



# AUBER

ASSOCIATION FOR UNIVERSITY BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The AUBER newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Association for University Business and Economic Research.

NEWSLETTER  
SPRING  
2011

## 65th Annual AUBER Conference

October 8-11  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**M**ark your calendar now for AUBER's 2011 Fall Conference, October 8-11 in Indianapolis. The fall conference is a great opportunity to network with peers and renew old friendships while sharing the latest thinking and practices in business and economic research.

The program will include sessions targeting the interests of center directors, researchers, editors and other unit staff, as always. Stay tuned for more information from Program Chair Janet Harrah about the program and opportunities to participate.

Woven into the program and activities, this year's conference will have a special theme – the Business

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# News from the President

## AUBER OFFICERS

### President

Hart Hodges  
Western Washington University

### President Elect

Janet Harrah  
Northern Kentucky University

### Vice President

James Kleckley  
East Carolina University

### Secretary-Treasurer

Patrick Barkey  
The University of Montana

### Past President

Sean Snaith  
University of Central Florida

## AUBER DIRECTORS

Sam Addy  
University of Alabama

Esmael Adibi  
Chapman University

Lorena Akioka  
University of Georgia

Jerry Conover  
Indiana University

Jeff Rexhausen  
University of Cincinnati

Jeffrey Michael  
University of the Pacific

Stephen Smith  
University of Memphis

Marshall Vest  
The University of Arizona

### Editor

Shannon Furniss  
The University of Montana

We had our spring board meeting on March 6 and then hosted a welcoming reception to start the NABE policy conference. NABE was a gracious host and recognized our support on many occasions. In addition, the sessions we organized went well. We'll follow up soon with a letter to the NABE board thanking them and letting them know we look forward to strengthening the relationship between the two organizations.

And speaking of relationships between organizations – don't forget that UEDA (the University Economic Development Association) is meeting in Indianapolis this coming October. They chose the place and dates of their fall conference so their sessions would overlap a bit with ours. We should all reach out to members of UEDA and try to build good connections.



**Hart Hodges**  
**2010-2011**  
**AUBER President**

As you know, we've scheduled our 2012 conference in Hawaii. Dates and other details will be available soon. Now we need to think about 2013. We will send an RFP soon.

We also need to work on membership. Please contact Jim Kleckley (your AUBER vice president), or any other board member, with thoughts about retention and recruiting new members. Let us know what you would like to see, tell us about organizations we should contact, etc.

Congratulations again to Rick Harper for his promotion/new position at UCF; thanks to Jim Kleckley for taking the VP position; and thanks to Jeff Rexhausen for joining the board.

I hope everyone is enjoying the start of spring.

Best regards, Hart

## Membership Committee News

*by Paul E. Polzin*

Rick Harper recently informed AUBER that he cannot serve as chair of the Membership Committee during the upcoming year. AUBER President Hart Hodges then trudged out to the Montana Home for the Bewildered, where I'm spending a lot of time lately, and convinced me that I should serve as the committee chair for one more year.

Here are some of the plans for the Membership Committee during the coming year.

1. Revise the membership survey. One of the vital tasks of the membership committee is to survey members and report on their characteristics and activities. In recent years the response rate for this survey has dropped. We have shortened this survey

significantly to reduce respondent burden. I will e-mail out a link to each director next September. Please fill it out. We will present a report of the responses at next year's Fall Meeting.

2. Conduct an interview with each member. We will contact each AUBER member late next summer to make sure all the contact information is correct and to encourage everyone to attend the Fall Meeting in Indianapolis next October. The interview should give members a good way to provide suggestions and input to the AUBER leadership.

3. The Membership Committee also acts as the lead contact for potential new members. So, if you have people or organizations you think should know about AUBER, please let me know at [paul.polzin@business.umt.edu](mailto:paul.polzin@business.umt.edu).

# 65th Annual AUBER Conference

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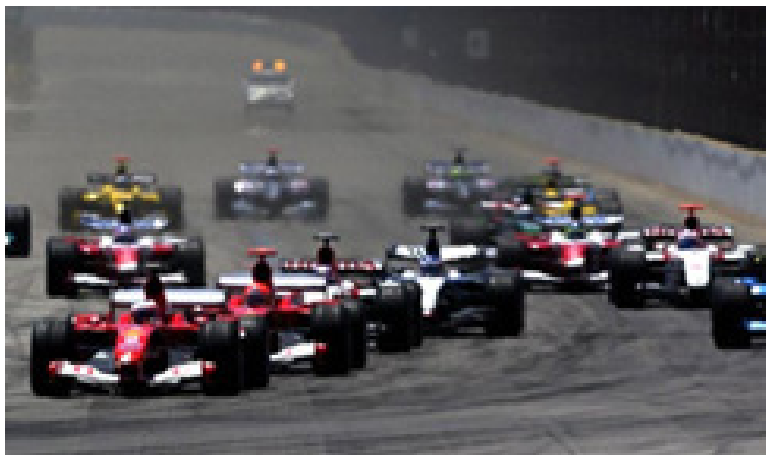
and Economics of Sports – reflecting Indianapolis’ role as a major center for both professional and collegiate sports. We’ll take a field trip to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, now celebrating the centennial of the Indy 500 race. The 2012 Super Bowl will be held just a few blocks from the conference, and the NCAA HQ/Hall of Champions is also nearby. Count

on some outstanding speakers to share insights into the important role sports play in the economies and lives of our communities and universities.

The conference will be held at the Indianapolis Hilton in the heart of downtown Indy, within walking distance of plenty of great restaurants and bars, museums, and other attractions. The

AUBER room rate is \$119/night plus tax. The 2011 Fall Conference is co-hosted by AUBER members at Ball State, Purdue, and Indiana Universities.

Look for more conference details on the web and in the next newsletter. See you in Indy.





## NABE Conference

*by Jim Kleckley*

**W**e hope that you were able to attend the 27th Annual Economy Policy Conference that was presented by the National Association for Business Economics (NABE) and AUBER.

If you have not been to one of the policy conferences, you should consider attending. While AUBER is the professional organization for public and private university economic and business research, NABE is the professional association for business economists and those who use economics in the workplace. NABE, which began in 1959, has attracted individuals in business, economics, government, and academia. In fact, many AUBER members also are members of NABE. The conference also provides AUBER members the opportunity to network with the business community throughout the country and to show them that many of our offices can be solid resources for

state and local economic expertise – if they do not know it already.

This year's policy conference was special in that NABE's president, Rich Wobbekind from the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado, is also director of the schools' Business Research Division. And, as most of us know, Rich is a past president of AUBER, and his office served as our organization's business office for a number of years.

Prior to the NABE conference, the AUBER directors held their spring meeting. As always, the directors addressed a variety of issues, including budget and membership, conferences, and relationships to other organizations.

The conference began with a view from the Fed presented by Dennis Lockhart, the Atlanta Fed's president and CEO. The remaining conference sessions addressed many major issues

facing the county today, including deficit reduction, health care, e-commerce, and clean energy, among others. In addition to Mr. Lockhart, conference speakers included Doug Elmendorf (director of the Congressional Budget Office), Zin Min (International Monetary Fund), Austan Goolsbee (chair of the President's Council of Economic Advisors), and Robert Hormats (U.S. Department of State). Individual sessions included experts in a variety of fields. Participants also were guests of the Embassy of Turkey. In addition to a wonderfully hosted reception, the ambassador and his staff provided a brief program on the economy of Turkey.

For more information, visit <http://www.nabe.com/pc11/program.html> or ask one of the AUBER directors or other members who attended. We will be happy to share more when we see you in the fall in Indianapolis.

# AUBER Spring 2011 Board Meeting Highlights

*by Patrick M. Barkey*

**Y**our AUBER board met on March 6, 2011, prior to the spring NABE Policy Conference in Arlington, Virginia. The meeting was the first board meeting for newly elected directors Esmael Adibi (Chapman), Jerry Conover (Indiana), and Lorena Akioka (Georgia). Newly elected Marshall Vest (Arizona) was unable to attend. They were joined by incumbent members Jeff Michael (Pacific), Stephen Smith (Memphis), and Sam Addy (Alabama). Jim Kleckley (Eastern Carolina), who was appointed to fill the second year board vacancy of Janet Harrah (Northern Kentucky) also attended.

Among the items reported and discussed were:

- The treasurer's report by Secretary-Treasurer Patrick Barkey (Montana) showed generally healthy cash balances and a slight decline in the number of centers that was offset by an increase in individual memberships;
- A report on the very successful Fall 2010 conference in Charleston, WV by Tom Witt (West Virginia), which netted a significant surplus of revenues over expenses;
- A report on planning for the Fall 2011 conference in Indianapolis on October 8-11. Recruitment for major speakers, including the speaker for the first Keith Schwer lecture in honor of one of AUBER's most revered members, as well as social and financial aspects of the conference were presented by Jerry Conover (on behalf of the three hosting centers) and President-Elect Janet Harrah, who serves as co-chair of the program committee together with Stephen Smith.
- Plans for the 2012 Fall conference in Hawaii, as well as the plan to solicit proposals for meetings in 2013 and 2014 were discussed as well.

There was considerable discussion about how AUBER might get more value out of our partnership with NABE, especially regarding the Spring conference. Most felt that our organization could and should get more out of the resources we put into the conference, and the Spring conference planning committee for 2012 was charged with bringing options forward to make that happen.

President Hart Hodges (Western Washington) announced some appointments to the board and the AUBER slate of officers in response to some resignations.

- Vice President Andy Brod (North Carolina – Greensboro) had to resign due to the demise of his center last year – then-President Sean Snaith (Central Florida) appointed Janet Harrah to take his place.
- Janet's position on the board was filled by the appointment of Jim Kleckley.
- Rick Harper (Western Florida) resigned as Vice President due to his promotion at his University, Hart Hodges appointed Jim Kleckley to serve as VP in Rick's place.
- Jeff Rexhausen (Cincinnati) was appointed to fill Jim Kleckley's board position.

Membership issues, including how best to reach out to continuing and lapsed members, received considerable attention. The meeting ended with a report from Stephen Smith on the AUBER forecasting publication's status, and how the process for collecting, producing and distributing this could be more easily carried out.

The meeting was adjourned by President Hart Hodges.



## **PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE**

# **Green and Global in the Garden City**

May 12-13, 2011

Delta Ocean Pointe Hotel – Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

In addition to a wide range of sessions on the performance and prospects for the regional and national economies and related policy issues, this year's PNREC will focus on how the region's energy markets are responding to the need for greater supply and concerns about climate change.

**To register: [www.pnrec.org](http://www.pnrec.org)**



# AUBER 2013

Anyone interested in hosting  
the 2013 conference?

Contact the AUBER Business Office

by phone – 406.243.5113 by e-mail – [Patrick.Barkey@business.umt.edu](mailto:Patrick.Barkey@business.umt.edu)

## How to Use the AUBER Listserv

Want to contact fellow AUBER members? Using the listserv is an effective way to get your message out. Here is how to send an e-mail out on the listserv. First, address your e-mail to: [AUBER-L@lists.umt.edu](mailto:AUBER-L@lists.umt.edu). Compose your e-mail and send it out. Your e-mail will go first to the AUBER moderator. When it is approved, your message will reach all members.

## *The* AUBER CONNECTION

## Public Economist Position, Old Dominion University

The Old Dominion University Department of Economics seeks a highly qualified senior individual who is capable of fulfilling several interesting roles as a public economist. This person will teach four courses per year, conduct research, and be actively involved in the University's annual State of the Region report and Economic Forecasting Project. The State of the Region report and the Economic Forecasting Project are highly regarded enterprises that attract widespread regional attention and large audiences at periodic public events.

Old Dominion University enrolls approximately 24,000 students and is located the Hampton Roads, Virginia SMA containing 1.6 million people. Interested individuals should send curriculum vitae with a letter of application, contact information for three letters of reference and evidence of teaching ability, examples of research accomplishments and other relevant information to Dr. Christopher Colburn, Chair, Department of Economics, College of Business and Public Administration, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA 23529. Applications may be sent electronically to [econrecruiting@odu.edu](mailto:econrecruiting@odu.edu). For full consideration application materials should be received by May 20, 2011 for employment beginning on July 25, 2011.



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