

BUREAU OF
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
celebrates

2010 ANNUAL
AWARDS CEREMONY



75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
NATIONAL ACCOUNTS
& GDP



PROGRAM

November 30, 2010

INTRODUCTION

Kurt Bersani, *Moderator*

WELCOMING REMARKS

Honorable Gary Locke, *Department of Commerce Secretary*

Honorable Rebecca M. Blank, *Under Secretary for Economic Affairs*

RECOGNITION OF CAREER SERVICE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

J. Steven Landefeld, *Director*

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Honorable Gary Locke, *Department of Commerce Secretary*

Honorable Rebecca M. Blank, *Under Secretary for Economic Affairs*

J. Steven Landefeld, *Director*

Brian C. Moyer, *Deputy Director and Acting Associate Director for Industry Accounts*

Betty Barker, *Former BEA Deputy Director*

Unice Blue, *Former BEA Secretary for NIWD*

Brent R. Moulton, *Associate Director for National Economic Accounts*

Robert E. Yuskavage, *Acting Associate Director for International Economics*

Joel D. Platt, *Associate Director for Regional Economics*

Brian M. Callahan, Jr., *Chief Information Officer*

Ana M. Aizcorbe, *Chief Economist*

Dennis J. Fixler, *Chief Statistician*

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

GOLD MEDAL AWARDS

A Gold Medal is defined as distinguished performance characterized by extraordinary, notable, or prestigious contributions that impact the mission of the Department and/or one operating unit and that reflect favorably on the Department.

SILVER MEDAL AWARDS

A Silver Medal is defined as exceptional performance characterized by noteworthy or superlative contributions that have a direct and lasting impact within the Department.

BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

The Bronze Medal is the highest honorary award granted by the head of an operating unit. A Bronze Medal is defined as superior performance characterized by outstanding or significant contributions that have increased the efficiency and effectiveness of the operating unit.

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Employee Excellence Awards recognize employees who have demonstrated excellence through exceptional and sustained efforts in accomplishing the mission of the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Each year, one award is given in each of the following categories.

The George Jaszi Award

This award is named after George Jaszi, BEA's first Director, who through his personal example set high standards of leadership. This award recognizes leadership and management staff.

The Betty Barker Award

This award is named after BEA's former Deputy Director, Betty Barker, who through her personal example as a researcher, innovator and mentor set high standards for professionalism for the BEA workforce. Employees in bands IV or V are eligible to receive this award.

The Eunice Blue Award

This award is named after Eunice Blue, a former secretary within the National Income and Wealth Division, who through her example set a high standard for professionalism for the BEA workforce. Employees in bands I, II, or III are eligible to receive this award.

GOLD MEDAL AWARDS

Carol E. Moylan, Nicole M. Mayerhauser, Edward T. Morgan, Clinton P. McCully, Aya Hamano, and Marc Rubin

The group is recognized for developing comprehensive measures of economic activity for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These new statistics—including gross domestic product and personal income—provide new tools for gauging the economic performance of the territories. Working with the Department of the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs and the Census Bureau, BEA developed new territorial statistics within the framework of the U.S. national income and product accounts.

Benjamin Cowan, Douglas Klear, and Lisa Ninomiya

The group is recognized for developing and implementing a new, high-performance central processing system for gross domestic product (GDP) and other key national economic statistics. They introduced streamlined methodologies and substantially reduced computer processing times (by a factor of 20). Their implementation of improved calculations and their development of improved analysis tools were vital to the success of the GDP comprehensive revision, conducted every 5 years. Their efforts have resulted in improved reliability and speed of delivery of these statistics to BEA customers.

SILVER MEDAL AWARDS

**Pamela Kelly, Benjamin Mandel, Mark Ludwick, Zoe Ambargis,
Rebecca Bess, Hope Franklin, and Thomas McComb**

The group is honored for customer service in providing fast and effective information about the economic effects of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). They compiled vital information from a multitude of sources and presented it on BEA's Web site. They further assisted customers on how to calculate and analyze regional impacts of ARRA and simultaneously improved the delivery of these statistics. Their efforts set a new standard of excellence in customer service.

**Clifford H. Woodruff III, Sharon D. Panek,
Frank T. Baumgardner, Matthew J. McCormick,
Yolanda B. Langford, and Ralph M. Rodriguez**

The group is honored for their efforts in accelerating by a full year the release of gross domestic product by metropolitan area economic statistics. This work required superior technical skill and coordination to develop methods to overcome difficulties in key source data and to test, review, and modify the accelerated statistics within the tight timeframe required by the release schedule. The advanced schedule provides businesses and economic policymakers with key data a year sooner than previously offered.

SILVER MEDAL AWARDS

Michael Armah, Brendan Leary, and Teresita Teensma

The group is honored for personal and professional excellence in implementing the new classification for consumer spending in the U.S. economic accounts. The new system provides policymakers and the American public with a contemporary classification that more accurately reflects today's U.S. economy. Through careful planning, the new classification was implemented seamlessly and thoroughly, and BEA customers and supervisors were provided with innovative, easy-to-understand briefings on the impacts of the changes.

Erich H. Strassner and Robert E. Yuskavage

The group is recognized for developing expanded statistics on the use of energy, materials, and purchased services by industry, which are critical for understanding structural change and its implications for the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in a global economy. The introduction of KLEMS statistics in 2005 and the expansion of these statistics to examine the role of outsourcing and offshore outsourcing paved the way for new developments in understanding the sources of growth, productivity, and its implications for U.S. gross domestic product.

EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The George Jaszi Award — Diane Young

Diane Young has played critical management and technical roles in modernizing the International Directorate's computer and information systems. Ms. Young's leadership in modernizing several decades worth of processes for international surveys of direct investment and trade in services will have a significant impact on productivity and demonstrate potential benefits of statistical production to other parts of the Bureau.

The Betty Barker Award — Shelly Smith

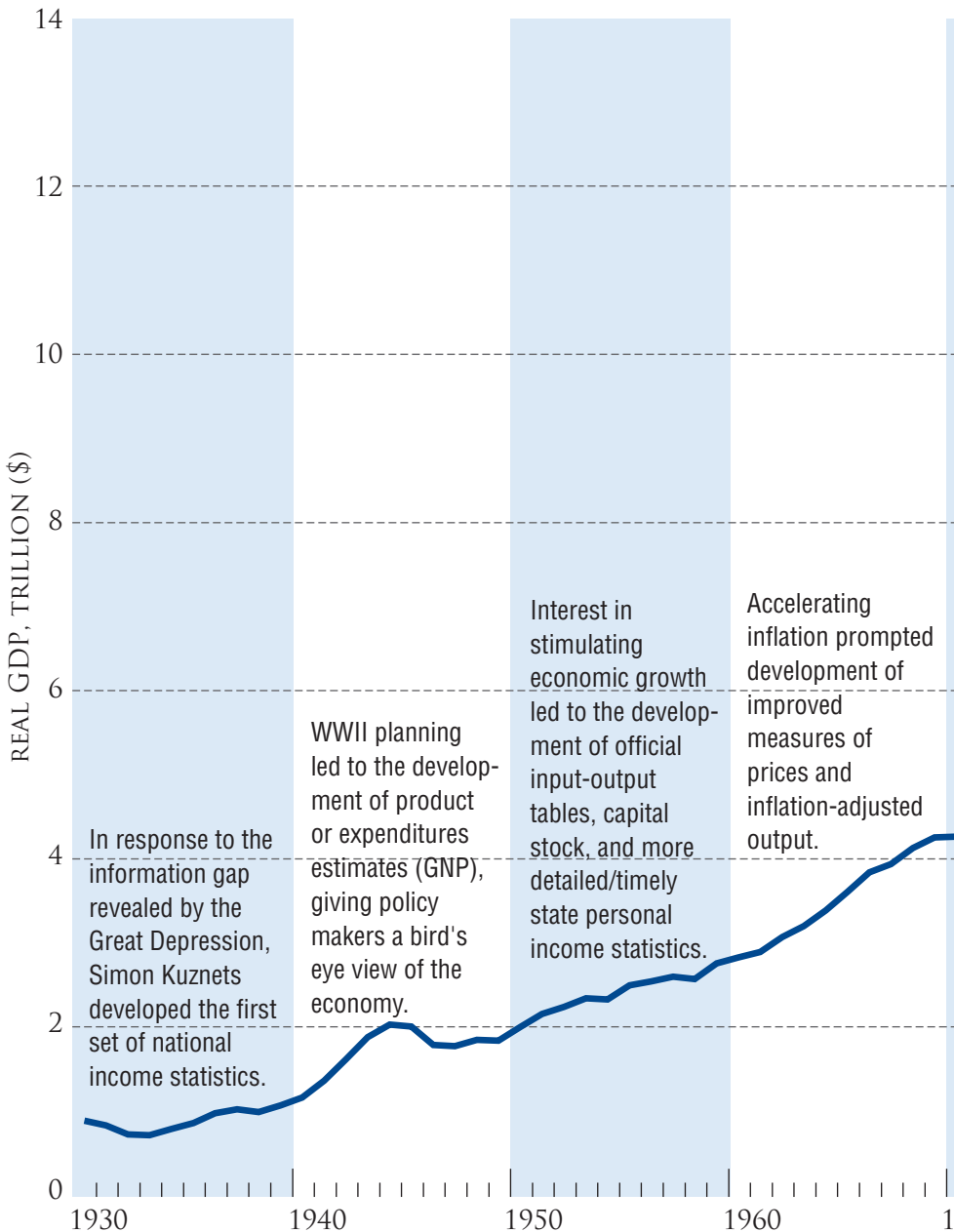
Shelly Smith's substantial efforts in personal and professional development have not only contributed to BEA's organizational goals, but also served as an inspiration to others. Ms. Smith's work on gross domestic product (GDP) and the national income and product accounts (NIPAs) statistics included serving on review teams, co-authoring articles, organizing FAQs for the Web, and preparing important tables and briefings. Last year, Ms. Smith played a major role in BEA's 13th comprehensive NIPA revision. The successful completion of these activities has been a significant achievement toward BEA's strategic challenge to improve its estimates of an ever-changing economy and to better inform its customers on GDP and the national accounts.

The Eunice Blue Award — Sheila Kerrick

Over the past 2 years, Sheila Kerrick made extremely valuable contributions to the Balance of Payments Division, allowing the division to meet its responsibilities while expanding its scope of international outreach and training efforts. Ms. Kerrick's contributions were wide ranging, but are most noteworthy in the areas of travel and training orders, time and attendance, management support, and office move coordination during the division's reorganization.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS & G

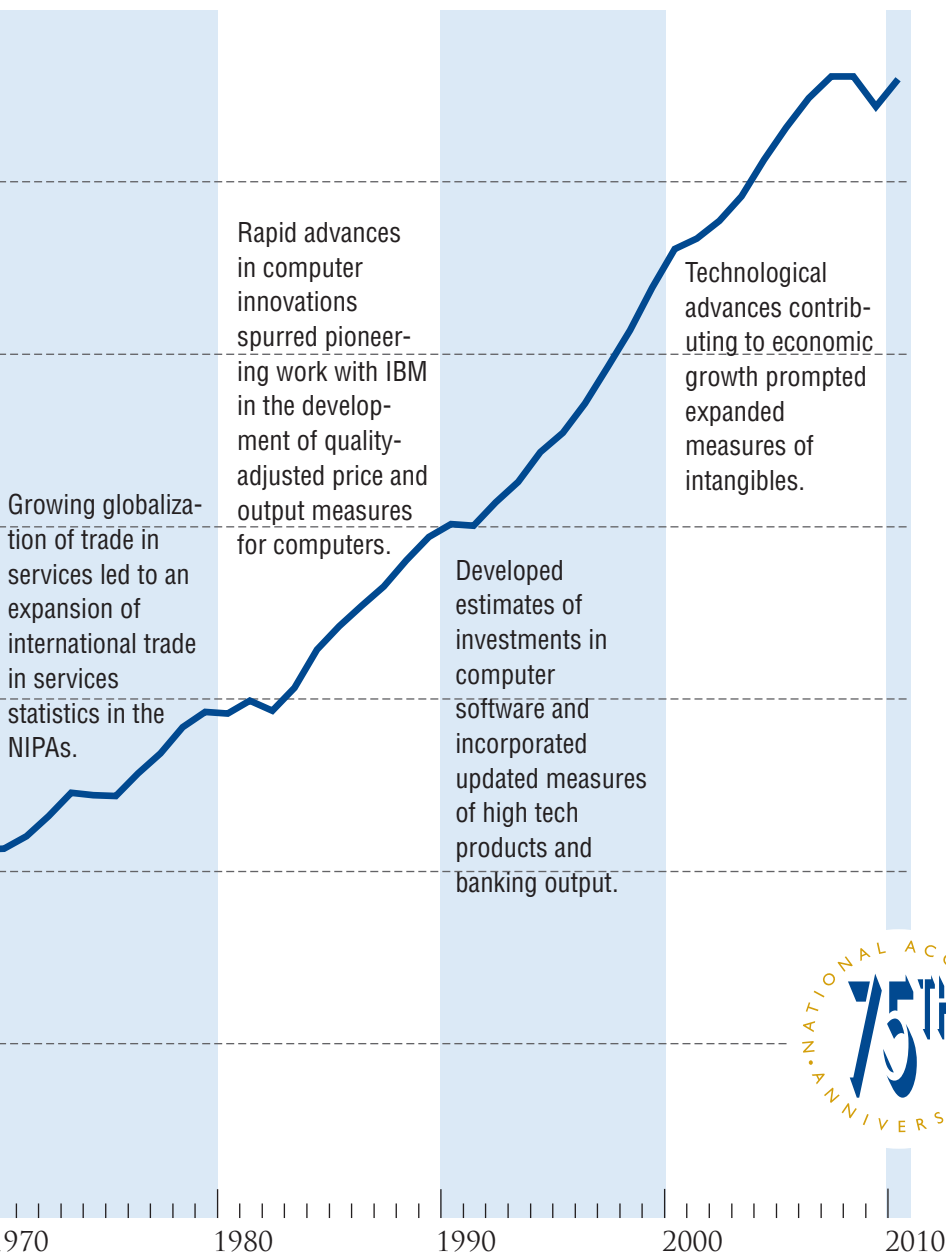
75 YEARS OF RESPONDING TO POLICY N



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

TRENDS AND CHANGES IN THE ECONOMY



BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Emanuel Fernandez, Shawn J. Novinger, and John R. Ivicsek

The OCIO Office of Technology Services desktop security group exhibited dedication, expertise, and teamwork in providing exceptional technical support. The group maintained the availability and security of the Bureau's information technology desktop resources by ensuring the latest security patches were applied to Bureau microcomputers. The group automated the process for off-hours implementation, minimizing the impact on statistical production and ensuring timely application of patches. These accomplishments provide a critical component to maintaining the Bureau's overall IT security program, essential to protecting the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of BEA data.

Carrie L. Litkowski, Daniel R. Corrin, Michelle A. Harder, and Andy K. Kim

Working in partnership with staff of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, this group developed and incorporated new source data from the Census of Agriculture and the Agricultural Resource Management Survey. The group also updated existing methods to more accurately measure the noncorporate share of the farm sector for BEA's state and local area personal income and employment statistics.

Mauricio Ortiz, Matthew Von Kerczek, James P. Stehle, Brian J. Maisano, and Nacola A. Alexander

The group is honored for professional excellence in developing new, timely, and accurate information to measure the effects of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in BEA's regional personal income accounts. They compiled information from multiple sources for different geographic levels and incorporated it under tight time constraints, greatly improving the accuracy of the statistics.

BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE (CONT.)

Maria Borga and Kevin B. Barefoot

Ms. Borga and Mr. Barefoot are recognized for preparing a report to Congress on U.S. trade in services statistics. The report, prepared in consultation with the Labor Department, describes BEA and BLS programs to compile the data, summarizes recent and ongoing improvements, and provides recommendations for enhancing and extending the statistics through interagency data sharing.

Douglas B. Weinberg

Mr. Weinberg successfully led a high-profile effort to transform SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS articles on international accounts transactions to improve consistency with other BEA articles and to attract interest from a wider readership. Development of this streamlined new format required extensive consultation within the directorate and with Communications Division staff as well as mastery of complex publishing software.

John R. Starnes and Nancy F. Steffen

Mr. Starnes and Ms. Steffen are recognized for exemplary efforts to conduct data integrity and quality review and to ensure the confidentiality of individual company data in BEA's multinational companies statistics. Their efforts have been critical in ensuring published tables are accurate both in content and format and that data suppressions are minimized.

Rachel Soloveichik

In research on measuring investment, depreciation, capital stocks and prices of artistic originals such as theatrical movies, music, literary works, and television shows, Ms. Soloveichik has exhibited exceptional originality, creativity, attention to detail, and determination. She has devised effective solutions for numerous source data and measurement challenges.

BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

SCIENTIFIC OR ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Jeffrey Bogen, Patricia Brown, Edward Dozier, Chi Hoang, Benjamin Kavanaugh, John Rutter, and Rodney Thorn

This group is recognized for exemplary effort and perseverance in developing new statistics for the U.S. international transactions accounts under challenging time constraints. The new monthly statistics—prepared by country and for a considerable historical time period—led to improved measures of goods and services and improved consistency with international balance-of-payments guidelines.

Bradlee A. Herauf, Thomas F. Howells III, Amanda S. Lyndaker, Kevin J. Muck, and Jeff A. Young

This group is recognized for their exemplary effort in increasing the accuracy and efficiency of interpolation and balancing methods used to update the industry economic accounts. Incorporating these process improvements—including expanded data on business expenses by industry—accelerated by more than a month the availability of a balanced, time-series of input-output accounts.

Anna M. Jacobson and Ricky L. Stewart

Ms. Jacobson and Mr. Stewart are recognized for their exemplary effort in developing a more accurate method to prepare price-adjusted statistics for the retail trade sector. Using newly available data from BLS, they developed a time series of real output that better captures the margin activity of this sector, providing a clearer picture of the retail trade's contribution to growth and productivity.

BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

SCIENTIFIC OR ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT (CONT.)

Matthew M. Donahoe, Andrew G. Schmidt, and Nadia Sadee

This group is recognized for assisting in the development of economic activity measures for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These new statistics—including gross domestic product and gross domestic income—provide tools for gauging the economic performance of the territories within the framework of the U.S. national income and product accounts.

Michael T. Cusick and Michael D. Glenn

Mr. Cusick and Mr. Glenn are awarded the Bronze Medal for their outstanding work in developing new statistics for nonresidential structures for years 1901–2009. They developed high-quality, timely fixed assets accounts estimates, including investment, stock, and depreciation, by industry and by legal form of organization for detailed nonresidential structures using newly available NIPA construction-types. They exhibited sound judgment and outstanding analytical skills, necessary for completing this difficult assignment.

David Lenze and Marshall Reinsdorf

Mr. Lenze and Mr. Reinsdorf are recognized for identifying publicly available sources of information on pension systems, determining ways to collect the data, and then developing procedures to convert reported normal cost and actuarial liabilities to measures consistent with national income accounting. Their work lays the foundation for a proposed supplementary account that will expand the information available in BEA's national income and product accounts and will ultimately lead to improvements in the core economic accounts.

BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Vanessa Powell

Ms. Powell exhibited dedication, expertise, and leadership in providing exceptional customer service and user support for Helpdesk operations and laptop loaner services for the Bureau. She supervised day-to-day Helpdesk functions and managed the Bureau's laptop loaner program to ensure Bureau users received excellent support. Ms. Powell consistently takes on the newest and most challenging IT tasks to help train other Helpdesk staff members. Her professionalism and get-it-done attitude have made her a valuable resource in support of the Bureau's strategic objectives and to modernize processes used to measure a changing economy.

Alexander Minor, Ronald Coleman, Susanne Lewtas, and Kenneth Pond

This group has furthered BEA's mission by creating Web portals on behalf of BEA program areas that focus on areas of high user interest. One site details the effects of federal stimulus. Other sites include an all-in-one resource about PCE statistics, an index of ITA methodological revisions since 1976, a Research@BEA site, a new Congressional Quick Data site, and a Newsroom site for journalists.

BRONZE MEDAL AWARDS

LEADERSHIP

Paul W. Farello

Mr. Farello demonstrated extraordinary leadership in improving how BEA produces, reviews, and disseminates the monthly trade-in-services statistics. Working with staff to develop procedures for ensuring the quality of these statistics while improving working relationships with major partners and customers, Mr. Farello's efforts were instrumental during a managerial transition period.

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

James J. Murphy

Mr. Murphy reinvigorated BEA's records management program by updating a records system untouched for 20 years. As records manager, he also brought the Bureau into full compliance with the Internal Revenue Service's Safeguard program. He received accolades from both the National Archives and Records Administration and the Internal Revenue Service for his work and product excellence.

Meridel Jackson, Gregory Lower, and James Plante

The group is recognized for activating and executing BEA's Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan in the 2010 nationwide "Eagle Horizon" exercise. Under their leadership, activation of BEA's COOP was highly effective and the Bureau received an outstanding evaluation of its COOP process. The group demonstrated that BEA is exceedingly capable of conducting its everyday business even in the event of relocating to a remote facility.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the following individuals for their valuable contributions in conducting this year's program.

Eddie Albetski, ASD
Dorothy Andrade, OD
Kurt Bersani, OD
Vicki Bingham, OD
Chris Cavaney, OCIO
Ronnie Foster, CD
Brian Grove, ASD
Terry Henderson, ASD
Lucas Hitt, CD
Jack Jetmund, ASD
Colby Johnson, CD
James Kim, CD
Gianna Marrone, CD
Kristina Maze, CD
Lisa Patterson, ASD
James Plante, CD
K.C. Pond, CD
Denise Robinson, ASD
Lorenza Silver, ASD
Shaunda Villones, OD
Jackie Williams, ASD



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