October 24, 2024

The Inaugural Privacy and Public Policy Conference

Advancing Data Privacy and Public Policy Through Collaborative Engagement

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Funding Support

Motivation and Background

Motivation

Privacy enhancing technologies, research, and applications are growing

- Statistical agencies, from federal to city-level.

- Private companies, from Meta to Google.

- More funding from various sources specific for privacy research and applications.

Administration

OCTOBER 30, 2023

FACT SHEET: President Biden Issues Executive Order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence

BRIEFING ROOM ▸ STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

Today, President Biden is issuing a landmark Executive Order to ensure that America leads the way in seizing the promise and managing the risks of artificial intelligence (AI). The Executive Order establishes new standards for AI safety and security, protects Americans' privacy, advances equity and civil rights, stands up for consumers and workers, promotes innovation and competition, advances American leadership around the world, and more.

As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's comprehensive strategy for responsible innovation, the Executive Order builds on previous actions the President has taken, including work that led to voluntary commitments from 15 leading companies to drive safe, secure, and trustworthy development of AI.

The Executive Order directs the following actions:

Motivation

Venues for presenting work, sharing ideas, and building community

- Organized sessions at Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, Joint Statistical Meetings (and other American Statistical Association meetings), American Association for Public Opinion Research, etc.

- OpenDP Meeting, TPDP, and other venues are organized by and for the Computer Science community.

- Privacy in Statistical Databases conference series in Europe.

- National Bureau of Economic Research workshops.

Vision

to *foster* *and* *enhance collaboration* *among* *privacy experts*, *researchers*, *data stewards*, *data practitioners*, *and* *public policymakers*

Background: Two Day Workshop

- A series of workshops between October 2022 and January 2023.

- National Institute of Statistical Sciences, Penn State University, Vassar College, and Urban Institute.

Background: Two Day Workshop

- Two-day hybrid workshop at Urban Institute in January 2023.

  To bridge the communication gap and identify what tools and educational materials are needed to improve expanding access to confidential demographic data for better public policy decision-making.

- 60 in-person and 15 virtual attendees.

Background: Two Day Workshop

Six planned sessions

- Introduction to challenges in statistical privacy

- Applying statistical privacy methods and techniques

- Public policy and privacy law

- Panel on funding opportunities (representatives from Sloan Foundation, NSF, and Meta)

Each non-panel session had 2-3 speakers with a full representation of academia, government, NGO/Think Tank, and data practitioners

Background: Two Day Workshop
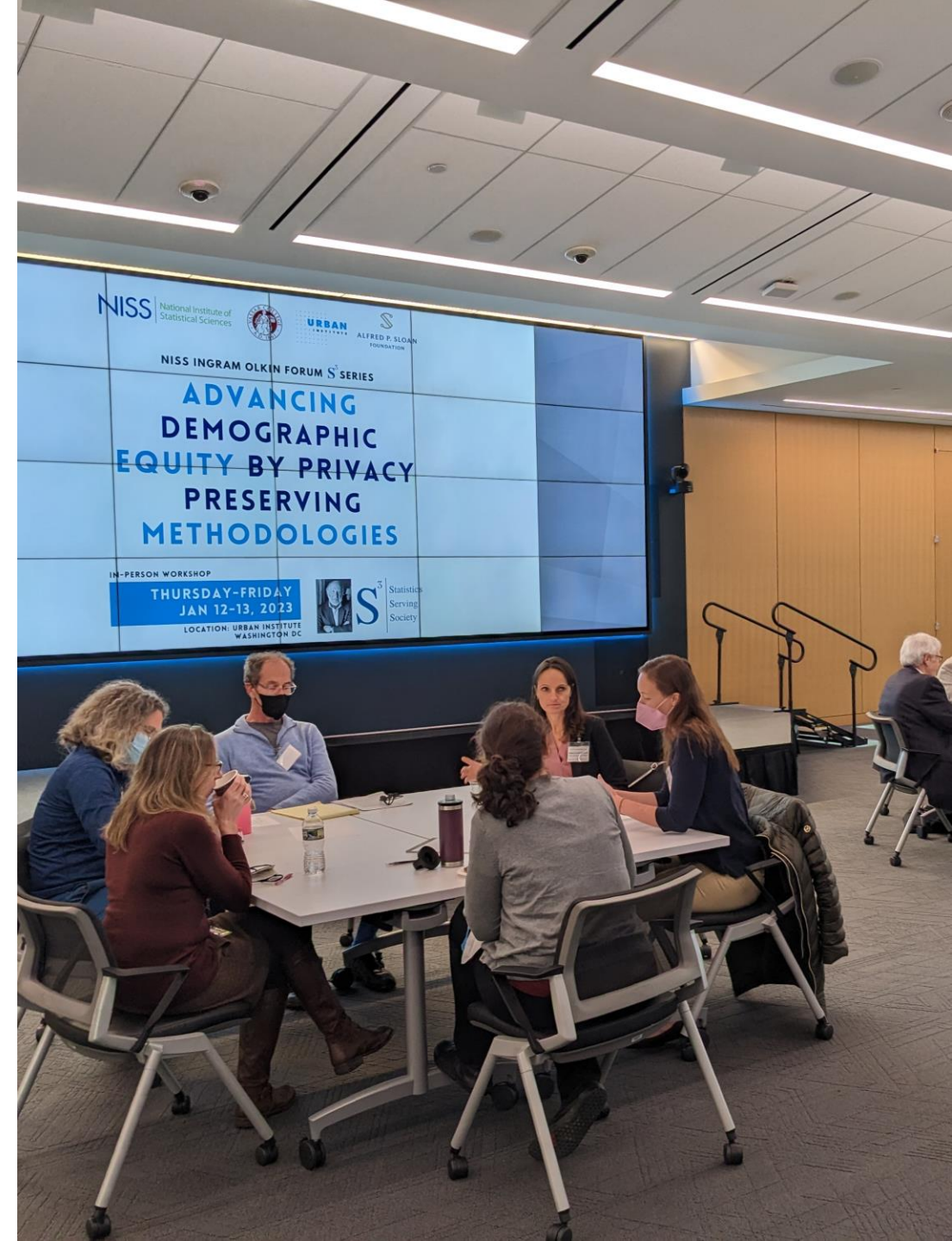
Working roundtables and working groups:

- Research challenges in statistical data privacy techniques

- **Application challenges in statistical data privacy techniques**

- **Education and communication**

- **Equity in the context of privacy**

- Public policy and privacy law

Background: Two Day Workshop

Key takeaways:

- The need for a centralized resource of data privacy methods and best practices.

- More applied and practical applications of data privacy methodologies.

- Events that bring together people from diverse backgrounds, such as workshops and conferences.

Conference

Privacy and Public Policy Conference (3PC)

- 1 invited panel (w/ 4 panelists) + 4 sessions + 1 poster session + 5 working roundtables

- 16 session speakers + 16 poster presenters + 5 roundtable leaders

- 3 student travel awards + 2 poster awards

- 80+ attendees

3PC Organization

- 5 co-chairs

- 5 committee members

- 18 abstract reviewers

We thank V. Joseph Hotz for his initial contribution on the Program Committee.

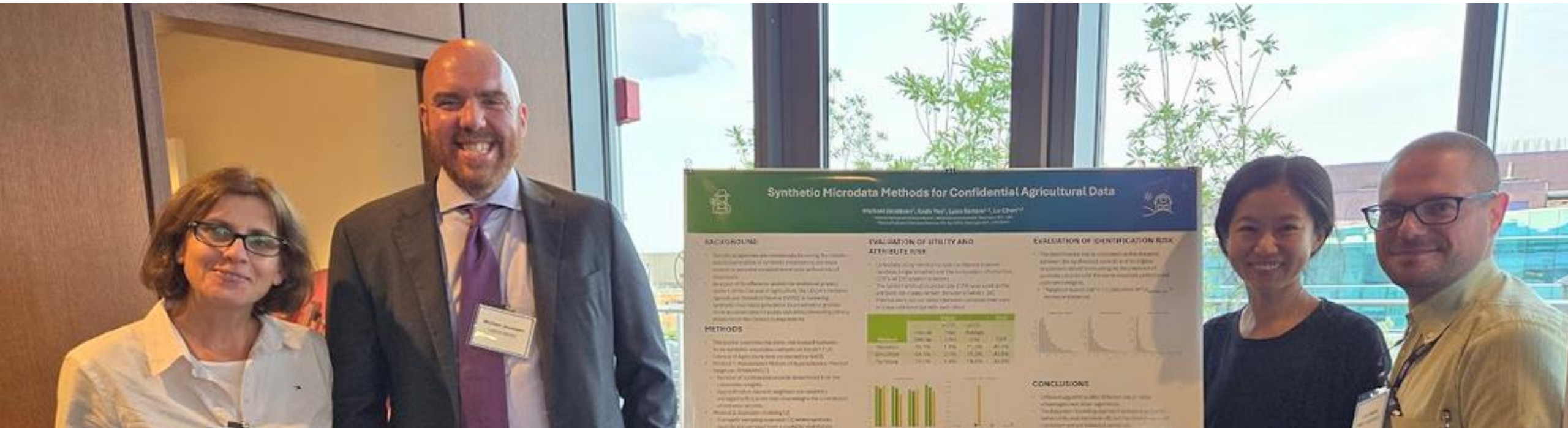| Planning Committee co-chairs	Program Committee co-chairs
Quentin Brummet (NORC)	Valbona Bejleri (USDA NASS)
Tony Caruso (Census Bureau)	Claire Bowen (Urban Institute)
Jingchen (Monika) Hu (Vassar College)	Program Committee members
Planning Committee members	Lu Chen (USDA NASS & NISS)
Brenda Betancourt (NORC)	Michael Hawes (Census Bureau)
Stephanie Straus (Georgetown University)	Joshua Snoke (RAND Corp.)

3PC: The Good (Panel)

- "This may have been my favorite part. All the people on that stage were exceptionally well spoken and had an amazing diversity of thought."

- "Diverse set of backgrounds encouraged a rich discussion about privacy methods and policy considerations."

3PC: The Good (Talks and Poster)

- "I have no idea how you actually managed to get all these cool government agencies doing PET things, the people there were great to talk to!"

- "Many excellent talks from a range of speakers and backgrounds."

3PC: The Good (Discussions)

- "Thank you for organizing this conference. As a statistician who is just beginning to learn, I found it to be incredibly valuable."

- "It was not a CS, social science, or stat convening - it brought us all together."

- "I liked the attendees. This was a side of the privacy world that I would like to move into and it was cool to be able to talk to a lawyer, a government official, a person at a non profit all in the course of the day."

3PC: The "Bad" – Improvements

- More outreach to non-federal government, lawyers (or more legal scholars), for-profit, and public policymakers

- Possible new topics:

  o Disclosure review boards

  o Quantum information systems

  o PETs outside of differential privacy and synthetic data

- "I would almost like another round table. I've always felt at conferences the most interesting thing is the round tables. We get so many presentations at other conferences."

Contact Us

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🌐 https://privacypublicpolicy-conference.github.io/website/