

LINE ITEM

The Newsletter of ASPA's Association for Budgeting & Financial Management

September 2008

Conference Plans

The 20th annual ABFM conference will be held October 23-25, 2008, at the Chicago Mart Plaza, Holiday Inn River North. The conference theme is "Spare Change or Real Change? Government Taxing and Spending Possibilities". Below is a preliminary schedule. For more information, see the website (www.abfm.org).

THURSDAY, October 23

- 7:30 - 4:30** **Registration**
- 7:30 - 9:00** **Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 - 10:00** **Concurrent Sessions**

1. Hope Springs Eternal: Municipal Bonds, Credit Risk and Government Solvency

Chair and Discussant: Fred Thompson, Willamette University
The Impact of Community Growth Policies on City Bond Ratings in Massachusetts
Skip Krueger, University of North Texas
Christopher Hawkins, University of North Texas
Robert Walker, Washington University, St. Louis
Municipal Bond Insurance Premiums, Credit Risks and Interest Rates
Gao Liu, University of Kentucky
Early Warning Signals and the Threat to Local Government Solvency: The Impact of Subprime Mortgage Practices and Credit Markets
Helisse Levine, Long Island University

2. Tax Structures, Policy and Incentives: What Have We Learned?

Chair and Discussant: Bryan Sullivan, State of Delaware, Office of the Budget
The Saliency of Taxes in American Politics, 1952-2004
Bruce Wallin, Northeastern University
Dynamic Patterns in State Sales Tax Structures: Analyzing the Extent of Tax Policy Convergence, 1970 - 2006
John Mikesell, Indiana University
Sub-national Government Decision-making on Redistributive Tax and Expenditure Policy
Janey Qian Wang, Indiana University
The Elimination of the Federal Deductibility of State and Local Taxes: Possible Effects on State Tax Structures and Revenues
John Foster, University of Kentucky

3. State Revenues: Wherefore Art Thou?

Chair and Discussant: Nick Johnson, Director, State Fiscal Project
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
The Impact of Revenue Diversification and Economic Base on Revenue Stability: Empirical Analysis of State Governments
Wenli Yan, University of Kentucky
The Fiscal Effects of Georgia Sales Tax Holiday: An Empirical Analysis
Hui Li, University of Georgia
Who Really Benefits from the Tennessee Lottery?
Charles Menifield, University of Memphis

Alabama Revolving Loan Funds: Why Some Succeed and Others Lag
L. Ray Morris, Regional Planning Commission, Greater Birmingham and Auburn University

4. Recession Again? Counter Cyclical Fiscal Policy and Practices at the State and Local Levels

Chair: Merl Hackbart, University of Kentucky
Revenue Bubbles and Structural Deficits: What's a State to Do?
Rick Mattoon, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Leslie McGranahan, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Credit Quality and the Optimal Municipal Fund Balance
Justin Marlowe, University of Kansas
Effects of the 2007-08 Slowdown on Wisconsin's Next Budgets
James Conant, George Mason University
Parameters of Local Government Options for a Downturn: Evidence from Georgia Counties
Yilin Hou, University of Georgia

10:15 - 11:30 First Plenary Session

Tax Reform in State and Local Governments: Realistic Change? Real Results?

Christopher Hoene, Director, Center for Policy and Research, National League of Cities

Nick Johnson, Director, State Fiscal Project, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

12:00 - 1:15 First Luncheon Roundtable

1:30 - 3:00 Concurrent Sessions

5. Sharing the Load: Intergovernmental Support for Education

Chair and Discussant: Cynthia Searcy, Georgia State University
The Flypaper Effect Revisited: Are Matching Grants Really More Stimulative Than Lump Sum Grants for Education?
William Duncombe, Syracuse University
John Yinger, Syracuse University
Fiscal Constraints and School District Behavior in Massachusetts
Phuong Nguyen, Syracuse University
A Theoretical and Empirical Treatment of Functional Decentralization: A Cross-Country Study of Organizational Setting in Public Secondary Education
Naomi Aoki, Syracuse University
The Unintended Consequences of Property Tax Relief: New York's STAR Program
Tae Ho Eom, Yonsei University, Korea

6. Illuminating State Financial Conditions

Chair and Discussant: David Matkin, Florida State University
State Financial Conditions and Economic Climate: A Panel Data Analysis; Hua Xu, Jackson State University
Xiaohu Wang, University of Central Florida
Simulation Analysis of a Fiscal Stress Measurement System: The Case of Michigan; Eric Scorsone, Michigan State University
Jonathan Justice, University of Delaware
Nichole Bradshaw, Michigan State University
Lies, Damned Lies, and Budgetary Information: Tying Facts to Figures in West Virginia

Michael Dougherty, West Virginia University
General Funds: Variation among State Governments and Implications
 Daniel Smith, Rutgers University, Newark

7. Taxing and Spending Constraints: Impacts on Government Performance

Chair and Discussant: Rebecca Hendrick, University of Illinois, Chicago

The Effect of Structure, Expenditure Limits, State Aids and Revenue Diversity on Wisconsin County Expenditure Policy
 Craig Maher, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
Constraints on Local Authority to Raise Revenue through the Property Tax; Nancy Augustine, George Washington University
A Preliminary Analysis of the Impact of TELs on US State Fiscal and Economic Performance

Steven Deller, University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Judith Stallman, University of Missouri, Columbia
 Lindsay Amiel, University of Wisconsin, Madison
The Economic Effects of State Budgetary Rules: Tax and Expenditure Limitations (TEs) and Voter Approval/Supermajority Legislation Requirements (SLRs) for Tax Increases
 Suho Bae, San Francisco State University

8. National Performance Advisory Commission: Key Elements of a Performance Management Framework

Anne Spray Kinney, Government Finance Officers Association
 Mike Mucha, Government Finance Officers Association

3:00 - 3:15 Coffee Break

3:15 - 4:45 Concurrent Sessions

9. The Bond Market, Ratings, and Insurance: Where's the Beef?

Chair and Discussant: Skip Krueger, University of North Texas
What Happens When Municipal Bond Insurance Companies Need Credit Enhancement?

Dwight Denison, University of Kentucky
An Evaluation of Bond Ratings to Financial Reporting Structures
 Kurt Thurmaier, Northern Illinois University
 Shannon Sohl, Northern Illinois University
 Michael Peddle, Northern Illinois University
 Gregory Kuhn, Northern Illinois University
 Curt Wood, Northern Illinois University
"What factors led to the filing of bankruptcy protection for the West Jefferson Amusement and Public Park Authority in Alabama?"
 Edward G. Kamnikar, Troy University, Montgomery
 Keren H. Deal, Auburn University, Montgomery
 Judith A. Kamnikar, Auburn University, Montgomery

10. Contracting Out in the Public Sector: Markets, Networks, Transaction Costs and Fiscal Relationships

Chair: Suzanne Leland, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Chasing Competition: Examining the Effects of Noncompetitive Public Service Markets; Jocelyn Johnson, American University
 Amanda Girth, American University
Monetary Contractual Relationships: How Competition and Fiscal Arrangements Influence Transit Efficiency and Effectiveness
 Suzanne Leland, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
 Olga Smirnova, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Transaction Costs in an Era of Program Networks: The Nexus Between Public Finance and Management in the Cost Performance of Large, Multi-Vendor Weapons System Development and Production Projects at the U.S. Defense Department
 Robert Kravchuk, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
 Maureen Brown, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Efficiency and Airports: Is there a Correlation Between Efficiency and Provision of Service?

Nicholas Swartz, James Madison University

11. Building Budgets: Budgets for Buildings

Chair and Discussant: Ed Gibson, University of Baltimore
Privatization of Public Infrastructure: Preserving the Public Interest
 Beverly Bunch
Examining State Infrastructure Banks and Their Role in Reducing the Borrowing Costs for Transportation Projects
 Jeremy Burgher, University of Kentucky; Merl Hackbart, University of Kentucky; Gao Liu, University of Kentucky; Len O'Connell, University of Kentucky; Wie Yusuf, University of Kentucky
Monitoring of Infrastructure Maintenance Contracts: A Determinant of Infrastructure Condition; Michael Pagano, University of Illinois, Chicago; Kamna Lal, University of Illinois, Chicago
Adoption of Capital Budgeting Practices in Local Governments: Efficiency or Legitimacy?; Il Hwan Chung, Syracuse University

12. Financing Education: Adequacy, Equity or Both?

Chair and Discussant: Patricia Byrnes, University of Illinois, Springfield
Beyond the State School Finance Formula: Budgeting for Equity, Adequacy, and Results inside Massachusetts School Districts
 Doug Snow, Suffolk University; Aimee Williamson, Suffolk University
Financing Arkansas Schools: From the Lake View Case and Beyond
 Meagan Jordan, University of Arkansas, Little Rock; Sharon Wrobel, University of Arkansas, Little Rock
Inter-jurisdictional Competition in Education Finance System in Korea
 Tae Ho Eom, Yonsei University, Korea; Yeon-Seob Ha, Yonsei University, Korea; So-Ha, Hwang, Yonsei University, Korea
An Empirical Analysis of the Relationship between Single-Family Housing Prices & an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance Used to Finance School Construction
 Dustin Read, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

5:00 - 7:00 Reception

6:30 - 8:00 PFP Meeting

FRIDAY, October 24th

7:00 - 8:30 ABFM Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 - 4:30 Registration

7:30 - 9:00 Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 10:00 Concurrent Sessions

13. Comparative Budgeting: Perspectives from Around the World

Chair and Discussant: Katherine Willoughby, Georgia State University
Prudent Budgeting in the Canadian Federal Government and its Impact on Budgetary Process Efficiency
 Mike Joyce, Queen's University, Canada
Perspectives on the Impact of Recent Budget Reforms in the Philippines
 Hazel Marie Sarmiento, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Implementing PBB: Success or Failure in Morocco?
 Aziza Zemrani, University of Texas, Pan American
Public Budgeting Process in Moldova: Performance Based or Traditional Line-Item Budgeting?
 Boris Morozov, University of Nebraska, Omaha

14. Engaging in Scholarship and Education of the "Black Box" of

Military Strategy and Budgets Chair and Discussant: Bartley Hildreth, Wichita State University
Paper title to be determined
 Robert Nye, Army War College
Conducting Research on Defense Budgeting and Financial Management from the Naval Postgraduate School -- Opportunities and Constraints
 Larry Jones, Naval Postgraduate School
Paper title to be determined
 Dennis Ippolito, Southern Methodist University

15. Public Budgeting: Old and New Perspectives Chair and Discussant: Marilyn Rubin, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Applying Pragmatism to Public Budgeting and Financial Management
 Patricia Shields, Texas State University, San Marcos
 John Bartle, University of Nebraska, Omaha
Reformulating and Refocusing a Budgeting and Finance Curriculum
 Michael Peddle, Northern Illinois University
 Kurt Thurmaier, Northern Illinois University
Catastrophe, Compensation and Public Finance
 Julia Beckett, University of Akron
Institutional Structure and Critical Issues in Implementation of Participatory Budgeting System in Korea
 Je Kyung Lee, Yonsei University, Korea
 Tae Ho Eom, Yonsei University, Korea

16. Local Education Budgets, Revenue, and Accountability
 Chair and Discussant: Ken Klase, University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Does School Money Go Where It's Needed Most? The Intra-district Allocation of Resources
 Ross Rubenstein, Syracuse University
 Amy Ellen Schwartz, New York University
 Leanna Stiefel, New York University
The Effects of Tax-for-Fee Reform on China's Rural Education: For Better or Worse?
 Wen Wang, University of South Carolina
 Zhirong (Jerry) Zhao, University of Minnesota
The Influence of Performance-Based Accountability on the Distribution of Teacher Salary Increases
 Robert Bifulco, University of Connecticut
Charter School Finance: An Examination of Schools of Choice in Georgia
 Cynthia Searcy, Georgia State University

10:15 - 11:45 Concurrent Sessions

17. Capital Budgeting & Economic Development: Current Trends & Issues

Chair and Discussant: Dwight Denison, University of Kentucky
Recent Developments in Capital Budgeting
 Justine Marlow, University of Kansas
The Expanding Role of Local Government in Providing Amenities: The New Economic Development
 Carol Ebdon, City of Omaha, Nebraska
Capital Planning and Budgeting in the States: Results from the Government Performance Project
 Michael Pagano, University of Illinois, Chicago
 Benedict Jimenez, University of Illinois, Chicago
The Determinants of State Highway Authorizations
 Arwiphawee Srithongrun, University of Nebraska, Omaha

18. The Rocky Road that is Municipal Finance

Chair and Discussant: Kenneth Hunter, City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina
How Municipal Property Tax Responded to State Aid Cuts: The Case of Massachusetts Municipalities in Recent Recession
 Yonghong Wu, University of Illinois, Chicago
Assessment Quality and Property Tax Revenue Volatility
 Deborah Carroll, University of Georgia
 Christopher Goodman, University of Georgia
Does Reliance on User Charges Alter Municipal Expenditure Levels and Revenue Stability?
 Rui Sun, University of Maryland
Intrametropolitan Decentralization: The Effects of Overlapping Jurisdictions on Residential Property Values
 Stephen Billings, University of North Carolina-Charlotte
 Thomas Thibodeau, University of Colorado-Boulder

19. New Ways to Budget: Are They Better?

Chair and Discussant: Daniel Smith, Rutgers University, Newark
Guess Who's Coming to the Table of Performance Budgeting: The Power and Puzzle of a Participative Process
 Yi Lu, Binghamton University, SUNY
The Challenge of Implementing Gender Budgets
 John Bartle, University of Nebraska, Omaha
Rules of Engagement: Budget Rules and the Quality of Financial Management
 Sarah Arnett, Georgia State University
Smart Governing Initiative: An Alabama Case Study
 Edward G. Kamnikar, Troy University, Montgomery
 Keren H. Deal, Auburn University, Montgomery
 Judith A. Kamnikar, Auburn University, Montgomery

20. The Morning After: Bankruptcy, the Market and Debt Management

Chair and Discussant: Fred Thompson, Willamette University
After the Fiscal Crisis: Debt Management in New York City, 1975-2008
 Dall Forsythe, New York University
Tapping Public "Equity": Lessons of Corporate Finance for Tightening Credit Markets
 Ed Gibson, University of Baltimore
Bankruptcy and the Bond Market: Is There a Long-Term Stigma Associated with Municipal Bankruptcy in Capital Markets?
 Michael Moody, University of Kansas

12:00 - 1:30 Luncheon

1:30 - 3:00 Second Plenary Session

Invited Guest Speaker, Federal Tax Reform: Is Change Realistic? Is Real Change Possible?

3:15 - 4:45 Concurrent Panels

21. Money Management at the Local Level: How it is Done

Chair and Discussant: William Duncombe, Syracuse University
Why Local Governments Enter into Intergovernmental Contracting Out
 Changhoon Jung, Auburn University
Management of Local Government Slack Resources
 Doug Snow, Suffolk University
 Jerry Gianakis, Suffolk University
Dimensions of Representation in Local Government Tax and Budget Policy Decisions
 Anne Williamson, University of Florida
 Michael Scicchitano, University of Florida
Does Local Government Fragmentation Cost Less?

Rebecca Hendrick, University of Illinois, Chicago
 Benedict Jimenez, University of Illinois, Chicago
 Kamna Lal, University of Illinois, Chicago

22. Budget Law and Performance: An Intergovernmental Comparison

Chair and Discussant: Kurt Thurmaier, Northern Illinois University
International Budget Law: Comparing Law in Several Nations
 Karen Paola Sheppard, Michigan State University
An Assessment of the Survival Prospect of the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)
 Odd Stalebrink, Penn State, Harrisburg
 Velda Frisco
Charting Performance Budgeting Laws in the States: Successful or Just Hype?
 Katherine Willoughby, Georgia State University
 Yi Lu, Binghamton University, SUNY
The Long Run Performance of Decentralized Agencies in Québec: A Multi-Dimensional Assessment
 Marie-Eve Quenneville, HEC Montreal
 Claude Laurin, HEC Montreal
 Nicole Thibodeau, Willamette University

23. Monitoring Financial Indices: Pursuits and Possibilities

Chair and Discussant: James Savage, University of Virginia
The Application of Financial Trend Monitoring System in Taiwan
 Louis Chih-hung Liu, TamKang University, Taiwan
Effectiveness and Accuracy of Inflation Indices on Evaluating and Forecasting Government Expenditures
 Kenneth Hunter, City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina
Forecasting the Cost of a Scarce Resource: A Preliminary Report on a Ten Year Forecasting Study of the Cost of Water in 2020 for Hidalgo County, Texas
 Aziza Zemrani, University of Texas, Pan American
 Rosario Wilson, University of Texas, Pan American
Monitoring Budget Implementation: Practical Methods of Within-Year Forecasting
 Skip Krueger, University of North Texas
 Robert Bland, University of North Texas

24. Base Closings, Tax Incentives and Economic Development: Impacts

on Local Government Survival Chair and Discussant: Woods Bowman, DePaul University, Chicago
Budgetary Implications for Local Governments of Military Base Closings (and Base Expansions)
 Andrew Glassberg, University of Missouri, St. Louis
Business Attraction vs. Retention: Does Private Sector Involvement Influence Local Economic Development Strategies?
 Deborah Carroll, University of Georgia
 Beth-Anne Leech, University of Georgia
Examining the case for indirect benefits from economic development tax incentives
 David Matkin, Florida State University
Do Development Agreements and Bond Issues Increase the Aggregate Property Value Growth for TIF Districts? A Multilevel Analysis
 Hongwung Wang, Indiana University

5:00 - 5:30 ABFM Annual Members Meeting

5:30 - 7:30 Reception

SATURDAY, October 25: Casual Dress Day

7:30 - 10:00 Registration

8:30 - 10:00 Concurrent Sessions

25. Planning for a Rainy Day: The Usefulness of Stocking Funds and Reserves

Chair and Discussant: Justin Marlowe, University of Kansas
An Empirical Study of the Impact of Rainy Day Funds on Borrowing Costs
 Cleopatra Charles, University of Kentucky
The Effect of Rainy Day Funds on State Credit Ratings: An Empirical Analysis
 Gabriel Serna, University of Kentucky
Patterns and Practices of the Accumulation and the Use of Fiscal Reserves in Cities
 Theodore Arapis, Auburn University
 Changhoon Jung, Auburn University

26. Issues of Inequality, Disparity, Decentralization and Performance Management in Chinese Budgetary and Fiscal System

Chair: Yonghong Wu, University of Illinois, Chicago
 Discussant: James Chan, University of Illinois, Chicago
Extra-budgetary Funds and Fiscal Inequality across Cities/Prefectures in China
 Chengri Ding, University of Maryland
 Chunli Shen, University of Maryland
Decentralizing Budgetary Outlays in a Highly Centralized Fiscal System: The Case of a Chinese County
 Yilin Hou, University of Georgia
 Meili Niu, Sun Yat-sen University, China
China's 1994 Tax Reform and Provincial Fiscal Disparities
 Zhirong (Jerry) Zhao, University of Minnesota
Performance Management Initiatives in China – Local Experiments
 Alfred Ho, Indiana University
 Zaozao Zhao, China Development Research Foundation

27. Keeping Tabs: The Adequacy of Financial and Performance Reporting and Auditing

Chair and Discussant:
Accountability and Reporting: The Experience of Italian Local Governments
 Guiseppe Grossi, University of Siena, Italy
 Riccardo Mussari, University of Siena, Italy
A Study on Government Performance Auditing
 Quigjun Shi, The Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing, China
Implementation of GASB 45: Lessons Learned
 Charlie Coe, North Carolina State University
Examining the Determinants of Nonprofit Accounting Basis Choice
 Thad Calabrese, New York University

28. Unlocking the Mysteries of Fiscal Decentralization

Chair and Discussant:
"Being Responsible to Above", Fiscal Decentralization and Public Infrastructure Financing in China
 Young Ho, Indiana University
Purple States in Presidential Elections and Intergovernmental Transfers: An Empirical Testing of the Swing Voter Hypothesis
 Jungbu Kim, Georgia State University
 Nevbahar Ertas, Georgia State University

Mexican Flypaper: Money Sticks where it Hits...but Every Time?

Salvador Espinosa P., San Diego State University
Fiscal Decentralization in Kenya: The Constituency Development Fund and the Growth of Government
 Obuya Bagaka, Northern Illinois University

10:15 - 11:45 Concurrent Sessions

29. Policy or Politics: State Budgetary Deliberations

Chair and Discussant: Dale Krane, University of Nebraska, Omaha
The Influence of Performance Based Budgeting on Budget Deliberations: An Exploratory Case Study of Selected State Legislative Committee Hearings

Ken Klase, University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Politics versus Policy: A Micro-Analysis of Legislative Budgetary Decision-Making

Carolyn Bourdeaux, Georgia Senate Budget and Evaluation Office
Does Agency Outcome Information Change Resource Allocation?
 Aimee Franklin, University of Oklahoma

Geoboo Song

Managing Fiscal Stress: Explaining State Agencies' Cutback Management Strategies in 1984 and 2004

Cynthia Bowling, Auburn University

Changhoon Jung, Auburn University

Brendon Burke, Suffolk University

Deil Wright, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

30. State and Local Debt Capacity and Long Term Liabilities

Chair and Discussant:

An Approach to Determining State and Local Debt Capacity

Quishi Wang, University of Nebraska, Omaha

Long-Term Leasing of Public Assets

Woods Bowman, DePaul University

Understanding the Variation In The Change of Funding Ratios of Large Public Pension Plans Between 2000 And 2006?

Jun Peng, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Plans in State and Local Government Retirement Systems: A Simulation Study

Tanesha Morgan, Southern University

Min Su Kim, Southern University

31. Tax Structural, Policy and Other Effects on Expenditure Growth

Chair and Discussant:

Looking for Leviathan in the Tax Base: Do Income Elastic Tax Structures Lead to Public Expenditure Growth?

Spencer Brien, Georgia State University

Payroll Tax and Alternate Funding Mechanisms for Paid Parental Leave Programs in the U.S.

Beth Neary, Indiana University

Changing Revenue and Expenditure Structure and the Reliance of User Charges and Fees in American Counties: 1972-2004

Suho Bae, San Francisco State University

Changhoon Jung, Auburn University

Cost Containment Effects of State Medicaid Managed Care Programs

Ae-Sook Kim, University of Kentucky

The Influence of Disproportionate Information Processing and Institutional Frictions on State Government Sub-Functional Expenditures

Jay Eungha Ryu, Ohio University

32. Effecting Education Success: From Primary to Institutions of Higher Learning

Chair and Discussant:

Secondary Education in EBR: A Review of Students' Performance's Social and Economic Factors

Min Su Kim, Southern University

Jules Amougou, Southern University

Courtney Phillips, Southern University

Robert Douglas, Southern University

Linking Institutional Expenditures to Student Success: An Analysis of Public Institutions of Higher Education

Jacob Fowles, University of Kentucky

Academic Performance and School District Bond Yields: How Municipal Bond Market Evaluates Education Quality?

Jay Song, University of Kentucky

12:00 - 1:15

Second Luncheon Roundtable

Chair's Message

By Rebecca Hendrick, ABFM Chair

In addition to the up-coming ABFM conference in Chicago, the other important event for ABFM this year is the greatly expanded Resources section on the ABFM homepage. This project was completed by University of Illinois at Chicago graduate student Garrison Marr (MPA, 2009) under my direction. It was made possible by funding from the Public Financial Publications, which is the board that oversees and manages the publication of our journal- *Public Budgeting and Finance*.

The centerpiece of this project is the teaching database. This semester I am teaching a masters course in financial management, which I have not taught in many years. I relied on this database to easily obtain syllabi from my colleagues around the country and develop my own syllabus and course material. Coincidentally, Garrison is taking this course from me this semester. I encourage everyone to visit the ABFM website to look at the resources that Garrison has collected there. (The resources are described in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Garrison also developed a web page on the ABFM website that describes the ABFM awards and the individuals for whom the awards are named. It also lists past award winners. http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/academics/ABFM_database/Awards.html These descriptions need adjustment, which will be undertaken during the next few months. However, there are significant gaps in the lists of Howard and Curro Award winners that cannot be filled without your help.

(Chair's Message Continued on Page 6)

(Chair's Message Continued)

Please look at this page to determine if you know any of the award winners for the missing years, and send me email with this information at hendrick@uic.edu.

Finally—and this is important—please make your room reservations for the hotel in Chicago (http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/academics/ABFM_database/Awards.html) by **September 22!!!** According to our contract, the hotel will release our block of rooms to the public by that date, which puts conference participants in competition with other people for rooms at that hotel.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Chicago in a few months and a having a great conference.

New Teaching, Research, and Practice Resources on the ABFM Website.

July 15th marked a distinctive achievement for the ABFM with the introduction of the world's largest collection of graduate level public budgeting and financial management course material online. The ABFM Teaching Database can now be accessed from the following website:

(http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/academics/ABFM_database/index.html). The database includes syllabi, reading lists, lectures, and handouts as well as a variety of assignments and projects.

The database was the result of many months of work by Garrison Marr, and includes course work at both the MPA and Ph.D. levels from universities around the country. The database was also the result of a great deal of cooperation from ABFM members and educators. Well over 700 e-mails were sent to educators in the field resulting in a database containing 766 individual item references at this time.

While the database is focused on public budgeting and public financial management it also includes related coursework in public economics, public finance and even coursework such as “Benchmarking Skills Development” and “Problems in Municipal Government”. In total, the database contains 168 syllabi, over 50 assignments and projects and a wealth of other information useful to educators in the public budgeting and financial management arena.

The database has been visited frequently since its initial launch in April, a point in time where it was not complete or directly linked to the ABFM homepage. Now that the database is more complete and can be accessed from the ABFM website, it attracts between 50-100 visitors a day from around the U.S. and places as distant as Norway, Iraq, and South Korea. All told, nearly 3,000 visitors from over a dozen countries have searched the database since its launch in April 2008.

The teaching database isn't the only new addition to the ABFM website. This summer two interactive research data tools were also developed by Garrison to aid researchers, students, and professionals in the field who need access to government data and other sites of interest. This clearinghouse is presented in two ways to better serve users. The first is an interactive map of U.S. states that brings the user to a collection of data from the state was clicked on this map:

(http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/academics/ABFM_database/databases_by_state.html). Below the map on the same page, researchers can search by document type for each state and quickly access all available state CAFR's, budgets, and labor market information, for example. In addition to the state data, many more links to numerous federal, international, and professional association websites are organized on a separate page to provide easy access to these resources.

(http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/pa/academics/ABFM_database/links_index.html).

All three resources—the teaching data base, the state data, and the broader set of links are accessible from the ABFM homepage at <http://www.abfm.org>. In total, this resource base now links to 349 carefully organized sites that will be of interest to persons in the fields of public budgeting, finance, and financial management. Feedback on the website is always welcome and encouraged at ABFM_webmaintenance@yahoo.com.

ABFM Association Officers

Chair 2008

Rebecca Hendrick
University of Illinois at Chicago
Email: hendrick@uic.edu

Chair-Elect 2009

Katherine Willoughby
Georgia State University
Email: kwilloughby@gsu.edu

Vice Chair (Chair-Elect for 2010)

Dwight Denison (2005-07)
University of Kentucky
Email: dwight.denison@uky.edu

Immediate Past Chair (2007)

Robert J Eger III, Ph.D.
Florida State University
Email: reger@fsu.edu

Secretary & Archivist (2008)

Gerald J. Miller
Arizona State University
Email: gerald.j.miller@asu.edu

Treasurer

Bryan Sullivan (2007-09)
State of Delaware, Office of the Budget
Email: bryan.sullivan@state.de.us

Membership Chair

Charles Menifield
University of Memphis
Email: cmenifld@memphis.edu

Newsletter Editor

Ken Klase
University of North Carolina
at Greensboro
Email: kaklase@uncg.edu

Secretariat

Gerald J. Miller
School of Public Affairs
Arizona State University
Email: gerald.j.miller@asu.edu

Executive Committee

Patricia Byrnes (2007-09)
University of Illinois at Springfield
Email: Byrnes.Patricia@uis.edu

Stacey Mazer (2007-09)
NASBO, Washington, DC
Email: smazer@nasbo.org

Peter van der Hoek (2007-09)
Erasmus University,
Rotterdam, Netherlands
Email: vanderHoek@frg.eur.nl

Deborah Carroll (2006-08)
University of Georgia
Email: dcarroll@uga.edu

Alfred Ho (2006-08)
Indiana University-Indianapolis (IUPUI)
Email: altho@iupui.edu

James Savage (2006-08)
University of Virginia
Email: jds2v@Virginia.EDU

Deniz Zeynep Leuenberger (2008-2010)
Bridgewater State College
dleuenberger@bridgew.edu

Ken Kriz (2008-2010)
University of Nebraska-Omaha
kkriz@mail.unomaha.edu

Jun Peng (2008-2010)
University of Arizona
peng@eller.arizona.edu

Elected to Office in ABFM's 2008 Election To Take Office Starting January 1, 2009

Vice-Chair Elect : Carol Ebdon, Finance Director, City of
Omaha, Nebraska

Executive Committee Members Elect :

Justin Marlowe, Assistant Professor, Department of Public
Administration, University of Kansas

Bill Simonsen, Professor, Department of Public Policy,
University of Connecticut

Dan Williams, Associate Professor, Baruch College-City
University of New York

ABFM Secretariat
Arizona State University
School of Public Affairs
411 North Central Ave. – Suite 400
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-0950
(602) 456-1102
Gerald.J.Miller@asu.edu