## Modeling & Simulation: Finance & Economics

M&S Caucus Leadership Summit February 11, 2008

> Larry Boyer Principal Economist, Freddie Mac

Topics \* M&S Use \* How M&S Enhances Progress \* Key Challenges \* Key Elements for Education \* Suggestions for Furthering Progress

1

M&S Use \* Pricing and Costing **#** Capital **Risk Management** Scenario Analysis (What if?) \* Product Design **Research and Development** 

How M&S Enhances Progress
\* Increase ability to reduce and manage risk
\* Increase product offerings and reduce costs to benefit consumers
\* Increased the ability of corporations and policy makers to anticipate economic changes and adjust

# Key Challenges **\*** Layering Models and Judgment Rest vs. Future \* Shocks (Oil, Terrorism, etc.) **Human Intervention (policy)** \* Faster, Cheaper, Better Technology **Complexity of Interactions**

### Modeling Tension

Judgment



- •Uses "intangibles"
- •Cognitive Awareness
- •Experience
- •Hidden biases
- •Imprecise
- •Use current market info

#### Statistical Model

- •Measurable
- •Future is similar to past
- •Dispassionate
- •Discover hidden relationships
- •Data reporting lag
- •Measurement error
- •Statistical biases





What is the expected rent growth going forward 2000–2007?

Will these 2 metro areas perform similarly?





San Jose became more volatile. Was it possible to foresee this change? Would an econometric model have successfully forecast?

### Key Elements for Education

- Improve Math and Science Education from pre-K through high school
- \* Add more sophisticated, applied simulation study to undergraduate coursework
- Create interdisciplinary coursework, with applied research and problem solving as the core work
- Develop students to have both business and mathematical acumen

# Suggestions for Furthering Progress

**Bring Theory and Practice together more** 

- More Interdisciplinary Cooperation
  - Related Disciplines (Economics & Finance)
  - Other Disciplines (Science & Engineer & Finance)
- Research to address Key Challenges
  - Past vs. Future
  - Shocks
  - Layering Models & Judgment