



## PRESS RELEASE

For Release: 5 October 2008

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### ***WILLIAM BELL AND ROBERT GROVES RECEIVE 2008 SHISKIN MEMORIAL AWARD FOR ECONOMIC STATISTICS***

WASHINGTON, DC— **William R. Bell**, a senior mathematical statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau, and **Robert M. Groves**, director of the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, have been selected as the recipients of the 2008 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics.

Given on an annual basis in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy, the Shiskin Award is sponsored by three organizations: the Washington Statistical Society (which honored Bell and Groves at its annual dinner on June 25), the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Section of the American Statistical Association. Bell and Groves are the 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> recipients of the award, and the ASA section will join NABE in honoring them at the NABE Annual Meeting on October 5 in Washington.

Dr. Bell was selected to receive the Shiskin Award in recognition of his statistical research that led to improved economic statistics through contributions to the theory and practice of seasonal adjustment, small area estimation, and time series modeling. “Through his work, Dr. Bell has significantly enhanced the reputation of the Census Bureau and of U.S. economic statistics throughout the world,” said **Robert Parker**, Chair of the Shiskin Award Committee. “Through both individual and collaborative work, [he] has conducted research that has resulted in fundamental contributions to the seasonal adjustment and survey methods used by statistical offices and central banks in many countries.”

A senior mathematical statistician at the Census Bureau since 1998, Dr. Bell previously spent a decade working as one of the Bureau’s principal researchers for time series methods. He was an associate editor of the *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics* (1988-1995) and was elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 1993.

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Dr. Groves is receiving the award in recognition of his innovative statistical research that led to improved economic statistics through contributions to the theory and practice of survey methods for sample surveys of households and establishments. “Through his research, Dr. Groves has significantly improved the quality of both establishment and household surveys in the areas of sample design, nonresponse effects, data collection methods, weighting design, disclosure security, and data quality,” said Chairman Parker. “The results of his research have been incorporated into many surveys, including the current employment and consumer expenditure surveys at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, household income surveys at the Census Bureau, and surveys conducted by national statistical offices in the United Kingdom, Sweden, and The Netherlands.”

Dr. Groves has directed the University of Michigan Survey Research Center since 2001. He is also employed by the University of Maryland as a research professor at its Institute for Social Research; as a research professor at the Joint Program in Survey Methodology; and as a professor of Sociology. He has authored or co-authored five books and more than 50 articles. From 2000-2006, he served as a member of the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) of the National Academy of Sciences. He was elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 1982; elected a member of the International Statistical Institute in 1994; and named a national associate of the National Academy of Sciences in 2004.

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