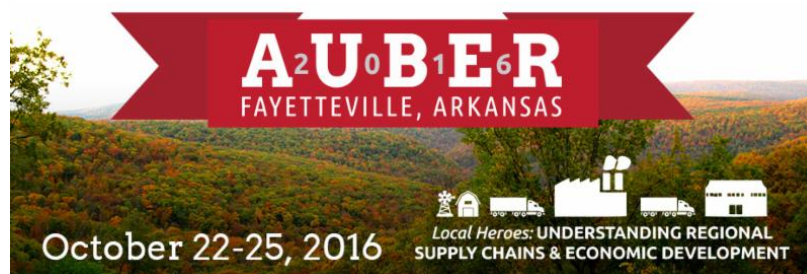




June 2016 News & Updates

AUBER Fall 2017 Conference



Mark your calendars and plan on attending the 2016 AUBER Fall Conference
Fayetteville, Arkansas
October 22-25, 2016, The Chancellor Hotel

[Crystal Bridges Website](#)

[Chancellor Hotel Website](#)

Around AUBER.....

From Carl Bonham - Hawaii

'Ike Wai

UHERO's Project Environment recently received a \$20 million NSF grant for a joint research project studying Oahu's freshwater aquifers:

www.hawaii.edu/news/2016/05/05/uh-leads-20m-research-partnership-to-secure-hawai%CA%BBis-water-future/

Full project description here:

uhero.hawaii.edu/news/view/307

New Team Member: Jon Page

We're happy to announce that Jon Page has joined UHERO Analytics as our Data Specialist. Jon was part of the team that launched the UHERO Dashboard Project with visualizations like the Hawaii Income Distribution Map. http://www.uhero.hawaii.edu/static/dashboard/income_map.html

Learn more about Jon's work on the UHERO site (<http://uhero.hawaii.edu/154/>) or visit his blog <http://economistry.com/> for tutorials on R and other data visualization tools.

From Herb Holloway - Southeastern Louisiana

I just recently found out that BEA is now publishing Personal Consumption Expenditures data by state.

http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/regional/pce/pce_newsrelease.htm

The 1997-2014 data was released last December, I think.

From Ben McKay - Georgia Southern

The Business Innovation Group (BIG) which is the home for all of the business and economic development outreach services offered by Georgia Southern University was awarded a Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration. This new site will be one of only 19 VBOCs in the United States. Here is a link to the press release

<http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/2016/06/06/business-innovation-group-receives-grant-for-veterans-business-outreach-center/>

Note that the Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development is one of the founding members of the Business Innovation Group.

An Occasional Note from the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics June 13, 2016

First...A reminder: If you haven't already done so, please let Mae Pattison (mae.pattison@copafs.org) know if you plan to attend COPAFS June 17 Quarterly Meeting. The preliminary agenda is attached. The last session of the day is being finalized this week.

Update on statistical agency appropriations. Last week, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved a bill for FY 2017 appropriations that would:

- Keep Bureau of Labor Statistics funding at current (and insufficient) levels, an amount that is \$32 million below what the President's Budget recommends;
- Cut NCHS funding by \$4.4 million from the 2016 level and that proposed by the President's Budget, jeopardizing ongoing health survey progress;
- Cut NCES funding by \$13.3 million from FY 2016, to an amount that is \$27 million less than the President's Budget recommends.

Follow the current status of Congressional actions on federal statistical agencies'

appropriations at: <http://www.copafs.org/UserFiles/file/2015-2017BudgetAuthorityforStatAgencies.pdf> Look for a COPAFS analysis of the implications of these actions following House action on Labor/HHS/Education appropriations for 2017.

Update on Business Data Synchronization: Co-signatures on our "living letter" to the Senate Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight and the House Subcommittee on Tax Policy have swelled to 25 organizations and 52 prominent individuals who extoll the benefits of a tax law change to synchronize selected tax records-derived business data among the Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, See the letter and co-signers at: <http://www.copafs.org/UserFiles/file/FederalBusinessRegistryLetterSenatewithAttach.pdf> In the meantime, Senator Mark Warner will be sponsoring Data Synchronization legislation, at which time we will pick up our activity in promoting the benefits of such action.

Update on implications of the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act for statistical agencies: The Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 Title II Subtitle B was passed as part of Division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016. The Act establishes and amends cybersecurity-related requirements for the federal government to improve federal network security, create an intrusion assessment plan, advance internal defenses, and establish specific reporting requirements for government agencies. Under the Act all government agencies are required to give the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or a private entity providing assistance to the Secretary access to information transiting or traveling to or from an agency information system, notwithstanding any other provision of law that would otherwise restrict or prevent the head of an agency from disclosing such information to the Secretary or a private entity providing assistance to the Secretary. Current plans for implementing the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 could permanently jeopardize the ability of Federal statistical agencies to collect accurate and representative information, and would increase the cost of their conducting surveys as a result of the need to modify disclosure statements for survey respondents. The statistical agencies and OMB asked that the ACT be implemented in a way that would allow statistical agencies to maintain their privacy pledge to respondents, suggesting several options for doing so.

COPAFS has developed for educational purposes a one-pager describing of the implications of the Act and options for its implementation that would reduce potential declines in statistical survey response rates. On Friday, June 10, 2016, COPAFS' Kitty Smith and Dan Newlon of the American Economic Association met with members of Senator Carper's office, including the Professional Staff Member responsible for the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs' cybersecurity legislative deliberations, to explain the statistical agency dilemma. We left feeling very positive about the potential for the Act's being implemented in a way that minimizes effects on statistical collections.

New leadership in statistical agencies.

- We congratulate Hubert Hamer on having been named the new Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The announcement follows the retirement of Joe Reilly who served as Administrator for the past two years during his 40 year career with NASS. . Hubert previously served as Director of NASS' Statistics Division.

- Kevin Smith is the new Chief Information Officer for the Census Bureau. He was previously with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- The BLS has a number of new leaders since February 2016. Check out the agency's new Senior Management directory with biographies:
http://www.bls.gov/bls/senior_staff/

Where are They Now - Janet Speyrer AUBER President 2004-2005

A note from Janet:

I retired from University of New Orleans almost three years ago. The time has passed so quickly. I don't have a picture from any grand vacations, yet, but I do have this copy of one I took when preparing the renewal of my passport. Of course, I updated my passport with exciting plans for the future.

I have been spending time with my family who have been doing very interesting things. My daughter received her MBA this month; and, as professor emeritus, I was given the honor of presenting her diploma to her. She is now vacationing in Israel. My son is working as a successful electrical engineer and had the opportunity to travel to Peru to visit Machu Picchu last month. Now, it's my turn.



I love AUBER for everything it has done for me. Fruitful research collaboration, many wonderful friends, the latest research trends, and how to make my unit a better place are just some of the benefits AUBER has shared with me. The hospitality suites were always instructive in how to enjoy my time while networking (in its broadest definition). My service on the Board, as program chair for the conference in 2004; and, eventually, as president in 2005 were highlights of my AUBER experience. Hurricane Katrina in late August of 2005 left me with uncertainty about the future of my university and my position as the director of DBER. Regrettably, this uncertainty caused me to miss the conference in Montana as president. Happily, there were many good years to come, and the metro area has seen resiliency few had forecast at the time.

Hosting the Fall Conference here in New Orleans in 2003 was very special. As always, the food was great. The historic Monteleone Hotel was a highlight. The party at the National World War II Museum (now part of the Smithsonian) was replete with a serious view from the past and, on the lighter side, a swing dance. The trip to the Port of New Orleans illustrated one of the major tenets of our local economy.

I still read the newsletter with interest, and watch for news about my AUBER colleagues. I learned with sadness of the deaths of some of my closest AUBER friends and wish the best for all of us who remember them fondly.

For the newer members, I would just say to enjoy all of the many benefits of being a part of one of the best organizations for professionals in units like ours. One suggestion: don't tell your dean how much fun you have at conferences!

You can reach me at:

Janet F. Speyrer, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus of Economics and Finance jspeyrer@uno.edu

(504) 723-2254

Position Announcements

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®]

Culverhouse

College of Commerce

Center for Business and Economic Research

Socioeconomic Analyst III -Socioeconomic Analyst State Data Center - 501137

The Center for Business and Economic Research seeks a Socioeconomic Analyst to perform complex analysis and interpretation of data related to population demographics. The application deadline is 6/13/2016. For more details and to apply, go to <http://jobs.ua.edu/> The University of Alabama is an equal-opportunity employer (EOE), including an EOE of protected vets and individuals with disabilities.

UHERO

THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH ORGANIZATION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Assistant Specialist Position

The University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization (UHERO) in the Social Science Research Institute, College of Social Sciences & Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) invites applications for an Assistant or Associate Specialist (position 88744/88649), full-time, tenure track, beginning January 1, 2017 or earlier, pending position clearance and availability of funds. For the full job advertisement and application instructions, visit <http://uhero.hawaii.edu/153/>

Robert Van Driest | UM BBER | 406-243-5113 | rob.vandriest@business.umt.edu | auber.org

STAY CONNECTED:

