Dear NTA Members -

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as President of the NTA, and I am very grateful to the membership for providing me with this opportunity. It is impossible not to be humbled by the range and depth of expertise that our membership brings to virtually all of the central research and policy issues connected with taxation.

In this message, I would like to thank several NTA members for their key contributions during the last year, to report on the annual meeting that took place last November in Philadelphia, to inform you of an editorial transition at the National Tax Journal, and to invite you to participate in the NTA meetings that are scheduled for 2009.

Association News

On behalf of all the NTA members, I would like to thank Ranjana Madhusudhan of the New Jersey Treasury Department for her very successful term as NTA President. Ranjana brought vision and energy to this office. She initiated a new collaboration with the Federation of Tax Administrators (FTA). She organized a special NTA conference on sustainable fiscal policy, and set the stage for future related meetings. She supported expansion of the number of program participants at the NTA annual meeting. Her service strengthened the NTA and promoted the careful analysis of tax policy and tax administration; it sets a model for all those who will follow her.

January 2009 marked an important transition at the National Tax Journal. Therese McGuire of Northwestern University, who has been an outstanding editor of the Journal for the last seven years, informed me in late 2008 that she was ready to bring her editorial service to a close. Our association owes Therese an extraordinary vote of thanks for her tireless, insightful, and wise editorial service. During her editorship, the NTJ has expanded both its range and its impact and published numerous papers at the cutting edge of taxation research. I asked a committee consisting of Rosanne Altshuler and Len Burman of the Urban Institute, and Joel Slemrod of the University of Michigan, to search for a new editor. The committee enthusiastically suggested William Gentry of Williams College, and the NTA Board quickly approved this recommendation. I am delighted that Bill has agreed to take on this important editorial duty, and I have no doubt that the NTJ will enjoy great success under the leadership of Bill and continuing editor George Zodrow of Rice University.

I am very pleased to welcome a number of NTA members to leadership positions. Len Burman began his service as Second Vice President at the conclusion of November’s annual meeting. He will follow Harvey Galper of BearingPoint, the current First Vice President, in the presidential succession. I would also like to recognize the five new members of the NTA Board of Directors: Peter Brady of the Investment Company Institute, Mark Mazur of the IRS, Janet McCubbin of AARP, George Plesko of the University of Connecticut, and Alan Viard of the American Enterprise Institute. Nathan Anderson of the University of Illinois-Chicago has joined the NTA Board as an Advisory Member. I know that I express the sentiment of all NTA members when I thank this distinguished group for their willingness to help lead the NTA in the years ahead.

I would also like to thank the NTA Board members whose three-year terms concluded in 2008: Mark Beshears of Sprint-Nextel, Nicholas Bull of the Joint Committee on Taxation, Julia Lynn Coronado of Barclays Capital, Mick Keen of the IMF, and Kirk Stark of UCLA. Harley Duncan of the FTA also concluded his term as an Advisory Member. Our association has benefited from this group’s wise guidance during their time on the Board of Directors.

This year promises to be an exciting one for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers in the field of taxation and fiscal policy. The new administration in Washington and the extraordinary economic events of the last year set the stage for a host of interesting policy initiatives. NTA members will play a key role in formulating, analyzing, and discussing many of these policies. There are no better opportunities than the Spring Symposium and the Annual Meeting to interact with other experts in the field of tax policy and tax administration, and to discuss and learn about the latest policy initiatives and research developments.
The 2008 Annual Meeting

Those of you who attended the 101st Annual Meeting, which was held on November 19-21, 2008 in Philadelphia, know that this was one of the most successful meetings in recent memory. We are all grateful to Matthew Murray of the University of Tennessee and Michael Wasylenko of Syracuse University, who chaired the program committee, and to Jonathan Rork of Georgia State, who organized the student events for the meeting. The program chairs and their twenty-one member program committee did a superb job in arranging a very interesting, timely, and informative set of meeting sessions. The meeting included more concurrent sessions than most previous NTA Annual Meetings, which expanded the number of NTA members who were on the program. At some points there were as many as six interesting sessions taking place simultaneously—and the challenge for prospective audience members was choosing amongst this rich menu of alternatives. We have market-based evidence of the program committee’s success: the number of registered participants in Philadelphia exceeded that at any recent predecessor.

There were two general sessions at the annual meeting. Both were well-attended, and both were highly rated by our survey respondents. The first was “Tax Policy for the Next President: What He Should Do and What He Will Do.” Diane Lim Rogers of the Concord Coalition chaired this session, which included presentations from Len Burman, Michael Graetz of Yale, Eric Zolt of UCLA, and me. Most of the presentations addressed the dual fiscal challenges currently facing the United States: the short-run demand for expansionary fiscal policy, and the long-term need to bring the rising cost of entitlement programs into closer alignment with projected revenues. The panelists ranged widely in their comments, touching on the prospects for fundamental tax reform, the role of tax policy in the upcoming national debate on access to health insurance, and the range of tax instruments that might be used to fund future entitlement spending.

The second general session offered a tribute to Walter Hellerstein of the University of Georgia, the winner of the 2008 Daniel Holland Medal. This medal is the NTA’s highest honor: it recognizes a lifetime of accomplishment in the study and practice of public finance. A longer description of this session appears later in this issue.

In addition to the two general sessions, the two conference events that drew the largest audiences were lunchtime addresses. The first was delivered by David Walker, the former Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office, and the current President and Chief Executive Officer of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation. His remarks focused on the disparity between current-law projections of outlays on Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, and the revenues that the income tax and payroll tax system will yield over the next three decades. The talk emphasized the need for both greater public awareness of the prospective cost of these programs and for a substantive national dialogue on the best way to bring revenues and expenditures back into balance.

The second lunchtime speaker was the Pennsylvania’s Secretary of Revenue, Dr. Thomas Wolf, a political scientist who spent most of his career building a successful building products company based in central Pennsylvania.

He described his interactions with both individual and corporate taxpayers in his current role. He called upon tax policy experts and elected officials to improve public understanding of the value of the output of the public sector. He argued that a general recognition of the value of the goods and services delivered by government was essential to preserving a high rate of voluntary tax compliance and to limiting the all-too-common mindset of taxpayers who lobby for special tax relief. Wolf urged new focus on how financing government programs, including defense, infrastructure, and transfers, require shared sacrifice and some degree of collective burden-sharing.

In addition to the general sessions and the luncheon addresses, there were also more than fifty concurrent sessions with interesting and informative presentations at the 101st Annual Meeting. The detailed program is available on the NTA website and if you were not able to attend, I hope that you will consult the program to identify research presentations that might be of interest.

Upcoming Meetings

I hope that you will make every effort to attend our two primary meetings during the current calendar year. The first, the 39th Spring Symposium and 7th Annual State and Local Public Finance program, will be held in Washington on May 21-22, 2009. I am very grateful to William Gale of the Brookings Institution for chairing the Symposium program committee. This meeting will span one and a half days and it will focus largely on topics in federal fiscal policy. The theme for this meeting will be “Tax Policy for the New Administration: Is It Time for a Change?” The State and Local Public Finance Program will take place after the Symposium, on Friday afternoon May 22. The agenda will be organized by Kim Rueben of the Urban Institute and Tracy Gordon of the University of Maryland, College Park. I am confident that both programs will feature a range of interesting speakers.

Our second major gathering, the 102nd Annual Meeting, will be held in Denver on November 12-14, 2009. I am very grateful to Rosanne Altshuler and to Hilary Hoynes of the University of California at Davis for serving as program chairs. They are now assembling their program committee, and I have no doubt that they will deliver an interesting and wide-ranging program. Christina Romer, the chairwoman of the Council of Economic Advisers (on leave from UC-Berkeley), and Mark Wolfson, of the Stanford Graduate School of Business and Oak Hill Capital Partners, have agreed to deliver the lunch-time keynote addresses at this meeting. I hope that you will consider submitting either an individual paper, or a proposal for a three- or four-paper session, for inclusion on the program. The call for papers for these meetings appears later in this newsletter, and is posted on the NTA website and distributed by email to all NTA members.

I look forward to seeing you in Washington and in Denver. All best wishes!

Sincerely,

Jim Poterba
Walter Hellerstein Wins NTA Holland Award

-Kirk Stark

At the 101st Annual Meeting of the National Tax Association in Philadelphia last November, the NTA’s Holland Medal was awarded to Walter Hellerstein, the Francis Shackelford Distinguished Professor of Taxation Law at the University of Georgia Law School.

Named for the late Daniel M. Holland, professor of economics at MIT, the Holland Medal is awarded each year for “outstanding contributions to the study and practice of public finance.” Recipients of the award are selected by a special committee of NTA members selected by the NTA Board of Directors. Past recipients include Carl Shoup, Richard Musgrave, George Break, Richard Goode, C. Lowell Harriss, Olivier Oldman, John Due, Al Harberger, Wallace Oates, Martin Feldstein, Charles McClure, Roy Bahl, Richard Bird, and Harvey Rosen. When informed by NTA President Ranjana Madhusudhan that he had been chosen to join this long list of public finance dignitaries, Hellerstein responded with characteristic humility—“You’ve got to be kidding me.”

Hellerstein’s accomplishments as both a practicing lawyer and legal scholar have fundamentally shaped the state and local tax landscape in the United States. He is the co-author (with his late father, Jerome Hellerstein) of a comprehensive two-volume treatise, State Taxation (Warren, Gorham & Lamont, 1998-2008) and the leading casebook on the subject, State and Local Taxation (8th edition, Thomson/West, 2005). Hellerstein is also the author of numerous other books and articles on a wide range of state and local tax topics, including the taxation of electronic commerce, the U.S. Supreme Court’s state tax jurisprudence, and corporate tax integration—to name just a few of his many areas of expertise.

Beyond his extensive oeuvre, Hellerstein has been directly involved in many of the most important developments in the field of state and local taxation. He has argued two major state tax cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and has been cited in 27 separate U.S. Supreme Court decisions. He has testified before Congress on several occasions and has also been involved in tax reform efforts at the state level, including most notably Florida’s extension of the retail sales tax to services in 1986-87. Hellerstein’s work has not been limited to the United States. He has served as a consultant to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. More recently, Hellerstein has been invited by the OECD and the European Union to participate in projects relating to consumption tax reform.

Congratulations to Walter Hellerstein on this well-deserved honor.

2008 Dissertation Awards

Winner: James Sallee, University of Michigan, The Incidence of Tax Credits for Hybrid Vehicles

First Runner-Up: Hui Shan, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Tax Policy, Housing Markets, and Elderly Homeowners

Congratulations!
The NTA Board of Directors met during the November conference, and discussed the expanded program size and other issues related to the annual meeting. The Board concluded that it would benefit tremendously from input from NTA members on what they value most about the annual meeting, and what they find most unattractive. Board member Laura Kalambokidis of the University of Minnesota responded to this discussion by quickly sending an email survey to those who attended the Philadelphia gathering. Roughly one quarter of the 304 participants responded to the survey invitation.

The survey included a question about the presentation technology used at the annual meeting, and the respondents overwhelmingly voted in favor of using Power Point in place of the current "slides and overheads" technology. The annual meetings have not heretofore used Power Point because it is more expensive than outfitting the meeting rooms with overhead projectors. In light of the clear member views about this issue, however, we will make sure that Power Point projectors are available in all rooms at the November 2009 annual conference and in subsequent years.

Respondents also had an opportunity to comment on the mix between three-paper and four-paper sessions on the program, and the trade-off between more time for discussion of each paper and more papers on the program. The responses were almost evenly divided between those who thought that the current mix was appropriate, and those who would prefer more three-paper sessions. In light of this information, the upcoming meeting will include at least as many three-paper sessions as the Philadelphia meeting, and maybe more.

The survey provided a useful way to learn about the preferences of the NTA membership, and I am very grateful to Laura for designing and executing the survey project. I expect that we will use post-meeting surveys again in the future. We may also attempt to survey those who did not attend the meeting to investigate what changes, if any, would have made it more attractive to participate.

Fiscally Responsible Deficit Spending?
-Diane Lim Rogers, the Concord Coalition

Many people ask me, isn’t it hard being a fiscal hawk in this era of widely accepted trillion-dollar budget deficits? Well, yes, as a former Democratic staffer and a believer in a strong government role in the economy, I do sometimes feel like the party pooper or naysayer lately. But I still believe that “fiscal responsibility” is possible—even in an era of massive deficit spending—and is in fact necessary for a strong and sustainable economy. “Better government” (bigger or not) doesn’t have to mean bigger deficits and indiscriminate deficit spending. In fact, I think that part of what defines “better” government is one that is willing to pay for its priorities—and indeed prioritize.

The broad and perhaps vaguely defined goal of “economic recovery” over the next few years requires a tricky balance of two very different economic policy strategies. In the short term, we need to stimulate consumption, whether personal consumption or government consumption, in order to stimulate the kind of activity that will put some of our economy’s currently idle capacity to use. Over the longer run, however, we need to stimulate saving—the opposite of consumption—to fill up the physical and human capital deficit and increase the capacity of the economy. The tricky part is the segueing between these two opposing strategies, and recognizing that such a smooth transition is where we ultimately need to be headed.

It is critical that the Obama Administration and Congress pursue a “recovery” strategy that combines:
1. Deficit spending in the short term on policies that will quickly stimulate consumption, create jobs, or provide assistance to cash-constrained households;
2. Critical public investments over the longer term that will ultimately increase our nation’s productive capacity;
3. A long-term fiscal sustainability strategy focused on health care, Social Security and tax reform.

To do the first effectively, any deficit-financed policies must have a clearly countercyclical purpose and be effective at producing those benefits during, not after, the recession. To do the second effectively, deficit financing of longer-term investments should be evaluated through the normal (non-emergency) budgetary process and designed to pass a cost-benefit test even after adding in the costs of servicing any added debt. To do the third, we must find a way to scale back government commitments and/or raise the revenues to pay for them.

How deficit-financed fiscal stimulus can be done in a fiscally responsible manner

The objective of fiscal stimulus is to immediately keep funds flowing into the economy to prop up consumption and avoid a deep recession. Because this policy would be deficit-financed, it would increase government debt and decrease national saving. Thus, the federal government’s immediate actions will likely run counter to the longer-term goal of promoting economic growth through more adequate saving and investment. If properly designed, however, fiscal stimulus need not have an adverse impact on economic growth over the long term, and long-term discipline need not have an adverse impact on economic activity in the short term. We don’t need to sacrifice
one to achieve the other, but we need to be clear about the trade-offs. The catch phrase “timely, targeted, and temporary” applied to tax cuts that are intended to stimulate demand in the short term emphasizes the need to maximize the economic bang for the buck. Policies that are not likely to generate much additional, immediate consumer and business spending do not constitute effective stimulus. Appropriate policies should target dollars to those households and businesses that are currently most constrained and hence most likely to spend the cash flow from the stimulus. There should be no commitment to permanent deficit-financed policies that would place ongoing demands on the federal budget beyond the period when demand-side stimulus is needed, which would undermine longer-term economic goals.

The case for short-term fiscal stimulus is different from the case for longer-term investments. Over the longer run, the strength and resiliency of the U.S. economy will depend on our ability to increase national saving—to increase our “means” as a way to make “living within our means” easier. We cannot simultaneously encourage both consumption and saving—they are opposites. We can, however, encourage consumption in the short term without reducing saving over the longer term by maximizing economic “bang per buck” over the short term and not committing to deficit-financed spending over the longer term. And we can deficit spend today in smart ways so that the budgetary cost is minimized and the economic benefit maximized, by targeting spending on programs that both provide immediate jobs and assistance during the recession and yet also produce economic benefits that last well beyond the recession.

Even worthwhile and badly-needed investments in education, health care, technology, and infrastructure involve substantial up-front costs and do not necessarily pay for themselves even over the longer run. Evaluation of the net benefits of such investments must recognize that a choice to deficit finance them would (perhaps needlessly) bring enlarged budget deficits and the indirect costs associated with decreased national saving and reduced economic growth—costs that might largely offset the intended direct economic benefits of those investments.

The role of tax policy in an era of massive deficit spending

Low rates of taxation generally encourage economic activity by raising the returns to work, saving and investment. Tax policy, however, should not be considered in isolation. If taxes fall too far below spending for too long, the resulting deficits will eventually cancel out whatever positive economic effect there may be from low taxes.

In the current climate of trillion-dollar deficit spending, policy makers need to avoid the temptation to include tax cuts in the recovery package that are likely to be ineffective as short-term stimulus while likely to add to the federal debt more permanently. The goal of maximizing economic “bang per buck” in the short term, while contributing positively to national saving and economic growth over the longer term, must be applied to tax cuts as well as spending. Revenues were already insufficient to cover federal spending before the current economic downturn, leaving a gap averaging around 2 ½ percent of GDP over the past 40 years. But the latest CBO report showed a loss of more than $2 trillion in revenues in the (ten-year) baseline budget outlook due solely to the most recent deterioration in the economic outlook.

This is even before accounting for the cost of any tax cuts that may be part of the economic recovery plan, or the cost of extending any part of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, which under current law expire at the end of 2010. The Concord Coalition’s policy-extended baseline (based CBO estimates) shows that if all expiring tax cuts are extended, revenues as a share of GDP will fall to the 17 to 17 ½ percent range over the next ten years, while spending as a share of GDP will likely grow to 24 percent, producing a deficit of 3 ½ percent—even before any new spending or tax cuts considered as part of “economic recovery” policy.

In the final analysis, revenues must be sufficient to pay for the cost of government. Debt is not a painless alternative to taxation. Given the severe upward pressures on federal spending associated with the aging of the population and rising health care costs, it is clear that with even the best efforts to damp down entitlement spending, the federal government will need to look to the tax side of the budget to provide at least part of the solution to our long-term fiscal gap.

President Obama and the 111th Congress will face an “action forcing event” regarding tax policy almost immediately: the expiration of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts on December 31, 2010. The expiration of the tax cuts combined with a recovering economy should force policy makers, faced with the reality of a growing fiscal shortfall, to seek a more sustainable revenue policy going forward. Ideally, they would look to reform the federal tax system in ways that improve economic efficiency, enhance the revenue take, and achieve the desired degree of progressivity at the same time. Increasing revenues as a share of the economy need not discourage economic growth if done in the spirit of fundamental tax reform. To the extent that the tax system can be made more efficient by broadening its base—through closing loopholes, reducing tax entitlements, and newly taxing activities that generate social costs—marginal tax rates on productive activities would not have to rise by as much.

Conclusion

“Fiscally responsible deficit spending” need not be an oxymoron. In the current debate about how to best engineer a strong and sustainable economic recovery, fiscal responsibility in the short run amounts to deficit-financing only the quickest, most effective policies to immediately stimulate economic activity during this recession. Over the longer term, fiscal responsibility means investing wisely in longer-term projects that will contribute positively to economic growth—and being willing to pay for those worthwhile projects over time. Regarding both the short-term and longer-term economic recovery strategy, policy makers need to stop confusing the size of our economic problems with the benefits of the various policies attending to address those problems. The various and many dollars of deficit spending are not created equal, so cost is a poor (and in fact, inverse) measure of effectiveness.

I understand the current temptation to throw federal money “out the door” as quickly and energetically as possible, as demonstration that the federal government is doing all it can for the American people in response to the economic crisis. But haste may make for a lot of waste, and parts of the recent “stimulus” bill are clearly designed to promote economic growth for the longer term, where haste is not necessary, and waste is not justified.
Announcements

CALL FOR PAPERS

NATIONAL TAX ASSOCIATION
102nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON TAXATION
Conference Chair: James Poterba, President, NTA
Program Chairs: Rosanne Altshuler, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and Hilary Hoynes, University of California-Davis
November 12-14, 2009
Grand Hyatt, Denver, Colorado

The deadline for submitting papers or sessions is May 1, 2009. Decisions concerning the inclusion of papers and sessions will be announced in June 2009. Authors of accepted papers will be offered the opportunity to include them in the Proceedings. All presenters will be required to register and pay a conference registration fee.

We are using an online submission procedure this year. To submit a paper or session, please go to:

http://editorialexpress.com/conference/

There you can set up an account and then follow the link to National Tax Association Denver November 2009.

To submit a paper, you will need to provide:
- The title of the paper; an abstract of the paper; and, preferably, a draft of the paper; and the names and contact information for all authors, including mailing and e-mail addresses and phone. To submit a complete session, you will need to submit the following:
  - The title and a brief description of the session; an abstract for suggested papers for the session (along with a draft of each paper); names and affiliations

JOB OPENINGS

Visit the NTA website for up-to-date job listings. Look for the link in the right-hand column, at the bottom:

http://www.ntanet.org/

Recent Writings


Changes at the National Tax Journal

After learning from Therese McGuire that she was ready to step down as co-editor of the National Tax Journal, then incoming NTA President James Poterba appointed a committee comprising Rosanne Altshuler, Len Burman, and Joel Slemrod (chair), charging them to recommend a new editor in November, 2008. The committee searched widely, deliberated carefully, and ultimately recommended William Gentry of Williams College as the new editor. The Board of Directors quickly ratified this recommendation, and Gentry has accepted the Board’s editorial invitation. He joins George Zodrow of Rice University, who continues in his editorial role.

Gentry is an Associate Professor of Economics at Williams College and is currently Visiting Professor of Law at the Columbia Law School. Prior to moving to Williams in 2003, he was a faculty member at Duke University and the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University; he has also held a visiting appointment at Princeton University. Currently, he serves on the Board of Directors of the National Tax Association. He received his S.B. in from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University, all in economics. He was awarded the National Tax Association Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Government Finance and Taxation Award in 1991. He has served as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Treasury and on the staff of the President’s Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform in 2005. An outstanding public finance scholar, Gentry is an expert on business taxation, consumption taxes, and a range of other issues.

Gentry commented upon becoming co-editor, “I look forward to working with George Zodrow and the Editorial Advisory Board in continuing the NTJ’s long tradition of publishing high-quality, policy-relevant public finance research. One of things that I like most about the NTJ is its coverage of a broad spectrum of tax and public finance issues, from state-and-local to international topics, informed by a number of different perspectives.”
New Members

Addonzio, Michael, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Baer, David, AARP Public Policy Institute, Washington, DC
Blouin, Nicholas, Department of Finance of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
Bolh, Nathalie, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
Bourassa, Stephen, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Bryant, Victoria, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC
Carr, Douglas, Oakland University, Rochester, MI
Czajka, John, Mathematica Policy Research Inc., Washington, DC
Etsebeth, Verine, Gauteng, South Africa
Field, Heather, University of California, San Francisco, CA
Foutz, Joseph, Joseph, Farmington, MN
Galle, Brian, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC
Geddes, Rick, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Gelber, Alexander, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Gesumaria, Robert, Social Security Administration, Washington, DC
Goda, Gopi Shah, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Golebiewski, Julie Anna, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Hackbart, Merl, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Hageman, Amy, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
Hale, Danielle, National Association of Realtors, Washington, DC
Hawley, Zack, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Hernaes, Erik, The Ragner French Centre for Economic Research, Oslo, Norway
Hirth, Marilyn, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Howard, Larry, California State University, Fullerton, CA
Hwang, Sanghyun, University of Texas at Austin, TX
Kubic, Thomas, Lincoln, NE
Langley, Adam, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, MA
Lui, Li, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Loretz, Simon, Oxford University Center for Business Taxation, Oxford, UK
Manoli, Dayananda, Berkeley, CA
McCarty, Rebekah, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
McMahon, Stephanie Hunter, University of Cincinnati, OH
McManamon, Robert, George Washington Institute of Public Policy, Washington, DC
Miller, Amalia, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Morrow, Michaela, Northeastern University, Boston, MA
Mou, Haizhen, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada
Muenster, Olaf, University of Passau, Augsburg, Germany
Nagac, Abdulkadir, University of Texas at Austin, TX
Peng, Emily, HSBC TFS, Bridgewater, NJ
Rhoades-Catanach, Shelley, Villanova University, Villanova, PA
Sanford, Kenneth, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Schmidt, Stephen, Union College, Schenectady, NY
Sica, Joe, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, Solana Beach, CA
Silva, Ednaldo, Royaltystat LLC, Bethesda, MD
Sorenson, Jeremy, University of South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD
Splinter, David, Rice University, Houston TX
Stalebrink, Odd, Penn State University, Middletown, PA
Thompson, Fred, Williamette University, Salem, OR
Thompson, Jeffrey, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Tsang, Harry, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, IL
Turner, Nick, University of California, San Diego, CA
Vendrzyk, Val, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA
Wang, Qian, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Weinzierl, Matthew, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA
Wild, Michael, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna, Austria
Wolman, Hal, George Washington University Institute of Public Policy, Washington, DC
Yang, Zhou, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Yeung, Ryan, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Zamora, Carolina Rodriguez, University of Texas at Austin, TX
Zotteri, Stafania, Banca D’Italia, Rome, Italy

In Memoriam:

Donald C. Alexander
Former I.R.S. Commissioner

Members on the Move

Altshuler, Rosanne, from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, to the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, Washington, D.C.
Dharmapala, Dhammika, from the University of Connecticut to the University of Illinois School of Law
Kelly, W. Thomas, from Insurer Central Services, Inc., NH to Savers and Investors League, Gladwyn, PA
Mann, Roberta, from Widener University School of Law to University of Oregon School of Law, Eugene, OR
Orszag, Peter, from the Congressional Budget Office to the Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C.
Weiss, Randall, from New York City Economic Development Corporation to The Conference Board, New York, NY
Woodward, Thomas G., retiring from the Congressional Budget Office, Washington, D.C.
OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
James Poterba
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Economics
50 Memorial Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139
poterba@mit.edu

VICE PRESIDENTS
Harvey Galper
Bearing Point Inc.
1676 International Drive
McLean VA 22102
harvey.galper@bearingpoint.com

Leonard E. Burman
The Urban Institute
2100 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
lburman@ui.org

SECRETARY
Charmaine J. Wright
National Tax Association
725 15th Street NW #600
Washington, DC 20005-2109
natltax@aol.com

TREASURER
Richard F. Dye
Lake Forest College
Lake Forest, IL 60045
dye@lfc.edu

PAST PRESIDENTS
Ranjana Madhusudhan
New Jersey Treasury Department
P.O. Box 269
Trenton, NJ 08695-0269
Ranjana.madhusudhan@treas.state.nj.us

Robert Tannenwald
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
robert.tannenwald@bos.frb.org

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Gerald Auten
Office of Tax Analysis
U.S. Treasury Dept.
1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20220
gerald.auten@do.treas.gov

Peter Brady
Investment Company Institute
1403 H Street NW
Washington, DC 20005
pbardy@ici.org

John Diamond
Baker Institute for Public Policy
Rice University
MS-40
6100 Main Street
Houston, TX 77005
jdiamond@rice.edu

YOUR NTA BOARD AND STAFF WORKING FOR YOU

William Gentry
Department of Economics
Williams College
Morey House
Williamstown, MA 01267
william.gentry@williams.edu

Bruce Johnson
Utah State Tax Commission
2100 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84134
rbjohnson@utah.gov

Laura Kalambokidis
University of Minnesota
231 Classroom Office Bldg.
St. Paul MN 55108
kalamb002@umn.edu

Fitzy. D. Lee
Office of Revenue Analysis
District of Columbia
441 4th Street, NW #400S
Washington DC 20001
Fitzy.lee@dc.gov

LeAnn Luna
The University of Tennessee
Center for Business and Economic Research
100 Temple Court
804 Volunteer Boulevard
Knoxville, TN 37996
leann@utk.edu

Roberta Mann
University of Oregon School of Law
1515 Agate Street
Eugene, OR 97403
541-348-3854 (541-346-1564)
rfmann@uoregon.edu

Edward Maydew
Kenan-Flagler Business School
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3490
edward_maydew@unc.edu

Mark J. Mazur
Internal Revenue Service
RAS: 500 NC
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20024
mark.mazur@irs.gov

Janet McCubbin
Public Policy Institute, AARP
601 E Street NW, B6-530
Washington, DC 20049
jmccubbin@aarp.org

George A. Plesko
University of Connecticut
School of Business
2300 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington VA 22201
gplesko@business.uconn.edu

Kenneth Simonson
Associated General Contractors of America
2200 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington VA 22201
ksimonson@agc.org

Alan D. Ward
American Enterprise Institute
1150 Seventeenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
aviaro@aei.org

NATIONAL TAX ASSOCIATION
725 15th Street NW #600
Washington, DC 20005
202-737-3325 ♦ natltax@aol.com ♦ www.ntanet.org

Executive Director
J. Fred Giertz
Institute of Government & Public Affairs
University of Illinois
1007 W. Nevada
Urbana, IL 61801
jgiertz@ad.uiuc.edu

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Nathan B. Anderson
University of Illinois at Chicago
601 S. Morgan Street, #2103
Chicago, IL 60607
nbe@uic.edu

David Bruno
Tax Analysts
6830 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington VA 22213
dbruno@tax.org

Peter Fisher
345 Jessup Hall
University of Iowa
lowe City IA 52242
Peter.fisher@uiowa.edu

Francois Vaillancourt
Department of Economics
University of Montreal
PO Box 6128 Station A
Montreal, Quebec H3C 3J7
francois.vaillancourt@umontreal.ca

Joan Youngman
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
113 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-3400
jyoungman@lincolninst.edu

National Tax Journal
George Zodrow
Rice Scholar
Baker Institute for Public Policy
Rice University
6100 Main Street, MS-22
Houston, TX 77005-1892
zodrow@rice.edu

William Gentry
Department of Economics
Williams College
Morey House
Williamstown MA 01267
william.gentry@williams.edu

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
J. Fred Giertz
Institute of Government & Public Affairs
University of Illinois
1007 W. Nevada
Urbana, IL 61801
jgiertz@ad.uiuc.edu

Staff: Charmaine J. Wright, Betty Smith