

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

HENRY J. AARON is the Bruce and Virginia MacLaury Senior Fellow in the Economic Studies Program at the Brookings Institution. He focuses on the reform of health care financing; public systems such as Medicare and Medicaid; Social Security; and tax and budget policy. Dr. Aaron initially joined the Brookings staff in 1968. From 1990 through 1996, he was the director of Brookings' Economic Studies Program. From 1967 until 1989 he also taught at the University of Maryland. Earlier, he served as assistant secretary for planning and evaluation at what was then the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. He chaired the 1979 Advisory Council on Social Security. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the advisory committee of the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, and the visiting committee of the Harvard Medical and Dental Schools. He is a member of the board of directors of Abt Associates and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. He was a founding member, vice-president, and chair of the board of the National Academy of Social Insurance. He has been vice-president and member of the executive committee of the American Economic Association and was president of the Association of Public Policy and Management. He has been a member of the boards of directors of the College Retirement Equity Fund and Georgetown University. Dr. Aaron is a graduate of U.C.L.A and holds a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.

JOSEPH R. ANTOS is the Wilson H. Taylor Scholar in Health Care and Retirement Policy at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). He also is a commissioner of the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission, and an adjunct professor at the School of Public Health of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Antos has written, lectured, and testified before Congress on the economics of health policy, including Medicare and broader health system reform, health care financing, health insurance regulation, and the uninsured. He is the editor with Alice Rivlin of *Restoring Fiscal Sanity 2007: The Health Spending Challenge* (Brookings Institution Press, 2007). Prior to joining AEI, Dr. Antos was assistant director for health and human resources at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). Previously, he held senior positions in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Management and Budget, and the President's Council of Economic Advisers. He is past chairman of the Coalition for Health Services Research, a member of CBO's panel of health advisers, and he serves on a variety of professional boards. He received his B.A. degree from Cornell and his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Rochester.

ROBERT BERENSON, M.D., is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute. He is particularly known as an expert on Medicare. He was a member of the Obama Administration transition team and earlier served in senior positions in two administrations. He also helped organize and manage a successful preferred provider organization. From 1998-2000, Dr. Berenson was in charge of Medicare payment policy and private health plan contracting in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Previously, he served as an assistant director of the domestic policy staff for President Carter. Dr. Berenson is a board-certified internist who practiced for 20 years, the last 12 in a Washington, D.C. group practice. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians. He was co-author, with Walter Zelman, of *The Managed Care Blues & How to Cure Them*, and, with Rick Mayes, of *Medicare Payment Policy and the Shaping of*

U.S. Health Care. He is a graduate of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and is a faculty member at the George Washington University Schools of Medicine and Public Health, and the Fuqua School of Business at Duke.

JUDY FEDER is a professor of public policy at the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute, serving as dean from 1999-2008. She is a leader particularly in efforts to understand and improve the nation's health insurance system. A widely published scholar, Dr. Feder's three decades of policy research began at the Brookings Institution, continued at the Urban Institute, and, since 1984, have continued at Georgetown. Her expertise on the uninsured, Medicare, Medicaid and long-term care is regularly sought by members of Congress, Executive officials, and the national media. She has also held leadership policy positions in Congress and in the Executive Branch. As staff director of the congressional Pepper Commission (chaired by Senator John D. Rockefeller IV), Dr. Feder is widely credited with helping set the stage for the health reform debate of the 1990s. In 1993, she was appointed to the Department of Health and Human Services, where she worked to expand health insurance coverage, effectively manage Medicare and Medicaid, and assure the safety of food and drugs. Dr. Feder is a political scientist, with a B.A. from Brandeis University and a master's and Ph.D. from Harvard.

JULIE ROVNER is the health policy correspondent for NPR, specializing in the politics of health care. She is also a contributing editor for National Journal's *CongressDaily*. In 2005, she was awarded the Everett McKinley Dirksen Award for distinguished reporting of Congress for her coverage of the passage of the 2003 Medicare prescription drug bill and its aftermath. Ms. Rovner is the author of a critically-praised reference book, *Health Care Politics and Policy A-Z*. Its third edition was published by CQ Press in September, 2008. She is also co-author of the book *Managed Care Strategies 1997*, and has contributed to several other books, including two chapters in 1995's *Intensive Care: How Congress Shapes Health Policy*, edited by political scientists Norman Ornstein and Thomas Mann. Previously, Ms. Rovner covered health and human services for the *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report*, specializing in health care financing, abortion, welfare, and disability issues. She graduated with honors from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, with a degree in Political Science.

DENNIS G. SMITH is the senior fellow in health care reform at The Heritage Foundation's Center for Health Policy Studies, where he researches ways to improve the Medicaid program, the future of long-term care and state health care reform initiatives. Before joining Heritage in May 2008, Smith was the former director of the federal Center for Medicaid and State Operations. He had been in charge of Medicaid for nearly seven years. In this position, he directed a staff of more than 400 people and supervised more than \$350 billion in federal programs, including the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP). Prior to joining the Health and Human Services Department, Smith was director of Virginia's Department of Medical Assistance Services, and served in a variety of positions on Capitol Hill, including: health and welfare analyst at the Senate Finance Committee; legislative assistant to Sen. William Roth, R-Del.; and professional staff member of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. Smith received a master's degree in public administration from George Mason University in 1990. In 1978, he earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Illinois State University.

