

Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis

J. Steven Landefeld



Dr. Landefeld has been Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) since 1995. BEA is the statistical agency within the Department of Commerce responsible for the national, international, regional, and industry accounts -- including such estimates as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), personal income, corporate profits, the U.S. balance of payments, State and local area personal income, U.S. capital stocks, input-output estimates, foreign direct investment estimates, and GDP-by-industry.

Prior to becoming Director of BEA, Dr. Landefeld served in a number of other capacities at the Bureau, including Acting Director, Deputy Director, and Associate Director for International Economics. While at BEA, he has led a number of pioneering efforts in statistics, including the introduction of unbiased estimates of real GDP and prices, the development of monthly estimates of trade in goods and services, alternative balance of payments accounts, integrated economic and environmental accounts, and the use of data exchanges with foreign banks to improve international capital estimates.

Dr. Landefeld also has led a number of managerial improvements at the Bureau including the introduction of a performance-based personnel system, the development of "private-sector" financial accounts (BEA was one of the first Bureaus in the Department to receive an unqualified opinion from an outside auditor on its financial statement), and the move from an antiquated mainframe to an integrated micro-computer network (BEA was the first major statistical agency to successfully make such a move).

Before coming to BEA, Dr. Landefeld held a number of positions, including Chief of Staff for Presidents Reagan and Bush's Council of Economic Advisers, Director of the Business Issues Analysis Division at the Department of Commerce, and Research Assistant Professor at Georgetown University. He has authored numerous professional articles and has received numerous awards for his work including the Henri Willem Methorst Medal from the International Statistical Institute, two Abramson Scroll Awards from the National Association of Business Economists, Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards from the Department of Commerce, a Distinguished Executive Award from President George W. Bush, the Harry Freeman Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Trade in Services, and the David O. Cook Award for Leadership in the Federal Public Service. Dr. Landefeld has served on numerous professional committees and working groups including those of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations, and the Conference on Research in Income and Wealth.