

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS: WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY

Market conditions can shift economic relationships, causing substantial shifts – a well-known lesson. Indeed, one might recall the long lines and limited availability of gasoline associated with the rapid increases in fuel prices during the '70s. Not surprisingly, the rapid increase in the subscription rates for academic journals has shifted, though slowing in some cases, how libraries buy journals, with even more changes likely in the future.

A striking example: The *Journal of Comparative Neurology* increased in price from \$1,920 to \$15,000 per year between 1985 and 1999, a compound increase in cost per page of 13.5 percent. This large price increase largely reflects the purchase of academic journals by large commercial publishers. As a result, price effects are causing reconsideration of scholarly publishing activity.

AUBER units often support faculty research and in some cases house editorial offices for academic journals. As such, the trend toward commercial press ownership of journals has acted to limit AUBER's publishing role in recent years. Perhaps, as rethinking is occurring on scholarly publications generally, AUBER should also come back to reassess its opportunities to promote scholarly publications.

The expensive subscription rates for scholarly journals go far beyond what many believe is justified. This belief has pushed some to call for moving publications from expensive commercial journals to academic organizations, scholarly association, small presses, and university groups (for example, AUBER research centers). Above all, the search is for ways to reduce prices, make more information available, and better serve scholars.

AUBER has long supported the research and publication mission of member universities. But, over the years, AUBER members, librarians, and other academic groups have come to question whether the best interests of scholars are being served by a less than competitive publishing environment and have tried unsuccessfully to improve the system of scholarly communication. Change, nonetheless, is underway, driven by what seem to be increasingly overpriced journals.

New efforts to address the future of scholarly publishing are underway. AUBERites should become aware of one effort, namely the Create Change Initiative, a broad based effort to stimulate discussion on scholarly publications. (Take a look at the website: www.createchange.org). Let me suggest that this issue should be on the AUBER "plate." Perhaps a window of opportunity exists to use new technology to lower costs and improve the dissemination of scholarship. Let me suggest a bold step--"We must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures."



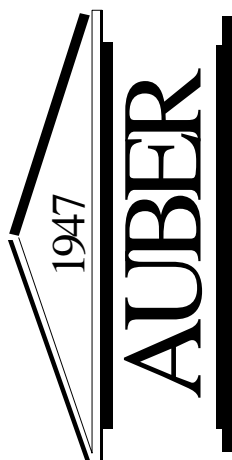
R. KEITH SCHWER
1999-2000 AUBER PRESIDENT

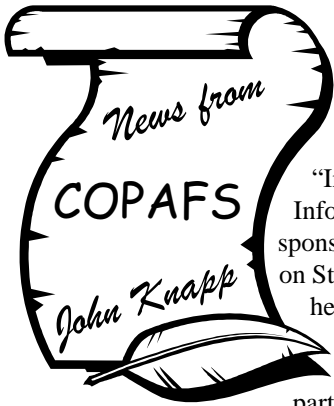
R. Keith Schwer,
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

SEARCHING FOR A NEW AUBER SECRETARY-TREASURER

Jerry Wall and Dee Jones announced that they will be stepping down as the AUBER Secretary-Treasurer (AUBER's Business Office) as of **October 2001**, having completed five years of service. As an association without the expense of a business office, Jerry and Dee have contributed significantly to promoting AUBER. An ad hoc committee (Richard

Wobbekind [Chair], John Gnuscke, and Bruce Kellison) has been formed to recommend a new AUBER unit for the office. Anyone with questions or who might have an interest in undertaking this important office, please contact the committee. We hope to hear from the ad hoc committee at our annual meeting.





**SEMINAR ON INTEGRATING
FEDERAL STATISTICAL
INFORMATION AND PROCESSES**

The Statistical Policy Seminar “Integrating Federal Statistical Information and Processes,” sponsored by the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, will be held November 8-9, 2000 at the Holiday Inn, Bethesda, MD. The seminar is limited to 300 participants. Registration fee is

\$150 per person. For further information, including program and a registration form, see:

<http://members.aol.com/copafs/index.htm>

You also can contact the COPAFS office by phone (703-836-0404), fax (703-684-3410), or email (copafs@aol.com).

**DIVISION OF SCIENCE RESOURCES STUDIES (SRS),
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

SRS is not generally perceived as a statistical organization, but in fact its purpose is to provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the federal government. SRS maintains several data series to provide information for its Human Resources Statistics Program, principally the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), Survey of Graduate Student Support (GSS), the National Survey of Recent College Graduates (NSRCG), and the National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG). Research and Development Statistics include the Survey of Science and Engineering Academic Research Infrastructure, Survey of Nonprofit Institutions, Survey of Industrial Research and Development, Survey of Academic Research and Development Expenditures, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development, and the Survey of Federal Science and Engineering Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions. The Science and Engineering Indicators Program (IND) conducts the Survey of Public Attitudes and the Survey of Innovation. Data and additional information from the above programs are available at the SRS website:

<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/stats.htm>

and data on educational institutions are available on CD-ROM. For information contact Lynda Carlson, Ph.D., Division of Science Resources Studies Director, at lcarlson@nsf.gov or at 703-306-1780, extension 6901.

AN UPDATE FROM CAPITOL HILL

Jane Cobb, Majority Staff, Subcommittee on the Census, House Government Reform Committee and Mark Stephenson, Minority Staff of the same committee spoke at the June meeting of COPAFS. They summarized the status of the Subcommittee’s work on overseeing Census 2000. They reported that depending on the results of other oversight agencies, such as the General Accounting Office, the Inspector

General of the Department of Commerce, the Census Monitoring Board, and the National Academy of Sciences panel, the Subcommittee also would review aspects of Census 2000. They noted that Census 2000 to date had done an “incredible job” compared to the 1990 Census, which they noted was a very positive sign for the end product. Some areas of potential concern to the Subcommittee included the effects of the new census administrative procedures and programs on the overall quality of the data. In particular, they noted that the tight schedules for completing the work might diminish the quality of the data, and that they had heard reports that Local Census Offices, because of the competition to complete the work on time, had not shared their best practices. The Subcommittee held hearings in July 2000 on the American Community Survey that is designed to replace the long form in the 2010 Census, and will also monitor the ACE program closely. They also mentioned the GAO report on the response rate difference between the short and long forms (the former is higher) and a concern about the National Archives’ decision to use electronic formats to archive Census 2000 data instead of microfilm.

**NORTH AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM
(NAICS)**

The new classification system now covers all of North America, including Canada and Mexico. A newer classification was needed because the original classification system (SIC) had evolved from work begun in the 1930s and in spite of efforts to keep it relevant, the old system did not provide a sufficient picture of the new economy. NAICS is based on a “production” concept that focuses on the inputs, processes, and outputs used to produce products and services. Its categories differ from the old system in the following ways:

	NAICS	SIC
Sectors	20	10
Digits in classification code	6	4
Industries	1,170	1,004

The year 1997 is a “bridge” year between the two classification systems, and the Census Bureau will be producing cross-comparisons. The next NAICS surveys are 2002 and 2007, and every 5 years thereafter. Unlike the previous classification, NAICS will be reviewed and updated as needed, every 5 years. Additional information about the new system may be found at: <http://www.census.gov/naics>

LATEST PROPOSED METROPOLITAN AREA STANDARDS

Work continues on revising the metropolitan area standards. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) particularly seeks comment on those final recommendations that differ from the Metropolitan Area Standards Review Committee’s initial recommendations published in the October 20, 1999 Federal Register. These are the recommendations about the: (1) number of categories of CBSAs and the terms by which they would be identified); (2) categorization of CBSAs on the

basis of population in cores; (3) identification of New England City and Town Areas to indicate that NECTAs are conceptually similar to CBSAs; (4) criteria for qualifying a central county; (5) identification of metropolitan divisions within CBSAs with a core of 2.5 million or more population and NECTA divisions within NECTAs that have a core of that size; and (6) criteria for titling Combined Areas, which would now require that the second- and third-largest CBSAs in a Combined Area each have at least one-third the population of the largest area for their single largest principal cities to appear in the title. To ensure consideration during the final decision making process, OMB must receive all written comments no later than October 6, 2000. Please send comments about the committee's final recommendations to: Katherine K. Wallman, Chief Statistician, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10201 New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503; fax: (202) 395-7245. OMB must receive all written comments no later than October 6, 2000. For more about this issue see: <http://members.aol.com/copafs/mets2000.htm>

BUDGET NEWS FOR FEDERAL STATISTICAL AGENCIES

For late-breaking news on budget or the principal agencies see the COPAFS' web site: <http://members.aol.com/copafs/20table.htm>

John Knapp, University of Virginia

Chicago



The **AUBER NEWSLETTER** is a quarterly publication of the **ASSOCIATION FOR UNIVERSITY BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH.**

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Dee Jones
University of Louisiana at Monroe

Have you made plans to attend the 2000 AUBER Fall Conference? It's not too late! The conference will be held October 8 - 11, 2000 at the Embassy Suites in beautiful downtown Chicago. Among the many guest speakers (including several of our own AUBERites) are:

- William Strauss and William C. Testa, Federal Reserve Bank, Chicago
- Michael J. Toma and Richard D. McGrath, Armstrong Atlantic State University
- Barbara Bailar, Sally Murhy, Cathy Haggerty and Jack Covington, National Opinion Research Center
- George W. Putnam and Waleed K. Almousa, Illinois Department of Employment Security
- Diane Swonk, Chief Economist and Senior VP, Bank One
- Joe Cortez and Paul Zeissest, U.S. Census Bureau

For more information, contact:
Tom Witt (twitt@wvu.edu) or
Dee Jones (brjones@ulm.edu)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

AUBER AND NABE

At the AUBER Spring Conference 2000, Susan Doolittle, Executive Director of the National Association for Business Economics (NABE), met with the AUBER officers and executive committee with a proposal for AUBER and NABE to discuss what mutual interests we have and what opportunities might we create for our organizations. Since April we have held a series of conference calls and ironed out a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which I emailed to the AUBER list. (If you did not receive this email, please let me know.)

AUBER and NABE boards have unanimously approved an MOU between the organizations. This has been followed with an accepted proposal of a joint AUBER-NABE Policy Meeting in Spring 2001 in Washington, D.C. This meeting will occur during the last week of March, near our usual meeting date for the spring meeting. Most importantly this meeting will benefit from the quality of the presentations from major Washington policymakers. AUBER will have the opportunity to help set the agenda and to offer sessions that we might particularly like.

AUBER members will have the opportunity to participate in a series of industry and regional roundtables, long a feature of NABE's regional and policy programs. A joint AUBER-NABE planning committee will be fleshing out the program in the months ahead. It goes without saying that ideas to improve programs are always welcome.

The new spring format should prove particularly beneficial to AUBER units offering outlook conferences and current economic condition reports.

Members who have not attended the Washington spring meeting or have not attended in recent years will not want to miss this opportunity to enhance their understanding of current policy debates and issues.

Hope to see you in Chicago in October!

*R. Keith Schwer,
University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Et cetera...

The American Association of Retirement Communities (AARC), a professional association dedicated to the promotion of community economic growth through retiree attraction, has relocated its administrative headquarters to the Center for Economic Development at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama. For information about membership or the upcoming fall conference in Biloxi, Mississippi, visit AARC's website at: <http://www.the-aarc.org>.

On September 12, 2000, the Bureau of Economic Analysis will release State personal income estimates for 1929-68. The 1958-68 estimates have been revised to incorporate the results of the comprehensive revision to the national income and product accounts (NIPAs) released in October 1999. The 1929-57 estimates have been revised to incorporate the results of the comprehensive revision to the NIPAs released in April 2000. The release of these revised estimates marks the completion of the incorporation of the NIPA comprehensive revision into the State estimates. Detailed tables of personal, 1929-68, for all States will be available on BEA's website (www.bea.doc.gov) at 9:00 A.M. EDT on the day of the release.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN AUBER SESSIONS AT UPCOMING REGIONAL MEETINGS (FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS)

WESTERN REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

At the 2001 WRSA conference to be held at the Riviera Resort and Racquet Club in Palm Springs, CA February 25-28, 2001, AUBER will be sponsoring a contributed paper session (and possibly additional events) in addition to its annual Outlook session. (For the past several years, representatives from AUBER units have participated in an AUBER-sponsored Western States Economic Outlook session at the WRSA annual meeting.) Anyone interested in presenting a paper based upon a research project/study done by your center, please send me the title of the paper, the author(s), and a brief abstract of the paper. In order to meet the WRSA deadline, I need to have the session organized in early October, so I would appreciate your inputs by October 1.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

As a first step toward establishing closer ties with the SRSA, AUBER will be sponsoring one or more sessions at the 2001 SRSA conference to be held at the Driskill Hotel in Austin, TX April 5-7. Anyone interested in presenting a paper based upon a research project/study done by your center, please send me the title of the paper, the author(s), and a brief abstract of the paper by November 15.

WESTERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

AUBER has been formally designated as a Participating Organization at by the WEA. With this designation, AUBER has the ability to organize additional AUBER-sponsored activities for the 2001 WEA conference to be held in San Francisco July 4-8, 2001. Anyone interested in organizing an AUBER-sponsored session around a particular subject area or with ideas for other types of events, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can begin to get things organized prior to the WEA deadline early in 2001. (I would also like to hear from anyone interested in presenting a paper if you are not interested in organizing an entire session.)

*Timothy D. Hogan
Arizona State University*

Tim Hogan
Committee on Relations with Other Organizations
Center for Business Research
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287-4011
tim.hogan@asu.edu
480-965-3961

2000 AUBER FALL Conference Registration Form

October 8 - 11, 2000
Embassy Suites Hotel
Chicago, Illinois

Name: _____ Phone: _____

University: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Spouse/Companion Registration: NO _____ YES _____ Name of Spouse/Companion: _____

PLEASE INDICATE WHICH MONDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITY IN WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE:
[] CHICAGO TROLLEY TRIP--ALL DAY TROLLEY PASS [] CHICAGO RIVER 2-HOUR ARCHITECTURE BOAT TOUR

Registration Fees:

Table with 3 columns: Activity, Price, and Spouse/Companion. Rows include EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION, AUBER Member Registration, Non-AUBER member Registration Fee, and various meals and events for spouses/companions.

NOTE: PLEASE CIRCLE EVENTS SPOUSE/COMPANION WILL BE ATTENDING.

Member Payment: \$ _____ Spouse/Companion Payment: \$ _____ Non-Member Payment: \$ _____

Payment enclosed \$ _____

Check to follow _____

Refund Policy: Cancellations must be received no later than Friday, September 8, 2000, in order to receive a full refund of the conference registration fee.

If this is your first time to attend an AUBER Conference, please check this box. []

Please make check payable to 2000 AUBER Fall Conference and mail payment with registration to:

2000 AUBER Fall Conference
c/o Dee Jones
AUBER Secretary/Treasurer's Office
Center for Business & Economic Research
University of Louisiana at Monroe
Monroe, LA 71209-8046

2000 AUBER FALL CONFERENCE -- PRELIMINARY AGENDA
OCTOBER 8 - 11, 2000
EMBASSY SUITES, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SUNDAY A.M., OCTOBER 8

9:00 - 12:00 Executive Committee Meeting

SUNDAY P.M., OCTOBER 8

2:00 - 6:00 Registration
Publications Exhibit
6:00 - 7:00 Reception
7:00 - 9:00 Opening Banquet
Welcome: Keith Schwer, AUBER President, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Entertainment: A Short History of Chicago
9:00 - AUBER Hospitality Suite

MONDAY A.M., OCTOBER 9

8:00 - 12:00 Registration
Publications Exhibit
8:00 - 9:45 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**
Regional Econometric Modeling and Forecasting
Chair: Morton Marcus, Indiana University

Speakers:

William Strauss, Federal Reserve Bank, Chicago, *Monitoring Economic Performance Over Diverse Geographical Areas*
James C. Smith, Indiana University, *Peer Group Analysis for Metropolitan Areas*
Michael J. Toma, Armstrong Atlantic State University, *Monitoring and Forecasting Economic Activity in a Small to Midsize MSA*

New Developments in Survey Research

Chair: Paul Polzin, University of Montana

Speakers:

Barbara Bailar, Sally Murhy, Cathy Haggerty and Jack Covington, National Opinion Research Center (NORC)

Editors Session: ***Sharing Best Practices***

A roundtable discussion where editors can share some of their past year successes

10:00 - 11:45 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**
GIS Applications in AUBER Units
Chair: Tom S. Witt, West Virginia University

Speakers:

Robert D. Potts and R. Keith Schwer, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, *Use of GIS Software for Reapportionment*
Tom S. Witt, West Virginia University, *Integrating GIS in a Study on the Economic Impact of Mountaintop Mining*
Phyllis Smith, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, *GIS: A Powerful Tool for Economic Development*

Innovative AUBER Research Projects I

Chair: Roy Pearson, College of William and Mary

Speakers:

Roy L. Pearson, College of William and Mary, George W. Putnam and Waleed K. Almousa, Illinois Department of Employment Security, *The Accuracy of Illinois Short-Term Employment Forecasts Obtained by Employer Surveys: Methodological Issues and Results*
Mark Berger, University of Kentucky, *Valuing the Arts: A Contingent Valuation Approach*
George I. Treyz, REMI, *The New Generation REMI Forecasting and Policy Analysis Model*

Editors Session: ***Integrated Marketing***

MONDAY P.M., OCTOBER 9

12:00 - 1:30 Luncheon in the Atrium
1:30 - 7:00 The City of Chicago- Informal networking w/conference participants while touring Chicago by trolley or boat
(choose option when registering)
5:00 - 7:00 Reception
7:00 - Conference Dinner at Famous Dave's Ribs and Blues
9:00 - AUBER Hospitality Suite

TUESDAY A.M., OCTOBER 10

8:00 - 5:00 Publications Exhibit
8:00 - 9:30 Annual Business Meeting
Presiding: Keith Schwer, AUBER President
Presentation of AUBER Awards in Publications and Technology
Introduction of New AUBER Board and Officers
9:30 - 10:30 Plenary Address
Presiding: Morton Marcus, Indiana University
Speaker: William C. Testa, Federal Reserve Bank, Chicago, *Looking Out for the Region*

Editors Session: TBA

10:45 - 11:45 Plenary Address
Presiding: Marshall Vest, University of Arizona
Speaker: Diane Swonk, Chief Economist and Senior Vice President, Bank One, *Economic Outlook for the U.S. Economy*

TUESDAY P.M., OCTOBER 10

12:00 - 1:15 Luncheon in the Atrium
1:15 - 3:00 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**
Roundtable for New Centers and Directors
Chair: Keith Schwer, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
A panel of experienced AUBER members will interact with new/existing centers and directors regarding best practices for success
Innovative Uses of Technology in AUBER Units
Chair: Rick Harper, University of West Florida
Speakers:
Ashvin P. Vibhakar, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, *Strategic Planning for Economic Development Using a Common Database*
Kenneth Wieand, University of South Florida, *Providing Accessible Data for Economic Development*
Nicole Gislason and Rick Harper, University of West Florida,
Economic Development Resources: Tracking Data Requests and Customer Satisfaction

Editors Session: *The Chicago Manual of Style*

3:15 - 5:00 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**
Workforce Investment Act: Opportunities for Research Centers
Chair: David Stevens, University of Baltimore
Speakers:
John Baj, University of Northern Illinois
Phillip Rokicki, Florida Atlantic University

Workshop: ***Interactive Access to Integrated Federal Statistics***

Speakers: Joe Cortez and Paul Zeissest, U.S. Census Bureau

Editors Session: *Turning Economic Data into Prose: Chicago Business Writers Talk About the Challenge*

5:00 - 7:00 Reception
7:00 - Conference Dinner-Giordano Restaurant
9:00 - AUBER Hospitality Suite

WEDNESDAY A.M., OCTOBER 11

8:00 - 9:00 Editors Planning Breakfast for 2001
8:00 - 9:45 ***Innovative AUBER Research Projects II***
Chair: Paul Zelus, Idaho State University

Speakers:

Mark Burton, Marshall University, *Accurately Capturing the Effects of Transportation Related Externalities*
Christine Doyle-Burke, Maureen Dunne, Marie McKinney and Svetlana Rossin, Framingham State College,
Job Creation and Destruction in a Sub-Regional Economy
Michael J. Toma and Richard D. McGrath, Armstrong Atlantic State University,
A Cost Effective Method for Focusing Industrial Targeting with Zip-Code Data and Regional Production Functions
Todd Behr, Pattabiraman Neelakantan and Constantinos Christofides, East Stroudsburg University,
An Economic Analysis of Pennsylvania's Development Programs

9:15 - 11:15 Editors Session
10:00 - 11:30 Fall 2001 Conference Planning
Chair: Ashvin Vibhakar, University of Arkansas-Little Rock
11:30 Conference Adjournment



Center for Business & Economic Research
University of Louisiana at Monroe
700 University Avenue
Monroe, LA 71209-8046



2001 AUBER AND NABE SPRING POLICY CONFERENCE

MARCH 25 - 27, 2001
CAPITOL HILTON
WASHINGTON, D.C.

This is the first joint meeting of AUBER and the National Association for Business Economics (NABE). It will be held at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, D.C., March 25 - 27, 2001. Room rates are \$185/night for singles and \$205/night for doubles. Registration fee is \$245/per person. Current conference plans are:

- Sunday, March 25: AUBER X-Com Meeting followed by a reception for AUBER members;
- Monday, March 26: Morning sessions on statistics, afternoon NABE roundtables (AUBER members are invited), and a reception;
- Tuesday, March 27: A full day of presentations including congressional speakers, new administration speakers, and policy analysts (breakfast and lunch included).

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!