

TIM J. GABEL

Summary of Professional Experience

Tim J. Gabel is the executive vice president of Social, Statistical, and Environmental Sciences (SSES). Mr. Gabel joined RTI in 1983 with technical training in both statistics and computer science and has served in a variety of leadership roles during his career, including the head of the Research Computing Division and the vice president for Survey and Computing Sciences. Mr. Gabel helped pioneer RTI's early efforts to conceptualize and develop Internet applications for research activities and has extensive experience directing data collection and data processing activities for scientific research studies. He and his SSES leadership team are now leading the effort to align RTI to meet the demands of big data and harness the potential of emerging technologies such as blockchain and artificial intelligence in pursuit of RTI's mission to *Improve the Human Condition by Turning Knowledge Into Practice*.

As head of SSES, the largest of RTI's business units, Mr. Gabel manages an annual revenue of approximately \$600M and nearly 3,000 staff who conduct a variety of research, development, and technical assistance projects. Much of the SSES portfolio involves large-scale data collection and management, with an emphasis on complex methodological, statistical, and epidemiological approaches to important public policy issues in health, environment, education, criminal justice, and social welfare.

Education

MBA, Fuqua School of Business, Duke University, Durham, NC, 1993.

BS, Statistics/Area of Application-Computer Science, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, 1983.

Professional Experience

2013 to date. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC.

Adjunct Professor, Gillings School of Global Public Health.

2013 to date. University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY.

Adjunct Associated Professor, College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Statistics.

1983 to date. RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC.

Executive Vice President, Social, Statistical, and Environmental Sciences (2012 to date).

Responsibilities included strategic planning, financial management, program development, personnel recruitment, and overall management for a staff of approximately 3,000 and yearly revenues of approximately \$600 million. SSES research domains include health, education and workforce, criminal justice and security, environment and energy, and data and technology.

Unit Vice President, Survey and Computing Sciences (2005 to 2012). Responsible for the strategic direction and financial performance for the largest of RTI's research units, comprising more than 400 staff. Survey and Computing Sciences encompasses RTI's Survey Research Division, Research Computing Division, Education Studies Division, and the Division for Research Services, each of which was led by a division vice president with P/L responsibilities.

Director, Research Computing Division (1999 to 2005). Led approximately 180 professional programmers, programmer analysts, and technicians. Planned, organized, and managed Research Computing Division activities, such as work allocation, staff development, and quality assurance. Prepared proposals and budgets and directed tasks in data management. Coordinated division

activities, market development, and support with other RTI units. Monitored trends in new technology to assess the strategic implications of how they might impact the business of research. Directed projects requiring the use of Internet-based technologies for the development of research or management systems. Oversaw the creation and growth of a thriving business in the area of Bioinformatics and incubated a new focus area in data warehousing and health informatics.

Manager, Operations and Business Development (1997 to 1999). Leader for marketing and business enhancement activities with RTI's Research Computing Division. Responsible for developing leads within existing and new client bases. Assisted in development of strategic plans and business initiatives.

Various Research Roles (1983 to 2008). Directed professional research staff in the performance of research projects. Led data collection and data processing tasks for large-scale surveys, with responsibility for both the technical and budgetary success of the tasks. Performed statistical data analysis and software development tasks.

Selected Volunteer Activities and Board Service

Board Member, Member of Finance Committee; Go Global NC; 2019 to date

Board Member, United Way of North Carolina, 2018 to date

Tocqueville Society Member, United Way of Alamance County, 2017 to date; Former Grant Reviewer

Member of Board of Visitors, Fundraising Committee Member; University of Wyoming College of Arts & Sciences; 2015 to date

Executive Board Member, Vice Chair of the Board; Defense Alliance of North Carolina; 2013 to date

Board Member, Triangle Area Analytics Group, 2011 to 2013

Board Chair, Triangle Volleyball Club, 2010 to 2016

Selected Project Experience – Postsecondary Education

High School Longitudinal Study (2009 to date)—*Senior Advisor*. In the fall of 2009, the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) launched the High School Longitudinal Study, which follows a cohort of more than 25,000 9th graders in the base year through their high school, postsecondary, and early career experiences, focusing on college decision-making and on math learning based on a new algebra assessment. Data are collected from students, administrators, math and science teachers, school counselors, parents, and administrative records.

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) (2003 to date)—*Senior Advisor*. IPEDS is a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually by the U.S. Department of Education's NCES. IPEDS gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in the federal student financial aid programs. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires that institutions that participate in federal student aid programs report data on enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty and staff, finances, institutional prices, and student financial aid. These data are made available to students and parents through the [College Navigator](#) college search website and to researchers and others through the [IPEDS Data Center](#).

National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) (1993 to date)—*Various roles, including Technology Director, Deputy Project Director, and Senior Advisor*. Funded by NCES, NPSAS is designed to monitor and help understand how students and their families pay for postsecondary education. The study, which was first conducted in 1987, collects, analyzes, and publishes data covering the spectrum of higher education institutions. Although specifics vary for each cycle of the study, it typically

involves collecting data from more than 1,000 institutions and as many as 100,000 students. In alternating cycles, NPSAS spawns cohorts of either first-time beginning students (from all levels of institutions) or baccalaureate recipients (from 4-year institutions). These students are re-contacted periodically between 1 to 10 years after the cohort is established to track progress through postsecondary education, transitions to work, and career paths. NPSAS is one of the primary tools used by government policy makers and researchers to understand topics such as postsecondary student debt levels, time to completion, student transfer rates, and career trajectory post-completion.

National Study of Faculty and Students (NSoFaS:04) (2003 to 2008)—*Deputy Project Director*. This study combined two major data collection activities that NCES has conducted in the past: the National Study of Postsecondary Faculty (NSoPF) and the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS). Because of the significant overlap between the institutional samples for these studies, NCES decided to conduct them together as NSoFaS.

Professional Service

Conference organizer, International Field Directors and Technologies Conference, 2004, 2005, 2009
Reviewer, Medical Expenditures Panel Survey proposal for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD, 2002

Special Courses

Certificate in Change Management, Duke University/Fuqua School of Business, Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship, April 2011
Managing Technical Professionals and Organizations, Massachusetts Institute of Technology-Sloan School of Management, Cambridge, MA, December 2003
Managing PSPSM-Trained Engineers, Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute, February 2001
Team Software ProcessSM for Executives, Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute, January 2001

Professional Associations

American Statistical Association
American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Public Health Association
Society for Information Management

Books and Book Chapters

Sha, M., & Gabel, T. J. (eds.), (2020). The essential role of language in survey research. RTI Press Publication No. BK-0023-2004. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI Press.
<https://doi.org/10.3768/rtipress.bk.0023.2004>

Gabel, T. J., Pedrazzani, S. D., & Day, O. A. (2008). Computer-assisted data collection. In *Wiley Encyclopedia of Clinical Trials*.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Gabel, T. J., & Tokarski, C. (2014). Big data and organization design: Key challenges await the survey research firm. *Journal of Organization Design*, 3(1), 37–45. doi: 10.7146/jod.3.1.9753

Technical Reports

- Riccobono, J. A., Cominole, M. B., Siegel, P. H., Gabel, T. J., Link, M. W., & Berkner, L. K. (2002). *1999-2000 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000) methodology report*. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. NCES 2002-152.
- Riccobono, J. A., Whitmore, R., Traccerella, M., Pratt, D., & Berkner, L. (2001). *National Postsecondary Student Aid Study 1995-96 (NPSAS:96) methodology report*. Prepared for the National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. NCES 98-073.
- 1990 Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey, user's guide to the public use tapes*. (1991). Prepared for the Office of Highway Information Management, U.S. Department of Transportation.
- The analysis of relationships between growth & dietary intake using the NHANES dataset*. (1988). Prepared for the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.
- Description of spouses of officers & enlisted personnel in the U.S. Selected Reserve: 1986. Supplementary tabulations from the 1986 Reserve Components Surveys*. (1988). Prepared for the Defense Manpower Data Center.
- Description of officers & enlisted personnel in the U.S. Selected Reserve: 1986. Supplementary tabulations from the 1986 Reserve Components Surveys. Volume 1-2*. (1987). Prepared for the Defense Manpower Data Center.
- The survey antimicrobial use in hospitals*. (1986). Prepared for the Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Description of spouses of officers & enlisted personnel in the Armed Forces: 1985, U. S. Supplementary Tabulations from the 1985 DoD Surveys of Officer & Enlisted Personnel & Military Spouses. Volume 1-3*. (1986). Prepared for the Defense Manpower Data Center.
- Description of officers & enlisted personnel in the U.S. Armed Forces: 1985. Supplementary tabulations from the 1985 DoD surveys of officer & enlisted personnel & military spouses. Volume 1-3*. (1986). Prepared for the Defense Manpower Data Center.

Presentations and Proceedings

- Gabel, T. J. (2011, March). *Using technology to improve productivity, increase efficiency, and lower costs*. Presented at 2011 Federal CASIC conference, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2007, May). *Survey data security issues*. Presented at 2007 International Field Directors and Technologies Conference, Santa Monica, CA.
- Gabel, T. J. (2004). *The use of web-based methods for the conduct of federally sponsored establishment surveys*. Invited speaker for the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Workshop on Web-Based Data Collection, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Simpson, J. B., Joshua, S., & Gabel, T. J. (2004). *Design and implementation of multi-mode complex questionnaires using web-based technologies: The instrument development and documentation system (IDADS)*. Presented (by Gabel, T.) at the Annual Conference of the American Education Research Association, San Diego, CA.
- Gabel, T. J. (2004). *Update on RTI CASIC activities*. CASIC Round-Robin Presentation at the 2004 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J., Best, S., & Mockovak, B. (2004). Coverage and quality of web-based business surveys. *Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Workshop*, Washington, DC.

- Gabel, T. J. (2003). *RTI's CASIC year in review*. Presentation at the 2003 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2003). *Moving survey systems from R&D to production—best practices and lessons learned*. Presentation at the 2003 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2002). *Methods and procedures for implementing quality assurance in the development of complex computerized questionnaires*. Panelist, International Field Directors and Field Technologies Conference, Clearwater Beach, FL.
- Gabel, T. J. (2002). *Mobile and handheld computing technologies*. Session organizer and discussant, Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- Gabel, T. J. (2002). *Computer-assisted survey information collection—a round-up of recent innovations and developments at the Research Triangle Institute*. Plenary presentation to the 2002 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2001). *Probability-based Internet surveys: A synopsis of early methods and survey research results*. Discussant in the Concurrent Session VII-A at the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Research Conference, Arlington, VA.
- Gabel, T. J. (2001). Generalized survey processing systems and generalized modules—the way of the future? A discussion of RTI's integrated field management system. *Proceedings of the 2001 Joint Statistical Meetings*, Atlanta, GA.
- Gabel, T. J. (2002). *Technology: Past, present, and future*. Presentation at the RTI Orienteering the Future Seminar Series, Research Triangle Park, NC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2001). *Moving survey processes from R&D into production*. Presentation at the 2001 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2001). *New CASIC developments at RTI*. CASIC Round-Robin Presentation at the 2001 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2000). *Uses of the web and Internet for survey activities, including management, communications, and documentation*. Presentation and Session Co-Chair at the 2000 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (2000). *Update on RTI CASIC activities*. CASIC Round-Robin Presentation at the 2000 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J., & Berman, L. (1999). *Issues and strategies for A-CASI implementation*. Session organizer and panel discussion facilitator for the 1999 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (1999). *RTI's CASIC year in review*. Presentation at the 1999 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (1998). *Demonstration of a web-based computer assisted data entry (CADE) system for NPSAS:2000*. Presentation to the NPSAS:2000 Technical Review Panel and the IPEDS Systems Team from the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the National Center for Education Statistics, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (1998). *Obtaining computerized student credit history data—implementation issues and strategies*. Presentation to the NPSAS:2000 Technical Review Panel, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (1998). *RTI CASIC technology applications*. Presentation at the 1998 Federal CASIC Conference, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, DC.
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- Gabel T. J. (1997). *Use of extant databases for the 1996 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study*. Presentation to the NPSAS:96 Technical Review Panel, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J. (1995). *Computerized data collection in postsecondary institutions*. Presentation to the NPSAS:96 Technical Review Panel, Washington, DC.
- Gabel, T. J., Parsley, T., Dowd, K., Suresh, R., & McKlveen, S. (1995). *Using a "household roster of trips" strategy to reduce respondent burden and improve data quality for the 1995 Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey*. Presentation and software demonstration at the 1995 International Field Directors and Field Technologies Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- Gabel, T. J., Kanarek, H., & Miller, B. (1995). *CAPI field hardware panel and discussion*. Presenter and panelist at the 1995 International Field Directors and Field Technologies Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- Gabel, T. J., & Suresh, R. (1994). *The tracing and locating module of the CATI instrument for the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:93)*. Demonstration at the 1994 U.S. Bureau of the Census Computer-Assisted Survey Information Collection (CASIC) Technologies Interchange, Arlington, VA.
- Gabel, T. J., & Marti, N. (1994). *Co-managing a project between two organizations*. Presentation and discussion facilitator for the 1994 Field Directors and Technologies Conference, Survey Management Section, Boston, MA.
- Gabel, T. J. (1987). *SAS macros designed to create camera-ready, typed tables directly from SAS data sets*. Best Contributed Paper, In User Interface Tools Section, SAS Users Group International Conference Proceedings, SAS Institute Inc. Cary, NC.

Media and Communications

- Brackin, M., Burke, B., Gabel, T., Waggy, M., & Williams, J. (2020). EIA gas price survey team overcomes COVID-19 hurdles. Blog/web publication.
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