JULIUS SHISKIN AWARD SEMINAR

Title: Micro Data Research and Macro Level Understanding: Innovation at U.S. Statistical Agencies

Speaker: John Haltiwanger, University of Maryland

Time: Monday, Dec 16, 2013, 12:30pm - 2pm

Where: Conference Room 4, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, Maryland

Contact: To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of the Census, e-mail your name, affiliation, citizenship (if other than U.S. Citizen) and seminar name to maria.s.cantwell@census.gov by noon of December 11th or call 301-763-2583 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID (passport, if other than U.S. Citizen) to the seminar. The Census Bureau is located next to the Suitland Green Line Station in Suitland, MD.

Abstract: Understanding the U.S. economy and its people at the macro-level requires delving into micro-level data. Micro data research at U.S. statistical agencies has produced innovations that enhance our understanding of U.S. businesses and people. Such research has played a critical role in the development of new data products, discovering innovative methodologies, and assessing the quality and improving existing data products. Successful research programs at the statistical agencies have involved a strong internal research staff as well as active collaboration with external researchers in academia. A critical component of the latter has been programs to facilitate access to the micro data by external researchers. These access programs enable the statistical agencies to harness the creative energy of the U.S. academic community for the benefit of the entire U.S. statistical system. The discussion will focus on critical areas that the statistical agencies should be addressing and the role that micro data research access could play in addressing these challenges.

Speaker biography: Professor Haltiwanger joined the faculty at the University of Maryland in 1987 after teaching several years at UCLA and Johns Hopkins University. At Maryland, he was made a Distinguished University Professor in 2010, and was named the first recipient of the Dillard Professorship in Economics in 2013. His began his association with the Census Bureau in 1987 as a Research Associate at the Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies (CES), became the Bureau’s first Chief Economist in 1996, and headed the CES from 1997 to 1999. He has continued his association with the Bureau as a Research Associate at the CES and as a Senior Research Fellow for the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program. He will be recognized as one of the two recipients of the 2013 Julius Shiskin Award for his initiatives to educate users and producers of key federal economic statistics.