



MAPOR 2017 Election Slate of Candidates

Background:

For the 2017 election, we are very pleased to have a slate of three very talented candidates for both of our offices up for election (Associate Conference Chair and Vice-President/President-elect). Candidate names and short biographical paragraphs for each follow below.

The initial email to members asking for candidate name submissions also asked for names for an election of a new Associate Secretary-Treasurer. When Council reviewed our bylaws during our August retreat, we realized that both the Associate Secretary-Treasurer and Treasurer positions are specified as having two year terms. This means that the election for a new Associate Secretary-Treasurer will not take place until next year.

Candidates:

(Candidates are presented below by office and in alphabetical order. Bio paragraphs are presented as they were submitted by the candidates.)

Associate Conference Chair

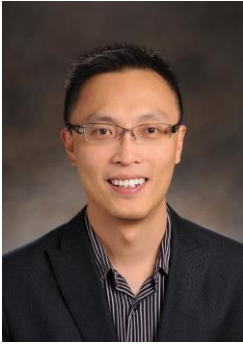
Dana Garbarski, Ph.D.



Dana Garbarski has been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Loyola University Chicago since August 2014. Her research interests comprise a mix of substantive and survey methodological questions related to social inequalities, health, the life course, and the production of survey data. She has published work on these topics in methodological, sociological, and public opinion research journals. Dana has been serving on MAPOR Council as a member-at-large since November 2015. In addition, she is a member of the MAPOR Conference Committee and is working on the 2017 MAPOR Annual Conference. Dana also chairs her department's committee on speakers and workshops, which develops and organizes workshops dedicated training undergraduate and graduate students for their careers as scholars and researchers. Dana would be honored to contribute MAPOR as Associate Conference Chair.



Y. Patrick Hsieh, Ph.D



Y. Patrick Hsieh is a survey methodologist and digital sociologist in the Survey Research Division at the RTI International. Patrick's research interests concern the implications of Information and communication technologies (ICTs) for social interaction and social relationship, as well as their implications for inequalities regarding social, psychological, and economic well-being. His methodological research focuses on how to incorporate new communication technologies such as mobile and social media into survey methodology to improve research design and data quality. Patrick's dissertation has won the best student paper award of MAPOR in 2013 and he has been attending MAPOR since then. He is currently coordinating the webinar series for MAPOR.

Patrick earned his Ph.D. in media, technology, and society at Northwestern University's School of Communication. He also received a MA in sociology from University of Illinois at Chicago and another MA in social informatics from Yuan-Ze University in Taiwan.

Sara Walsh, MA



Sara Walsh, MA. Sara is a Research Director at NORC at the University of Chicago with experience in in-person, web, phone, and large field data collection with an especial focus in biomeasure data collection. Sara volunteers on the AAPOR Membership and Chapter Relations committee and looks forward to the opportunity to serve her local MAPOR chapter and continuing to provide high quality conference programming as Associate Conference Chair.



Vice-President/President-Elect

Ipek Bilgen, Ph.D.



Ipek Bilgen, PhD, is a Senior Research Methodologist at NORC at the University of Chicago. She has received both her Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from the Survey Research and Methodology Program (SRAM) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her bachelor's degree from the Statistics Department in Hacettepe University, Turkey. Ipek has been a member of MAPOR since 2005 and has attended annual conferences almost every year since then as she enjoys the friendly community of MAPOR.

Ipek is currently serving as MAPOR's Conference Chair. She has served as MAPOR's Secretary Treasurer and has been a member of MAPOR's Executive Council since 2014. She has been regularly presenting at annual AAPOR conferences since 2006. She is currently a member of AAPOR's Standards Committee and served in AAPOR's membership and chapter relations committee.

To date at NORC, she has managed numerous multi-mode projects which called for her expertise to contribute to decisions regarding web, computer-assisted telephone, and mail contact and implementation strategies, effective interviewing techniques, and considerations of total survey error. Ipek has been involved in research related to communication and cognition in surveys, web, mail, and phone survey implementation and design, interviewer effect on data quality, measurement, non-response, and coverage errors in multi-mode surveys, as well as use of innovative technologies in survey data collection. Her current research includes investigation of panel non-response follow-up, internet sampling and recruitment approaches, and questionnaire design and survey implementation issues. Ipek has published and co-authored articles in *Journal of Official Statistics*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Survey Practice*, *Social Currents*, *Social Science Computer Review*, *Field Methods*, and *Quality and Quantity* on issues related to interviewing methodology, web surveys, cognition and communication, and measurement error in surveys.



Josh Pasek, Ph.D.



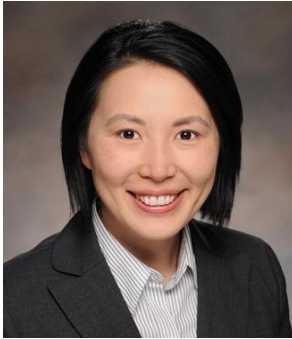
Josh Pasek is Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, Faculty Associate in the Center for Political Studies, and Core Faculty in the Michigan Institute for Data Science at the University of Michigan. He has been a proud member of MAPOR since 2012 and of AAPOR since 2008. Josh Received his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 2011 and has been a regular at MAPOR since moving to Michigan. Josh has also been active in both MAPOR and AAPOR. He has served as a member of the MAPOR council since 2015 and has served on two AAPOR task forces.

Josh's research explores how new media and psychological processes each shape political attitudes, public opinion, and political behaviors. Josh also examines issues in the measurement of public opinion including techniques for reducing measurement error and improving population inferences. Current research explores how both accurate and inaccurate political information might influence public opinion and voter decision-making, evaluates whether the use of online social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter might be changing the political information environment, and assesses the conditions under which nonprobability samples, such as those obtained from big data methods or samples of Internet volunteers can lead to conclusions similar to those of traditional probability samples. His work has been published numerous times in *Public Opinion Quarterly* and has also appeared in *Political Communication*, *Communication Research*, and the *Journal of Communication* among other outlets. He also maintains two R packages for producing survey weights (*anesrake*) and analyzing weighted survey data (*weights*).

In line with the changing nature of public opinion research and the communication environment, Josh's priorities for MAPOR include (1) expanding the set of outlets we use to communicate with our members, (2) increasing the number and diversity of disciplines and organizations that appear at our conference, (3) finding ways to increase our professionalization (whether in conjunction with AAPOR or otherwise), and (4) broadening our footprint beyond Chicago to the greater region. He looks forward to continuing to serve this great organization.



Mandy Sha, MA



Mandy Sha has served on the MAPOR Executive Council since 2013 and participated in the first MAPOR strategic plan development in 2014 that set the stage for MAPOR's growth. An active member for more than a decade, Mandy has always been a proud MAPOR brand ambassador. She recently helped to raise MAPOR's visibility online and at the annual AAPOR conferences by highlighting MAPOR member contributions through digital and onsite communications. When she saw a need to provide more opportunities to early-career researchers, she spearheaded an affinity group who collaborates to publish. This past summer, this group contributed to a *Survey Practice* special issue dedicated to cross-cultural and multilingual research that featured several articles from MAPOR members. The special issue was edited by Mandy.

At RTI International, Mandy is senior survey methodologist who leads large-scale research studies that focus on language, technology, and hard-to-reach populations to improve survey coverage and data quality. She regularly gives in-person and Web seminars to enhance the understanding of underrepresented populations and issues that affect public opinion, most recently at the World Bank and the Academia Sinica. For MAPOR, she was the lead instructor of a 2016 Webinar which introduced quality concepts related to qualitative, multilingual questionnaire pretesting to MAPOR members. This Webinar also attracted non-members to MAPOR and championed the Transparency Initiative (TI), which Mandy supports and practices because she values openness in research methods and as a leader. If elected VP, Mandy's priority will be engaging new and veteran members and organizational transparency.

Mandy ❤️ MAPOR!!!