

Speaker Biographies
“Inside Deficit Reduction: What Now?”
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Sheila P. Burke is a Faculty Research Fellow at the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy and is a member of the faculty at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She is also a senior public policy advisor at the firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz. Ms. Burke was chief of staff to Sen. Bob Dole from 1986 to 1996, when he was Senate minority and then the majority leader. In 1995, she was elected as secretary of the Senate, that body’s chief administrative officer. Starting as a member of the Senate Finance Committee staff in 1978, she worked on legislation relating to Medicare, Medicaid and other health programs. Ms. Burke served as a member of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) from 2000 to 2007, and was a member of the board of trustees of the Kaiser Family Foundation, serving as chair of the board from 2005 to 2008. She is a distinguished visitor at the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at the Georgetown University Law Center and is a research professor at Georgetown’s Public Policy Institute. In 2000, Ms. Burke joined the Smithsonian Institution as undersecretary for American Museums and National Programs and in 2004 became deputy secretary and chief operating officer. From 1996 to 2000, she was executive dean and lecturer in public policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences and to the National Academy of Public Administration. Ms. Burke earned a master's degree in public administration from Harvard and a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of San Francisco. Early in her career, she worked as a staff nurse in Berkeley, California.

Stuart M. Butler directs the Center for Policy Innovation at The Heritage Foundation, a division he envisioned as a small, loosely structured group assembled to research and develop radically innovative solutions to some of America’s toughest challenges. Dr. Butler’s abiding passion is health care reform. He has argued for a restructured system based on consumer choice and state-led innovation. Before taking the helm of the center in August 2010, Dr. Butler guided Heritage’s domestic policy research for almost 30 years. As vice president for domestic and economic policy studies, he helped shape the debate on critical issues from health care and Social Security to welfare reform and tax relief. Dr. Butler has a reputation for developing transformative ideas that attract bipartisan support. By the 1980s, *National Journal* had named him as “one of 150 individuals outside government who have the greatest influence on decision-making in Washington.” More recently, *National Journal* called him one of Washington’s 12 “key players” on health care. In health care as in other areas of policy, Dr. Butler has advocated reaching across the ideological spectrum to find bipartisan ways to achieve reform. His writing has appeared in leading newspapers and academic journals. He is a member of the *Health Affairs* editorial board. Dr. Butler holds bachelor’s degrees in physics and math, and also economics, as well as a doctorate in American economic history from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He is currently an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Graduate School.

Katherine Hayes is an associate research professor in the Department of Health Policy at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, where she teaches courses on federal advocacy and policymaking, and the federal budget process. She specializes in legal and policy matters related to Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, private health insurance, long-term care and health reform implementation. She is co-director of Health Reform: GPS, a website dedicated to

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policy analysis of the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. She has more than 25 years of experience in health policy, serving two U.S. senators, a member of the House of Representatives and two governors. Prior to joining GW, she served as vice president for health policy at Jennings Policy Strategies, Inc. Other private sector experience includes legal practice with a large Washington, DC-based law firm, policy director for two Catholic health systems, and a children's hospital. She also served as a program consultant for a state Medicaid agency and as a senior health policy advisor to a major presidential campaign. She has a B.A. from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a J.D. from the American University's Washington College of Law.

Dan Mendelson is CEO and founder of Avalere Health, which provides strategic consulting, analytic due diligence and policy guidance for clients in industry, government and the not-for-profit sector. Based in Washington D.C., the firm focuses on the intersection between public policy and business strategy. Mr. Mendelson is also an adjunct professor of business administration at the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. From 1998 to 2000, he served as associate director for health at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). He supervised a staff of 75, and was responsible for the full health care portfolio including Medicare, Medicaid, NIH, CDC and FDA. His work included development of the administration's pharmaceutical benefit, presidential initiatives in health information technology and medical error prevention, the electronic disease surveillance system, and federal policies in reimbursement and technology assessment. Prior to joining OMB, Dan was senior vice president of the Lewin Group, where he was director of the Medical Technology Practice. Between 1994 and 1996, he was also closely involved in the operations of Value Rx, a pharmacy benefit management company (PBM). Dan has published widely in peer-reviewed and professional journals on health information technology, the costs of disease, hospital costs and operations, physician payment, the economics of managed care, medical malpractice, and a range of other topics in health care policy and business. He holds an undergraduate degree in economics and viola performance from Oberlin College, and a master's in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Len Nichols is professor of health policy and director of the Center for Health Policy Research and Ethics at George Mason University. There, he is bridging the worlds of health economics and health services research for health system stakeholders and clinical leaders, elected and appointed policy officials and journalists. He founded and directed Health CEOs for Health Reform, a group that was pivotal in helping policy makers see that delivery system reform and health insurance reform are necessary and feasible complements of overall health reform. Dr. Nichols has testified frequently before Congress and state legislatures, has published widely in a variety of health journals, and speaks often on health policy and politics. Before joining George Mason, he served as director of the Health Policy Program at the New America Foundation, was the vice president of the Center for Studying Health System Change, a principal research associate at the Urban Institute, senior advisor for health policy at the Office of Management and Budget during the Clinton Administration's health reform effort, and chair of the Economics Department at Wellesley College. He has advised the World Bank and the Pan American Health Organization, as well as various state governments and departments of the federal government. He is frequently interviewed and quoted by major media outlets. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 1980.