Fall 1991

Meeting was called to order at 10:45 by Don Dixon, filling in for Council Chair Margaret Blue who was delayed in transit. In the absence of the Chair, there was a unanimous decision to proceed with the previously circulated Agenda.

Report on the Field Institute: (Ed Nelson - Fresno)

**Student Intern Experiences** It was reported that, despite early reports from Harold Diaz, the most recent student intern, that the program "was a real bust" and was "mostly clerical work", later reports indicated a more positive experience. In discussing both the experience and the student's expectations with Diaz, Ed found that the student had expected more formal instruction from Field personnel. Overall, however, Diaz reported that the experience was "quite positive by the end, especially the later parts of the internship".

In discussing Diaz's experience with Mark DeCamillo, Ed was told that Diaz was "the most career oriented intern" that had held the internship. Mark indicated that the student had worked well with the staff, and had been quite helpful in revising census weights for the sample which is used in analyzing the California Poll data.

John Korey (Pomona) suggested that "we need to do a better job of counseling students.... to keep expectations more realistic." General agreement among Council members.

Frank Gossett (Long Beach) suggested a reading list for interns be provided, covering the various theoretical and academic aspects of sampling, polling and data analysis. Larry Giventer (Stanislaus), Ed Nelson and Frank agreed to put together such a reading list, and to circulate it for comment at the Winter meeting. The revised reading list will also be sent to Field.

**Announcements regarding the Field Faculty Fellowship, Student Internship and Question Credits**

Ed distributed suggested copy for announcing the Field Faculty Fellowship, Student Internship and availability of Field Poll question credits. The deadlines for application for these programs are, respectively:

December 1st: Student Internship

January 15th: Application for use of question credits

Faculty Fellowship

All questions, applications and correspondence regarding these programs should be directed to Ed.

It was also announced that, at this point, we have used up all our outstanding question credits. Questions from Elizabeth Nelson and Barbara Mori were run as of the September, 1991 poll, and represented the last of our "backlog" of unused credits.

**Annual Field Institute Meeting:**

Ed reported that Mark DeCamillo proposed rescheduling the annual Institute meeting to a time in the spring, ideally closer to the meeting of the Western Political Science Association which meets in San Francisco in between March 19th to 21st. Offered a choice between the previous Wednesday (the 18th) and the Monday after the conference (the 23rd), Council members indicated a strong preference for the Monday date.

**Membership of the Field Committee:**

Retirement of Bruce Haston required an appointment of a new member of the Field Committee. After some discussion of the "north-south" membership requirement, Elliott Barkan(San Bernardino) was the unanimous choice of the Council. As constituted, the Field Committee consists of Ed Nelson, Rich Deleon (San Francisco) and Elliott.

Student Research Conference: (Frank Gossett - Long Beach)

Considerable discussion and advice was provided on the topic of the Spring Student Research Conference, which this year will be hosted by the Long Beach campus. Frank indicated that his Dean of Social Sciences is funding the arrangements for the conference, and a suggested budget of between $1,500 and $2,000 was seen as required for the speaker, posters and promotional materials, awards and the luncheon. The Council was hopeful that Long Beach would continue the tradition of funding both the Betty Nesvold and Charles McCall awards for outstanding undergraduate and graduate papers. There were also discussions about the continued funding of the Gloria Rummels award by ITS (formerly ISO), given the change in function and "downsizing" of the Chancellor's office support staff. Council members voiced a willingness to assist in the continued funding of the award, should monies not be available from Penny Crane's group in the Chancellor's office. Frank was to follow up on this question, and report back to the Council during the Winter meeting.

Speaker suggestions for the Student Research Conference included Mike Davis, author of A City of Courts (sic) as a keynote speaker. (He is apparently a friend of Don Carter's, who offered assistance in contacting him). Other suggestions included the new CSU Chancellor, Barry Munez (??) or other speakers on Reapportionment. Frank will report on his progress at the Winter meeting.

Continued or Changed Role of the SSRIC:

Dixon, from his position of acting Chair, raised the question about the Council's role and viability in the post decentralization environment. There was general and strong agreement that the Council's role was more critical and important than in the past, and that it would continue to grow over the next few years.

Ed Nelson felt that we now have a greater visibility and a greater need. It is critical

to be involved in the funding decisions made on each campus, and the Council provides a vehicle of communicating these needs to Deans and Academic Vice Presidents.

Frank Gossett felt that the discipline councils are more important with decentralization. IRT is especially interested in his view, in SSRIC, the Business and Geography Councils, and the chemists group.

Don Carder (CSU:LA) in his role as director of the Social Science Resource Center, felt a "critical need" for the advisory role of the SSRIC. In continuing discussions about the difficulty of obtaining travel funds, he proposed investigating the possibility of "building in" some of funding for member travel into his overall budget request. A later report on this possibility was promised for future meetings.

Richard Serpe (Fullerton) felt that the "advisory" role of the SSRIC needs to be "institutionally codified". It is extremely important, in his view, that all the data centers -­including Fullerton, LA and Sonoma have benefit of this advice.

Census Center Presentation

There was a lengthy presentation and discussion by Larry Shinagawa on the Census Center at Sonoma. Several people expressed some concerns regarding the time delays and availability.

Don Carder provided an overview of the Center at CSULA and responded to questions. Friday morning he provided a demonstration he provided a demonstration workshop.

Meeting adjourned with thanks to Don Dixon for his hospitality.