The U.S. Census Bureau is gearing up to surpass previous participation records in order to get an accurate snapshot of people living in the United States. The push for participation has stirred discussion of what census outcomes could mean to Michigan, especially to marginalized communities, in terms of federal dollars for things like social services, and big-ticket items like infrastructure and economic development projects. Census data will also contribute to Michigan’s redistricting process, how school districts are defined, and state representation in our nation’s capital. This forum will lay out how census data may impact Michigan, challenges for data gathering in stressed communities, and best practices for ensuring participation.

Marilyn A. Sanders is the Regional Director for the U.S. Census Bureau, Chicago Region.

Mrs. Sanders earned an undergraduate degree in Business Management with a concentration in Economics from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She attended the University of South Alabama and Governor State University, pursuing post graduate studies in the Geography and Statistics. She had a variety of roles at the Census Bureau. As Coordinator, Mrs. Sanders was instrumental in planning the Special Census Program. Recognition for her work includes three Bronze Medals, the Presidential Hammer Award, and two nominations for Federal Employee of the Year.

Noah Durst, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor in the School of Planning, Design and Construction’s Urban & Regional Planning Program at Michigan State University.

Dr. Durst joined the program in 2017, after earning master’s degrees in public affairs and Latin American studies and a PhD in public policy from the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. In his current research, Dr. Durst employs mixed methods—both quantitative and qualitative—to examine the intended and unintended effects of planning and policy-making on issues of social equity. Much of his research to date has examined the challenges and implications of informality in U.S. housing markets.

Joe Scantlebury, J.D. is Vice President for program strategy at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Mr. Scantlebury received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University’s New York State School of Industrial & Labor Relations and holds a Juris Doctor from New York University School of Law. In his role at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Mr. Scantlebury leads strategic programming efforts to improve the lives of vulnerable children and families. He is a
member of the Executive Council and is responsible for integrating programming, organizational policy and philosophies, human and financial resources allocation management and communications.

Kerry Ebersole Singh is the Michigan Statewide Census Executive Director, Office of the Governor
Mrs. Ebersole earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy from Michigan State University’s James Madison College. She previously served as CEO of Persuasion Link, LLC., a Michigan-based Public Affairs Firm, and has more than 20 years of experience in national, state and local politics and government affairs. In the last six years, Mrs. Ebersole has served as the Michigan State Director and Senior Advisor to the Energy Foundation States and Regions program, helping to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy.

Sponsor Leadership – Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR), College of Social Science, Michigan State University

Matt Grossmann, Director, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR), Associate Professor of Political Science
A nationally known political scientist, Dr. Grossman is an expert on American politics and government whose research spans national and state policymaking, election campaigns, interest groups, and political parties. Dr. Grossmann has authored numerous journal articles on policy change, political party networks, the legislative process and public opinion. His latest book, Red State Blues was recently made available through Cambridge University Press. He is also editor of the volume New Directions in Interest Group Politics, from Routledge.

AnnMarie Schneider, Director for Program Planning & Policy Education, IPPSR and Director of the Canadian Studies Center
AnnMarie’s lead responsibilities are the Michigan Applied Public Policy Research (MAPPR) Grant Program and Policy Briefs, in addition to coordinating and facilitating a policy forum series featuring research expertise on current legislative issues. AnnMarie also advises marketing and communication of IPPSR programs in order to advance linkages between campus and the Capitol. She bridges state and international policy as director of MSU’s Canadian Studies Center where focus lies on U.S. and Canada relations, and Canada’s cultural and economic profile.

Fall 2019 Forum Series Dates:
October 2nd and November 6th

Presentations and additional resources are posted at www.ippsr.msu.edu.