

Line Item

Official newsletter of

December
2011

A research section of



The American Society for
Public Administration



ASSOCIATION FOR BUDGETING
& FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

2011 Conference Recap

Honors, Knowledge & Ideas Shared in Nation's Capital



More than 100 faculty, students and practitioners descended on the Washington Marriott this past October for ABFM's 23rd Annual Conference.

Themed "Budgeting in Hard Times", the conference featured more than 3 dozen sessions covering every topic imaginable in the field of public finance. The

agenda kicked off with special sessions on the role of executive budgeting at local, state and federal levels of government, featuring well-regarded researchers.

The Graduate Poster Research Presentation competition continued its growth, with more than 10 students presenting their work. Olha Krupa (Indiana University-Bloomington) won for her poster presenting "Indiana Property Tax Reform: Equity and Cost Analysis." Christopher Goodman (The University of Georgia) finished second with "The Fiscal Impacts of Residential Land Use Characteristics).

Plenary sessions focused on continued budget challenges as a result of economic and political realities. Chris Hoene with the National League of Cities hosted a panel that examined "The Great Recession's Impact on City Budgets," while George Mason University Professor and former ASPA President Paul Posner hosted "What is a 'Responsible' Federal Budget."

The annual awards luncheon featured recognition of ABFM honorees. The Michael Curro Student Paper Award was presented to Steven Danna (University of Washington). John Petersen (George Mason University) humored the audience during his acceptance speech for the S. Kenneth Howard Award, recognizing his service as a practitioner across the country and around the world.



Gerald J. Miller (left, Arizona State University) was honored with the Aaron Wildavsky Award during the 2011 ABFM Awards Luncheon on October 14th. His award was presented by 2011 ABFM Chair, Carol Ebdon (Univ. of Nebraska-Omaha).



John Petersen (right, George Mason University) was honored with the S. Kenneth Howard Award, which was presented to him by Jonathan Justice (University of Delaware).



2011 ABFM Chair-Elect, James D. Savage (right, University of Virginia) presented Carol Ebdon with a plaque, recognizing her service as ABFM's 2011 Chair, during the 2011 ABFM Awards Luncheon.

Gerald J. Miller (Arizona State University) also took time to thank his colleagues and reminisce when presented the Aaron B. Wildavsky Award for his lifetime of service in the field of public finance.

John Mikesell (University of Indiana-Bloomington) was recognized for his distinguished service as Editor of ABFM's journal, *Public Budgeting & Finance*, while new editors William Duncombe (Syracuse) and Philip Joyce (University of Maryland) discussed their plans for the journal during the annual business meeting.

The 2012 Conference will be October 11th to 13th in New York City.

For more information on ABFM, visit our website, www.abfm.org

Chair's Column

By Carol Ebdon
2011 ABFM Chair
University of Nebraska—Omaha



The 2011 ABFM conference was highly informative and successful. Many thanks to Jim Savage, the conference chair (and ABFM Chair-Elect), for all of his efforts on our behalf.

The panels were interesting and well-attended, and led to much discussion that spilled over into the breaks and receptions. Plenary sessions provided overviews of key issues related to federal and local budgeting. One of my favorite parts of the conference is the luncheon at which we honor outstanding individuals. Congratulations to our award winners!

Bill Simonsen and Peter van der Hoek served on the Wildavsky Award Committee. The Curro Award Committee included David Matkin (Chair), Helisse Levine, and Arwiphawee Srithongrung. Jonathon Justice chaired the Howard Award Committee, which also included Carolyn Bordeaux and Stacy Mazer.

In addition to Jim's hard work on the conference program, many others contributed to the success of this event. Bryan Sullivan works tirelessly year-round as our Treasurer, but his duties are magnified before the conference, and he spends most of the conference at the registration desk rather than being able to attend panels.

Justin Marlowe obtained sponsorships at a level that sets a very high bar for future conferences. We also appreciate the funding provided by Public Financial Publications, Inc. to purchase projectors, which enabled the use of PowerPoint presentations at the conference.

We are fortunate to have many energetic and strong leaders in ABFM. The extremely efficient Donijo Robbins provides our Secretariat services (and will continue to do so despite her recent election as the part-time Controller for the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan). Kenneth Hunter produces these excellent newsletters, and is taking the lead on updating our website.

Scott Pattison is working on efforts to increase our membership. Thanks to Mark Robbins, who is ending his term as our representative to GASAC.

I especially appreciate everyone who served on the PFP Board this year: Merl Hackbart, Bill Duncombe, Charles Menified, Ken Klase, Jim Savage, and Tom Lauth (PFP President).

Special thanks to Dwight Denison (Immediate Past Chair) and Jim Savage for their advice and support. Finally, I am grateful to John Bartle and Aimee Franklin for their encouragement during my tenure as an ABFM officer.

The global events of this past year make us realize that public budgeting and financial management is more important than ever. Members of our organization make significant contributions every day to help make the world a better place. Thanks to all of you for all that you do. I hope to see you at our next conference in New York City in October 2012!

2012 ABFM Officers & Executives

Officers

Chair

James D. Savage, University of Virginia

Chair-Elect (2013)

Scott Pattison, NASBO

Vice Chair (2014)

Charles Menifield, University of Memphis

Past Chair (2011)

Carol Ebdon, University of Nebraska-Omaha

Secretary/Archivist

Donijo Robbins, Grand Valley State University (MI)

Newsletter Editor

Kenneth Hunter, City of Rocky Mount (NC)

Executive Committee

2010-2012 Term

Jonathan B. Justice, University of Delaware
Kenneth Hunter, City of Rocky Mount (NC)
M. Peter van der Hoek, Erasmus University
(Denmark)

2011-2013 Term

Carolyn Bourdeaux, Georgia State University
Meagan Jordan, University of Arkansas at Little
Rock
Eric Scorsone, State of Michigan

2012-2014 Term

Thad Calbrese, City University of New York
Helisse Levine, Long Island University
Dan Smith, New York University

ABFM aims to promote the professional development of budgeting and financial management in the public and non-profit sectors. Embracing both theoretical and operational concerns, ABFM addresses issues in budgeting processes and practice in financial management.

Job Announcements & Calls for Papers

ABFM members can post announcements for professional positions and events with their institutions and agencies. To include an announcement, please forward it to Kenneth Hunter at kenneth.hunter@nclgba.org.

Congressional Budget Office Summer Associate

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) provides the Congress with the objective, timely, and nonpartisan analyses needed for economic and budgetary decisions. CBO is now accepting applications for the 2012 Volunteer Summer Internship Program. Interns contribute to CBO's work in program areas such as budget and tax policy, health care, national defense, the environment, education, retirement and other income assistance, regulation, and public investment.

Summer internships are based on specific projects and typically last for 10 weeks. Information about the volunteer internship program and the application procedure is available on CBO's Web site, www.cbo.gov/employment/intern.cfm.

Students provide general information and submit their cover letter, résumé, contact information for references, unofficial transcripts and spring course information online. Students can apply at <https://careers.cbo.gov/ext/detail.asp?jobid=cbo2012-INTERNSHIPS>.

Selections are based on academic achievement, the relevance of academic work to CBO's responsibilities, and work experience, and should be completed by early April 2012.

The deadline to apply for the 2012 Summer Internship Program is February 29, 2012. For more information, contact Nancy Fahey by email, careers@cbo.gov.

Additional information on this announcement also available at www.publicservicecareers.org.

University of North Carolina—Charlotte Assistant Professor Public Policy/Political Economy

The Department of Political Science & Public Administration seeks an outstanding candidate for an assistant professor tenure-track position in Public Policy / Political Economy. Applicants are required to have a Ph.D. in Public Policy, Political Science, Economics, or related field at the time of appointment.

Other requirements include: the ability to teach cost-benefit analysis, program evaluation, and public sector economics; a demonstrated ability to perform research in public policy; and an interest in engaging the public. Preference will be given to candidates with extensive training in policy analysis and methodology, research interest in education policy, or knowledge of public finance.

Prior teaching experience preferred, especially in an urban university setting.

While political science houses the position, the successful candidate will teach undergraduate- and graduate-level courses to students with diverse disciplinary orientations (such as geography, public administration, health policy, international policy, public policy, criminal justice, and economics) in the Master of Public Administration Program, and the interdisciplinary Public Policy Ph.D. Program. Candidates must contribute to the Ph.D. program through an active and applied research and teaching agenda oriented towards public policy.

The nine-month tenure track position begins Fall 2012. The Department of Political Science has 26 faculty members, houses a NASPAA-accredited MPA Program, and is a core department in the interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Public Policy Program. The MPA Program, currently with nine faculty members, has strong ties to local governments and non-profit organizations in the greater Charlotte metropolitan area.

Review of applications will begin **January 23, 2012** and will continue until the position is filled. Candidates should submit application materials electronically to <https://jobs.uncc.edu>. Please upload the following documents with your electronic application: (1) letter of application discussing your research accomplishments and agenda, teaching experience and philosophy, and your ability to promote diversity in your teaching, research, and/or service, (2) curriculum vitae, (3) a writing sample, (4) evidence of teaching effectiveness (if available), (5) three letters of recommendation in pdf format, and (6) copy of graduate transcripts.

Alternatively, letters of recommendation may be sent directly by mail or email to: Dr. David Swindell, Chair, Public Policy Search Committee, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, UNC Charlotte, 9201 University City Blvd., Charlotte, NC, 28223; daswinde@uncc.edu.

UNC Charlotte is an AA/EOE and an ADVANCE Institution that strives to create an academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. We celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status. Applicants are subject to criminal background checks.

Additional information on this announcement also available at www.publicservicecareers.org.

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Wichita State University Regents Distinguished Professor of Public Finance

The Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs at Wichita State University invites nominations and applications for the Regents Distinguished Professor of Public Finance.

WSU has a long, well-established history of excellence in public finance. The Regents Professor will be instrumental in enhancing that reputation. The Master of Public Administration degree at WSU is rated in the top 20 public finance programs by U.S. News and World Report.

The Regents Professor must be a senior scholar with a nationally recognized record of research in public finance and public financial management. The incumbent will provide a leadership role in developing collaborative initiatives within and beyond the University to conduct research and to apply best practices to public finance on a national scale.

The successful candidate must hold a doctoral degree in public administration, economics or related field; have an outstanding publication record and national reputation in state and local public finance that justifies appointment as a Distinguished Regents Professor; demonstrated evidence of excellent teaching; demonstrated evidence of professional commitment to proactive community engagement; and commitment to diversity.

It is preferred that the candidate have experience in the practice of public finance and a nationally recognized research record in an applied subfield of public finance, e.g. health finance, education finance, environmental finance, municipal securities, or economic development.

Nominations and inquiries should be sent to Nancy McCarthy Snyder, Director, Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0155; nancy.mccarthy-snyder@wichita.edu.

Applications including letter of interest, curriculum vitae, names and contact information of three references, and an example of recent publication or working paper must be submitted via our secure website: jobs.wichita.edu.

Finalist will be required to submit to a background investigation. Review of applications begins January 15, 2012 and continues until the position is filled. WSU is an AA/EEO Employer.

Pew Center on the States Senior Research Associate

The Senior Associate, Research, will help conduct and coordinate the design and implementation of research projects, with a particular focus on states' health care expenditures. This position, based in Pew's Washington, D.C. office, will report to a Manager, Research. The individual will be hired for an initial period through December 31, 2013 with the possibility of renewal, depending on the proposed initiative's progress and future board deliberations.

Job requirements include:

- A bachelor's degree required, advanced degree preferred, with a research focus and at least four years of experience conducting research projects aimed at informing and advancing effective public policy.
- Experience collecting, managing, and conducting data analysis with large state and/or federal health care data sets. Experience with Medicaid data is highly preferred.
- Demonstrated knowledge of issues related to health care finance.
- Strong systems skills, including Microsoft office products and database and research applications. Familiarity with SPSS and/or SAS a plus.
- Demonstrated track record of delivering complex projects or project components on time and on budget.
- Excellent written and oral communications skills. Clear, effective writing style.
- Strong interpersonal skills. Able to develop and manage productive and collaborative relationships both internally and externally. Experience managing staff and/or consultants a plus. (Although this individual will not directly manage staff, he or she will help manage the work of researchers also staffed to the project.)
- Able to think strategically and creatively, juggle multiple priorities, adjust to changing circumstances, organize time efficiently, remain attentive to details, and identify resources for projects.
- Able to fit into a creative, fast-paced, and highly professional corporate culture which emphasizes excellence, collegiality and teamwork. Has a proven track record of working as a member of a team and individually to meet goals.

Occasional travel to Philadelphia and to relevant national conferences expected.

To apply for this job, visit online, <https://jobs-pct.icims.com/jobs/2712/job>.

Additional information on this announcement also available at www.publicservicecareers.org.

2011 Conference Recognitions

IU's Krupa Wins Poster Contest



Olha Krupa (left), doctoral candidate at Indiana University—Bloomington, won the Student Poster Research Presentation competition at the 2011 ABFM Conference. Chris Goodman, doctoral candidate at The University of Georgia, finished second.

PFPP Recognizes Mikesell, Welcomes New Editors



During social festivities at the 2011 ABFM Conference, PFP Board President Tom Lauth (The University of Georgia) recognized John Mikesell (right, Indiana University-Bloomington) for his tenure of service as Editor of *Public Budgeting & Finance*. Attendees also had a chance to hear about plans during the annual business meeting

from incoming Editors Philip Joyce (University of Maryland) and William Duncombe (Syracuse University).

Student Volunteers Help With Conference

Along with the leadership of the Executive Committee and the stewardship of ABFM Treasurer Bryan Sullivan (State of Delaware), several graduate students in public administration helped make the 2011 conference possible by working registration and providing audio/visual assistance during presentations



(L-to-R) Erin Sutton (George Mason University) & ABFM Treasurer Bryan Sullivan



(L-to-R) Jared Crawford (Illinois-Chicago) & Gang Chen (Nebraska-Omaha)

Incoming Chair's Message

By James D. Savage
2012 ABFM Chair
University of Virginia



This coming year we look forward to continue our study and practice of the core functions of government, the budgeting and financial management of public money.

As an association, we will be planning for our 2012 annual conference in New York City. Scott Patterson and the folks at NYU promise to host a great event. We hope to see more academics and practitioners from the Mid-Atlantic and New England in October!

We also look forward to building our membership with the participation of our graduate students and budgeting scholars from overseas.

During this coming year we will also complete the revitalization of the ABFM website to make it more convenient to access and use.

Happy New Year from Scott, Bryan, Donijo, and your ABFM Executive Committee!

Thank You!

Line Item takes this opportunity to thank those members of the ABFM Board who are stepping down at the end of 2011.



Dwight Denison
University of Kentucky



Justin Marlowe
University of Washington



Bill Simonsen
University of Connecticut



Dan Williams
City University of New York

Upcoming Events

To submit dates and "Call for Papers" announcements, contact Kenneth Hunter, kenneth.hunter@nclgba.org.

March 2nd-6th, 2012

2012 Annual Conference

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas

Register online, www.aspanet.org

April 12th-15th, 2012

70th Annual MPSA Conference

Hilton Palmer House Hotel, Chicago

Register online, www.mpsanet.org

April 12th-15th, 2012

70th Annual MPSA Conference

Hilton Palmer House Hotel, Chicago

Register online, www.mpsanet.org

October 11th-13th, 2012

24th Annual ABFM Conference

Marriott East Side, New York City

Visit www.google.com/url?url=http://www.abfm.org to learn more about the hotel

Registration information coming soon at www.abfm.org

Additional conference dates and information available at the website for *PA Times*, the official newsletter of ASPA, patimes.eznuz.com.

ABFM Secretariat

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New "Line Item" for 2012!

Our newsletter will transition to an e-newsletter format, starting January 2012. Be on the lookout for monthly issues featuring articles, updates from the Executive Committee, calls for papers, position announcements, and information on our next annual conference in New York City.

E-newsletters will be distributed to ABFM members, as well as to the ABFM mailing list through ASPA and via ABFM on Facebook and Twitter.

Also, be prepared for a NEW ABFM website, coming in early 2012!

ABFM on facebook

Show your support by following and share with your colleagues.

Visit the site facebook.com/abfm1 today!