

Budget & Finance

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From Transaction to Blackwell: Changes for Public Budgeting & Finance

Public Budgeting & Finance is moving from Transaction to Blackwell Publishers. This change has had many legal, financial, and operational complications and the officers of Public Financial Publications, the nonprofit corporation that administers the journal, have worked diligently for several months to facilitate the transfer. You should be receiving the final issues of Volume 19, the last issues from Transaction in the near future, and volume 20, issue one, is in the hands of Blackwell Publishers. As always, the editorial staff of *Public Budgeting & Finance* has delivered materials to the publisher on or ahead of schedule. We have high hopes that our professional relationship with Blackwell will flourish, that all parties will meet the contracted schedules, and that ABFM members will appreciate the services provided by Blackwell. We believe the journal will have a nicer look and hope that the substance will live up to that higher standard.

As we move to our new publisher, we intend to use its improved facilities to the fullest. For one thing, the editorial staff of the journal plan increased use of Internet transmission of manuscripts and reviews and will be providing Blackwell with a full electronic version of the journal. Therefore, authors may now send manuscripts to us by Internet (MIKESELL@INDIANA.EDU and RZODY@VT.EDU), authors will receive acknowledgment of submissions and other communications from us by Internet, and reviewers will receive manuscripts for review by Internet and will send their comments back to us by the same means. If it is more convenient to you, we will still accept materials in the traditional formats (include two disk versions with three hard copies submitted to the managing editor and one hard copy to the editor), but we will require an electronic final version of all accepted manuscripts because that is what we will send to Blackwell. From time to time, system incompatibilities will make Internet submissions impossible — particularly when there are complicated charts or tables — but we want to use the Internet as our first choice. The other style change: we now want manuscripts with footnotes, not end-notes. We think this will improve the usability of our articles to serious readers.

We have high hopes for our new partnership with Blackwell and believe that we will now be able to provide better service to our readers. But we are ultimately captive to the flow of material you send us to consider for publication. Please keep us in mind as the first place for your best ideas.

~ John L. Mikesell ~

ABFM Membership Form

Thank you for your interest in joining the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management. Please send this form along with your payment to American Society for Public Administration, Membership Office, Crestar Bank, Dept. 41, Washington, DC 20042-0041 (Attn: Patricia Woodward). Phone: (202) 393-7878. Fax:(202) 638-4952.

First Name: _____ Last name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____ Daytime Fax: _____

Work Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

E-mail Address (if any): _____

Please select the Membership Type: (see information on reverse)

Individual ABFM membership (\$50) Institutional ABFM membership (\$150)

Joint ASPA & ABFM membership (Fee varies. See reverse.)

What general conference or journal topics are of most interest to you? Check your top five topics.

budgeting 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: _____

Would you describe yourself primarily as a: practitioner academic student other

If you are a practitioner, what type of organization do you work for?

local government state government federal government nonprofit other

ABFM Membership Information

Beginning in the summer of 1999, ABFM offers three types of membership. All of them provide you unique opportunities and channels to meet others in your areas of expertise.

Major Benefits	Joint Membership in ABFM and ASPA	Individual ABFM Membership	Institutional ABFM Membership (for agencies and nonacademic organizations)
One subscription to <i>Public Budgeting and Finance</i> , the leading journal in budgeting that combines both academic and practitioner perspectives	●	●	●
One subscription to <i>Budgeting & Finance</i> , a quarterly newsletter which keeps you posted about ABFM activities and field information	●	●	●
Membership rate to attend <u>ABFM conferences</u>	●	●	● (up to 6 designated employees)
One subscription to <i>Public Administration Review</i> , the leading journal in public administration	●		●
One subscription to <i>PA Times</i> , a monthly newspaper, which keeps professionals up-to-date on recent developments	●		●
Membership rate to attend <u>ASPA conferences</u>	●		
A free membership in one of the local ASPA chapters	●	●	
HOW TO JOIN:	www.aspanet.org/member/meminfo.htm		www.uky.edu/RGS/MartinSchool/abfm/membform.htm

Call For Nominations

Howard Career Achievement Award

This year's S. Kenneth Howard Award was presented to Thomas E. Cuny of Alexandria, Virginia, for his lifetime achievement in developing the conceptual frameworks used for budget accounting and analysis in the federal government. He is known and revered as the federal government's principal guardian against the unrelenting temptation to distort budget concepts to favor particular policy outcomes. The *National Journal* (1987) labeled Mr. Cuny as the "unofficial budgetary conscience for the United States Government." He received two OMB Director's Awards for his work on the conceptual framework (1983) and his analysis on the adoption of a federal capital budget (1987). He was with OMB for 26 years, first as the fiscal economist for the budget review division, then as the principal analyst for the budget analyses division. Even with his retirement from the federal government, Mr. Cuny continues to write and publish on federal budget concepts.

The Association for Budgeting and Financial Management is now accepting nominations for the S. Kenneth Howard Career Achievement Award.

The award, presented annually as a memorial to Kenneth Howard's outstanding contributions to his profession, recognizes the exemplary work and professional integrity of selected individuals who have devoted a significant part of their public service careers to the advancement of public budgeting and financial management.

The selection criteria used in evaluating nominees include a career that demonstrates a record of significant public sector accomplishments over a period of years, in areas such as:

1. Technical applications of budgeting, accounting, auditing, financial analysis and reporting, tax and revenue administration, treasury and debt management.
2. Development of significantly improved policies, procedures and systems to enhance accountability and improve performance.
3. Leadership in government, academic institutions and/or professional associations.
4. A record of sustained and close professional working relationships with elected public officials at all levels of government.
5. A lasting contribution to the public's confidence in the financial integrity of one or more jurisdictions in which the nominee has been associated.

Nominations should include an explanation of how the nominee meets the selection criteria and may also include other pertinent information. **Nominations will be accepted from individuals or organizations until May 1, 2000.** Send to: Fred Thompson, Willamette University, Atkinson Graduate School of Management, Salem, OR 97301.
email: fthomps@willamette.edu

Wildavsky Award

The *Aaron Wildavsky Award* was presented to Gloria A. Grizzle for her outstanding lifetime achievement in the field of public budgeting. Grizzle is professor in the Reubin Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at Florida State University. She has held a variety of budgeting practitioner positions, including the head of the unit responsible for revenue forecasting, policy analysis, and citizen surveys in the North Carolina budget office. Her research has been focused on revenue forecasting and on how performance measurement can be linked with budgetary decision making. Not only is Grizzle a leader in research, she is also recognized for her achievements as a teacher. She has mentored many doctoral students, who themselves have become leaders in the field.

The Association for Budgeting and Financial Management is now accepting nominations for the Wildavsky Award. The award is intended to honor the lifetime achievement of Aaron Wildavsky as a scholar in the field of budgeting and financial management, with clear emphasis on public budgeting where he made his greatest contribution.

With approval by Aaron Wildavsky and his family, the award was established in 1993 by the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM).

The award recipient should be an outstanding scholar as judged by his or her publication record and record of service to the field, generally with a demonstration of academic achievement over a considerable period of time. While the award is intended to be given annually, it need not be if, in the view of the awards committee, a suitable candidate has not been nominated.

To nominate a worthy recipient of the Wildavsky Award, please send the following, either by postal or e-mail: A 1-2 page letter outlining the significant achievements of the nominee, the nominee's vita, and any additional supporting letters.

Send nominations for receipt no later than May 1, 2000 to: Dr. Karen A. Stanford, 3861 Windermere Road, Tallahassee, FL 32311 or email: kstan1125@aol.com Telephone: 850-309-0681

Wanted: Book reviewers

Reviewers are needed by *Public Budgeting & Finance* to review newly published books in the budgeting and public finance fields. Reviewers will be responsible for writing a review of approximately 900-1200 words. If you are interested, please contact: William Voorhees, MPA Program, Department of Political Science, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Mail code 4501, Carbondale, Illinois 62901-4501 Also (618) 453-3178 or <voorhees@siu.edu>

From the Chair

This is my first column as the chair of our section. I want to say at the outset that I look forward to working with all of you to build on our past success by broadening the membership base and services we offer to our members. Thanks to the success of Merle Hackbart and other section leaders in gaining ASPA's support for a new non-ASPA ABFM membership category, we are working to build on this new gateway to strengthen the section and transition to a truly self-sufficient organization.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, we have outlined the benefits available to the new kinds of memberships we are now positioned to offer. We are now planning a major new outreach campaign to introduce ABFM to a wider range of budget practitioners and researchers. Armed with a handsome new membership brochure designed by Alfred Ho, we are planning a targeted distribution to federal, state and local budget directors and analysts, with the cooperation of these officials' associations. No longer tethered by our ASPA membership requirement, we are hopeful that our initiative will meet with some success. We will supplement this with targeted outreach at related conferences, such as the Association of Government Accountants, Government Finance Officers Association and the like. However, in planning these initiatives, we recognized that we had to reassess the services we provide our members to ensure our continued relevance to their needs. The recent survey many of you completed has helped us better define what you value in ABFM and what changes we might consider. We have a number of exciting initiatives in the works that will begin to address these needs.

- A top notch journal was a priority for most of you. Elsewhere in this newsletter, John Mikesell describes the improvements planned for our journal as we shift from Transaction to Blackwell as our publisher.

- A promising conference is in the works for Kansas City this October, and an enthusiastic group spearheaded by Kurt Thurmaier is beginning earlier than usual to plan our meeting and solicit proposals. We want to encourage greater practitioner participation in our conference through the kinds of sessions offered and the opportunities for thoughtful practitioners to play roles as presenters and discussants.

- An accessible and informative web site is also in the works. Currently housed at the Martin School at the University of Kentucky, we are looking to establish links to a variety of related web sites in the field of public budgeting.

- The listing of job opportunities at both academic and practitioner levels is an important new area we are considering. New listings can be announced on our web page, and we are encouraging a range of potential employers to come to our conference to discuss careers.

- The expansion of opportunities to highlight new developments from the field by strengthening the field notes section of our journal and through reports in our newsletter and our web site is important. We have jump started this process by designating "field teams" of researchers and practitioners

Call for Papers and Presentations

ABFM

Association for Budgeting and Financial Management

12th Annual Conference

October 5-7, 2000

Kansas City, Missouri

The conference committee invites proposals from session organizers, paper presenters and session discussants to the Kansas City conference for the ABFM 2000 Program. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

Budget Theory	Capital and Debt Management
Performance Budgeting	Public Accounting & Accountability
Changing Budget Processes	Deregulation - Financial Implications
Tax Policy and Impacts	Social Security Finance
Intergovernmental Finance	Changes in Education Finance
Budgeting Innovation	Infrastructure Finance
Public Funds Management	Electronic Commerce & Taxation
State and Local Budgeting	International Municipal Finance
Financial Markets and Municipal Securities	

Please send all correspondence by March 1st to:
 Dr. Kurt Thurmaier, University of Kansas, Department of Public
 Administration, 318 Blake, Lawrence, KS 66045
 Phone (785) 864-9093 FAX 785-864-5208
 email: thurmaier@ukans.edu

responsible for tracking emerging trends and innovative budgeting practices at federal, state or local levels. Eventually, we would like to see these networks become a two-way street, both recruiting new members from those sectors and bringing the experiences of that sector to the attention of our membership.

As we emerge as a more independent organization, we have found it necessary to consider providing for an administrative home for our section. Although ASPA will continue to provide support for the section, we need our own administrative arm to support our new membership recruitment, web site, job bank, conference and other initiatives. We are proposing to create a new Secretariat for the organization, to be housed in a university or other institution which will bid for the opportunity to be selected. The host institution will provide a variety of administrative services for a fee to be negotiated by our Board and our Treasurer. We hope to announce the call for proposals soon and have our Secretariat up and run-

continued on back page

From the Chair...continued from page 3

ning by this coming summer. Details of this proposal can be found at: <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~alfredho/ABFM/ABFMSecretariatProposal.htm>.

As we define an expanded role for the section, we are mindful of the need to be guided by a broader vision defining the unique role of our organization – what defines our niche in the budget world. Other organizations, after all, ably serve budgetary practitioners through hands-on workshops and information dissemination – GFOA and NASBO come to mind at local and state levels respectively. Academic disciplines have blossomed in recent years with a range of associations. What ABFM does that no other organization can do is to bring both academics and practitioners together in ways that can, hopefully, strengthen both. Although a raging debate

has been occurring for years inside ASPA about the relative balance between these communities, I, for one, hope we don't fall into the zero sum trap here. A good journal and top notch sessions on the latest research on budget theory, for instance, serve informed practitioners in important ways. Similarly, practitioners sessions at our conference and a stronger field perspective in our journal can help academic researchers as well.

Our new initiatives will take several years to blossom. We welcome any and all volunteers, suggests and comments. Please don't hesitate to contact me at (202)512-9573 or at my email at: posnerp.aimd@gao.gov

~ *Paul Posner* ~

Call for Nominations

ABFM Executive Committee

The Nominations Committee of the ABFM Executive Committee issues a call for nominations from the membership. If you are interested in serving as chair (for 2000-2001) or as one of three members of the Executive Committee (*to serve a three-year term*), please notify: Merl Hackbart, University of Kentucky, Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, 477 Patterson Office Tower, Lexington, KY 40506-0021 *email: fin008@ukcc.uky.edu*

A letter or email expressing your interest in a particular position is all we require. Since we publish a short paragraph "bio" with each nomination, it would help if you would send one along with your notice of interest. **The due date for receipt of nominations is March 1, 2000.**

The Nominations Committee will publish a ballot in the spring ABFM newsletter, with election results available in early summer. New executive committee members are expected to attend and take office at the October 5, 2000 business meeting held during the annual ABFM Conference in Kansas City.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

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