American Association for Public Opinion Research

World Association for Public Opinion Research

Thirty-Ninth Annual Conference

This year's AAPOR-WAPOR Conference was held at Delavan, Wisconsin, May 17-20, 1984. A full program consisted of 22 paper sessions, 11 round-table discussions, and two plenary sessions. In addition, there were displays illustrating the use of personal computers for survey research, and videotapes of interviews with "Founding Fathers" of survey research, courtesy of the Advertising Research Foundation.

A total of 99 papers was submitted for the conference, of which 61 were placed on the program, and these made up about three-quarters of the papers given. The remaining quarter of the papers on the program were solicited. A majority of the submitted papers came from people in academic positions, while a majority of solicited papers were from those in commercial employment. Fifty-seven percent of the papers on the program were from academic members, which is about 20 percentage points higher than representation from this source in the membership. Few papers came from our government constituency this year.

Attendance was considerably higher than anticipated, a good showing by any standard, and particularly good for a conference held in the Midwest, where attendance is usually much lower than in the East.

The AAPOR Award went to Ithiel de Sola Pool posthumously, and the Helen Dinerman Award (WAPOR) went to Mark Abrams. In an unusual occurrence, the AAPOR Student Award went to two people: Jon Krosnick, University of Michigan, and Robert Kubey, University of Chicago. These were chosen from 38 entries, which is considerably more than have been submitted in recent years.

Abstracts of papers presented at the conference can be obtained from AAPOR, Post Office Box 17, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, for $5.00. Distribution of a transcript of the plenary session on election projections is under consideration.

J. Ronald Milavsky
Conference Chair