



NEWS RELEASE

November 1, 2017

University Centers Receive National Awards of Excellence for Publications and Websites, Center Economist Receives Best Paper Award at AUBER Conference

Contact: Kathy Deck, AUBER President, 205.348.6849, kdeck@cba.ua.edu

Three universities that are members of the Association for University Business and Economic Research have earned national Awards of Excellence for publications and websites, and one center economist has received an award for best paper.

The awards were presented at AUBER's 2017 conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, hosted by Lee Reynis, retired director of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of New Mexico, and Jeff Mitchell, the Bureau's current director.

"These awards recognize not only the best in applied economic research, but also the most effective ways of communicating research findings to local communities," said Bruce Kellison, the 2016-2017 AUBER president and director at the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas, Austin. "AUBER members play a vital role in researching and communicating about local and regional economic conditions around the country."

The **Award of Excellence for Print Publications** was presented to John Deskins, director of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at West Virginia University, for the *West Virginia Economic Outlook 2017–2021*.

"AUBER members are typically the leaders in educating people about economic issues in their respective states," Deskins said. "To be recognized by such an important group of academics in applied economics research is quite an honor."

The **Award of Excellence for Electronic Publications** went to the Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Director Stephen Miller accepted the award for the *Economic Indexes for Nevada and Southern Nevada*.

"The Nevada and Southern Nevada coincident and leading indicators provide a picture of the current state of these economies as well as an early warning system about the economies' future developments," Miller said. "Although many of the staff contributed to the report, Jinju Lee, economic analyst, headed the development and design of the report."

The **Award of Excellence in Websites** was presented to the University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research for the [Montana Economic Outlook Seminar](#) website. "Our new site gives attendees of our outlook events across the state a place to learn and interact with

seminar presenters throughout the year,” said Patrick Barkey, director of BBER. “We’re thrilled to see the talents of our publications director, Scott Hawk, recognized in this prestigious award.”

The **2017 Polzin Prize for Best Paper** was awarded to Timothy Slaper, research director at the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University, for “An Agglomeration Set on a Hill: Industry Clusters and the Magnetic Attraction of FDI.”

“I’m privileged to have won this prize,” Slaper said. “It is a testimony to the relevancy of AUBER that it attracts not only academically rigorous papers but research that is useful for economic development practitioners as well.”

The AUBER Polzin Prize is named for Paul Polzin, emeritus director of the University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

“I am pleased and honored that the Polzin Prize continues to recognize outstanding research conducted by AUBER members,” Polzin said.

AUBER is the professional association of business and economic research organizations at public and private universities and consists of 60+ leading university-based economic research centers.

###