



It's Time to **Get Connected** !!!

Get Connected was formed to encourage and cultivate connections between NABE members, and to build bridges amongst NABE members and with other professionals.

Membership in **Get Connected** has grown to over 100, a nice number considering our official "kick-off" just happened in October! We certainly want to keep this number growing and have more people get involved. We have a number of **Get Connected TEAMS** where you can play a role in helping us to set and achieve our goals. Additional information on the teams can be found in Page 2 of this issue.

Everyone can make an impact!

Team Highlight: **Mentoring Program**

One way to **Get Connected** is through joining the **Mentoring Program**! Participants can choose to be a mentee, a mentor or both. Since being launched in September 2008, the program has grown to include 30 participants, and more Get Connected members are joining everyday! As a mentee, take advantage of this unique opportunity to tap into a wealth of knowledge from more experienced NABE members, develop a broader view of potential careers paths, gain exposure to leadership and more senior business economists, and gain a different perspective on business and economic developments etc. As a mentor, your participation in the mentoring program will expose you to new trends and economic concepts/techniques, expand your professional network, and help to develop other business economists' careers.

The program attempts to match all applicants with other economists with shared interests; therefore, you may be matched with a mentor/mentee in another region. However, overcoming distance and time zone constraints does not have to be a challenge! For current program participants here are some tips to maximize the return from your distance mentoring relationship. **First**, plan ahead! We recommend that prior to each meeting, the mentee should propose a schedule and topics for discussion with their mentor. This helps to provide focus to the meetings and the maximum return to participants. **Second**, communicate frequently! Although the mentoring relationship will likely depend heavily on regularly scheduled telephone calls, don't let this stop you from communicating frequently between planned meetings through other methods like e-mail exchanges. If you come across an interesting article, website, etc. that may be of interest to your mentee or mentor, pass it on! **Third**, eliminate distractions! When meeting with your mentee/mentor, turn off your email, ask co-workers not to be disturbed and listen attentively to your mentee/mentor! **Finally**, when attending NABE events, arrange face-to-face meetings with your mentor/mentee!

2009 CALENDAR

NABE Economic Policy Conference

March 1-3, 2009 in Washington, DC

- **March 1** — Networking event sponsored by GC from 6:30-9:00 pm. This event will be held at Piola Restaurant in Rosslyn, just a short walk from the Key Bridge Marriott. We've invited NEC, too, so start networking with GC!
- **March 2**— GC is sponsoring two Poster Sessions on Current Economic Research (one at 10:45 am, the other at 2:45 pm) at the Policy Conference. Please stop by and take a look at the creative endeavors.
- **March 3**—GC-sponsored session on Data Visualization featuring Jim Thomas of the National Visual Arts Center. The session will run from 2:15 to 3:30 pm.

Please note that NABE is offering **single day registrations** for the Economic Policy Conference. If you are interested call the NABE office at 202-463-6223.

Regional Conference at Villanova

- **March 19**—The Villanova University School of Business, NABE, and Select Greater Philadelphia will co-sponsor a conference on regional economic development on Friday, March 19, from 1:00- 5:00 PM.

The conference, **The Regional Workforce – 2009 and Beyond**, will focus on labor issues and policies for the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Delaware region. *More details available soon*—check the NABE website.

NABE Professional Development Seminar

April 13-15, 2009 in Washington, DC

Get Connected will sponsor a social event during the Professional Development Seminar. Location and details TBD.

NABE Annual Meeting

October 10-13, 2009 in St. Louis, MO

Get Connected will sponsor a social event, a panel session, and a 2010 opening planning meeting during the Annual Meeting. Location and details TBD.



GC Team Updates

MENTORING TEAM

The NABE Mentoring Program has been successfully launched and has already connected 30 participants. This program is open to NABE members, and is just the first step by Get Connected to help link you to important career information that you can use immediately!

Many more details about the mentoring program and how to gain maximum benefits from it in the Page 1 Team Highlight in this issue.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT TEAM

An important initiative that we are trying to launch involves skills and career planning sessions. We have a lot of details to work out (pricing, etc.) but are looking forward to launching the first skills session in Q2 2009!

MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING/WEB TEAM

Presently, the Membership/Marketing/Web teams are combined since the goals of the groups are the closely aligned.

We want members of NABE and other professionals to learn about *Get Connected* and to get energized to play a role in the programs, activities, networking, and career development areas that are of interest to them.

It will also be increasingly important to get more information about *Get Connected* and what we are doing out on the NABE website and sent through our various online channels, like our Facebook and LinkedIn *NABE-Get Connected* groups.

PROGRAMS TEAM

Our programs team has been busy working on the social events held in Washington, DC. They planned the official *Get Connected* kickoff at Chef Geoff's on

October 4, and an informal open planning happy hour on December 9 at James Hoban's.

For the upcoming Policy Conference in March, the team has selected Piola Restaurant for the social event on Sunday night, March 1.

Poster sessions on current economic research have also been planned for the conference by another programs team. The sessions will be held at 10:15 am and 2:45 pm on March 2.

CHAPTERS TEAM

The Chapters Team is weighing a variety of ideas on how to build on the foundation of NABE and *Get Connected*, including an increased network of student chapters, strengthening linkages to other professional organizations, adding more networking opportunities, and creating online resources.

Based on the open planning call held December 11, much time was focused on interest in student chapters, getting them better networked with the local and national NABE chapters, and also the Adopt-A-Chapter idea.

WANTED

Get Connected team participants for all teams, including Mentoring, Career Development, Membership/Marketing/Web, Programs, Chapters, and the GC Management Team.

Please bring your enthusiasm, energy, and ideas! We need **YOU!**

Contact Chris Swann (Christopher.swann@bea.gov) or Debbie Cason (cason@macroadvisers.com) for more information and to volunteer.

HOW TO *Get Connected*

Registration is easy. Just go to www.nabe.com/getconnected to sign up for *Get Connected*, join a team, and share your talents with this exciting program!

NABE-Get Connected also has groups in both Facebook and LinkedIn! Please be sure to include the *NABE-Get Connected* group as part of your online profile. We are planning to use these e-tools with more frequency going forward...