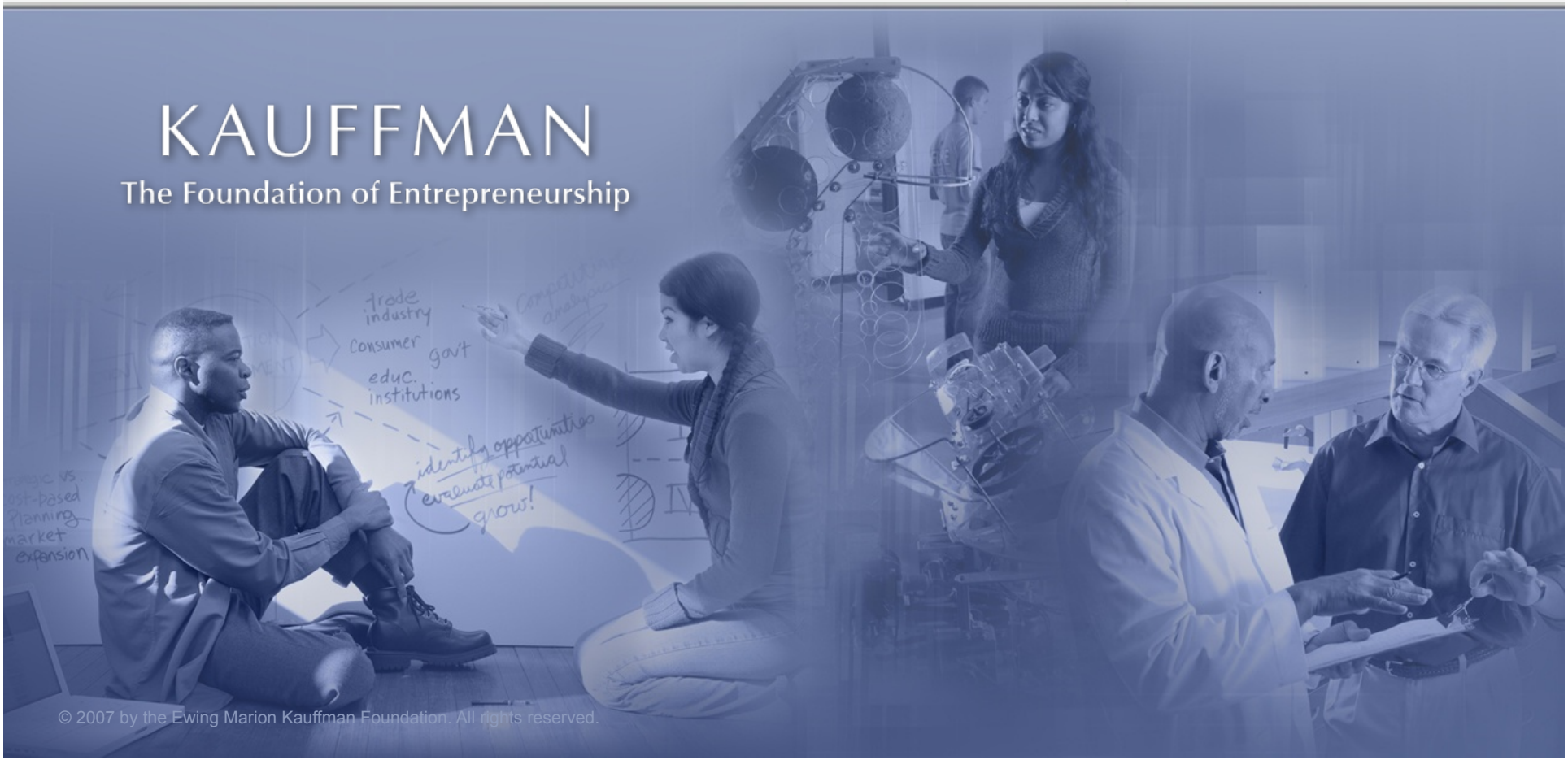
Longitudinal Data for Entrepreneurship Research

Academy of Management PDW

August 7th, 2010, Montreal, Canada

"Every individual that we can inspire, that we can guide, that we can help to start a new company, is vital to the future of our economic welfare."

— Ewing Kauffman



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Overview

- Business dynamics is a central feature of market economies with broad impacts on labor markets, technical progress and economic growth.
- The process of Schumpeterian creative destruction is at the heart of the innovative process and productivity growth in modern market economies.
- Businesses and organizations that develop and/or adopt new and improved products, services and processes grow and displace those that don't.
- Recent research suggests a substantial fraction of productivity growth is accounted for by the shifting of outputs and inputs away from less productive to more productive businesses as part of this ongoing creative destruction process.

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Overview continued:

- However, in spite of the potential importance, measures of business dynamics are relative newcomers in official economic measurement and have not yet been fully integrated into the broader measurement framework.
- A recent report from the National Academies highlights the need for tracking business formation as well as tracking business dynamics in the first several years post entry.
- A key recommendation of this report is that the U.S. statistical agencies develop their administrative data to improve our understanding of business dynamics including releasing public domain statistics on economic activity by business age.

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Primary Objectives of PDW

- To educate researchers on the availability of longitudinal data for entrepreneurship research
- To encourage discussion on steps to improve data collection efforts, both governmental and private, for entrepreneurship research
- To provide a broad perspective on the importance of governmental and private data in serving research needs and driving better policy
- To highlight that while more entrepreneurship and innovation data are becoming available for research, improvements are still needed

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Presenters

- *E.J. Reedy, Kauffman Foundation*
- *Ron Jarmin, U.S. Census Bureau*
- *Brian Headd, U.S. Small Business Administration*
- *Jon Eckhardt, University of Wisconsin*

PDW Format: 20 minute presentation, 10 minute discussion

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