

John C. Austin

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Education

Master of Public Administration. 1990. Harvard University – John F. Kennedy School of Government

Bachelor of Arts in Economics & Political Science. 1983. Swarthmore College.

High Honors, Phi Beta Kappa. Concentration in Public Policy.

Elected & Appointed Positions

<i>Elected Member, Michigan State Board of Education, Vice-President</i>	2000-
<i>Member, Ann Arbor City Community Development Commission.</i>	2002-
<i>Chairman, Genesee County Road Commission</i> included seats on:	1997-2001
<i>Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance</i>	
<i>Genesee County Parks and Recreation Board</i>	
<i>Genesee County Retirement Commission</i>	
<i>Assistant Chair of the Michigan Democratic Party</i>	2000-
<i>Co-Chair, Michigan Democratic Party Platform Committee</i>	2000
<i>Fenton, Michigan Planning Commissioner</i>	1995-1998
<i>Chairman, Michigan School-to-Work Steering Committee</i>	1995-1996

Public Policy Experience

Brookings Institution, Metropolitan Policy Program, Non-Resident Senior Fellow. 2005-
Leading the design and execution of multi-year, multi-state initiative to develop a winning economic vision and action agenda for Great Lakes states.

Michigan Lieutenant Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth, Policy Director 2004-2006. Supervised policy development, research and staff work for 41-member Governor appointed commission charged to make recommendations that double the share of Michigan citizens with post-secondary degrees and credentials of value over the next ten years, and leverage higher education institutions role in economic growth. Principal author of Commission report. Supervise interagency team to implement recommendations.

Senior Fellow, National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good, University of Michigan. 2005- Advisor to staff and students of Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education concerning involvement in public policy initiatives and research.

Independent Policy Initiatives: 2000--2005

- *German Marshall Fund-Transatlantic Initiative Fund* – Rapporteur - Organized policy background and content for German Marshall Fund-sponsored exchanges by community leadership delegations to European counterparts, exploring issues of regional economic development, urban planning, immigration, land use, higher education and related policies. Led three trips with delegations from Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Detroit and Miami. Wrote summary papers analyzing insights and implications of the visits for local policy. 2003-2004.
- *National Governor's Association Pathways to Advancement Academy* – Team Leader and architect of state planning for Michigan delegation selected competitively to participate with seven vanguard states in Policy Academy designing and implementing state strategies to improve post-secondary education success among low-income adults. 2004-2005
- *Michigan Urban Policy Development Initiative* – Conceived and executed development of a forward-looking urban agenda for newly elected Governor of Michigan – with Michigan Future, Inc., Wayne State University, Hudson-Webber, C.S. Mott Foundations. Led to the report *Revitalizing Michigan's Urban Communities*, authored with Lou Glazer, that served as text for Governor Granholm's 'Cool Cities' initiative. Conducted follow-on policy design and implementation for Governor and Director of Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. 2001-2002.
- *Auto Career Preparation Initiative* –designed and organized elements of a career preparation system for skilled workers in Southeast Michigan automotive industry – with Big 3, Tier One suppliers, Lawrence Tech University, regional foundations. Funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. 1999-2000.

Projects with Public Policy Associates, Senior Policy Advisor, Lansing Michigan. 1995- 2004

- *Reshaping Michigan's Workforce Development Strategy* - Organized the initiative to assist the new Michigan Governor's Administration design and implement a new workforce development strategy. Led team of consultants from Public Policy Associates and the Corporation for A Skilled Workforce (CSW) in an intensive nine-month planning process supported by outside funders including the C.S. Mott Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Joyce Foundation. Supported a and interagency staff and consultant team leading to a new strategy, described in the *Reshaping Michigan's Workforce Policy* paper, and follow-on work
- *Regional Workforce Collaboratives Evaluation*. Led the team evaluating a multiyear initiative of the James Irvine Foundation in three California labor markets designed to build effective career-ladder programs in key industry sectors for adults with little labor-market attachment and skill
- *Genesee County Tax-Reverted Property Community Development Initiative* – led in developing a a national model program to expedite use of abandoned and tax reverted properties for community redevelopment – with Brookings Institution, C.S. Mott Foundation, Genesee County.

- *People and Land Initiative* – key advisor and evaluation team leader for ongoing Michigan land use planning and policy reform effort funded by the – W. K. Kellogg Foundation.with Public Sector Consultants.
- *National Correctional Education Reform Policy Development Project* – designed policy initiative to promote enhanced education and training of inmate populations – with US Dept of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Soros Foundation.
- *County Executive Research Project* -- Assessed the opportunities, benefits and challenges for Genesee County, Michigan to implement a County Executive form of Government.
- *Role of Community Foundations in California's Sustainable Development* – described role community foundations can play in sustainable growth – for the James Irvine Foundation.
- *Michigan Urban Policy Development Initiative.* On behalf of the C.S. Mott Foundation, conceived and led a major policy-development process focused on human-investment strategies to connect the urban poor to the economy. Managed an interdisciplinary team of leading urban scholars from Wayne State University, University of Maryland, and University of Michigan - Flint along with policy makers and practitioners from leading Michigan urban communities. Report published in December 1998.
- *US Department of Labor Career Management Account Demonstration* – assessed impact of national demonstration program of individual training accounts, now part of federal law.
- *Employer-Linked Charter Schools - National Technical Assistance Initiative.* Architect of national project funded by the U.S. Department of Education to enhance the number and quality of charter schools nationally that build learning programs with strong employer partnerships. Conceived project and recruited and managed national team led by Public Policy Associates; partners include the National Alliance of Business, State Charter School Learning Network, Michigan Future, Inc., and dozens of individual schools as well as business and higher education partners around the country
- *Overarching Assessment of the Community Foundations Initiative (CFI).* Assembled and organized program to assist the James Irvine Foundation of California to assess the impact and lessons learned from its \$10-million, 7-year investment in improving the capacity of regional community foundations across California. Developed project vision and constructed, recruited and now manage team of evaluators and practitioners working with communities.
- *Career Management Account Demonstration Evaluation.* Developed project concept, recruited team, and directed execution of national evaluation of the U.S. Department of Labor's Career Management Account Demonstration Program, an experiment using individual vouchers for providing publicly funded training services, an approach now mandated under the 1998 Workforce Investment Act (WIA).
- *Technical Assistance to National Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities* – for US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Flint MI, Consultant.

1997-1998.

Assisted with long-term strategy-making for Poverty Mission of the Foundation. Developed new youth grant-making strategy. Supported sectoral economic development program implementation. Managed grants, supervised contractors, managed communications with funding partners.

President. Flint Roundtable.

Flint, MI. 1991-1995.

Conceived, developed, and implemented collaborative community strategies for educational improvement, leading county-wide organization of CEOs from business, labor, government, higher education, education and community organizations. Architect of strategy and implementation of nationally-recognized school-to-work and related school readiness initiatives. Developed partnerships, leveraged resources, and organized changes leading to model programs, including:

- *Manufacturing Technology Partnership Program:* When President Clinton signed the 1994 School-to-Work Opportunities Act, he surrounded himself with students from the Genesee County Manufacturing Technology Program (MTP) and which became a national model.
- *Careers in Health Program:* awarded US Department of Education Outstanding Vocational Program Award 1997.
- *Genesee County School-to-Work Partnership:* chosen Best Partnership at 1996 National School-to-Work Leadership Conference.

Community Specialist. Michigan Partnership for New Education.

East Lansing, MI. 1990-1991.

Developed and implemented education, business, and community partnerships for education reform in distressed Michigan communities, as a collaboration among leading state universities, state government, business and community partners.

State Economic Development Policy Associate. Jobs for the Future.

Boston, MA. 1988-1990.

Managed four state economic and workforce policy project funded by US Department of Labor, state and private sources. Included staffing the Mississippi Special Task Force on Economic Development appointed by Governor Mabus, and the Jobs for Missouri's Future Project, sponsored by Governor Ashcroft and Missouri business, education, and labor leaders. Authored major project reports; principal author of final report, "Economic Change and the American Workforce", published by the US Department of Labor, 1990.

Issues Advisor. Dukakis for President Campaign.

Boston, MA. 1988.

Staffed and developed issues and related communications strategy as part of team headed by Harvard Professor Chris Edley, and including leading policy practitioners such as Gene Sperling, Jim Steinberg, Larry Summers, Robert Reich, Peter Edelman.

Director of Special Projects. Office of Business Development and International Trade.

Massachusetts Secretariat of Economic Affairs.

Boston, MA. 1987-1988.

Developed and managed Massachusetts Metalworking Partnership, multi-sector program to support competitiveness of metalworking industry. Managed visiting trade missions and international program development.

Special Assistant to the Governor. Office of the Governor of Massachusetts. Boston, MA. 1985-1987.

Planned and coordinated all gubernatorial public events. Developed and implemented communications strategy around priority issues such as economic and regional development, education, drug abuse, and housing.

Civic Leadership

Board of Directors, Ozone House, Ann Arbor

Board of Directors, Michigan League of Conservation Voters

Board of Directors, Common Cause of Michigan

Advisory Council, Triangle Foundation

Member, Michigan State University's Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Founding Partner - Healthy Students 2000

Communities and Schools for Career Success - National Advisory Board

Education Policy Fellow

Selected Publications

Report of the Lieutenant Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth, 2004.
With Dr. James Jacobs, Dr John Burkhardt.

Revitalizing Michigan's Central Cities: A Vision and Framework for Action. February 2003. With Lou Glazer.

Reshaping Michigan's Workforce— An Action Plan for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. 2003. With Jeff Padden and Larry Good.

Evaluation of the Great Valley Center (Report to the Hewlett and Irvine Foundations) 2004. With Julie Shattuck.

Flint (Michigan) Relative Tax Burden. (report to the C.S. Mott Foundation), 2003. With Brian Reed

Evaluation of the Community Foundation's Initiative. (Report to the James Irvine Foundation), 2003.
With Julie Shattuck.

Assessment of California Community Foundations' Ability to Lead on Sustainable Communities Effort (report to The James A. Irvine Foundation), 2001.

County Executive Form of Government, Challenges and Opportunities (report for the Genesee Area Focus Council), 2000.

Correctional Education and Training: Raising The Stakes (conducted for the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Soros Open Society Institute), 2000.

County Executive Form of Government, Challenges and Opportunities, author. For the Genesee Area Focus Council, 2000.

Ensuring Excellent Educators, Report of the Special Task Force of the Michigan State Board of Education on Teacher Quality, co-author, 2001. With Eileen Weiser

Michigan Democratic Party Platform, 2000, principal author.

Connecting the Urban Poor to Work; A Framework and Strategy for Action, co-author. Report commissioned by the C.S. Mott Foundation, 1998. With Lou Glazer

The Career Management Account Demonstration Project Evaluation Final Report (technical report prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration), October 1998. With, Jeffrey Padden, Nancy Hewat, Larry Good, and David Toombs,

Issues and Insights Regarding the People and Land Initiative, author. Conducted for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, 1999.

Summary of Research and Discussion of Emerging Issues Around Individual Training Accounts, co-author. Briefing paper prepared for U.S. DOL senior staff, April, 1998.

Employer-Linked Charter Schools: A Practitioner's Guide. Report prepared under contract with US Department of Education, 1998.

Learning From Experience: Case Studies of Employer-Linked Charter School. Report prepared under contract with US Department of Education, 1998.

Redefining Public Education: The Promise of Charter Schools and School-to-Work, co-author. Report prepared under contract with US Department of Education, 1998.

Institutionalization of Change, Promoting and Sustaining Change in Organizations, Career Management Accounts and Implications for Market Making, co-author. Briefing paper prepared for the US Department of Labor, 1997.

Assessment of State System-Building and School-to-Work Technical Assistance Needs. Report commissioned by Jobs for the Future for the US DOL/ED National School-to-Work Office, 1996.

Linking School-to-Work to Community Development. Conference paper commissioned for School-to-Work and Community Economic Development: Identifying Common Ground Conference, sponsored by Jobs for the Future and the Prudential Foundation, 1995.

What We Must Do Today To Build the Workforce of Tomorrow in Genesee County. Report of Flint Roundtable Employer Panel, 1994.

From School to Economic Security. Testimony to the US House of Representatives - Education Subcommittee, 1993.

Flint-Genesee County Urban Investment Plan, co-author. Report of City-County Leadership Task Force, 1993.

Great Lakes States School-to-Work and Work-Based Learning Strategies; Recommendations for Regional Collaboration, co-author. Report to the Great Lakes Governors Council under contract to Corporation For A Skilled Workforce, 1992.

Economic Change and the American Workforce, co-author. Research and Report Series 92-B, U.S. Department of Labor, 1992.

Special Michigan House Committee on Workforce Readiness For Economic Competitiveness, Interim Report, co-author. 1992.

Creating A Market In Education and Training: The Case of the Missing Demand, co-author. Paper commissioned by National Governor's Association, 1990.

The Missouri Challenge. Final Report of the Jobs for Missouri's Future Project, State Economic Development Strategic Plan sponsored by Governor John Ashcroft, U.S. Dept. Of Labor, and Missouri business, labor, and civic leadership, 1990.

Human Investment in Missouri. Report prepared for Jobs for Missouri's Future project, 1990.

Workforce Preparation in New England: Building A High Performance Economy; Vermont, Maine, Rhode Island State Reports. Prepared for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and The Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, 1989-'90.

Seizing the Future, A Commitment to Competitiveness. Final Report of the Mississippi Special Task Force for Economic Development Planning, co-author. 1989.

The Impact of Canadian Free Trade Pact on Massachusetts Economy. Report commissioned by Massachusetts Office of International Trade, 1989.

Globally Competitive People. Report of the Human Resource Committee of the Mississippi Special Task Force for Economic Development Planning, 1989.