



## Happening in SRO

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

***If you have items for the newsletter or if you would like to highlight an event, please let Brenda Spaulding or your unit director know.***

### Reminder – Holidays and SRO Closure Dates

Please note that Wednesday, November 22 is an SRO Closure Day. If you are planning to work on that day, let your supervisor know. If you are taking the day off, enter vacation time for that day in your timesheet. November 23, November 24, December 25, 2023 and January 1, 2024 are all considered to be U-M holidays and should be entered as holidays in your timesheet. December 26-29 are season days and should be entered as season days in your timesheet. Vivienne Outlaw is our contact person for the holiday closure plans – see her if you have questions about task or project coverage.

NOVEMBER 2023						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER 2023						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JANUARY 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SRO Closure

U-M Holiday

U-M Season Day



### Save the Date: SRO All-Staff Meeting

An SRO All Staff meeting will be **Wednesday, December 6th** in room 1430 at ISR Thompson from 11:15AM-1:30PM. More details will follow in early November.



A new quarterly feature has been added to our SRO Happenings! We will be highlighting U-M work anniversaries at the one year mark, and then at five year milestones. This month, we are recognizing those who had anniversaries in July, August, and September. Congratulations on your U-M anniversary!

#### 1 Year

Brendan Carroll, TSG  
Darnell Christian, TSG  
Cindy Huang, DMSS  
David Kellermeyer, FSG  
Margaret O'Dell, DCO  
Kirsten LoDuca, PDMG  
Nahid Sultana, PDMG

#### 5 Years

Lisa Van Havermaet, PDMG  
Debbie Seale, DCO

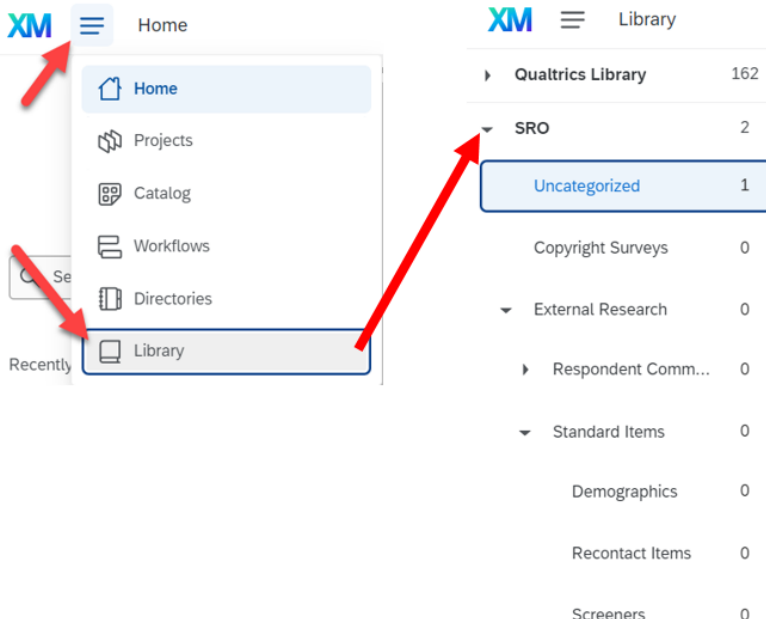
#### 10 Years

Rachel Orlowski, PDMG

## Introducing the SRO Qualtrics Library (Jeffrey Albrecht and Grant Benson)

As more projects choose Qualtrics as their web survey software, SRO is establishing a network and infrastructure to support that work. We currently have 2 email distribution groups that can be used to ask for advice or make suggestions, or just generally reach out to other Qualtrics users. The ISR Qualtrics User group ([isr-qualtrics@umich.edu](mailto:isr-qualtrics@umich.edu)) includes a number of our colleagues in other units at ISR, while the SRO Qualtrics User group ([sro-qualtrics@umich.edu](mailto:sro-qualtrics@umich.edu)) is more narrowly focused on just SRO employees.

Current members of the SRO Qualtrics User group also have access to the newly established SRO Qualtrics Library. The library is a place for us to begin to store items that are likely to be reused on multiple projects or that may benefit from being standardized within SRO. This could include respondent communications, demographics questions, or specific scripts that can help to format the look and feel of a survey.



If you have suggestions for content – either questions or letters that you have already used or requests for specific questions or formats – feel free to reach out to the [SRO Qualtrics User](#) group. If you wish to be added to the SRO Qualtrics Library, please send a request to Jeffrey and Grant.

We look forward to continuing to expand and improve our Qualtrics capabilities at SRO.



## HART Workshop at SRO (Rebecca Gatward)

The Health, Aging and Retirement in Thailand (HART) team recently spent three weeks attending a workshop run by SRO.

### Some background ...

The baseline (Wave 1) national HART project began in 2014. SRO first became involved with the study in preparation for the second wave, when we assisted with the transition from paper to computer assisted interviewing (Blaise) and adapted our technical systems (SurveyTrak and WebTrak) to support the data collection effort.

For Waves 3 and 4, HART migrated to QuestionPro software for data collection and made some sample design change to address a decline in the sample size. They used a Bring Your Own Device approach, where interviewers could use their phones or tablet to complete the survey online. They used a team of 20-30 interviewers.

### Purpose of the SRO visit ...

With funding from the National Research Commission of Thailand (NRCT), SRO was contracted to provide consultation and guidance primarily on selecting data software and sample management systems for Wave 5, which is scheduled to go into the field in 2024. The outcomes of this consultation include a better understanding of...

- the tools required for survey data monitoring, survey data management and administration,
- how to optimize sample design for a longitudinal study, and
- data management and data analytics of a longitudinal study with a focus on the HART program.

To address these major areas of assistance, two 'learning-by-doing' training trips were planned. This spring, Jennie Williams and Karl Dinkelmann visited the team in Bangkok for the first of these training trips. During discussions with the HART team, they identified some further areas of focus - these were incorporated into the agenda for their visit to SRO.

### The workshop at SRO...

The three-week 'learning by doing' workshop covered the following main topics:

- **Data Management** – Jennie Williams, Laura Yoder and colleagues from the HRS data processing team spent a number of days covering all aspects of data management, including the tasks involved in the 'Lifecycle' of a wave, an in-depth review of HRS preload, and technical systems used for data management tasks.
- **Data Collection Software** – mainly focused on options for wave 5 and included a 'Blaise Basics' session and a Qualtrics demo. We also met with a representative from the division of Qualtrics that covers Thailand.
- **Data Quality** – HRS team members from PDMG and the HRS research team met with the HART team to discuss questionnaire development (specific topics the HART team requested help with were answering sensitive questions and managing questionnaire development schedule). We also provided an overview of our Interview Quality Control process.
- **Production Monitoring** – We provided detailed demonstrations of the systems we use for production monitoring. HRS team members then provided presentations to share and discuss how they use production data to monitor data collection.
- **Interviewer Training** – The HART team completed the full General Interviewing Techniques training - including the home study. We also talked through the HRS study specific training.



- **Sample Design and Weights** – *Raphael Nishimura spent two days with the team reviewing the HART sample design, providing an overview of the principles of sample design, and assisting with the calculation of sample weights for the study.*

Throughout the workshop, the HART team were keen to discuss how they could apply what they were learning to their project or to ask advice on how they could tackle issues. We constantly reviewed the agenda to ensure we were covering all that they were expecting and needed us to.

They enjoyed their time meeting and learning from all at SRO and their time in Ann Arbor. We were keen to reciprocate the level of hospitality they had provided Karl and Jennie during their visit to Bangkok so we also arranged for some out-of-hours trips and gatherings for them.

They took many photos so there was no problem finding some to use for this article!

Thank you to everyone who took the time away from your heavy workloads to spend time with the HART team.







## SRO at the ISR EXPO

On Tuesday, October 24, SRO participated in the ISR Expo held in the ISR-Thompson Atrium. The Expo provided "an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to explore captivating projects, mingle with peers, and enjoy a light lunch - all in one dynamic event!" Participants could learn about the world-class research happening at ISR, network and meet the people behind the scenes at ISR, explore the various training programs ISR offers for students, post-docs, and faculty, and hear about the launch of DEI 2.0. Our thanks to Shonda Kruger-Ndiaye and Lisa Holland for hosting the SRO table at this event!

## AASRO

Stephanie Chardoul and Nicole Kirgis represented SRC/SRO at the AASRO (Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations) annual meeting at High Point University in North Carolina. The annual meeting is an opportunity for directors of university-based survey shops to learn from each other and share resources and experiences. Nicole chairs AASRO's archive committee (with support from Kelly Chatain) and reported on current activities; Stephanie moderated a lively discussion on recruiting and retaining professional staff.

SRO is much larger than the other academic shops -- the University of Wisconsin is second in size after us, and they are approximately 25% of our staff and revenue volume. Many of the shops represented at AASRO have less than 10 regular staff, and most have 100% student telephone interviewers. It's a good reminder of our deep resources and capabilities, and how we can best share our experience.



## **Mixed Mode Responsive Survey Design to Reduce Selection Bias: A Young Adult Longitudinal Study of Sex, Contraception, And Substance Use in Nepal**

William G. Axinn  
Stephanie A. Chardoul



## WAPOR

Stephanie attended the annual WAPOR (World Association for Public Opinion Research) meeting in Salzburg, Austria, and presented on methodological and substantive findings from the first two waves of our Nepal CVFS Youth survey. Shout out to our Nepal TSG team for implementing our first mixed-mode study in Nepal, and especially to Jennie Williams for her help with analysis for the paper. The presentation generated lots of interest in our capabilities to do this type of work!



## SRO Wellness News

### (SRO Wellness Committee)

Please reach out if you are interested in being part of the committee or if you have ideas to share. [srowellcomm@umich.edu](mailto:srowellcomm@umich.edu)

[New Ways November](#) Calendar from Action for Happiness.

### MHealthy Cooking Classes--New classes each month – sign up to be notified

MHealthy hosts new cooking classes each month. Registration opens a few weeks before the first class date – [sign up to be notified when registration opens for new classes](#).

MHealthy Cooking Classes support the growing field of [culinary medicine](#). It explores the links between food and health, applying the foundations of nutritional science side-by-side with traditional medical interventions in clinical care. [Learn about upcoming classes](#).

### November Food Truck

Our November food truck is: **Papelon Arepa Bar** (website: [Papelon Menu](#) and facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/papelonarepami>).

It is scheduled to be at Perry on **Wednesday, November 8** in front of the building from **11a.m. - 2p.m.** The truck will be located in the parking lot near the Perry Atrium. Cash and credit are accepted. All Perry and Thompson Building staff are welcome!

### U-M Credit Union (UMCU) and Food Truck

On October 11, we had the UMCU information table and [Tim's Gourmet Sliders](#) at Perry. Thanks to everyone for stopping by!



### Take the Sleep I.Q Challenge for a Chance to Win a \$25 Gift Card

[Click Here To Take The Challenge](#) by November 17 - Test your sleep I.Q. by taking this six-question quiz. It only takes a few minutes and you'll learn how changes in your sleep could affect your body, mind and mood.