



Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
2221 S. Clark Street, Suite 1100, Arlington, VA 22202
Office: 703.382.8001
copafs@copafs.org

ADVANCING EXCELLENCE IN FEDERAL STATISTICS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 28, 2018

CONTACT: Linda Jacobsen
ljacobsen@prb.org
(202) 939-5414

Cynthia Z.F. Clark Appointed Executive Director of COPAFS

WASHINGTON, November 28 – The Board of Directors of the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Cynthia Z.F. Clark as Executive Director, effective December 3. Dr. Clark succeeds John H. Thompson, who retired as Executive Director in August 2018.

Dr. Clark comes to COPAFS from a distinguished career in official statistics. In her most recent position as Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, she led a program that fundamentally transformed how and where the agency does its business. Prior to joining NASS, Dr. Clark served for three years as Executive Director for Methodology and Quality at the U.K. Office for National Statistics, and for eight years as Associate Director for Research, Methodology, and Standards at the U.S. Census Bureau. In both organizations she directed research across the full range of economic and demographic surveys, censuses, and estimating programs, improved program methodology, and instituted standards for quality management for these programs.

“COPAFS will benefit immeasurably from the expertise and experience that Cynthia brings to our organization,” said Linda Jacobsen, Chair of COPAFS Board. “Under her leadership, we are confident that COPAFS will continue to advance its important work advocating for the Federal statistical system and the essential data it produces.”

A longtime leader in the official statistics community, Dr. Clark is an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association, and past chair of its Government Statistics Section and Privacy and Confidentiality Committee. She is a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, an elected member of the International Statistical Association, and currently serves on the Statistics Canada Methodology Advisory Committee.

In 2011, Dr. Clark was a recipient of the Presidential Meritorious Rank Award. At the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Dr. Clark served on the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) Panels on Re-engineering Census Bureau Annual Economic Surveys and the Agricultural Resource Management Survey. Dr. Clark holds a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Mills College, a master’s degree in mathematics from the University of

Denver, and a master's and doctoral degree in statistics from Iowa State University, from which she received its Distinguished Alumnae Award in 2014.

###

COPAFS was founded in 1980 to act as an advocate for the development and dissemination of high-quality Federal statistics, to increase the level and scope of knowledge about developments affecting Federal statistics, and to encourage dialogue between its member associations and organizations and the Federal statistical agencies. For further information, visit the COPAFS website at <http://www.copafs.org/>.