

*The Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality, and Public Policy
and the Urban Institute*

**REDUCING POVERTY AND ECONOMIC DISTRESS
AFTER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT CONFERENCE**

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Speaker and Author Biographies

Panel II: Skills and Jobs

Anthony Carnevale (Presenter)

Director, Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce: Education and Workforce Development

Anthony Carnevale currently serves as Research Professor and Director of the Center on Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University. Between 1996 and 2006 Dr. Carnevale served as Vice-President for Public Leadership at the Educational Testing Service (ETS). While at ETS Carnevale was appointed by President George Bush to serve on the White House Commission on Technology and Adult Education. Before joining at ETS, Carnevale was Director of Human Resource and Employment studies at the Committee for Economic Development (CED), the nation's oldest business-sponsored policy research organization. While at CED Carnevale was appointed by President Clinton to Chair The National Commission on Employment Policy (NCEP), and in 1994 Secretary of commerce Ronald Brown appointed Dr. Carnevale to the Board of Overseers for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Dr. Carnevale was the founder and President of the Institute for Workplace Learning (IWL) and led the IWL between 1983 and 1993. The IWL worked directly with consortia of private companies to develop "high performance work systems" and to develop more effective work and training systems. While at the IWL Carnevale was appointed by President Reagan to the human resources subcommittee on the White House Commission on Productivity which met between 1982 and 1984. Prior to founding the IWL Carnevale also served as Director of Political and Government Affairs for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the largest union in the AFL-CIO. Prior to joining AFSCME he was a senior staff member in both houses of the U.S. Congress. He was appointed Majority Staff Director on the Public Financing Sub-Committee of the House Committee on Government Operations, during consideration of the value added tax proposals and revenue sharing.

Carnevale joined the Senate Budget Committee shortly after it was established by the passage of the Budget Impoundment and Control Act of 1974. Carnevale was responsible for budget development and enforcement in Budget Function 500: all accounts in Education, Training, Employment Policy and Social Services. Subsequently, he also served as Senior Economist for the Senate Democratic Leadership Council. Dr. Carnevale received his B.A. from Colby College and his Ph.D. in public finance economics from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. Before coming to Washington, DC, Dr. Carnevale worked as a research economist with the Syracuse University Research Corporation. During that time, he co-authored the principal affidavit in *Rodriguez v. San Antonio*, a U.S. Supreme Court action to remedy unequal tax burdens and education benefits. This landmark case resulted in significant fiscal reforms in a wide variety of majority of states.

Clifford M. Johnson (Presenter)

Director, Institute for Youth, Education, and Families, National League of Cities

Clifford Johnson is the executive director of the Institute for Youth, Education, and Families at the National League of Cities in Washington, D.C. In this role, Mr. Johnson is leading NLC's efforts to strengthen the capacity of municipal leaders to meet the needs of children, youth, and families in their communities. The Institute is working in five core program areas: education, youth development, early childhood development, the safety of children and youth, and family economic security. Prior to his appointment as executive director of the Institute in 2000, Mr. Johnson spent three years as a senior fellow at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities working on the development of transitional jobs and other innovative approaches to public job creation. For more than a decade from 1985 to 1996, he served in senior staff positions at the Children's Defense Fund, including three years as director of CDF's Programs and Policy Division. For many years, Mr. Johnson led CDF's work on issues related to youth employment and family economic security, and he played a major role in organizational initiatives focused on adolescent pregnancy prevention. Mr. Johnson began his career as a legislative aide in the U.S. House of Representatives. He also co-authored two books on labor and social policy while serving as a research associate with the late Sar Levitan at George Washington University's Center for Social Policy Studies.

Amy Rynell (Co-Author)

Director, Social IMPACT Research Center, Heartland Alliance

Amy Rynell has worked at Heartland Alliance since 1997, and currently serves as Director of the Social IMPACT Research Center, formerly the Mid-America Institute on Poverty. Ms. Rynell has also served as the Director for the National Transitional Jobs Network (NTJN) since 2007. In this role, Ms. Rynell works to strategically advance the NTJN as a leader in the field of employment programs and policy solutions for the hardest to employ across the country. She provides financial oversight, strategic planning guidance, media communications, policy analysis, and staff supervision to the NTJN. Currently Ms. Rynell serves as co-chair of Grantmakers Concerned with Poverty for the Donors Forum of Chicago, and serves as a guest lecturer on social issues in classes at Universities across the city. Ms. Rynell also managed the first evaluation of Transitional Jobs programs serving TANF recipients in Illinois. Ms. Rynell received her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and her M.A. from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago.

Melissa Young (Co-Author)

Associate Director, National Transitional Jobs Network, Heartland Alliance

Melissa Young is the Associate Director of the National Transitional Jobs Network (NTJN) at Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights. Ms. Young's work includes managing the Network's technical assistance efforts in order to strengthen the capacity of existing and emerging Transitional Jobs programs, translating lessons learned at local levels into federal policy, and managing the development of Network communications for diverse audiences. In this role she has worked to advance the visibility of the NTJN as a national expert in Transitional Jobs - both in the delivery of technical assistance and policy advancement - in order to further support the development and implementation the Transitional Jobs strategy for persons who have a hard time getting and keeping a job. Ms. Young's previous work at the Mid America Institute on Poverty focused on youth poverty, income supports, and an analysis of Illinois' appropriations and funding streams for youth programs. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her M.A. from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago.

Gerri Fiala (Discussant)

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

Gerri Fiala was recently appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Employment and Training Administration. Fiala was Director of Workforce Research at the National Center on Education and the Economy, after serving 17 years as a senior career official at the Department of Labor. At the Department of Labor, Fiala led an interagency team to secure job training reform. Her efforts culminated in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and Title V of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000. Fiala also co-lead interagency teams to secure Welfare to Work legislation and the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act.

Most recently, Fiala served as Staff Director for Senator Patty Murray (WA) for the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety. Fiala led Senator Murray's oversight and legislative efforts for the Employment and Workplace Subcommittee including identifying systems to create "multiple pathways" for high school students to obtain long-term, family-wage jobs through training and education.

David Socolow (Discussant)

Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development

David J. Socolow was appointed Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development by Governor Jon S. Corzine on January 17, 2006, and leads a staff of 3,600 public servants dedicated to promoting economic growth and job creation through services to the workers and employers of the state.

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development provides training and employment services to develop New Jersey's world-class workforce through the statewide One-Stop Career Center system; supports workers who are unemployed or unable to work due to illness, accident, or injury with almost \$3 billion per year in vital income security benefits; equitably enforces New Jersey's labor laws; analyzes the state's labor market and demographic information; helps disabled individuals succeed in the workplace, and protects the health and safety of workers.

Commissioner Socolow led the team that crafted and implemented Governor Corzine's initiative to establish New Jersey's path-breaking Family Leave Insurance program, which expands the Department's existing Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) program to provide up to six weeks of benefits for workers taking leave from work to provide care for an immediate family member with a serious health condition or to take time to bond with a newborn or newly-adopted child.

Commissioner Socolow leads a multi-agency initiative to prevent employers from misclassifying their employees as independent contractors or paying unreported cash wages. Such employers undercut their law-abiding competitors by evading taxes and shirking their duty to cover their workers for unemployment, temporary disability, and workers' compensation insurance.

Commissioner Socolow refocused New Jersey's Customized Training Program to support the development of more competitive workers and businesses in targeted economic sectors in support of Governor Corzine's Economic Growth Strategy, including an emphasis on basic skills literacy grants to incumbent workers and the enhanced promotion of apprenticeship training.

Commissioner Socolow led Governor Corzine's successful efforts to amend New Jersey's laws to provide stronger tools for enforcing the state's prevailing wage and workers' compensation standards, and he chairs the New Jersey Minimum Wage Advisory Commission, which has recommended an increase in the state's minimum wage and an annual cost-of-living increase in the minimum wage, indexed to inflation.

Prior to his appointment, from 2002 to 2006 Mr. Socolow directed New Jersey's Unemployment Insurance Division and its 1,000 employees. As UI Director, he worked to make the state's unemployment insurance

system more responsive and improve customer service using advanced technology, including eliminating the waiting week for unemployment insurance benefits and implementing automatic filing for extended benefits. He previously served at the U.S. Department of Labor as Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary and on Capitol Hill as Chief of Staff to Rep. Robert Andrews of New Jersey, a senior member of the Committee on Education and the Labor. He also worked as a legislative representative for the national AFL-CIO.

Commissioner Socolow earned his Bachelor's degree from Harvard University and his Master's degree in Public Administration from Rutgers University. He was raised in central New Jersey and currently resides in Moorestown with his wife and two children.

Harry Holzer (Panel Chair)

Faculty Director, Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy

Harry J. Holzer is a Professor of Public Policy at Georgetown University and an Institute Fellow at the Urban Institute in Washington DC. He is a former Chief Economist for the U.S. Department of Labor and a former Professor of Economics at Michigan State University. He received his A.B. from Harvard in 1978 and his Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard in 1983. He is a Senior Affiliate of the National Poverty Center at the University of Michigan and a Research Affiliate of the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is also a Nonresident Senior Fellow with the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program and a member of the editorial board at the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

Holzer's research has focused primarily on the labor market problems of low-wage workers and other disadvantaged groups. His books include *The Black Youth Employment Crisis* (coedited with Richard Freeman, University of Chicago Press, 1986); *What Employers Want: Job Prospects for Less-Educated Workers* (Russell Sage Foundation, 1996); *Employers and Welfare Recipients: The Effects of Welfare Reform in the Workplace* (with Michael Stoll, Public Policy Institute of California, 2001); *Moving Up or Moving On: Who Advances in the Low-Wage Labor Market* (with Fredrik Andersson and Julia Lane), Russell Sage Foundation, 2005; *Reconnecting Disadvantaged Young Men* (with Peter Edelman and Paul Offner), Urban Institute Press, 2006; and *Reshaping the American Workforce in a Changing Economy* (coedited with Demetra Nightingale), Urban Institute Press, 2007.