



Happening in SRO

You can find this “Happening in SRO” and all similar newsletters on the new SRO Intranet Home Page, located at: <http://isr-wp.isr.umich.edu/srointranet/> under Recent News.

SRO All Staff Meeting to Feature Talk on Web Survey Design

The next SRO All Staff Meeting is less than two weeks way. Please plan to join us on Tuesday, November 15th, at 1:00 pm in the Anderson room (first floor) of the Michigan Union on State Street.

Web surveys are an important and quickly growing part of the data collection mix at SRO. SRC Research Professor, Dr. Mick Couper, one of the world's leading experts on web survey design and methodology, will give an engaging talk about the full range of possible errors when *mobile* web is in the mix. His talk, “Mobile Web Surveys – A Total Survey Error perspective”, is timely and extremely relevant to our ongoing work at SRO.

We will, of course, hear from many of our SRO Admin leaders, including Grant Benson, our new Director of Data Collection Operations, who will introduce (or re-introduce) himself and talk about his plans and on-going work in SRO's largest sub-unit. We will also get an overview of our project pipeline from Stephanie, learn about our current and future financial health from Ryan (hint: it is very strong), and hear from Patty about our strategy to stay on course and fulfill our vital part of the ISR mission.

Thanksgiving Break Closure Reminder

We hope you enjoy this upcoming break.

SRO Closure Dates:

SRO will be closed on Wednesday, Nov 23rd.

If you are planning to work on Nov 23rd and have not already made arrangements, please contact your supervisor. Note that Lisa Holland is the point of contact for SRO that day.

Please enter vacation time in ET, if you are taking the day off.

Thursday, Nov 24th and Friday, Nov 25th are UM Holidays and should be entered as holidays in your ET.



Save the Date: SRO Holiday Potluck



Date: Weds, December 14th Time: 11:30-1:00 Location: G150A&B Perry



Housing and Children's Health Development (Housing & Children)
(Barb Ward, Grant Benson and Hongyu Johnson)

The Housing & Children (H & C) study kicked off with a Pilot on Monday, October 24th, conducted in Dallas, TX. This ambitious study aims to better understand how low-income parents with limited resources juggle the tradeoffs between dwelling unit quality, neighborhood quality, and school quality, and how the decisions the parents make influence growth and developmental outcomes for their children. The H & C study includes innovative features such as in-home room measurements, a new cognitive sensitivity parent-child observation, and collection of dried blood spots from children.

The main study will be conducted in Dallas and Cleveland. We will be screening for families with children aged 3 to 10. Caregiver interviews are expected to take between 75 and 90 minutes (depending on whether we are collecting dried blood spots), and child assessments will take between 45 and 60 minutes (again, depending on whether we are collecting dried blood spots).

Caregivers interviews include blood pressure, height and weight measurements, and dried blood spot collection. Caregivers are also asked to complete up to three SAQs, a four-day time diary, and are asked to provide assent for in-home room measurements and provision of their Social Security Number. Each child assessment includes a neuro-cognitive test called Hearts & Flowers, two Woodcock-Johnson assessments, and parent-child play observations, measurement of height, waist, weight, and hips, and collection of dried blood spots. Interviewers are also asked to complete neighborhood observations, and extensive post-interview observations after each in-home interview.

This complex, in-home protocol requires many tools and supplies, and interviewers carry a substantial bag of materials with them to each interview. The most unusual supplies include a laser tape measuring device, one set of LEGO bricks, and one set of DUPLO blocks (The LEGOs and DUPLOs are used for the parent-child play observation), as well as ‘standard equipment’ such as a scale, a blood pressure monitor, DBS kits, drying boxes, Woodcock Johnson easels, stickers, stuffed animals, a variety of band aids, and envelopes and SAQs. The bag weighs about 20 pounds. You can see most of the materials in the picture below.



SRO Meeting Norms

With the recent addition of many new staff, let's all take this opportunity to review the SRO Meeting Norms. They are also posted in several bays as well as in conference rooms.

Survey Research Operations (SRO) Meeting Norms

The following norms or ground rules are intended to make meetings more engaging, productive, efficient, and effective.

- **Start and end meetings on time.** We respect each other's time and arrive promptly for meetings.
- **Treat everyone with respect:** We will express our opinions responsibly, focusing on the issues and not on personal differences, and speak both honestly and kindly.
- **Prepare adequately for the meeting and participate fully.** We will have read, reviewed or examined pertinent documents, gathered information or input, or simply assessed our own thoughts and ideas prior to the meeting.
- **Do not interrupt.** We recognize that we all interrupt at times by mistake or to build on others statements. However, we will strive to allow each person the space to finish his or her thoughts.
- **Express ourselves completely and concisely.** This norm recognizes the value of each other's input and time.
- **Stay focused on the topic under discussion.** We will stay focused on the agreed upon topics unless the group makes a conscious decision to alter the agenda.
- **Do not use cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices that are not required for the conduct of the actual meeting.** We will not check messages, text message, read/send email or engage in other distracting activity for the purpose of remaining fully focused on the discussion.
- **Minimize disruption and noise when leaving for or returning from a meeting.** Please be thoughtful of colleagues in your work area by minimizing noise when going to a meeting or returning with others to your work area.
- **Conference room conflicts.** If the scheduled meeting room is still occupied when the next meeting is scheduled to begin, verify with those still in the room that they do not have the room booked beyond their time.
- **Clean Space.** Please tidy up the room upon exiting. Please do not leave materials behind or chairs and tables in disarray.

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