

Budget & Finance

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ABFM Moves Forward with Pilot Program

On April 14 ASPA's National Council approved a pilot membership program for the Association of Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM). Details of the program are listed below:

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

A new special individual membership category option with a \$50.00 annual fee and the following benefits:

- * The ABFM journal (*Public Budgeting and Finance*)
 - * The ABFM newsletter
 - * Membership in one of the local ASPA chapters (in the event that the member does not designate a local chapter, ASPA will retain the local chapter fee)
 - * The ability to attend the ABFM annual conference at the member rate
- The \$50.00 annual membership fee will be divided as follows:
- * \$25 will go to ABFM (the current membership fee)
 - * \$5 will go to the chapter designated by the member
 - * \$20 will go to ASPA for administrative costs

It is noted that the new ABFM members will be carried on the ASPA membership roles. ABFM chair, **Merl Hackbart** said the new membership category is designed to encourage individuals, who may not have a current interest in the broader ASPA membership benefits but are interested in public budgeting and financial management, to join ABFM.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP

A new special institutional membership category with a membership fee of \$150.00. The institutional members would receive the following benefits:

- * One subscription to *PA Times*
- * One subscription to *Public Administration Review*
- * One subscription to *Public Budgeting and Finance*
- * One subscription to the ABFM newsletter
- * The opportunity to send up to six designated employees to the annual ABFM conference at the regular per member rate

The \$150.00 fee will be divided between ASPA and ABFM in accord with the benefits received by the institutional members.

Hackbart anticipates that this new membership category will attract institutional members such as state and local budget and finance offices, federal agency members and private sector public finance related firms and institutions. "We are enthusiastic about these new membership categories and feel they provide a great opportunity to increase our membership," Hackbart said.

"The anticipated membership growth will permit us to expand our services to our members and make ABFM an even stronger organization," he added. ABFM has a set a goal of recruiting 25 new individual members and five new institutional members. Progress will be evaluated after six months and one year.

For more information, contact ABFM Chair Merl Hackbart at <fin008@pop.uky.edu> or (606) 257-1627.

From the Chair

I am pleased to report that the ASPA Council approved our request to establish two new ABFM membership categories. The new membership options include an individual and an institutional ABFM membership. Membership benefits for individuals, joining under the new membership option, will include the ABFM newsletter, a subscription to Public Budgeting and Finance and the opportunity to attend the ABFM conference. The individual membership fee will be \$50.00. All individuals joining ABFM will be carried on the ASPA membership roles but will not receive general ASPA membership benefits such as the PA Times and Public Administration Review. Institutional memberships will be offered for \$150.00 and institutional members will receive all ABFM and ASPA publications and will be permitted to send 6 members to the ABFM conference at membership rates. The anticipated membership growth will permit us to expand our services to our members and make ABFM an even stronger organization.

Our membership committee, chaired by Alfred Ho, has developed an aggressive strategic plan to utilize the new membership categories to grow our membership and enhance our membership services. In that regard, this month's newsletter includes a membership survey designed to assess your views of ABFM and its services. This survey will play a vital role in the membership committee's evaluation of member preferences and help them determine how ABFM can be more responsive to its members. The Executive Committee is also vitally interested in your views and comments as they will assist us in planning future ABFM activities. Please take a few moments to respond to the membership committee survey and return the survey form. Your participation will make a difference and will be considered in developing plans for ABFM's future. As an added incentive to respond to the survey, completed surveys will be entered in a drawing for a free registration to the 1999 ABFM conference. The prize is valued at more than \$100 for ABFM members. So please, take time to complete the survey so that we can try to respond to your suggestions to enhance ABFM and its services.

Finally, I want to encourage you to make your plans to attend the ABFM conference which will be held at the Washington Marriott in Washington D.C. from October 7 – 9. The conference committee has made excellent progress and the program looks great. A conference registration form is included with this newsletter and I encourage you to complete the registration form and reserve your room as soon as possible. In addition to an enlightening program, we will be discussing your survey responses and setting new goals and directions for ABFM. I encourage you to plan to attend. You will not be disappointed.

Merl M. Hackbart

New Faculty Highlights

Kenneth A. Kriz will graduate in 1999 with a Ph.D. in public affairs from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University, Bloomington. Starting in September, he will be an assistant professor at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. He will be teaching courses in state and local public finance and public and nonprofit financial management.

His dissertation is on all forms of financial certification in the municipal securities market, including underwriting, credit ratings and private bond insurance. Using data from a sample of state-issued general obligation bonds issued during the period 1990-1996, he is analyzing the interactions between various certification agents along with how these interactions affect outcomes for municipal bond issuers in terms of interest costs. He is also analyzing the effects of socioeconomic and financial conditions on the likelihood of issuers choosing to use various certification mechanisms.

In addition to his dissertation research, Ken serves on the ABFM membership committee. In his ongoing research on the municipal securities market, he has studied the use of negotiated underwriting by municipal bond issuers, the impact of tax and expenditure limitations on municipal debt structure and costs, and the use of multiple credit ratings by state issuers. He has also done work on the effectiveness of tax incentives in raising personal savings rates and the use of tax increment financing by local governments.

1999 Conference Program

The 1999 conference theme is "Budgeting and Finance: The 20th Century Legacy." You can view the Conference Program as it develops on the Web at <http://www.fpac.fsu.edu/abfm/abfm99.html>. You can even print the registration form for a friend to attend!

Association for Budgeting and Financial Management

Budgeting and Finance: The 20th Century Legacy

1999 Conference Registration Form

Name _____

Name for Badge _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FORM OF PAYMENT:

___ Check Enclosed (made payable to ABFM of ASPA) in the amount of \$_____.

___ Invoice (agencies or organizations, only) send invoice to:

Organization _____ Attn: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

My agency/organization will accept an invoice for payment via fax. FAX# _____

REGISTRATION FEES (fees include 2 continental breakfasts, 2 evening receptions and Friday buffet lunch)

Individual	Group (Group registrations must be made on one list of registrants and include one check or invoice request.)
___ \$170 ASPA Member	___ \$160/person Group 4-8
___ \$195 Nonmember	___ \$150/person Group 9-12
___ \$100 Student	___ \$140/person Group 13+

Attn: Registrants whose form and payment has arrived prior to SEPTEMBER 9, 1999 may take a \$15 discount in registration fees. To qualify for early discount, registration form **must be postmarked or received via fax** at (606) 323-1937 **by September 9, 1999. NO REFUNDS AFTER September 16, 1999.**

Hotel Reservations must be made directly with the hotel. Call The Washington Marriott Hotel 1-800-228-9290, reference ABFM Conference Room Rate (108.41 - single / 124.41 - double) The cutoff for the room rate is September 9, so don't delay.

Print out and mail completed registration form and payment to:

1999 ABFM Annual Conference
 c/o Robert J. Eger III
 Martin School of Public Policy and Administration
 University of Kentucky
 477 Patterson Office Tower
 Lexington, KY 40506-0027

Association for Budgeting & Financial Management (ABFM) Member Survey

We are conducting a survey of our members to find out how well ABFM is meeting your needs. Your opinions are very valuable to us, so please take a few minutes to respond. The results will be published in an upcoming section newsletter.

1. How valuable are the following ABFM services to you? Circle the appropriate number.

	Very Valuable	Some Value	Little Value	No Value
• Newsletter	1	2	3	4
• Public Budgeting and Finance journal	1	2	3	4
• Annual conference	1	2	3	4
• ABFM web page	1	2	3	4
• Personal contacts	1	2	3	4
• other _____	1	2	3	4

2. Have you ever attended an ABFM conference? _____ • yes _____ • no

3. If you have NOT attended an ABFM conference, why not? Check the reason(s) that apply.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| _____ • cost | _____ • timing of the conference |
| _____ • location | _____ • size of the conference |
| _____ • topics not of interest | _____ • too academic-oriented |
| _____ • other conferences are more applicable | _____ • other _____ |

4. What general conference or journal topics are of most interest to you? Check your TOP FIVE topics.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| _____ • budget theory | _____ • accounting |
| _____ • budgeting innovation | _____ • performance budgeting |
| _____ • tax policy | _____ • intergovernmental finance |
| _____ • municipal debt | _____ • cash management |
| _____ • federal budget practices | _____ • comparative/international budgeting |
| _____ • state budget practices | _____ • capital budgeting |
| _____ • local budget practices | _____ • other _____ |

5. Would you describe yourself primarily as a:

- _____ • practitioner _____ • academic _____ • student _____ • other

If you are a practitioner, at what level of government?

- _____ • local _____ • state _____ • federal _____ • nonprofit _____ • other

6. Do you belong to any other budgeting or finance organizations? Check those that apply.

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ • Government Finance Officer's Association | _____ • Federation of Tax Administrators |
| _____ • National Tax Association | _____ • Other _____ |

7. Do you belong to any other ASPA sections? If so, please list them.

8. Approximately how many years have you been an ABFM member? _____

9. What services, if any, would you like to see added or enhanced? Please be as specific as possible.

A DRAWING WILL BE HELD TO AWARD A FREE 1999 ABFM CONFERENCE REGISTRATION TO ONE RESPONDENT. Please complete the following information so that we can notify you if you win. Fold and staple the survey so that the only information on the outside is the survey return address.

Your Name: _____

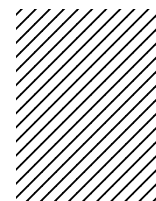
Job Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____ Phone number: _____

(Fold here, staple and mail)



Carol Ebdon
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Omaha, Nebraska 68182-0276

CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS

The Association for Budgeting and Financial Management seeks nominations for its student paper award from budgeting and financial management faculty.

ELIGIBILITY. Papers should be on a topic relevant to the interests of ABFM members, and have been written for a graduate course offered between June 1998 and May 1999. Nominations must be made by the faculty member offering the course. The nomination letter should include the name(s) of the nominee(s), the name of the institution and/or program, the title of the course for which the paper was written, and the course dates. Those who wish to receive results and/or reviewer's comments, should indicate so in the nomination letter.

PURPOSE. With this award, ABFM encourages student efforts to advance the study and practice of budgeting and finance for the 21st century. Each year, ABFM seeks to identify the best work done by a graduate student, or traditional academic analyses, creative assignments that produce information useful to practitioners are welcome, including team projects, case studies, financial condition assessments, distance education efforts, and information system-based projects.

CRITERIA. Entries will be judged on the basis of importance to the budgeting and financial management community, overall quality, clarity of expression, logic of presentation, and originality/creativity. Papers will be reviewed by a panel of ABFM members, including both practitioners and academics. The award will be announced at the 1999 ABFM Conference in Washington, D.C. The winner(s) will have an opportunity to present the paper during the conference.

SUBMISSION. Letters of nomination accompanied by five copies of the paper should be sent to:

Professor Rebecca Hendrick
Public Administration (M/C 278)
University of Illinois at Chicago
Chicago, IL 60607-7064

Questions may be addressed to Rebecca at <hendrick@uic.edu> or (312) 355-0305

Nominations should be postmarked by July 15, 1999. Reminder: only papers nominated by the supervising professor will be reviewed for the award.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

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