Program community. Finally, staff reported on ongoing Program challenges including the economic environment, the difficulties in paying University of Michigan faculty or staff to teach in the Program, and the efforts to reach new constituencies.

The Committee discussed several topics related to the Program’s curriculum. Staff informed the committee that issues of timing had forced the postponement of holding a health disparities workshop at Howard University in 2013; however, there were plans to hold such a course in 2014. Committee members discussed the content of the health disparities workshops and noted that these types of courses create the opportunity to provide cutting-edge methodological instruction, as well as to provide training to new audiences. The Committee also discussed the
topic of causal design in medical and epidemiological research, including applications to the analysis of large datasets. The Committee also returned to its earlier discussion of MOOCs and other online instructional venues. The Committee requested that the Program consider offering a MOOC or other online activity under the appropriate circumstance, and that this be done in the near future.

The Committee noted the upcoming January 2014 departure of Bill Jacoby from the position of Summer Program Director, and discussed the implications of this for the future leadership and direction of the Program. Committee members also discussed the transition period that the Program faces as a new director is recruited. The Committee then recommended to the full Council four points in regards to the transition to a new director: 1) that a situational review of the Summer Program be completed by October 2013; 2) that a national search for a new Summer Program Director be commenced as soon as possible after completion of the situational review; 3) that the Council have the opportunity to provide input on the job posting for the new director; and 4) that an Interim Director be appointed to lead the Program during the transition period.

In the report to the full Council, the Council asked to see a draft job announcement for the Summer Program Director position before the October meeting. The Council expressed a desire that the new Director be (1) visionary, (2) entrepreneurial, (3) an accomplished methodologist, and (4) an experienced fund-raiser.

Council also recommended that the parameters of the situational review include compensation of instructors, whether or not the faculty versus University of Michigan employee distinction is critical and remediable, conflict of interest guidelines, and class attendance data to inform resource planning and optimal class size/duration.

The Council also said they would like to see the Interim Director continue efforts of the Summer Program to develop and implement MOOCs for the curriculum offerings.

In addition, the Council requested that detailed expense/cost accounting data be provided in future Council meetings for evaluation purposes.
Action Items from the June 2013 Council Meeting

Budget and Policy

Create a committee to review the Membership Budget in relation to the overall budget. Report on guideline for reserves. FY2014 Budget approval (Approved)

Collection Development

Move ahead with Option 2 (low-level curation) on data hosting, but continue considering other levels of data hosting.

Membership Services

Membership dues: Graduated rate model (increase for Extensives only) of 5% increase for 2015 with no increase in 2016 (Approved)

Summer Program

The Council recommends that an Interim Director be appointed, and that the situational review be completed by October 2013, so as not to undermine the efficacy of planning for Summer 2014. Shortly after that, a national search for a new director should commence. The Council would like to see a draft job announcement before the October meeting. The Council expressed a desire that the new Director should be (1) visionary, (2) entrepreneurial, (3) an accomplished methodologist, and (4) an experienced fund-raiser (Approved)