



## NEWS RELEASE

### Association for University Business and Economic Research

October 24, 2018

#### **University Centers Receive National Awards of Excellence for Publications, Websites and Papers; Longtime Center Directors Receive AUBER Fellow Awards**

**Contact: Sean Snaith, AUBER President, 407.823.1451, [Sean.Snaith@ucf.edu](mailto:Sean.Snaith@ucf.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. Two center directors have received one of the organization's most prestigious awards – the AUBER Fellow.

The awards were presented at AUBER's 2018 conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah, hosted by the [Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah](#).

"AUBER is pleased to recognize the excellence of its membership, both in applied economic research and in effective communication about complex topics," according to Kathy Deck, AUBER's 2017-2018 president and director of Community and Economic Research Partnerships at the [University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Business](#).

"These awards are in appreciation for the important job that AUBER members do as they describe local and regional economic conditions and advise leaders how to create more successful and prosperous communities," she said.

"AUBER recognizes this year's publications winners as exemplars of outstanding research and effective communication," said Bruce Kellison, publications committee chair and director of the [Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas at Austin](#). "Our committee was deeply impressed with the quality of the strategic vision and modern design among the submissions this year."

"In addition, this year's two new AUBER Fellows are distinguished not only by their service to AUBER but also by their thought leadership at the state level," Kellison said. "Both of them are superb examples of AUBER center directors who are helping business leaders and policymakers in their regions understand economic trends and events using data and analysis."

The **Award of Excellence for Print Publications** was presented to Juliette Tennert, director of Economics and Public Policy at the University of Utah's Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, for [Utah Informed: Visual Intellection for 2018](#).

"Our team is honored and humbled to receive such recognition from our AUBER peers," Tennert said.

The **Award of Excellence for Electronic Publications** went to Jerry Conover, director of [Indiana University's Indiana Business Research Center](#) for the [Indiana Business Review](#). Conover's center also received the **Award of Excellence in Websites** for [Hoosiers by the Numbers](#).

“For nearly a century, the Indiana Business Review has been recognized as a major and convenient source for insightful information and analysis of issues important to the state and its communities,” Conover said. “And Hoosiers by the Numbers provides the latest data and analysis on Indiana’s economy, its workforce, and related indicators for the state, its regions and counties.”

The **2018 Polzin Prize for Best Paper** was awarded to Stephen M. Miller, director at the [Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas](#) for "Firm Size, Corporate Debt, R&D Activity, and Agency Costs: Exploring Dynamic and Non-Linear Effects."

“My coauthor on this paper, Giorgio Canarella, and I are honored to receive this award named after a legend amongst AUBERites,” Miller said. “We thank Paul and the selection committee for choosing our paper for this prestigious award.”

AUBER’s 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.

Two center directors have received national recognition and one of the organization’s most prestigious awards – the AUBER Fellow. Carl Bonham, director of [University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii](#), and Indiana’s director, Jerry Conover, are the 2018 winners.

“These awards are recognition of the lifetime achievements of two of our organization’s most outstanding members,” according to Patrick Barkey, the commendations committee chair and director of the [University of Montana’s Bureau of Business and Economic Research](#).

Conover said he was quite surprised to be named an AUBER Fellow, joining distinguished past and current leaders at fellow centers around the nation. “One of AUBER’s greatest benefits is that its members share their ideas and insights generously with fellow members. I’ve certainly benefited from such collegiality.”

Indiana’s Carol Rogers, deputy director and CIO of IBRC, won the AUBER Fellow award in 2016.

Hawaii’s Carl Bonham said he was honored to receive the 2018 AUBER Fellow award. “Knowing the dedication and contribution to the organization of previous fellows, it is indeed an honor.”

According to AUBER President Sean Snaith, “These award winners represent the best that AUBER has to offer. They are bringing back to their universities not only a plaque in recognition of their achievements but also the prestige of being recognized by their peers from across the nation.”

AUBER is the professional association of business and economic research organizations at public and private universities and consists of 75+ leading university-based economic research centers and affiliate organizations.

###