

ROBERT D. ATKINSON, Ph.D.

1101 K Street, N.W., Suite 610
Washington, DC 20005
ratkinson@itif.org

ECONOMIC AND INNOVATION POLICY EXPERIENCE

Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, 2006-present. Founder and President. Created a 501c(3) technology policy think tank committed to articulating and advancing a pro-productivity, pro-innovation and pro-technology public policy agenda internationally, in Washington and the states. Recognizing the vital role of technology in ensuring American prosperity, ITIF focuses on innovation, productivity, and digital economy issues.

Progressive Policy Institute, 1997 - 2006. Vice President and Director of the Technology, Innovation, and New Economy Project and staff director of the New Economy Task Force. The project focused on raising the awareness of policy makers about changes in the economy and the need for policies that reflect these changes, including stimulate technological innovation and accelerate the digitization of the U.S. economy. Also directed the New Economy Task Force, co-chaired by Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle and Gateway CEO Ted Waitt.

Rhode Island Economic Policy Council, 1996 - 1997. Executive Director. Director of a non-profit council, co-chaired by the Governor and a private sector leader. The Council provided objective, in-depth analysis of the ongoing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the State's economy; developed and recommended creative strategies and policies to address them; and advised the Governor, Administration and General Assembly in matters relating to economic development. Drafted comprehensive analysis and policy recommendations to revitalize the Rhode Island government and succeeded in implementing all recommendations.

Office of Technology Assessment, U.S. Congress, Washington, DC. 1990 - 1995. Project Director, *The Technological Reshaping of Metropolitan America*. Responsibilities included project design and management; analysis and writing; hiring and supervising staff; advising Congressional staff; presentations to Congress, media and conferences. Wrote groundbreaking analysis of how new technologies can be applied in the service sector to boost productivity for *Productivity, Technology and Jobs in the Service Sector*. Co-author of *After the Cold War: Living With Lower Defense Spending*, a widely used and cited report examining the impact of defense spending cuts on workers, defense, industry and communities and the design of appropriate adjustment policies. Co-author of *Industry, Technology and the Environment: Competitive Challenges and Business Opportunities* which examined innovation to solve environmental challenges and innovation to boost the environment industry. Testified before Congress and worked closely with staff to shape FY93 and FY94 defense conversion legislation, and presented results at numerous conferences, meetings, and in the media. Commended by Senators Pryor and Bingaman in speeches on the Senate floor for work on the topic. Authored proposal to reinvent federal economic development programs included in Vice President Gore's National Performance Review and now being used as a blueprint by the Administration.

National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, 1990. Director, Clearinghouse for State and Local Initiatives on Productivity, Technology and Innovation. Launched Congressionally-mandated program to develop and disseminate information about innovative regional technology policies and programs. Developed strategic plan, supervised staff, coordinated with other federal and state agencies, managed contracts and grants, and conducted technology policy analysis.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Dept. of City and Regional Planning, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dissertation: *Some States Take the Lead: Explaining the Formation of Effective State Technology Policies*, 1989.

MURP Planning, Public Policy, and Management, University of Oregon. Thesis: *Where You Stand Depends Upon What You Believe: Understanding the National Industrial Policy Debate*, 1985.

BA Sociology. New College, Sarasota, Florida. 1977.

AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Named by Ars Technica as one of 2009's tech policy "People to Watch".

Appointed to the Congressionally-created National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission and elected chair, 2007

Named by *Inc. Magazine* as one of "19 Friends" of small business in Washington, 2006.

Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, 2006-present.

Member of the Task Force on National Security in the Information Age, co-chaired by Markle Foundation president Zoe Baird and former Netscape Communications chairman James Barksdale, 2002-2006.

Named by *Government Technology Magazine* and the Center for Digital Government as one of the 25 top "Doers, Dreamers and Drivers of Information Technology," 2002.

Awarded the Wharton Infosys Business Transformation Award Silver Medal, 2002.

Named by President Clinton to the Commission on Workers, Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy, 2000.

Featured in the 1999 "Who's Who in America: Finance and Industry."

Member, Americans for Computer Privacy Advisory Panel, 1998.

Rhode Island Small Business Administration District Directors Award, 1997.

SELECTED OUTSIDE PUBLICATIONS

Books

Innovation Economics: The Race for Global Advantage (Yale University Press, September 2012)

Supply-Side Follies: Why Conservative Economics Fails, Liberal Economics Falters, and Innovation Economics is the Answer, (Rowman Littlefield Press, 2006).

The Past and Future of America's Economy: Long Waves of Innovation that Drive Cycles of Growth (Edward Elgar, 2005).

Chapters and Articles

"Globalisation, New Technology and Transformation," in *Social Justice in the Global Age*, eds., Olaf Cramme and Patrick Diamond, Polity Press, 2009.

"Innovation Economics, Cap and Trade, and Global Warming," *Business Week*, June 17, 2009.

"The Role of Competition in a National Broadband Policy," *Journal of Telecommunications and High Technology Law*, Vol. 7, 2009.

"Ten Ideas for Policymakers to Drive Digital Progress," (with Daniel Castro), *IEEE Internet Computing*, Vol. 13, March/April 2009.

"A National Technology Agenda for the New Administration," (with Daniel Castro), *Yale Journal of Law and Technology*, issue 190, 2009.

"Innovation Nation," *The Democracy Journal*, Winter, 2009.

"Inequality in the New Knowledge Economy," in *The New Egalitarianism*, eds., Anthony Giddens and Patrick Diamond, Polity Press, 2007.

"Framing a National Broadband Policy," *CommLaw Conspectus*, Fall, 2007.

"Measuring Up: Assessing Economic Structure for Success in the New Economy," *Economic Development Journal*, vol. 6, Fall 2007.

"Deep Competitiveness," *Issues in Science and Technology*, Winter, 2007.

"Expanding the R&E Tax Credit to Drive Innovation, Competitiveness and Prosperity", *Journal of Technology Transfer*, September, 2007.

"Turbo-Charging E-Government," *Public CIO Magazine*, June, 2006.

"Building a More Humane Economy", *The Futurist Magazine*, June 2006.

"Is the Next Economy Taking Shape," *Issues in Science and Technology*, Winter, 2006.

“Customer-Oriented E-Government: Can We Ever Get There?” (with Andrew Leigh), *Journal of Political Marketing*, Vol. 2, Issue 3, 2003.

“Myths of the New Economy: Getting the Parameters of Change Right” *Public Policy Research*, Dec. 2002.

“Technological Change and Cities” *Cityscape: A Journal of Policy Development and Research*, Vol. 3, No. 3, 1998.

"Defense Spending Cuts and Regional Economic Impact: An Overview," *Economic Geography*, April, 1993.

"Innovation Policy Making in a Federalist System: Lessons for U.S. Federal Innovation Policy Making," *Research Policy*, vol. 20, 1991.

"Some States Take the Lead: Explaining the Formation of State Technology Policies," *Economic Development Quarterly*, Winter, 1991.

"Engineering Regional Growth," with Dr. Stuart Rosenfeld. In *Growth Policy in an Age of High Technology: The Role of Regions and State Governments*, ed. Jurgen Schmandt and Robert Wilson, Unwin Hyman Limited, 1990.

"Regulation as Industrial Policy: A Case Study of the U.S. Automobile Industry," (with Les Garner), *Economic Development Quarterly*, vol, 1. No. 4, November, 1987.

Selected ITIF Publications

“The State New Economy Index: Benchmarking Economic Transformation in the States,” (2007 and 2008).

“An Innovation Economics Agenda for the Next Administration,” 2008.

“Digital Prosperity: Understanding the Economic Benefits of the Information Technology Revolution,” 2007.

“Economic Doctrines and Policy Differences: Why Washington Can't Agree on Economic Policy,” (with David Audretsch), 2008

“Boosting Productivity, Innovation, and Growth Through a National Innovation Foundation,” (with Howard Wial), 2008.

“The Rise of the New Mercantilists: Unfair Trade Practices in the Innovation Economy,” (with Julie Hedlund), 2007.