

## Preface

In the past few decades, methods for testing survey questionnaires have changed radically. To focus attention on questionnaire testing, the International Conference on Questionnaire Development, Evaluation, and Testing was held November 14 - 17, 2002, in Charleston, South Carolina, U.S.A. The intent of the conference was to advance the state of knowledge about current questionnaire testing methods being used, as well as to introduce and assess new ones. There were 32 sessions with 24 invited papers and 52 contributed papers. In addition there were 15 poster presentations. The 24 invited papers were published in the monograph *Methods for Testing and Evaluating Survey Questionnaires*, edited by Stanley Presser, Jennifer Rothgeb, Mick Couper, Judith Lessler, Elizabeth Martin, Jean Martin, and Eleanor Singer and published by John Wiley in 2004. The authors of the contributed papers were encouraged to submit their papers to the *Journal of Official Statistics* for consideration for this special issue. A special team of Deputy Associate Editors and a large number of referees have reviewed all submissions. The members of the special editorial team were Karen Bogen, Debbie Collins, James Esposito, Gustav Haraldsen, Kristen Miller, Joanne Pascale, Ger Snijkers, and Gordon Willis. The special issue, comprising 12 articles, is a result of them working with the authors and the JOS central staff and we are indebted to them.

This special issue complements the edited monograph. We hope that this set of publications will stand as an authoritative, if not definitive, work documenting the current state of research on methods for testing and evaluating survey questionnaires.

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