

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

“Health Coverage Revisited: Exploring Options for Expansion”

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HENRY J. AARON, Ph.D., is the Bruce and Virginia MacLaury Senior Fellow in the Brookings Institution’s Economic Studies Program, which he directed from 1990 through 1996. Dr. Aaron joined the Brookings staff in 1968. From 1967 until 1989 he also taught at the University of Maryland and served for two years as the assistant secretary for planning and evaluation at the former Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the advisory committee of the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. Dr. Aaron is a member of the board of directors of Abt Associates and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. He has been chair of the board of the National Academy of Social Insurance, vice-president and member of the executive committee of the American Economic Association, president of the Association of Public Policy and Management, and a member of the boards of directors of the College Retirement Equity Fund and Georgetown University. His most recent publication is *Can We Say No: The Challenge of Health Care Rationing* (with Melissa Cox and William B. Schwartz). He is completing a book on Medicare reform in collaboration with Jeanne Lambrew of George Washington University. He graduated from UCLA in 1958 and received a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University in 1963.

KATHERINE BAICKER, Ph.D., was nominated by President Bush in 2005, and confirmed by the Senate, to serve as a member of the Council of Economic Advisers. She is an associate professor in the Department of Public Policy at UCLA’s School of Public Affairs, and is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research in the public economics program. From 2001-2002, Dr. Baicker served as a senior economist at the Council of Economic Advisers. Her research areas include health economics, welfare, and public finance, with a focus on the financing of health insurance, spending on public programs, and fiscal federalism. Her research has been published in the *American Economic Review*, *the Journal of Public Economics*, *the Review of Economics and Statistics*, and *Health Affairs*. She has served on the faculty of the Economics Department at Dartmouth College; the Center for the Evaluative Clinical Sciences and the Department of Community and Family Medicine at Dartmouth Medical School; and in the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago. Dr. Baicker’s research has been featured in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Business Week*, and on National Public Radio, and has been funded in part by the National Institutes of Health. She received her B.A. in economics from Yale and her Ph.D. in economics from Harvard.

SARA R. COLLINS, Ph.D., is assistant vice president for the Program on the Future of Health Insurance at The Commonwealth Fund. An economist, her responsibilities include survey development, research and policy analysis, as well as program development and management for the Fund’s national coverage program. Since joining the Fund, she has directed or co-directed six national surveys on health insurance coverage and has written extensively on the extent and quality of health insurance coverage in the United States, its implications for people's health and financial security, and policy options to expand coverage. Prior to joining Commonwealth, Dr. Collins was associate director and senior research associate at the New York Academy of Medicine’s

Division of Health and Science Policy. Previously, she was an associate editor at *U.S. News & World Report*, where she wrote articles on economics and health care. She was also a senior economist at Health Economics Research and a senior health policy analyst in the New York City Office of the Public Advocate. She holds an A.B. in economics from Washington University and a Ph.D. in economics from George Washington University.

KAREN DAVIS, Ph.D., is president of The Commonwealth Fund, a national philanthropy engaged in independent research on health and social issues. The Fund is a national foundation based in New York City that is devoted to improving coverage and access to health care and quality of care through its support of health services research and health policy analysis. Dr. Davis has had a distinguished career in public policy and research. The first woman to head a U.S. Public Health Service agency, she served as deputy assistant secretary for health policy in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1977-1980. Earlier, she was a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a visiting scholar at Harvard University, and an assistant professor of economics at Rice University. She has written extensively on health and social policy issues, including the books *Health and the War on Poverty: A Ten Year Appraisal*, and *National Health Insurance: Benefits, Costs, and Consequences*. Dr. Davis received the Baxter Health Services Research Award in 2000, an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Johns Hopkins University in 2001, and the AcademyHealth Distinguished Investigator Award in 2006.

DALLAS SALISBURY is president and CEO of the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI). Mr. Salisbury joined EBRI at its founding in Washington, DC in 1978. The organization's task is to provide objective information regarding the employee benefit system and related financial security issues. Researchers, policy makers and the media rely heavily on EBRI research. Mr. Salisbury and his team are regularly featured at congressional and commission hearings, and in print and broadcast media around the world. He is a member of The Commonwealth Fund Commission on a High Performance Health System, a fellow of the National Academy of Human Resources and a member of numerous boards of directors and advisory committees in the private and public sectors. Mr. Salisbury is a recipient of the Award for Professional Excellence from the Society for Human Resource Management, the Plan Sponsor Lifetime Achievement Award and the Keystone Award of World at Work. His most recent books are: *Retirement Security in the United States: Current Sources, Future Prospects, and Likely Outcomes of Current Trends*; *The Future of Retirement Income in America*; *The Future of Social Insurance: Incremental Action or Fundamental Reform?*, *IRA and 401(k) Investing and Managing Money in Retirement*. Prior to joining EBRI, Mr. Salisbury held positions with the Washington State Legislature, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Employee Benefits Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor, (formerly known as the PWBA) and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). He received his B.A. degree in finance from the University of Washington and an M.A. in public administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University.