State Economic Researcher’s Roundtable—Wednesday, June 10th, 2015, 8.30 to 12.00

- **Introductions overview of the agenda (8:30 to 8:45)**
  - Speakers:
    1. Denise Hanna, Arkansas Economic Development Commission
    2. Neal Young, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

- **Using survey research to fill information gaps (8.45 to 9.45)**
  - Surveys are often used to create information where none exists. This session will examine the issues that state researchers must consider when undertaking special project surveys, external to their work. The presenters will address issues such as survey funding and when to keep these surveys in-house and when to contract with third-party survey providers.
  - Speakers:
    2. Gail Krumenauer, Oregon Employment Department

- **Break (9.45 to 10.00)**

- **Moving beyond employment—Economic development incentives not tied to job creation (10.00 to 11.00)**
  - During the recession many firms were reluctant to agree to incentive programs built around job creation, and now that unemployment rates have declined they are similarly reluctant for fear that they cannot get the workers they need. This session will examine the discretionary incentive programs focused on the retention of larger businesses. It will cover common trends among these incentives, and approaches for researching how these programs are used in other states.
  - Speakers:
    1. Neal Young, Department of Employment and Economic Development
    2. Sarah Gutschow, C2ER

- **Break (11.00 to 11.15)**

- **Open Discussion**
  - This discussion will allow state researchers to pose questions to their peers in other states about any burning issues they may be facing.
  - Facilitators:
    1. Denise Hanna, Arkansas Economic Development Commission
    2. Neal Young, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development