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- ✓ MAPOR's 2018 conference is accepting abstracts through June 30th!
- ✓ Students are encouraged to enter the MAPOR student paper competition.
- ✓ MAPOR was well represented at the recent AAPOR conference in Denver.
- ✓ In Memoriam: MAPOR Fellow and Past President Doris A. Graber

Editor: Mandy Sha, MAPOR Communications Chair

A Mid-Year Update from the President

By Ron Langley, President



Greetings MAPOR! I hope your summer is starting well and you've recovered from last month's AAPOR Conference in Denver. It was great to see many of you there! As usual MAPOR had a large presence at the conference through presentations and service on AAPOR Council, committees, and task forces. The Wednesday night New Member & Chapter Welcome Mixer and Chef Tasting Party was well attended and it was great to renew old friendships at the MAPOR table. Thanks for stopping by! MAPOR sponsored the photo booth at AAPOR's fun Thursday night reception at the Viewhouse. We also had members live tweeting about sessions and events of interest and posting photos on Facebook. If you missed the conference, you can see photos on page 2 and the role many MAPOR members played in making the conference a success in our [MAPOR@AAPOR guide](#). *Continued on Page 2.*

MAPOR 2018 – Embracing a Diverse Future in Public Opinion Research

By Ned English, Conference Chair



MAPOR council is excited to announce that the 2018 MAPOR Annual Conference [abstract submission website](#) is now open! The 43rd Annual MAPOR Conference will take place on November 16-17, 2018 at the Embassy Suites Downtown Chicago (600 N. State Street) as we have for the past few years. For more information, such as the link to the abstract submission website and instructions, please see the "Call for Participation" and "Student Paper Competition Announcements" starting on page 4. Please note that abstract submissions will close after June 30th and so please don't hesitate to submit yours at www.mapor.org. We especially encourage students to enter the competition for the *Doris A. Graber Award for Best Public Opinion Paper* or the *Allan McCutcheon Award for Best Methodology Paper*, respectively.

This year's annual MAPOR Conference theme is ***Embracing a Diverse Future in Public Opinion Research***, considering "diversity" in the broadest sense. We welcome all submissions related to public opinion, survey methodology, as well as communications and media. The spirit of our theme is that as our field evolves and changes, we need multiple viewpoints and experiences to best adapt and thrive. Relatedly, while we are centered geographically in Chicago we always encourage submissions and participation from throughout the United States and internationally. In fact, we have many regular attendees from all over the United States and the world. So, we encourage submissions from all geographic regions, Midwestern and otherwise. *Continued on Page 3.*

President's Column, con't

Aside from the conference, MAPOR Council has also been busy working for you. In February we held the first of two webinars we will host in 2018 – “Two approaches to validate survey-design-decisions with ground truth” was presented by **Masahiko Aida** from Civis Analytics. If you missed it, you can still purchase a recording! Just contact our Webinar Coordinator, **Patrick Hsieh**, at yph@rti.org. Patrick also is working on another webinar we plan on hosting in the fall. More to come about that later. Since our last newsletter our Webmaster, **Josh Pasek**, has migrated and refreshed our website: www.mapor.org. If you haven't visited it recently, please do and let us know what you think about it! In keeping with our goal of improving and modernizing our communications, we also are in the process of refreshing the MAPOR logo. Council will narrow the field of choices down and submit the finalists to you for a vote later this summer. Also coming this summer, in a couple of weeks you will receive an email requesting a vote on revising MAPOR's [bylaws](#). We will send the proposed revisions and justification for them in a call for a special e-meeting to vote later this month.

In addition, our conference committee, led by Conference Chair, **Ned English**, and Associate Conference Chair, **Dana Garbarski**, has been hard at work planning for MAPOR's 43 Annual Conference “Embracing a Diverse Future in Public Opinion Research” (November 16-17, 2018). They have recruited an outstanding group of speakers. Ned will have more information about the conference in his column, but please note that abstract submission has opened as well as the invitation to compete in the student paper competition. You can do both of these things, as well as reserve a room at the Embassy Suites, by going to the [Conference page](#) on our website.

Finally, in February we lost one of our long-time members, MAPOR Fellow and Past President **Doris A. Graber**. You can read our tribute to her on pages 6-8.

I, and the rest of council, will continue to work for you throughout the summer. If you have any ideas, feedback, or suggestions for how we can better serve you, please do not hesitate to contact me at president@mapor.org.

MAPOR@AAPOR in Denver 2018

MAPOR member **Mengyao Hu** won the AAPOR Seymour Sudman Student Paper Competition Award for “Improving the Anchoring Vignette Methodology with Visual Vignettes”.



(l to r) MAPOR VP/President-Elect **Ipek Bilgen**, Past President **Kristen Olsen**, President **Ron Langley**, and MAPOR Conference Chair **Ned English**.



The 2018-2019 AAPOR Executive Council includes 6 MAPORites: Vice President **Nora Cate Schaeffer** (MAPOR Fellow), Past President **Tim Johnson** (MAPOR Fellow and Past President), Standards Chair **Stephanie Eckman**, Associate Education Chair **Allyson Holbrook** (MAPOR Past President), Associate Conference Chair **Mandy Sha**, and Associate Standards Chair **René Bautista**.

Conference Chair's Column, con't

As announced in our [Winter Newsletter](#), we are excited about our featured speakers at MAPOR 2018. **Jennifer Agiesta**, Director of Polling at CNN, is our keynote speaker. Jennifer will be discussing current issues in polls and polling, which will be especially salient immediately after the mid-term elections. **Stephanie Eckman**, Fellow at RTI International, will be teaching our short course in the collection and use of location information in surveys. As geographic data become both more ubiquitous and related to our work such a course is highly relevant and timely. Finally, **Colm O'Muircheartaigh**, Professor at the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago and Senior Fellow at NORC at the University of Chicago, will be giving our pedagogy hour. Our featured speakers were chosen for their varied experiences and expertise, to accompany our theme.



Jennifer Agiesta
Keynote Speaker



Stephanie Eckman
Short Course Instructor



Colm O'Muircheartaigh
Pedagogy Hour Speaker

We are also happy to be back at the [Embassy Suites Downtown Chicago](#), as feedback from the member survey and otherwise has indicated it to be more than satisfactory for most attendees. That said, we will be working with the hotel to make changes and improvements based on feedback from the 2017 Business Meeting, reported on our Member Survey, and communicated otherwise. I and our Conference Committee have been reviewing the results of the 2017 Member Survey and considering other changes to fine-tune specific items including logistics, session content, and special sessions such as the "Coding Hour". For example, one change based on the survey will be the introduction of room matching for attendees who would like to share the cost of a room at the Embassy Suites with another researcher. We are pleased to announce that hotel reservations in the MAPOR block are now open, which you can make at the [Conference page](#). Please book in our block to obtain the best rates and to help MAPOR meet our room block obligation if you can.

In summary, our conference planning committee is hard at work on our 2018 conference. We will be providing regular updates about the conference plans via our newsletters and on [mapor.org](#) as we get closer to November. If you have any suggestions or feedback please do not hesitate to email me at english-ned@norc.org.

Call for Participation

**43rd Annual Conference of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research
November 16-17, 2018**

Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown, 600 N. State Street

The Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research's 43rd annual conference welcomes paper, poster, and panel proposals exploring innovations in public opinion research. Abstracts on any topic related to public opinion research, communication, or methodology are welcome. We are particularly interested in papers that relate to our conference theme:

“Embracing a Diverse Future in Public Opinion Research”

This year, our conference theme considers diversity in the broadest sense, including but not limited to gender, gender identity, race/ethnicity, age, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, disability status, religion, and national origin. We encourage abstract submissions on all facets of research related to public opinion, communication, surveys, and their methodologies. Topics may include but are not limited to: questionnaire design, interviewers and interviewing, election data, exit and political polling, “big data” and data science, location or geographic information, challenges facing the field due to technological and societal shifts, media effects on public opinion, the ethical use of social media data, public opinion on social, economic, and political issues, data collection issues and strategies, qualitative research techniques, cross-cultural research, hard-to-reach populations, total survey error, and data-quality issues

Submissions: Abstracts of 300 words or less can be submitted at www.mapor.org. In addition to a title and abstract, you will be asked to provide the name, institutional affiliation, and email address for all authors. References are not required, and exemplar abstracts are featured in the abstract submission site. The same author's name may appear as first author on a maximum of two submissions. To allow for blind review, please remove all personally identifying information from the abstract's text before submission.

Note to student authors: If all authors are students who will be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at the time of the conference, you may submit your paper to the MAPOR Fellows Student Paper Competition (go to page 5 to see additional information on the 2018 MAPOR Fellows Student Paper Competition). When submitting a student paper to the competition, the student submitter will be asked to provide the name and e-mail address of a faculty mentor. The faculty mentor will be asked to send an email of 25 words or less endorsing the paper when the full paper is submitted.

Panel Proposals: Panels focus on a common theme and include 4 or 5 participants. A panel proposal requires a description of 300 words or less discussing the issues to be addressed and their importance. Also, submissions should list the potential panelists, their institutional affiliations, email addresses, and tentative titles of presentations. Panels related to the conference theme are especially encouraged.

Submission Information: All abstracts must be posted no later than **11:59pm CDT on Saturday, June 30, 2018**. Accepted papers sharing a theme will be scheduled during a paper session. Papers with more individualized topics will be scheduled during a poster session. MAPOR considers both types of presentation equally valuable. All submitters will be notified via e-mail by August 15 of their abstract's acceptance status. For questions or problems with the submission process, please contact the 2018 MAPOR conference chair, Ned English at: abstracts@mapor.org.

2018 MAPOR Student Paper Competition

43rd Annual Conference of the
Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research
November 16-17, 2018

Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown, 600 N. State Street

The Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research invites eligible students to enter the association's MAPOR Fellows Student Paper Competition. Two winning papers, the Doris A. Graber Award in public opinion and the Allan McCutcheon Award in survey research methodology, will receive \$200, one free conference registration and one free ticket to the Friday MAPOR luncheon. The winning papers also will be accepted for presentation during a session at the May 2019 AAPOR conference in Toronto, Canada.

Eligibility

For the purposes of this competition, a student is someone enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program at the time of the conference. A paper authored by more than one person is considered a student paper only if all authors are students according to the above definition. Students need not be members of MAPOR.

The topic of the paper must fall under one or both of MAPOR's general areas of scholarship, which are (1) public opinion and (2) research methods in public opinion research. When submitting, the author(s) must indicate the topic for which the paper should be considered. The papers need not be quantitative nor must they report data in order to qualify for consideration in this competition. Each student can submit only one paper to the competition.

Procedure

1. Submit an abstract to the MAPOR conference at www.mapor.org. In addition to a title and abstract, you will be asked to provide the name, institutional affiliation, and email address for all authors. References are not required, and exemplar abstracts are featured in the abstract submission site. Abstracts can be submitted until **11:59pm CDT on Saturday, June 30, 2018**. Students must provide the name and e-mail address of a faculty mentor when submitting their abstract.
2. Students whose papers have been accepted for the 2018 conference can have their papers considered for MAPOR's Fellows Student Paper Competition. Full papers must be sent in Word format to John Stevenson (stenenso@ssc.wisc.edu) by **11:59pm CDT, September 15, 2018**. All papers are capped at 6,500 words (minus title page, abstract, tables, references, and appendices) and must include all information described on under the AAPOR Code of Ethics (see more information below). All papers must be fully blinded, and the email accompanying the submission must include: (1) the names and email addresses of all authors; (2) the USPS address, phone number, and email address of the contact author; and (3) the name and email address of the faculty sponsor for the paper. Faculty sponsors are required to send a brief endorsement (25 words or fewer) directly to John Stevenson by the deadline.

A committee composed of MAPOR Fellows will judge all papers submitted to the competition. Winners will be announced at the Friday Awards Session. All submissions must abide by the [AAPOR Code of Ethics](#): Manuscripts that make use of survey data must include, at minimum, the information below from Section III-A of the Code. In addition, authors need to agree to make other specific information about the study available within 30 days of any request for such materials. This information is also listed in Section III-A of the Code (the complete URL is: <https://www.aapor.org/Standards-Ethics/AAPOR-Code-of-Ethics.aspx>).

In Memoriam: Dr. Doris A. Graber

MAPOR Fellow and Past President **Dr. Doris A. Graber** passed away at her Evanston home on February 17, 2018. MAPORites remember Dr. Graber for her significant contributions to MAPOR for more than forty years. She embodied MAPOR's research excellence, leadership, and student-friendly values through her scholarship as a prolific political scientist, her leadership during MAPOR's early years as President (1980-81), and as a role model to all members, including students. In 2015, MAPOR honored Dr. Graber by naming the MAPOR student paper competition for best public opinion paper the *Doris A. Graber Award for Best Public Opinion Student Paper*.



Dr. Graber and family at MAPOR's 2015 conference

The award recipients, **Natalee Kate Seely**, **Ozan Kuru**, and **Yangsun Hong**, reflected on what Dr. Graber's legacy meant to them, as follows:

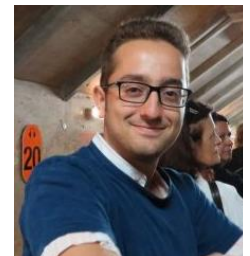
Natalee Kate Seely (Ph.D. in Mass Communication, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) was the award recipient of the inaugural *Doris A. Graber Award for Best Public Opinion Student Paper* in 2015. Her winning paper was titled "Virtual vitriol: A comparative analysis of incivility in discussion of forums of online mainstream news outlets and political blogs".



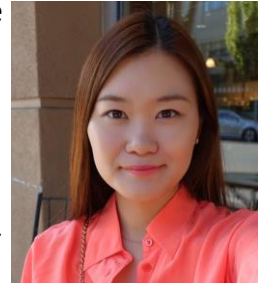
Doris Graber's contributions to the field of public opinion and political science are indisputable, but on a personal note, her work was inspirational to me as a graduate student. To win MAPOR's 2015 student paper award named after her was truly an honor. She was a pioneer, especially for women in the political and social science field, like myself. My passion for research on media and public opinion as a graduate student helped me land my current position as an assistant professor of Journalism at Ball State University. Doris Graber was a role model and an inspiration to me.

Ozan Kuru (Ph.D. in Communications, University of Michigan) was the 2016 awardee for "De-monopolization of polls: What do ordinary citizens make of different quantifications?".

The late Professor Graber asked important research questions and conducted innovative studies in our field that paved the way for future scholars. As an international doctoral student from Turkey, I felt very lucky to be a MAPOR student member and was greatly honored to win the Doris A. Graber Award for Best Public Opinion Student Paper in 2016. The award recognition and MAPOR Fellow reviewer feedback encouraged me a lot to be a hardworking scholar and I went on to win AAPOR's Seymour Sudman Student Paper Award in 2017 and will be Howard Deshong Postdoctoral Fellow at University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center. For me, the MAPOR award established in Professor Graber's honor represents the strength of our scholarly community and her lasting contributions to our studies.



Yangsun Hong (Ph.D. in Mass Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison) was the 2017 awardee for “Social media use, exposure to disagreement, and offline expressive participation: The moderating role of self-censorship”.



I emulate the late Professor Graber for being a prolific scholar and a woman pioneer in the field of public opinion and political science. I study women and political communication, and find my intellectual curiosity stimulated by Professor Graber’s passion and contribution. Her scholarly life will continue to be a model for my own academic career as I start my position as assistant professor at the University of New Mexico this August. It was a tremendous honor to be recognized in 2017 for the Best Public Opinion Student Paper Award named after Professor Graber, and I believe her work will continue to inspire future MAPOR students!

MAPOR Fellow and Past President **Paul J. Lavrakas** spoke on behalf of MAPOR at Dr. Graber’s memorial service at the University of Illinois at Chicago on April 23, 2018. The full text of his remarks is included below.

MAPOR Memorial for Dr. Doris Graber

I am **Paul Lavrakas** and am here today on behalf of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR) to honor **Professor Doris Graber**. I am a Past President of MAPOR and a MAPOR Fellow. MAPOR, as we call it, is a professional organization of public opinion research scholars and practitioners who are in some way linked to the “Midwest.” It has more than 300 members (www.mapor.org) in 2018. It is a regional chapter of the AAPOR (the American Association for Public Opinion Research), which is the world’s oldest and most prestigious professional association devoted to public opinion research. MAPOR holds an annual two-day conference in Chicago each November. The organization was founded in 1975 by a small number of public opinion professionals, including Professor Graber. It is a sincere privilege to be here today to help honor Doris.

In addition to being an original founder of MAPOR, Professor Graber served as the Program Chair of the 1978 and 1979 annual conferences, and as MAPOR’s fourth president in 1980-1981. She was the first MAPOR Fellow and that honor was bestowed on her in 1988. In 2015, the MAPOR annual student paper competition for topical research in public opinion was named after her. Over her several decades of participation in and service to MAPOR, including myriad presentations at the annual MAPOR conferences, Doris influenced hundreds of faculty, students and other researchers, through her own research - both via its substance and the methods she used - and the manner by which she discussed it with other MAPOR conference attendees. And many of those she influenced have gone on to be very prominent scholars in their own right.

For example, one of the cofounders of MAPOR, **Professor George Bishop** of the University of Cincinnati, a past MAPOR President and MAPOR Fellow, recalls:

[Doris’] regular participation in those early years most certainly gave our "start-up" chapter of AAPOR a vigorous shot of scholarly energy and credibility, attracting many other established and young researchers in political communication in the years that followed. She was indeed a powerful and prolific seed.

And on a personal note, George notes that *“I still remember fondly the sincere interest and encouragement [that Doris] gave to me and my research at that very early stage of my career. She had a kindheartedness and warmth that touched me all the years I knew her.”*

Professor Emeritus David Weaver of Indiana University, a former MAPOR president and a MAPOR Fellow, recalls that he first met Doris in 1975 at the International Communications Association conference which led to Doris, Max McCombs, and David planning their 1981 book, *Media Agenda Setting in a Presidential Election*. David notes:

I remember how privileged I felt to be included in a major study with such a prominent scholar as Doris, and how much I learned from working with her.” David went on to note that “Although small in stature, [Doris] was a giant in political communication and political psychology. I and many others miss her positive attitude and insightful thoughts about media and politics, and her cheerful smile and warm friendship.

Doris’ influence continues via MAPOR to this day in so many ways, including on graduate students at many universities. The 2017 winner of MAPOR’s Doris A. Graber Award for Best Public Opinion Student Paper, **Dr. Yangsun Hong**, soon to be an assistant professor, recently wrote that *“I emulate the late Professor Graber for being a prolific scholar and a woman pioneer in the field of public opinion and political science. I study women and political communication, and find my intellectual curiosity was stimulated by Professor Graber’s passion and contributions. Her scholarly life will continue to be a model for my own academic career.”* And, the 2015 Graber Award winner, **Dr. Natalee Seely**, now an assistant professor, recalls that Dr. Graber *“was a pioneer, especially for women in the political and social science field, like myself. My passion for research on media and public opinion as a graduate student helped me land my current position. Doris Graber was a role model and an inspiration to me.”* And the 2016 Graber award winner, **Dr. Ozan Kuru**, writes that the *“MAPOR award established in Professor Graber’s honor represents the strength of our scholarly community and her lasting contributions to our studies.”*

Another MAPOR Fellow and Past President, **Dr. Leo Jeffries** of Cleveland State University, notes:

Doris was generous in critiquing the work of other scholars -- providing criticism that was kind but helpful. Long after retirement, she participated in MAPOR sessions and interacted with students and faculty alike. I've always admired her for doing her life's work for so long, because she cared about her discipline and our civic life, not for academic rewards or goals.

And **Dr. Rick Perloff**, also of Cleveland State and MAPOR Fellow and Past President, observes:

Doris was able to combine very sophisticated research approaches with respect for voters, news consumers, and everybody. She was open-minded, innovative, undeterred by age in her ability to write books, ever-flexible in adapting her ideas. She did so much for the field, was such an irreplaceable presence at MAPOR with her capacious mind, that we miss her, yet celebrate and appreciate her contributions, her productivity, and her unflagging love of MAPOR and public opinion research...

So, I close by saying, ***“Dear Doris, MAPOR thanks you so very much for all you did for us,... for what you were,... and what you continue to be.”***

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MAPOR acknowledges and thanks the following organizations for sponsoring MAPOR this year.

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Support from organizations like yours help keep costs down for young researchers, and helps keep MAPOR conference attendance high. In return, your sponsorship increases the visibility of your organization, both to future customers and to future hires of survey professionals. **CLICK [HERE](#) TO DONATE ONLINE!**

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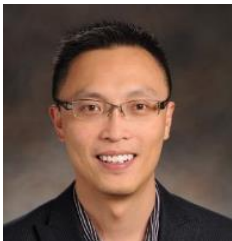
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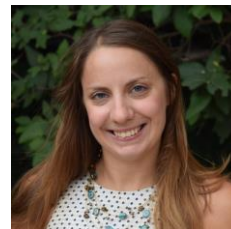
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