

## **American Economic Association Committee on Statistics (AEASat) Annual Report—2010**

The current members of the Committee on Economic Statistics are Matthew Shapiro, University of Michigan (Chair); Mark Bills, University of Rochester; Dennis Fixler, Bureau of Economic Analysis; Barbara Fraumeni, University of Southern Maine; David Johnson, Census Bureau; Randall Kroszner, University of Chicago; Jonathan Parker, Northwestern University; Charles Schultze, Brookings Institution; Jack Triplett.

In January 2007, the Executive Committee voted to give the Committee standing authority to organize three sessions each year for inclusion on the program of the Association's annual meeting. At its April 2008 meeting, the Executive Committee voted to allow the Committee to designate one session each year for publication in the annual Papers and Proceedings volume. For the January 2011 meeting, the Committee circulated a call for papers related to the statistical issues arising from the financial crisis and potential changes in financial regulations, markets, and institutions in addition to any topics related to economic statistics. The following three sessions are included in the program of the January 2010 meeting: "Frontiers of Productivity and Output Measurement," "New Approaches to Measuring Household-Level Finances," and "Measuring Financial Capacity and Risk: Lessons from the Financial Crisis." Details of the sessions are attached.

The Committee also has undertaken the task of commissioning reviews of needs for data in particular subject matter areas. A group co-chaired by Robert Feenstra and Robert Lipsey completed a report on data needs for research on international trade. It was discussed at this year's National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute meetings. It is scheduled for discussion at a meeting of the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee in December 2010. The Committee expects to be studying statistical issues related to financial regulation and (with the Committee on Government Relations) issues relating to the use of administrative data in statistics.

To ensure that papers presented at the sessions on economic measurement organized by the Committee and the reports on data needs it commissions are readily accessible to interested persons, the Committee has developed a Committee website where these and other informational items are posted. The Committee website may be accessed through the main Association website. The WWW site links to the Association of Public Data Users to facilitate those who might wish to be informed of and comment on changes in Federal data collection.

The Committee continues to monitor developments with regard to passage of legislation to facilitate the sharing of business information for statistical purposes, but there was little opportunity for constructive engagement on that topic during the calendar year.

The Committee on Statistics and the Committee on Government Relations are endeavoring to collaborate where there is overlap in their areas of concern. The chairs of the two committees and the AEA Director of Government Relations are in frequent

communication about matters arising. The committees currently have one member in common. It would be advisable to continue to have some overlap in the committees' membership.

Submitted by

Matthew D. Shapiro

Chair, American Economic Association Committee on Statistics (AEASat)

December 2010

**AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION**  
**Committee on Statistics (AEASat)**

**Sessions for 2011 ASSA Meetings – Denver, CO**

**Frontiers of Productivity and Output Measurement**

(Session to be published in *AER Papers and Proceedings*)

Chair: Matthew D. Shapiro, University of Michigan

**“Measuring Economic Growth from Outer Space”**

J. Vernon Henderson, Brown University

Adam Storeygard, Brown University

David N. Weil, Brown University)

Discussant: Charles Jones, Stanford University

**“Does Quality Adjustment Matter for Technologically Stable Products? An Application to the CPI for Food”**

John S. Greenlees, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Robert McClelland, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Discussant: Emi Nakamura, Columbia University

**“Assessing the Productivity of Healthcare Spending on Chronic Disease: Evidence from Diabetes Treatment, 1997-2009”**

Joseph P. Newhouse, Harvard University

Nilay Shah, Mayo Clinic

Ernst Berndt, MIT

Steve Smith, Mayo Clinic

Karen Eggleston, Stanford University

Discussant: Ana Aizcorbe, Bureau of Economic Analysis

**New Approaches to Measuring Household-Level Finances**

Organizer: Christopher Carroll

Chair: Angus Deaton

**“Improving the Measurement of Household-Level Spending and Income”**

Orazio Attanasio, University College London

Christopher D. Carroll, Johns Hopkins University

Jonathan Parker, Northwestern University

John Sabelhaus, University of Maryland and Investment Company Institute

Discussant: Thesia Garner, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

**“The Trajectory of Household Spending during the Financial Crisis”**

Michael Hurd, Rand Corporation and NBER

Susann Rohwedder, Rand Corporation and NETSPAR

Discussant: Michael Palumbo

**“The Analysis of Food Stamp Program Participation with Matched Administrative and Survey Data”**

Bruce D. Meyer, University of Chicago and NBER

Robert M. Goerge, Chapin Hall

Discussant: Alan Krueger, Princeton University

## **Measuring Financial Capacity and Risk: Lessons from the Financial Crisis**

Organizer: Annamaria Lusardi

Chair: James Poterba

### **“Measuring Financial Literacy and Financial Capability”**

Annamaria Lusardi, Dartmouth College

Olivia S. Mitchell, University of Pennsylvania

Discussant: Arthur Kennickell, Board of Governors

### **“Cognitive and Behavioral Responses to the Financial Crisis”**

Miles S. Kimball, University of Michigan

Matthew D. Shapiro, University of Michigan

Tyler Shumway, University of Michigan

Robert J. Willis, University of Michigan)

Discussant: John Phillips, Social Security Administration

### **“Measuring Household Risk Exposure and Risk Management”**

Authors: Peter Tufano, Harvard Business School

Daniel Schneider, Princeton University

Discussant: Arie Kapteyn, Rand

### **“Risk Topography”**

Markus K. Brunnermeier, Princeton University

Gary Gorton, Yale University

Arvind Krishnamurthy, Northwestern University

Discussant: Anil Kashyap, University of Chicago