

April 2018



**Association for  
University Business and  
Economic Research  
Newsletter**



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## **Senior Google Economist to Make Keynote Presentation at AUBER Fall Conference**



Senior Google Economist Qing Wu will be a keynote speaker at the 2018 Fall Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. This video is from a presentation he made on leveraging Google data tools at Berkeley.

From Google Trends to Google Earth, Qing Wu, a senior economist at Google uncovers economic and consumer behavior from search trends. AUBER is pleased to announce that he will be a keynote speaker at our [Fall Conference](#) held October 13-16, 2018, in Salt Lake City.

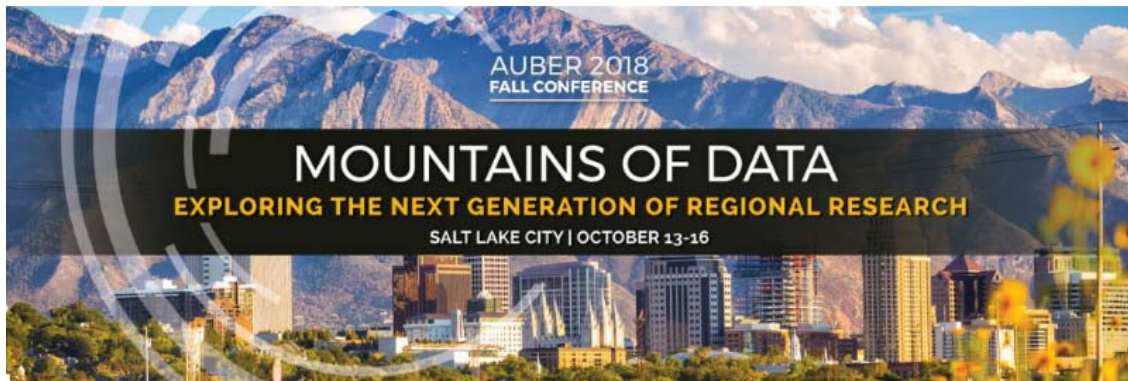
In his role at Google, Qing Wu works on business intelligence, quantitative analysis in online advertising, revenue forecast and management, user/advertiser behavior modeling, and macroeconomics. His specialties include internet data mining, financial forecast, macroeconomics, econometrics, supply chain and demand chain management.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear ways you might leverage Google tools in your center's projects.

**Register Now at the Early-Bird Rate!**

# Fall 2018 Conference

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AUBER invites you to attend the [71st Annual AUBER Fall Conference](#) entitled "Mountains of Data: Exploring the Next Generation of Regional Research." The conference will be held in Salt Lake City from October 13-16, 2018, and the [Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah](#) will be our hosts.

The conference features sessions on topics as wide-ranging as Social Impact Studies, Forecasting/Econometric Techniques, Weird Data Science, Data Visualization, and the State and Local Impacts of Federal Tax Reform. Additionally, we will hear from great keynote speakers like [Jonathan Schwabish](#), the founder of Policy Viz and senior fellow at the Urban Institute, Google's [Qing Wu](#), and [John Silvia](#) from Wells Fargo.

Would you like to make a presentation at the AUBER conference? The program is filling up, but we still have space for additional presentations. Please contact Sean Snaith, our Conference Program Chair, [here](#) if you would like to make a presentation. [View the conference program here.](#)

## **Submit Your Paper for a Chance to Win the Paul Polzin Prize for Best Paper - \$500 Cash Award**

Each year, AUBER accepts submissions for the Paul Polzin Prize for Best Paper. Last year's winner was Timothy Slaper, the director of Economic Analysis at [Indiana University's Indiana Business Research Center](#) for [An](#)

[Agglomeration Set on a Hill: Industry Clusters and the Magnetic Attraction of FDI.](#)

[View the Paul Polzin Prize for Best Paper submission guidelines here.](#)

### **Conference Field Trip to the High West Distillery**

AUBER Fall Conference will feature one of our famous field trips—this time to Park City and the [High West Distillery](#) in the Wasatch-Uinta mountains!

Make plans to attend the 2018 Fall Conference in Salt Lake City!

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## **Member News**

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### **Where are They Now?**



Jerry Wall, former AUBER president from 2002-2003, pictured with his wife, Katharine. Since retirement, Jerry and Katharine have traveled to six continents and have welcomed their first grandchild. Jerry is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol, is active in Boy Scouts, and is a scuba instructor. He still has fond memories of his time involved with AUBER.

# A Note From Jerry Wall, AUBER President, 2002 - 2003



*"I miss the research collaboration,  
wonderful friends, and keeping up  
with the latest research trends which  
AUBER made possible."*

- Jerry Wall, former director, CBER, University of  
Louisiana at Monroe

Some will remember that I served as Secretary/Treasurer for AUBER for four years and soon thereafter became President. For 24 years, I led Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, then in my waning years went over to the dark side and became a dean. I retired from the College of Business at Northwestern State University of Louisiana in 2011 after leading it through a successful AACSB re-accreditation. Since then, Katharine and I have traveled extensively and touched down in over 45 countries through cruises, scuba diving trips, and personal vacations to add to the forty or so I had already visited. Between 2011 and 2018, we visited six continents after having already checked off Antarctica in 2005.

Our three children have all migrated to the northeast, so we enjoy regular visits to them. Our eldest son works for the Maine Island Trust coordinating and leading skippers and volunteers on maintenance trips to some 200 islands they monitor. Our second son lives in Maryland and works for AstraZeneca as a marketing coordinator specializing in lung cancer drugs. Our daughter followed in my footsteps, became a management professor and is now working in Connecticut. We recently welcomed our first grandchild.

I have tried to stay busy and just stepped down as District Governor of Rotary for northern Louisiana. I have stayed active in the Boy Scouts and next summer for the ninth time will be a scuba team leader at the Jamborees that occur every 4 years. I am a Lieutenant Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol and serve as Deputy Commander of the local Civil Air Patrol squadron. Humorously, I was demoted one rank from my retired military rank since only current and past Wing (state level) commanders can be full Colonels. Each year, as a scuba instructor I lead three or four groups to the Caribbean where we are engaged in establishing and maintaining coral farms.

I miss the research collaboration, wonderful friends, and keeping up with the latest research trends which AUBER made possible. Most enjoyable were the hospitality suites where we networked until the wee hours of the morning.

For any newer members, I would suggest that you get out of AUBER what you put into it. Enjoy the benefits of being a part of one of the best organizations I

know for professionals who work in business and economic research—it is definitely worth your time and effort.

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## AUBER Centers in the News

### **University of Tennessee, Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.**

[With Fed 'at or near' goals, Bostic wants more rate hikes](#) (Reuters); Bostic, Kaplan [See Two More 2018 Fed Rate Hikes If Outlook Holds](#) (Bloomberg); [Chattanooga job growth outpaces nation](#) (Chattanooga Times Free Press); [Dialogue: Coal in Appalachia](#) (WUOT); [Tennessee jobless rate steady at record low 3.3 percent in January](#) (Chattanooga Times Free Press); [Census: Nashville Continues to Lead State's Population Growth](#) (News Release).

**Ball State University, Center for Business and Economic Research.** [The Future of America's Economy Looks a Lot Like Elkhart, Indiana](#) (Wall Street Journal); [Anguished Families Shoulder The Biggest Burdens Of Opioid Addiction](#) (NPR); [Is Donald Trump right that China slaps a 25 percent tariff on American cars?](#) (Politifact); [Automation risks costing people their health as well as their jobs](#) (The Hill).

**University of Wyoming Center for Energy Economics and Public Policy.** [One year after bankruptcy, Peabody expresses optimism — though challenges remain for coal industry](#) (St Louis Post-Dispatch); [Enzi: It's Time to End this EPA Attack on Wyoming's Coal Industry](#) (Coalzoom-org); [Zinke's Plan to Fund the Park Service Is Pure Fantasy](#) (Outside Magazine); [Dispute Over Coal's Effects on Climate Change Heads to Court](#) (Bloomberg News); [US Coal Saw Gains In 2017. So, How Did Colorado Jobs Fare?](#) (Colorado Public Radio); [Coal Jobs Have Gone Up Under Trump, But Not Because Of His Policies](#) (National Public Radio); [Wyoming officials optimistic about Trump's infrastructure proposal](#) (Wyoming Tribune Eagle); [Peabody Energy Reports Higher Revenue, Tough Outlook](#) (Wyoming Public Radio); [Wyoming coal](#)



[production likely faces more declines](#) (Wyoming Casper Star-Tribune).

**Georgia State University, Economic Forecasting Center.** [Georgia and Atlanta growth will slow this year, GSU forecasts](#) (Atlanta Journal Constitution); [Nussbaum Transportation Begins Employee Stock Ownership Plan](#) (Transport Topics); [Trucking Industry Posts Big Job Gains in March](#) (Transport Topics); [Georgia Predicted to Add Jobs, Personal Income Growth Anticipated for 2018](#) (Saporta Report); [Economic Forecaster Says Decisive Year Ahead for Federal Reserve](#) (PR Web). [US auto exports to South Korea under revised trade deal face low demand](#) (S&P Global); [Tit-for-tat tariffs to impact billions of dollars in US, China trade](#) (S&P Global); [Economists: Spending 'hangover,' volatile stock market drive weak February sales](#) (S&P Global); [Consumer companies brace for fallout from US steel, aluminum tariffs](#) (S&P Global).

**University of Hawaii, Economic Research Organization.** [UHERO State Forecast Update: Not much lift from tax cuts in Hawaii's soaring economy](#); [Time to End the Preferential Taxation of Timeshare Occupancy?](#); [Determinants of Residential Solar Photovoltaic Adoption](#); [Linking land and sea to inform ahupua'a \(ridge-to-reef\) management in Hawai'i – NSF Coastal SEES](#); [The Conversation: Aida Arik on Home Solar Batteries](#).

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Bureau of Business Research.** [Nebraska Business and Consumer Confidence Settle at High Levels](#) (Business News); [UNL confidence indexes rise in March](#) (Lincoln Journal Star); [Nebraska business, consumer confidence settle at high levels](#) (Nebraska Today); [Tariffs could have big effect on Nebraska — if Trump follows through with tough talk](#) (Lincoln Journal Star); [Nebraska BBR Webinar: Climate Impacts on Water Quality and Cattle Feeding](#) (YouTube); [Jobs In Nebraska: What's Hot, What's Not, What's Changing](#) (NET Nebraska); [Grow Lincoln 3/24 Seg 4 -Eric Thompson](#) (Grow Lincoln / KLIN); [Nebraska Bureau of Business Research Leading Economic Indicator – March 2018](#) (BBR Podcast / YouTube); [Continued Expectations for State Economic Growth](#) (Business News); [February's leading economic indicators point to continued growth into third quarter](#) (Nebraska Radio Network); [Economic indicator shows continued growth in Nebraska](#) (Nebraska Today); [Midlands Voices: NU is an investment in our](#)



[state's future](#) (Omaha World Herald); [Nebraska Business and Consumer Confidence Fall From Peak Levels](#) (Business News); [Surveys: Nebraska business, consumer confidence slip from peak levels](#) (Nebraska Today); [Report: Nebraska consumers, businesses less confident in Feb.](#) (Lincoln Journal Star); [Bureau of Business Research to Present Spring Webinar Series](#) (Business News); [Platte River diversion to Republican River would be Nebraska's first](#) (Omaha World Herald); [Grand Island's economy hits \\$1 billion net taxable sales mark for the fifth straight year](#) (The Grand Island Independent).

**University of Arizona, Eller College of Management.** [Brewing co-op latest sign of heady Tucson craft beer scene](#) (Arizona Daily Star); [UA economist: Arizona industries could be vulnerable to retaliatory tariffs](#) [video]; [Tucson economy: MAP Dashboard](#) (Arizona Daily Star); [More Arizonans join job hunt as employment opportunities abound](#) (Tucson.com); [Economist: Trump tariffs could cost jobs in places like Arizona](#) (Arizona Public Media).

**University of Texas at El Paso, Department of Economics & Finance.** During the first quarter of 2018, UTEP Border Region Modelling Project (BRMP) personnel were interviewed for more than 18 separate television interviews aired in the USA and Mexico.

BRMP Economists Tom Fullerton and Adam Walke authored two books recently published by the Water Research Foundation:

- T.M. Fullerton, Jr. and A.G. Walke, ***Improving the Accuracy of Short-Term Water Demand Forecasts***, Denver, CO: Water Research Foundation, ISBN: 978-1-60573-298-5.
- T.M. Fullerton, Jr. and A.G. Walke, ***Short-Term Water Demand Forecasting Manual***, Denver, CO: Water Research Foundation, ISBN: 978-1-60573-299-2.

**University of Montana, Bureau of Business and Economic Research.** [Economists offer suggestions to tackle Montana's looming severe workforce shortage](#) (Missoulian); [Governor touts Medicaid expansion benefits with health care officials](#) (Missoulian); [I-185 Links Tobacco Taxes To Medicaid Expansion](#)

[Funding](#) (Montana Public Radio); [Medicaid Expansion Stimulates Montana Economy, Report Shows](#) (Montana Public Radio); [Lawmakers should read report on Medicaid expansion](#) (Bozeman Daily Chronicle); [Bullock touts economic impact of Medicaid expansion](#) (KPAX).

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## Job Alerts

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### **Socioeconomic Analyst II, University of Alabama Center for Business and Economic Research.**

**Job no:** 506138

**Appointment type:** Regular Full-time (Benefits eligible)

**Categories:** Other, Research/Scientific

**Department:** 206201 - Center for Business and Econ Research

**Pay Grade/Pay Range:** 58 Monthly (exempt): - Minimum - \$ 39332.76 Midpoint - \$ 57033.60

**Job Summary.** The Socioeconomic Analyst II specializes in complex demographic analysis and development of population projections, economic data analysis and interpretation, socioeconomic research, technical writing, and editing. Specialization includes, but is not limited to, the exercise of judgment needed to refine population projections to arrive at reasonable results that come from experience working with population data and projections.

**Required Minimum Qualifications:** Master's degree in a related field with a minimum of two (2) years of experience in socioeconomic research, data analysis, and technical writing; OR Bachelor's degree in a related field with a minimum of four (4) years of experience in socioeconomic research, data analysis, and technical writing.

[View full job description here.](#)

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*Would you like to share your center's news or a job alert with the AUBER membership? Please send member news to Shannon Furniss, AUBER Development Specialist, [Shannon.Furniss@gmail.com](mailto:Shannon.Furniss@gmail.com).*

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