

Center for Business and Economic Research

## **Business Forecast 2011**

Friday, February 4, 2011 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Schedule of Events

Welcome Dan Worrell, Dean

Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas

Special Remarks Mary Ann Greenwood, President

Greenwood Gearhart Inc.

**2010 Contest Awards** Kathy Deck, Director

Center for Business and Economic Research

Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas

Introduction of Panelists Ed Drilling

President AT&T Arkansas

**Presentations** 

International Economy Maria Haley

**Executive Director** 

**Arkansas Economic Development Commission** 

National Economy Kevin Stephenson

Managing Director Cambridge Associates

State and Local Economy Kathy Deck

Panel Discussion/Question and Answer Ed Drilling

**Recognitions and Announcements** Dan Worrell

Program Adjourns Dan Worrell

Business Forecast 2011 is in association with the National Association for Business Economics (NABE)

**Ed Drilling** is president of AT&T Arkansas. He joined Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in 1979 and served in various positions including customer service and marketing, and the External Affairs organization. Drilling is involved with and serves on several boards, including: Arkansas Children's Hospital Board of Trustees, UAMS Foundation Fund Board, University of Arkansas Board of Advisors, Chairman of Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, Former President of Little Rock Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Former President of Fifty for the Future, Sam M. Walton College of Business Dean's Executive Advisory Board, UAMS Arkansas BioVentures Advisory Board, UALR College of Business Administration Advisory Council, Arkansas State University Chancellor's Cabinet, and Simmons First National Corporation Board of Director's. He received the Pinnacle Award in 2003 from the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce. He holds a Bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Arkansas and is a graduate of Emory's Advanced Management Program. Drilling and his wife, Cinde, are owners of Landscape Architecture Inc.

**Maria Haley** is the Executive Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC). From 2001 to 2007, Haley was Senior Director for Asia with Kissinger McLarty Associates. She served on the board of the Export Import Bank of the United States from 1994 to 1999, helping manage a \$55 billion portfolio aimed at promoting U.S. exports, business development and international investments. From January 1993 to October 1994 she served as Special Assistant to the President and Associate Director of the Presidential Personal Office (PPO) and participated in the development of personnel systems and hiring processes of the Clinton/Gore administration. From 1999 to 2001, she returned to the White House as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of PPO. In 2001 and 2002, Haley served as an advisor to President Arroyo and the Philippine government and is a past member of the Board of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta where she served as a member of the Executive Committee, the Audit Committee and Chair of the Personnel Committee.

**Kevin Stephenson** is Managing Director at Cambridge Associates and joined the firm in 1997. He works with foundations and colleges on general investment issues including asset allocation strategy, manager selection, and investment program evaluation. Stephenson is the author of several published articles on investing and finance and has spoken at numerous industry conferences. In 2008 and 2010, he was nominated for Consultant of the Year by Institutional Investor. For over 5 years, Stephenson has served as an outsourced chief investment officer and currently serves two clients in this capacity. Stephenson serves on the Board of Directors for the World Wide Web Foundation and has previously taught as a professor at Middlebury College, Cornell University and Marymount University. Stephenson received his MA and Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

**Kathy Deck** is director of the Center for Business and Economic Research in the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas. Deck's research interests include local economic development, industry market structure, and education and health care economics. In providing applied economic research as part of the outreach mission of Walton College, she has managed studies for a wide variety of business, non-profit and governmental organizations in the state of Arkansas. She also acts as a media resource for economic analysis of current events and trends. Deck was named Communicator of the Year in 2009 by the Northwest Arkansas PRSA, was recognized as one of the 40 under 40 by Arkansas Business and the Northwest Arkansas Business Journal, and was named a Woman of Influence by Arkansas Business. She earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the College of William and Mary and a master's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Before joining the Center, she was the antitrust economist for the Arizona Attorney General.

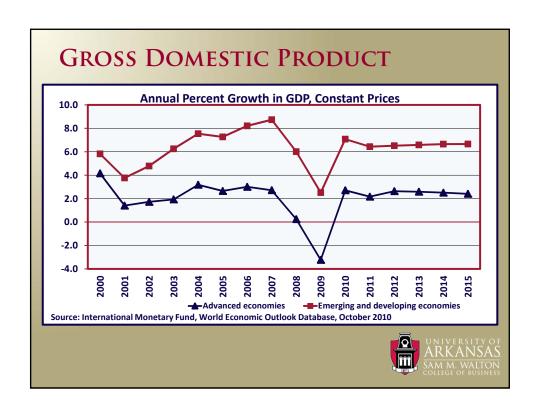


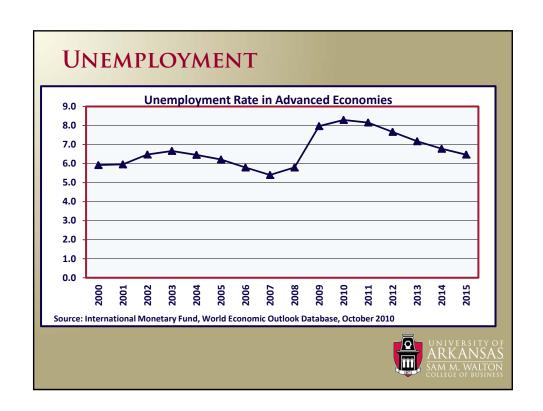
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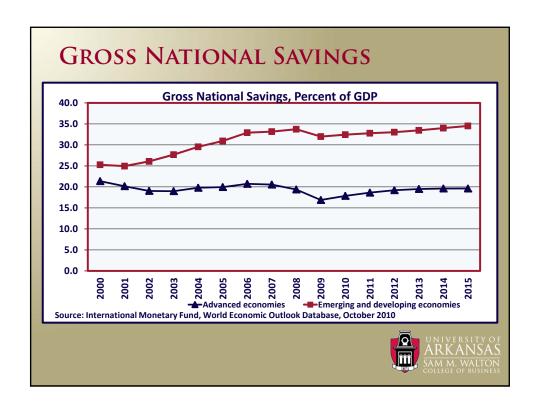


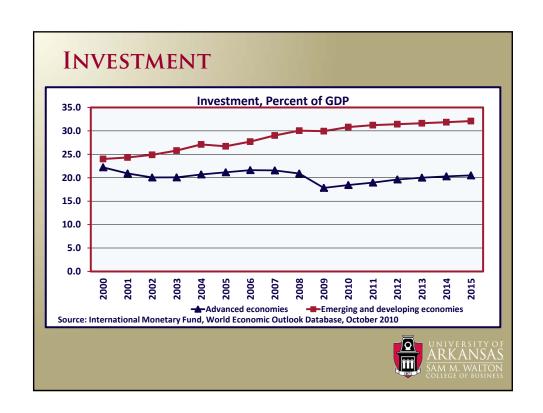
International Monetary Fund
World Economic Outlook Database
October 2010 Projections

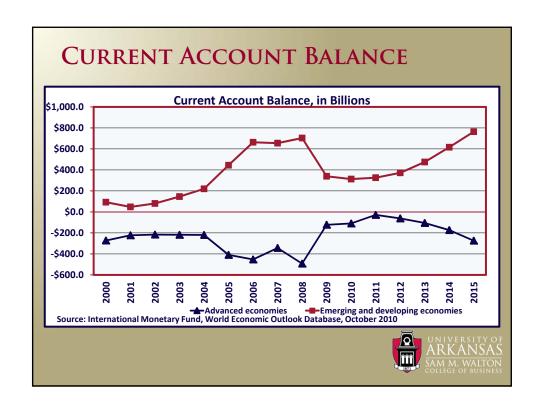


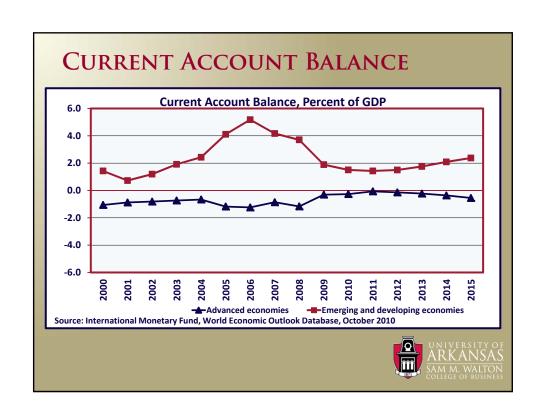


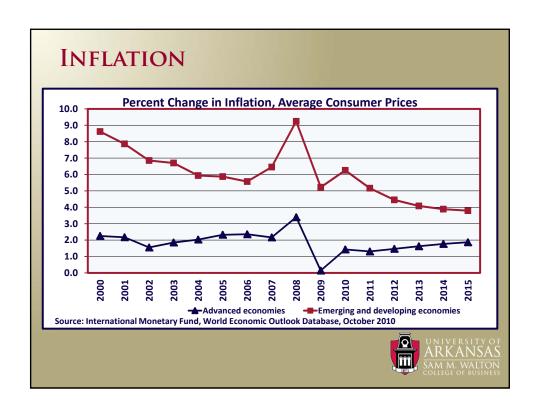














2011 Business Forecast Luncheon University of Arkansas Sam M. Walton College of Business

Kevin Stephenson, Ph.D., CFA

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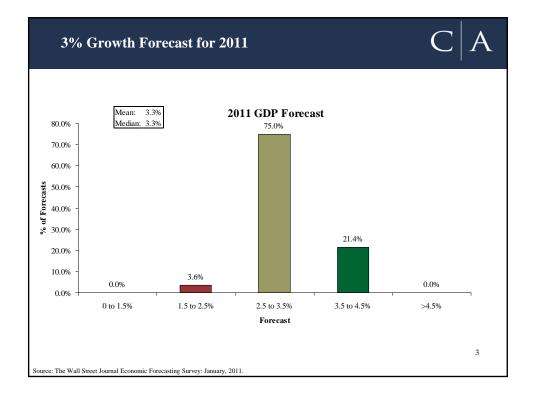
### **Wall Street Journal Monthly Survey**

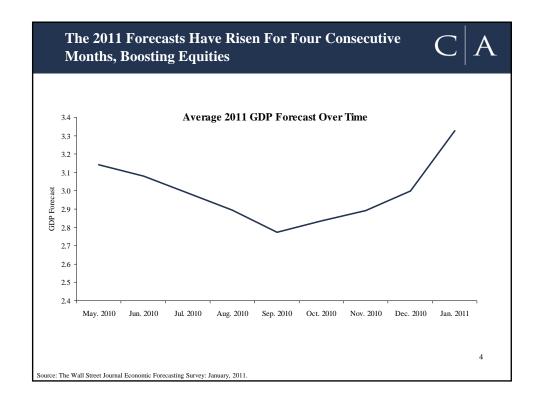
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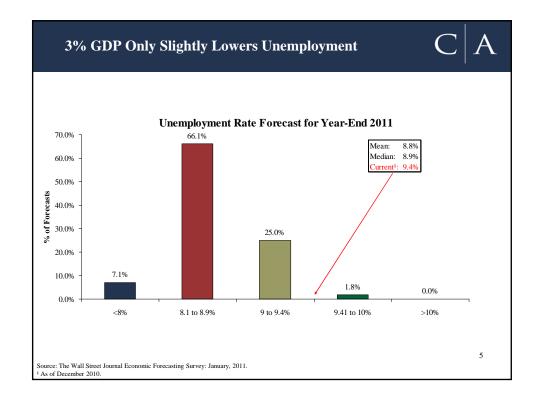
#### **WSJ January Survey**

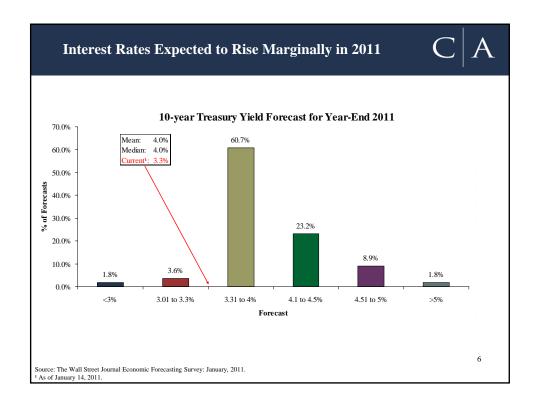
- 56 strategists and economists
- Firms surveyed include:
  - Bank of America Merrill Lynch
  - Barclays Capital
  - BNP Paribas
  - Credit Suisse
  - Goldman Sachs & Co.
  - > JP Morgan Chase & Co.
  - Morgan Stanley
  - ➤ UBS
  - ➤ Wells Fargo & Co.

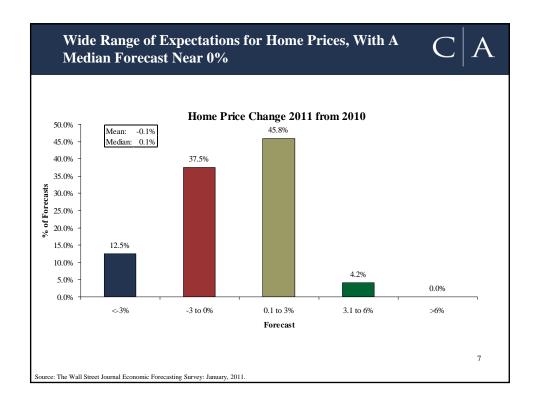
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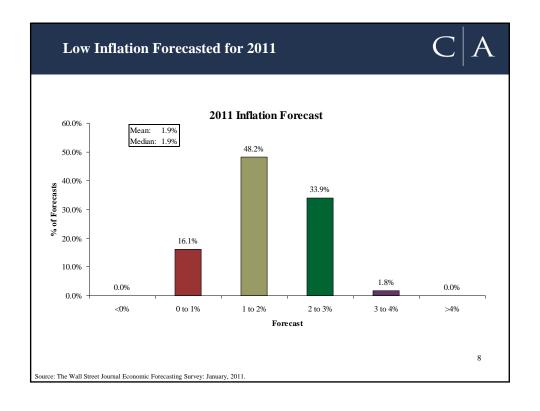


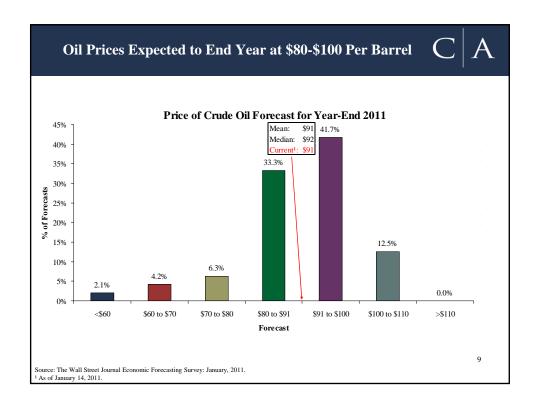












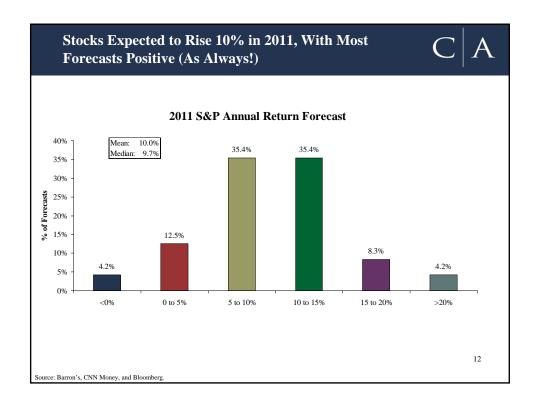
### **Summary Forecasts for 2011**

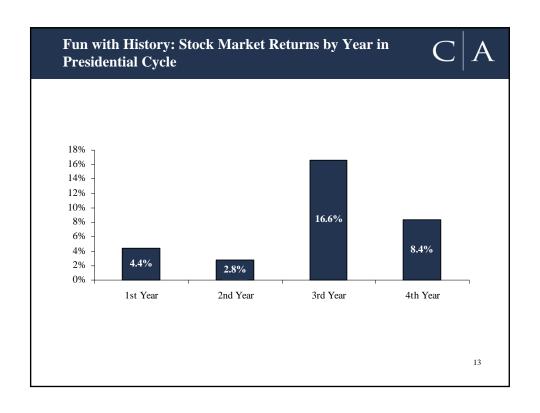
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- Tight range for GDP forecasts, centered around 3.3%
  - > All surveyed experts calling for economic growth
  - > Forecasts have improved for four consecutive months
- Consistent with forecast for slight economic improvement:
  - > Interest rates are expected to rise marginally
  - > Unemployment expected to drop slowly
    - Discouraged workers may re-enter the labor pool
  - > Inflation is expected to increase, but remain under 2%
- Wide range of expectations for home prices, centered near 0%

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#### A Cautionary Tale: Everyone in January 2008 Missed the Dramatic GDP Declines in the Late 2008 January 2008 Forecast for Q4 2008 GDP 70% Mean: 2.5% Median: 2.5% 57.4% 60% 50% % of Forecasts 40% 30% 22.2% 16.7% 20% 10% 1.9% 1.9% 0% -7 to -6% -6 to -5% -5 to -4% -4 to -3% -3 to -2% -2 to -1% -1 to 1% 1 to 2% 2 to 3% >4% Forecast 11 Source: The Wall Street Journal Economic Forecasting Survey: January, 2008.







# **BUSINESS FORECAST**



Kathy Deck
Director
Center for Business and Economic Research
February 4, 2011



