

Service Statement for Brady T. West

Throughout my academic career, I have taken advantage of any and all opportunities to provide service to the fields of survey methodology and applied statistics. I have been active providing service to these fields at the local, national, and international levels, investing in worthwhile professional activities and projects that require volunteer time and effort outside of my standard research and teaching requirements. I view service to the field as a means of 1) providing intellectual outreach, 2) improving the work of colleagues and collaborators, and 3) improving the contributions of our fields to the larger information society in which we live today. My service to these fields has allowed me to meet and work with prominent scientists studying survey methodology and survey statistics, provide educational opportunities for working survey research professionals, diversify my leadership capabilities, communicate key research contributions to broad audiences both nationally and internationally, and provide evidence-based leadership to our professional associations.

With this service statement, I aim to summarize my service to the Survey Research Center (SRC), the University of Michigan (U-M), the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM), prominent academic journals, the federal statistical system, and the professional associations that guide our fields. I also summarize invited talks that I have provided at various professional conferences since my promotion in 2016 as an additional indication of my intellectual outreach efforts.

Service to the Survey Research Center. Since the time of my hiring as a faculty member in SRC in November 2011, I have truly enjoyed (and benefitted from) serving on a wide variety of committees and task forces, each of which have served to improve operations within the center. I initially began serving on four committees in 2013: 1) the ISR Director's Advisory Committee on Community and Diversity (DACCD), a diversity-focused committee of faculty, staff, and students at ISR that powers ISR's efforts to maintain a diverse and inclusive workforce, where I continue to serve as the secretary; 2) the ISR Summer Institute on Survey Research Techniques' planning committee, where I continue to serve today; 3) the SRC undergraduate summer internship selection committee, which I served on from 2013-2014 (when unfortunately the program was ended for budgetary reasons); and 4) the MPSM/JPSM Masters degree admissions committee, where I served as the chair of the committee from 2017-2019. In 2020, I transitioned to the MPSM/JPSM PhD admissions committee, where I currently serve as the chair and lead the selection of doctoral students for our PhD program.

From 2015-2016, I served on the SRC faculty diversity committee, which was focused on developing strategies for increasing diversity among SRC faculty. This committee work was a nice parallel to my work on DACCD and reflects my continuous focus on diversity in all of my professional activities. My efforts to improve diversity at SRC led to my being invited to serve on the ISR MLK Day planning committee in 2020. I also joined the Charles F. Cannell Fund in Survey Methodology committee in 2015, which provides funding to students studying the interviewer-respondent interaction. I continue to serve on this committee today, which allows me to review promising new research in this area and allocate funds that are earmarked in Dr. Cannell's name for advancing knowledge on topics that are closely aligned with my own research interests. Since 2016, I have served on the SRC Research Dissemination committee, which writes blog posts on the SRC website profiling new research published by SRC faculty.

To date, I've written 10 blog posts promoting new research at SRC, the links to which are all available in my CV. In 2020, I was also invited to serve on ISR's Katz Dissertation Fellowship Award Committee, which provides promising students in survey methodology and psychology with funds to support their dissertation work on a yearly basis. I continue to serve on this committee as well.

I have also recently taken on larger leadership positions within SRC, while continuing to maintain active roles on all of the aforementioned committees. Beginning in 2019, I became co-director of the SRC's Statistical Design Group (SDG) with James Wagner. The SDG provides free weekly research services and consultation to faculty and staff from ISR, in addition to faculty from external departments at U-M and researchers from other institutions. I also became the director of the Survey Methodology Program (SMP) within SRC in 2019, where my role is to coordinate the research efforts of faculty and students in SMP. I have also served on two faculty search committees for SMP, in 2016 (as a member) and 2019-2020 (as the chair). All of these service efforts led to my election to the SRC Senior Staff Advisory Committee (SSAC) in 2020. I have greatly enjoyed learning more about the complex operations of the center and working with other SSAC members to make high-impact decisions with the center's scientific health in mind. I will continue to serve on SSAC until the end of my term in 2022.

Service to the University of Michigan. I began my academic career at the University of Michigan working as a graduate student research assistant at what was at the time (2001) called the Center for Statistical Consultation and Research (CSCAR). As my career progressed, I eventually became a lead statistician at CSCAR before I returned to school for my PhD. I continued working at CSCAR while I was a doctoral student because I truly loved providing a high-quality statistical consulting service and teaching workshops on statistical methods for all three U-M campuses. When I was hired as a Research Assistant Professor at SRC in 2011, I continued to work 6-8 hours a week at CSCAR until 2018, when my workload as a Research Associate Professor no longer allowed me to spend that amount of time at CSCAR. This service fostered many collaborative relationships that have continued until this day. I brought this love of providing faculty, staff, and students on campus with advice on how to apply state-of-the-art statistical methods to their research to my current work as the director of the Scientific and Technical Core (STC) of the Population Dynamics and Health Program in the Population Studies Center at ISR. I have adapted the CSCAR model to STC's operations, leading a team of analysts that provides a similar free-of-charge statistical and methodological consulting service to PSC faculty and other PSC affiliates on campus.

I have also served the U-M campus as one of the faculty advisors of the Michigan Student Symposium on Interdisciplinary Statistical Sciences (MSSISS) since 2013. In this role, I advise the MSSISS student leadership committee, composed of graduate students from the program in survey methodology and the departments of statistics, biostatistics, electrical engineering and computer science, and industrial and operations engineering, on planning of this entirely student-run annual research symposium. Each year, this symposium allows students from these five departments to present their ongoing research to their peers and faculty from all over campus, and the student-run committee manages to invite very high-profile statisticians and data scientists from all over the country to serve as keynote speakers. MSSISS turns out to be an excellent and inspiring event each year, and I'm happy to continue playing a role in advising these students.

Finally, I have also served the campus as a faculty mentor for the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP). Through this program, I worked with three bright young undergraduate students who helped to advance my research on the quality of interviewer observations via careful coding of open-ended data and subsequent analysis of the coded data sets. These students were all acknowledged in my publications for the important roles that they played in making this research a reality.

Service to the Joint Program in Survey Methodology. Our degree-granting academic program within SRC, the program in survey methodology (MPSM), partners closely with a sister program at the University of Maryland-College Park: the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM). I have an adjunct faculty appointment at JPSM that allows me to teach JPSM classes, but the faculty from both campuses often work together on different committees. In addition to serving on the joint Masters and PhD admissions committees for MPSM and JPSM since 2013 as described above, I have taken on two important leadership roles on JPSM initiatives. First, I have chaired the JPSM Distinguished Lecture Committee since 2014, which each year selects a prominent survey methodologist or survey statistician to give an honorary public lecture that recognizes their many contributions to the field. We also select two high-profile discussants, which makes for an engaging and very popular event each year. This year, we are honored to have Xiao-Li Meng from Harvard University, who will be speaking about sources of bias when analyzing Big Data, along with Rod Little and Stephanie Eckman as discussants.

I have also served as the faculty director of JPSM's Junior Fellows Program since 2013. This program holds a special place in my heart: I was a junior fellow in 2000, and this is where I truly started to love survey methodology and the work that goes on in the federal statistical system. In this role, I lead the recruitment and selection of some of the brightest undergraduate students working in quantitative disciplines that the U.S. has to offer, and coordinate the activities of this influential summer internship program with the agencies and institutions that host the junior fellows. This program places these undergraduates at federal statistical agencies or research institutions in the Washington, D.C. area for a summer and provides the students with an introduction to the methodological work performed by survey methodologists and survey statisticians. Serving in this role has been a truly rewarding experience for me; I love to hear about the amazing experiences of the junior fellows each summer. The pandemic has prevented the program from happening in 2020 and 2021, but I will work hard to get the program going again when we are able to do so.

Service to Academic Journals. I have recently taken on larger leadership roles for two journals in particular. Since 2017, I have served as an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*. In this role, I have personally led the reviews of 34 submitted manuscripts, recruiting reviewers and providing my own detailed comments on each submitted manuscript. In 2020, I also joined the editorial board of the journal *Field Methods*. In this role, I provide the editors with suggestions for reviewers of submitted manuscripts, and also serve as a reviewer of multiple submitted manuscripts each year. In addition to these leadership roles, I have reviewed 39 manuscripts from a variety of journals in the fields of survey methodology, applied statistics, and public health since my promotion in 2016 (details are available in my CV, in the SERVICE section). I have twice been ranked as a top reviewer for the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* and I have been recognized as one of the

best referees of *Nature* by the *Nature* editorial staff. I will continue my long-standing commitment to improving the quality of peer-reviewed manuscripts in our fields for as long as I can.

Service to the Federal Statistical System and Federal Agencies. I have also been very active in providing service to the federal statistical system and other federal agencies. I have served on the Technical Advisory Committee of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS-TAC) since 2016, providing technical guidance to BLS on all of its survey operations. From 2017-2018, I served on a working group in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that focused on the design of the second national food acquisition and purchase survey (FoodAPS-2). In 2018, I was invited to serve on a Technical Review Panel for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), providing in-depth feedback and advice on the survey methodology underlying an NCES survey (the School Survey on Crime and Safety, or SSOCS).

I have also frequently served as a reviewer (by invitation) of federal proposals and technical reports. I have served multiple times as a reviewer of research proposals submitted to the Methodology, Measurement and Statistics (MMS) program of the National Science Foundation. In 2017, I was invited to review a report prepared for the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, and in 2019, I was invited to serve as a reviewer of a proposal submitted to the Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute. These invitations to review federal research proposals reflect the international reputation that I have developed as a knowledgeable expert in survey methodology. Finally, I am also currently serving on the Data Safety and Monitoring Board of an NIH R01 grant, working with a researcher from Grand Valley State University (Rebecca Davis) that I first met via my aforementioned service at CSCAR. This grant is supporting the experimental evaluation of an innovative intervention designed to improve wayfinding in elderly U.S. adults.

Service to Professional Associations. I have provided service to the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) throughout my career. I have served multiple terms on the short course subcommittee of the AAPOR Education committee since I first joined AAPOR in 2008. I'm currently the chair of this subcommittee for the 2021 (virtual) annual AAPOR conference, organizing eight different short courses for the second week in May. In 2016, I was elected to serve on AAPOR's Executive Council as (Associate) Education Chair from 2016-2018. In this role, I continued to grow AAPOR's educational programming and also introduced several diversity-related initiatives. I was a member of AAPOR's Seymour Sudman student paper award committee in 2014 and I was recently invited to serve on AAPOR's Mitofsky Innovators Award Committee (2020-2021). Earlier this year, I was once again elected to serve on AAPOR's Executive Council as (Associate) Conference Chair. I am truly excited about this opportunity to serve on the AAPOR Executive Council for the second time and put my stamp on two of AAPOR's annual conferences. Finally, I have served AAPOR as a reviewer of submitted conference abstracts on an annual basis since I joined the association, I have previously served as a judge at AAPOR poster competitions, and I have served as a moderator of AAPOR conference sessions on a near-yearly basis as well.

I have also served the American Statistical Association (ASA) for several years, dating back to my time as the Treasurer of the Ann Arbor chapter of ASA (from 2007-2010). Early in my career, I presented several workshops for the Ann Arbor chapter of ASA and served as a chapter liaison to ASA. I have also

frequently served as a session organizer (for both Invited sessions and Topic-Contributed sessions) or session chair at the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM); details can be found in the SERVICE and ADMINISTRATION sections of my CV. In 2019, I was elected as the incoming Program Chair of the Survey Research Methods Section (SRMS) of ASA, meaning that I would serve as Program Chair-Elect in 2020 and as Program Chair for the 2021 JSM. In 2020, the SRMS Program Chair stepped down unexpectedly, so I needed to step in and fulfill many duties that the Program Chair would normally be responsible for. This gave me valuable experience in organizing a large conference like JSM. I am currently finalizing the SRMS program for the (virtual) 2021 JSM in my role as Program Chair. Earlier this year, I was nominated to be the Chair of SRMS. The results of that election have not yet been made public.

Presentations at Professional Conferences. I conclude this service statement by asserting that effective oral and visual communication of important research contributions in a broad array of professional settings is an essential part of providing service to the field. I have continued to be extremely active disseminating my research in this way. Since my promotion in 2016, I have been invited to give 29 talks at a variety of local, national, and international venues, providing an indication of my excellent national and international reputation. In 2019, I was invited to give the keynote address at the 2019 International Conference and Workshops in Survey Methodology at Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, where I shared my body of research on interviewer effects and suggested directions for future work in this area. I have also recently been invited to present my research at Stockholm University, the University of Manchester, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) within USDA in Fall 2021. Details can be found in the INVITED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS section of my CV.

Of note, I have also twice been a part of contributed SPEED presentations at JSM that have won poster awards (in 2016 and 2018) and I helped one of my doctoral students (Felicitas Mittereder) to win a student paper award at the annual conference of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR) in 2017. Additional details related to my other professional presentations since 2016 can be found in my CV.