

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

“A Different Way of Thinking About Health Information”

August 13, 2012

STEPHEN DOWNS is the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s chief technology and information officer. In this role, he ensures that the foundation’s technology strategy and operations are aligned with its organizational plans. Joining RWJF in 2002 as a senior program officer, Mr. Downs has focused most of his programming efforts on bringing the benefits of health information technology to the mission of improving health and health care. He has developed and supported work in public health informatics, including the creation of the *Public Health Informatics Institute* and the *Common Ground* program. More recently, he has sought to leverage consumer technologies to better engage patients and improve their care. He co-developed *Project HealthDesign*, a program that challenges conventional notions of personal health records, and has supported the *OpenNotes* project, which opens up physicians’ notes to their patients. He sees the explosion of consumer technologies as a tremendous opportunity to identify and test new models of providing care and achieving better health outcomes. From 2007 to 2011, he was the assistant vice president of the health group. In this position, he worked with the senior vice president of the health group to oversee the foundation’s strategies and investments in childhood obesity, public health and vulnerable populations. He also played a key role in helping to shape the foundation’s vision for transitioning to a “Web 2.0” philanthropy, one based on values of openness, participation and decentralization. Mr. Downs is a frequent contributor to blogs. His posts have appeared on RWJF’s *Pioneering Ideas* blog, *The Health Care Blog*, the Foundation Center’s *Glasspockets* blog, *Philantopic* and the *Huffington Post*. He earned an SM in technology and policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a BS in physics and applied physics from Yale University.

JANET MARCHIBRODA serves as the chair of the Health Information Technology (IT) Initiative for the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC), a Washington, D.C.-based think tank formed by former Senate majority leaders working to address key challenges facing the nation, including those related to democracy, economic policy, energy, housing, national security and health care. The Health IT Initiative identifies real-world examples of, and best practices for, coordinated, accountable, patient-centered care. The group makes recommendations for ensuring that health IT efforts support the delivery system and payment reforms shown to improve quality and reduce costs in health care. The Initiative was responsible for *Transforming Health Care: The Role of Health IT*, a report based on research on 40 high-performing organizations. Earlier, Ms. Marchibroda led stakeholder engagement activities for the national coordinator for health information technology in HHS and also served as the chief health care officer for IBM in their Global Business Services unit. She was founding chief executive officer for eHealth Initiative, an independent, nonprofit multi-stakeholder organization whose mission is to improve the quality, safety and efficiency of health care through IT. She also served as the initial executive director of Connecting for Health, a public-private sector initiative focused on connectivity which was led by the Markle Foundation with additional support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

DEVEN MCGRAW is director of the Health Privacy Project at the Center for Democracy and Technology, where she focuses on developing and promoting policies that ensure individual privacy as personal health information is shared electronically. Ms. McGraw is active in efforts to advance trusted implementation of health information technology. She serves on the Health Information Technology Policy Committee, a federal advisory committee established in the American Recovery

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and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and chairs its Privacy and Security Tiger Team. She also serves on the Leadership Council of the eHealth Initiative and is on the Steering Group of the Markle Foundation's Connecting for Health multi-stakeholder initiative.

JOY PRITTS joined the HHS Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) in February 2010 as the agency's first chief privacy officer. Ms. Pritts provides advice to the secretary of HHS and the national coordinator for developing and implementing ONC's privacy and security programs under the HITECH Act (Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health). She works closely with the Office for Civil Rights and other operating divisions of HHS, as well as with other government agencies, to help ensure a coordinated approach to key privacy and security issues. Before joining ONC, Ms. Pritts held a joint appointment as a senior scholar with the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law and as a research associate professor with the Health Policy Institute at Georgetown University. She has an extensive background in confidentiality laws including the HIPAA Privacy Rule, federal alcohol and substance abuse treatment confidentiality laws, the Common Rule governing federally funded research, and state health information privacy laws.

STEPHEN ROTHMICH, MD, is an associate professor of family medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in Richmond. In addition to caring for patients in an inner-city academic practice, Dr. Rothemich works as a medical informaticist for the VCU Health System, serves on VCU's Institutional Review Board, and is a member scientist at the VCU Massey Cancer Center. He is one of the founders and present co-director of VCU's practice-based research network, the Virginia Ambulatory Care Outcomes Research Network. His personal research interests include the use of health information technology to support primary care clinicians and their patients, and disease prevention, especially tobacco cessation in primary care. He is a former Robert Wood Johnson Foundation generalist physician faculty scholar and has authored or co-authored many peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Rochemich holds a master's degree in clinical research and biostatistics.