

MAPOR NEWS

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Key Highlights: MAPOR Member Survey

- 46% RR (Open March-April 2021)
- Overall satisfaction with the 2020 conference was very high

Key Highlights: MAPOR 2021 Conference

- The 46th Annual Conference will be held in-person this year
- Theme: “Reconnecting and Reevaluating: Assessing the Foundations and Future of Public Opinion Research”
- Abstracts are due July 2nd!
- * Applications for Grants (both students and college support) are due September 30th: <http://www.mapor.org/2021-support-grants/>

Join us in Chicago this November!

The 46th Annual MAPOR Conference will be back at the Embassy Suites this year—and we can't wait to see you there. We're planning on including some virtual elements, and we're keeping a close eye on local guidelines, we'll be gauging member needs, and options for which component(s) we may be able to offer virtually (for example, asynchronous presentations, posting some session recordings).



A Message from the President:

By: Dana Garbarski, MAPOR President, Loyola University Chicago

Happy June 2021! As your MAPOR president I am pleased to be able to discuss some upcoming MAPOR events and initiatives.

We held our first of two webinars on April 30. Andrew Stavisky at the US Government Accountability Office and Issac Rogers at 2020 Research and Schlesinger Group discussed how qualitative research has moved to a virtual environment due to the COVID pandemic. The discussion was robust and marked the first time a MAPOR webinar went beyond the allotted time. Lindsey Witt-Swanson and Patrick Hsieh are currently planning another webinar for early fall, and so please stay tuned for more updates.

We also successfully launched our first annual Student Fellowship Program (details here: <http://www.mapor.org/student-fellowship-program/>). Congratulations to the students participating in the 2021 MAPOR Student Fellowship program:

- * Kruthika Kamath, working with MAPOR Fellow Joe Murphy

* Rafiuddin Najam, working with MAPOR Fellow Leo Jeffres

* Robert Schultz, working with MAPOR Fellow Paul Lavrakas.

The AAPOR 2021 conference was held virtually during the first two weeks of May. It was a pleasure to see so many of you in the All-Chapter Virtual Mixer on Tuesday May 11 as well as at other conference events. Congratulations to AAPOR Conference Chair (and former MAPOR President) Kristen Olson for an extraordinary conference!

Speaking of conferences, MAPOR Conference Chair David Sterrett will be providing an update on the plans for the 2021 MAPOR Conference, beginning on page 2, including the process for abstract submissions and Student Paper Competition. The conference will be held on November 19 and 20 at the Embassy Suites Downtown as long as legally allowed and medically advisable, and we are exploring options for virtual components to make the conference accessible.

Given the continued effects of COVID-19 on organizations and institutions, MAPOR Council will be offering two types of support grants for our 2021 Annual Conference: MAPOR Student Support Grant and MAPOR Colleague Support Grant. Please see details for each here: <http://www.mapor.org/2021-support-grants/>

We are excited to share the results of the annual membership survey on page 4. MAPOR Council weighs the survey results very heavily in our planning and so we highly value your feedback and candor. Thank you for your participation and support!

Finally, if you have any ideas, comments, questions, or concerns about MAPOR, please reach out to me directly at president@mapor.org or at dgarbarski@luc.edu. I am interested in hearing your thoughts about MAPOR and how we can make it an even better community for public opinion researchers.

MAPOR Conference 2021:

David Sterrett, Conference Chair



Reconnecting and Reevaluating: Assessing the Foundations and Future of Public Opinion Research

November 19-20, 2021, Embassy Suites Chicago

MAPOR Conference – Open for Submissions!

The 46th annual conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown (600 N. State Street) and Virtually (accessible via internet connection).

The Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research's annual conference welcomes abstract submissions on any topic related to public opinion research, communication, or survey research methodology. This year, we are accepting submissions for the following types of presentations: papers, methodological briefs, posters, and panels of papers. We are particularly interested in papers that relate to our conference theme:

Reconnecting and Reevaluating: Assessing the Foundations and Future of Public Opinion Research

This year's conference theme focuses on the MAPOR community's chance to come together to reexamine survey, communication, and public opinion research. The 2021 conference provides an opportunity to explore what traditional methods, theories, and principles remain valid and which need further evolution and innovation during this period of significant societal change.

We encourage abstract submissions on all facets of research related to public opinion, communication, survey research, and their methodologies. Topics may include but are not limited to: questionnaire design; interviewers' role in data collection; total survey error; politics and public opinion; social media and public opinion; journalism, media, and public opinion; machine learning, big data, and data science; location and geographic information; challenges facing the field due to technological and societal shifts; the ethical use of public opinion and survey data; public opinion on social, economic, and political issues; data collection issues and strategies; qualitative and mixed-method research techniques; cross-cultural research; recruitment, participation, nonresponse; hard-to-reach populations; existing and new methods for collecting data from respondents; and data quality issues.

Format for 2021 Conference: The MAPOR Executive Council is planning for the 2021 Annual Conference to be held in person with a virtual option for participating as a presenter or attendee. The Council will continue to closely monitor health and safety protocols, and will communicate more details about the format later this summer.

Submissions: Abstracts of 300 words or fewer can be submitted below. In addition to a title and abstract, you will be asked to provide the name, institutional affiliation, and email address for all authors. 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 (see mapor.org for more info). 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 fewer 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 fewer 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 Friday July 2nd, 2021**. 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 31st of their abstract's acceptance status. For questions or problems with the submission process, please contact the 2021 MAPOR conference chair, David Sterrett at: abstracts@mapor.org.

MAPOR Student and Colleague Support Grants: Given the continued effects of COVID-19 on organizations and institutions, MAPOR Council will be offering two types of support grants for our 2021 Annual Conference:

MAPOR Student Support Grant and MAPOR Colleague Support Grant (details here: <http://www.mapor.org/2021-support-grants/>).

Submit your abstracts today!



MAPOR Secretary Treasurer

Lindsey Witt-Swanson
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Highlights from the 2020-2021 MAPOR Member and Conference Survey

The 2020-2021 MAPOR Member and Conference Survey was largely the same in content from previous years. Questions were added specifically about the virtual format of the 2020 conference and planning for the 2021 conference. The results will be used to inform the 2021 conference, webinar offerings and other decisions made by the Executive Council. The following is a summary of the survey results.

Response Summary

The 2020-2021 MAPOR Member and Conference Survey was fielded online in March and April of 2021. The survey was sent to 2021 MAPOR members (n=260) excluding the 2021 Executive Council Members. The survey was completed by 119 individuals for a response rate of 46% (AAPOR RR2). Respondents included 70% regular and honorary life members (n=84), 17% student members (n=20), and 13% non-members (n=15)

Satisfaction with the Conference

About half (56%) of respondents attended the 2020 conference (n=67). Overall satisfaction with the 2020 conference was very high. The majority (91%) of respondents reported being very satisfied (n=45) or somewhat satisfied (n=14) with the conference. Few respondents reported being somewhat dissatisfied (n=5) or very dissatisfied (n=1).

Please rate your overall level of satisfaction with the 2020 MAPOR conference.			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Very dissatisfied	1	1.5
	Somewhat dissatisfied	5	7.7
	Somewhat satisfied	14	21.5
	Very satisfied	45	69.2
	Total	65	100

Barriers to Attendance

Respondents that reported not attending the 2020 conference (n=52) were asked if various factors prevented them from attending. The two most common reasons for not attending were an academic or professional scheduling conflict (44%, n=20) and the virtual format did not appeal to them (44%, n=21) each being reported by almost half of respondents who were not able to attend the conference. They lacked funding (22%, n=10) and had too many competing conferences (29%, n=13) were reported by a quarter to third of non-attending respondents. Only 7% of respondents did not attend the conference because it was too expensive (n=3). No respondents reported no longer being interested in being a MAPOR member as a reason for not attending the conference.

	Did not prevent attendance	Did prevent attendance
No funding (n=45)	77.8	22.2
Too expensive (n=45)	93.3	6.7
Academic or professional scheduling conflict (n=46)	56.5	43.5
No longer interested in being a MAPOR member (n=45)	100.0	0.0
Too many competing conferences in 2020 (n=45)	71.1	28.9
The virtual format did not appeal to me (n=48)	56.3	43.8

MAPOR membership benefits

The survey asked about the importance of three MAPOR membership benefits. Opportunities to network with researchers in the field was reported as extremely important (47%, n=51) or very important (27%, n=29) by three out of four (73%) respondents. Support for a regional chapter of AAPOR was also rated highly with 29% reporting it as extremely important (n=32) and 41% reporting it as very important (n=45). The discounted MAPOR member registration for the annual conference was not rated as important as the other benefits with almost half (48%) or respondents reporting it as only somewhat important (n=52).

Please indicate how important each of the following membership benefits is to you. - Discounted MAPOR member registration for the annual conference			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	1 Not at all important	7	6.5
	2 Somewhat important	52	48.1
	3 Very important	25	23.1
	4 Extremely important	24	22.2
	Total	108	100

Please indicate how important each of the following membership benefits is to you. - Opportunities to network with researchers in your field			
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		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	1 Not at all important	5	4.6
	2 Somewhat important	24	22
	3 Very important	29	26.6
	4 Extremely important	51	46.8
	Total	109	100

Please indicate how important each of the following membership benefits is to you. - Support for a regional chapter of AAPOR			
		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	1 Not at all important	8	7.3
	2 Somewhat important	24	22
	3 Very important	45	41.3
	4 Extremely important	32	29.4
	Total	109	100

Thank you to all respondents who took time to share their opinions and experiences with us. The Executive Council will use these results to understand how we can best serve MAPOR members. If you have any thoughts to share throughout the year, please feel free to contact the Executive Council through our current MAPOR President, Dana Garbarski at dgarbarski@luc.edu.

MAPOR Student Paper Competition

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 L. McCutcheon Award in survey research methodology, will receive \$500 and one free conference registration. The winning papers also will be accepted for presentation during a session at the May 2022 AAPOR conference.

Eligibility

For the purposes of this competition, an eligible 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 an eligible 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 and survey 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 may be an author on only one paper submitted to the competition.

Procedure

1. Submit an abstract to the MAPOR conference at 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. Students must provide the name and e-mail address of a faculty mentor when submitting their abstract. Abstracts can be submitted until 11:59pm CDT on Friday, July 2, 2021.

2. Students whose papers have been accepted for the 2021 conference can have their papers considered for MAPOR Fellows Student Paper Competition. Here are the requirements:

- Send full paper in Word format to Ronald Langley (langley@uky.edu) by 11:59pm CDT, September 17, 2021.
- Remove all acknowledgments and other identifying information and run “Inspect” in Word to remove all authorship information that Word stores in the document.
- Include a title page with title, abstract, and the word count (number of words of text including footnotes).
 - Maximum length is 6,500 words of text including footnotes.
- Put the following at the end of the manuscript and do not include them in the word count: tables, references, and appendices.
- All papers must adhere to the AAPOR Code of Professional Ethics and Practice. Review the information about the [AAPOR Code of Professional Ethics & Practices](#) and make sure this information is included in the appropriate places in the manuscript. (Please pay particular attention to the disclosure elements in Section III.)
- Include the following in the email that accompanies your submission:
 - A subject line that says: MAPOR Student Paper Competition-Student Name
 - A statement that your manuscript includes the information required by the AAPOR Code of Professional Ethics and Practices.
 - The names and email addresses of all authors.
 - The USPS address, phone number, and email address of the contact author.
 - The name and email address of the faculty mentor for the paper.
- Identify a faculty mentor and ask them to do the following:
 - Review the submission to ensure it meets professional standards of readability, grammar, and so forth. This ensures that the reviewers can attend to the substance of the paper.
 - Review the submission to verify that it does not exceed the length limitation
 - Send a brief email to Ronald Langley (langley@uky.edu) by the deadline. The statement should:
 - Have a subject line that says: MAPOR Student Paper Competition – [student name]
 - State that they have reviewed the submission to ensure that it meets professional standards and does not exceed length limitations
 - Describe the contribution of the student(s) and the contributions (if any) of any faculty to the research design, execution, and writing.

A committee composed of MAPOR Fellows will judge all papers submitted to the competition. Winners will be announced at the Friday Awards Session.

2020-2021 MAPOR Council

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

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Consider Supporting MAPOR!

Support from organizations like yours helps keep costs down for young researchers, and keeps 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.

Benefits of Sponsorship							
	Ad in the program	Conference registration	Link on the MAPOR Website	Acknowledgement in the newsletters	Opportunity to connect directly with conference attendees	Logo displayed during conference	Prominent sponsorship of pedagogy hour or keynote address
Gold Sponsorship (Contributions of \$2,000 or more)	✓ full page	✓ (two)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Silver Sponsorship (Contributions of \$1,000-\$1,999)	✓ full page	✓ (one)	✓	✓	✓	✓ (at major conference event)	
Bronze Sponsorship (Contributions up to \$1,000)	✓ half page		✓	✓		✓	

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