



PRESS RELEASE

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HUANG, SIMONSON ELECTED TO TOP POSTS AT NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR BUSINESS ECONOMICS

WASHINGTON, DC—The National Association for Business Economics (NABE) has elected **Gene Huang**, chief economist and a vice president for FedEx Corporation, president of NABE for 2011-2012, and **Ken Simonson**, chief economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, as vice president. Both will take office September 13, at the close of NABE's 53rd Annual Meeting in Dallas.

"I am honored to be elected president of NABE," Huang said. "Over half a century, NABE's influence has grown steadily through various initiatives, including professional development and educational training, high-profile annual and policy conferences, webinars and teleconferences on specific subjects of business importance, our scholarly journal, *Business Economics*, and the NABE Foundation. I was fortunate to have served as vice president over the past year, and I've learned a great deal from our outgoing president, **Rich Wobbekind**, and other inspiring leaders. I look forward to working closely with VP-elect Ken Simonson and the new NABE board on continuing to strengthen various platforms built over the years to serve the NABE community."

Dr. Huang began his corporate career in 1987 with a Wall Street money management firm. He worked for several large industrial companies before joining FedEx in 1999, where he leads a team that focuses on corporate economics, enterprise risks, strategic affairs, and the tracking and monitoring of all industries and countries FedEx serves.

He chairs the Economic Advisory Committee of the Council on Competitiveness. He is a member of the Bretton Woods Committee, the Blue Chip Consensus Panel, the Wall Street Economic Panel, *BusinessWeek* Magazine's Business Outlook Panel, and ABC News's Economic Panel. He is also an elected member of the Conference of Business Economists (which he served as chairman from 2009-2010), the National Business Economic Issues Council, the European Council of Economists, and the Harvard Industrial Economists Group. The author of two books on business economics and many articles

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published in economic and policy journals, he is an honored professor at the School of Management at Fudan University in Shanghai, China. A former NABE director, he is currently on the board of the NABE Foundation. He received his MA from Yale University and his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He also holds a law degree from Fudan University.

Simonson Is New Vice President

NABE's new vice president, **Ken Simonson**, has thirty-five years of experience in analyzing, advocating, and communicating about economic and tax issues. He joined the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)--the leading national association for the construction industry--as chief economist in 2001. He produces a weekly, one-page e-mail newsletter for AGC, *The Data DIGest*, and is frequently quoted in the local and national business news media.

Prior to joining AGC, he was senior economic advisor in the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy. His other career experience includes serving as vice president and chief economist for the American Trucking Association, and working with the President's Commission on Industrial Competitiveness, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and an economic consulting firm.

In addition to his service with NABE, Mr. Simonson is active with several other economists' groups, serves on the board of the Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater Washington, and is also involved with Community Tax Aid, an organization that prepares free returns for low-income taxpayers. Since 1982, he has co-chaired the Tax Economists Forum, a professional meeting group he co-founded for leading researchers and policy-makers among tax economists. He holds a BA in economics from the University of Chicago, an MA in economics from Northwestern University, and has undertaken additional graduate study in economics at the Universite de Paris and Johns Hopkins and Georgetown Universities.

New NABE Directors

Four NABE members have been elected to three-year terms on the NABE Board of Directors: **Robert Dye**, chief economist at Comerica Bank in Dallas, TX; **Cecilia Hermansson**, chief economist and senior vice president at Swedbank in Stockholm; **Constance Hunter**, chief economist and managing director at Aladdin Capital Management in Stamford, CT; and **Adolfo Laurenti**, deputy chief economist and managing director at Mesirow Financial in Chicago. NABE's board has 16 members: the president, vice president, two past presidents, and 12 directors.

ABOUT NABE: NABE is the premier professional association for business economists and those who use economics in the workplace. Since 1959, NABE has attracted the brightest minds and the most prominent figures in economics, business, and academia to its membership with highly regarded conferences, educational and career development offerings, industry surveys, and unrivaled networking opportunities. The NABE membership is organized into 11 subject-oriented Roundtables, including: Corporate Planning, Financial, Health Economics, International, Manufacturing/Industry, Real Estate/Construction, Regional/Utility, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Technology, and Transfer Pricing. Past presidents of NABE include former Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Federal Reserve System, Alan Greenspan, several former Federal Reserve Governors, and other senior business leaders. For more information, please visit www.nabe.com.

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