

Editorial

We start Volume 33 by publishing a collection of manuscripts by Dr. Arthur Kennickell. The idea of a Festschrift in his honor was conceived by Dr. Fritz Scheuren, when he was the Editor-in-Chief, and with this issue the idea has come to fruition. Arthur and Fritz met regularly over the past year to compile the papers and along the way, they were ably assisted by Greta Cherry, our co-managing editor.

Dr. Kennickell is a now retired economist working for the Board of Governors of the U.S. Federal Reserve System. Several of his papers have appeared in the SJAOS. We are publishing a generous selection of others based on presentations he has given at professional gatherings over the years along with commentaries on his work by prominent statisticians. As you will learn, Arthur's recognition as a leader in his field extends far beyond the United States.

Dr. Kennickell's contributions to the survey literature are widely recognized. In particular, his name is associated with the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF). The SCF is a critical source of information on the U.S. national economy and the economic livelihood of American households. The papers selected for this issue touch on every aspect of a survey and exem-

plify the problems faced by all producers of statistics: How is data quality achieved in the face of a tremendous number of methodological and operational problems? What are some ways in which the survey challenges of change and complexity can be tackled? Each paper gives insight into approaches and solutions.

The issue starts out with a person-to-person interview with Katherine Condon, our interview editor. The interview allows us to get to know Arthur a little bit better. The decades of commitment to economic measurement is a force with which to reckon, but as one of the commentators note, 'it is his personal dimensions that made the difference.' The interview is followed by an overview paper that introduces the contents of the issue.

I hope you enjoy the Festschrift.

Kirsten West
Editor-in-Chief

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E-mail: kwestiaos@gmail.com