

Panelist Bios

“Reengineering the SIPP: The new Dynamics of Economic Well-being program: A Roundtable”

Co-sponsored by the U.S. Census Bureau, the Brookings Institution

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Heather Boushey

Center for Economic and Policy Research

Heather Boushey joined the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR) in 2003. Her work focuses on the U.S. labor market, social policy, and work and family issues. She has testified before Congress and authored numerous reports and commentaries on issues affecting working families, including the implications of the 1996 welfare reform. Dr. Boushey is a Research Affiliate with the National Poverty Center at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and on the editorial review board of *WorkingUSA* and the *Journal of Poverty*. She has used the Survey of Income and Program Participation extensively in her research.

Ron Haskins

Center on Children and Families, The Brookings Institution

Ron Haskins is a senior fellow in the Economic Studies Program at the Brookings Institution and senior consultant at the Annie E. Casey Foundation in Baltimore. From February to December of 2002 he was the Senior Advisor to the President for Welfare Policy at the White House. Prior to joining Brookings and Casey, he spent 14 years on the staff of the House Ways and Means Human Resources Subcommittee, first as welfare counsel to the Republican staff, then as the subcommittee's staff director. From 1981-1985, he was a senior researcher at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He holds a Bachelor's degree in History, a Master's in Education, and a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, from UNC, Chapel Hill.

Howard Iams

Social Security Administration

Howard Iams is a senior research advisor. He earned an A.B. at Indiana University and an A.M. and Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in sociology. Since coming to SSA in 1978, Dr. Iams has worked on a variety of research and evaluation activities. He worked on evaluation demonstrations in the AFDC program specializing in the subjects of performance measurement and work demonstrations. Using the 1982 New Beneficiary Survey data system, he conducted analyses of mortality and of employment patterns of newly disabled and retired beneficiaries. Dr. Iams also managed the 1991 re-interviews to the New Beneficiary Survey. Since 1986 he Iams has been conducting policy evaluations with survey data from the Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) matched to SSA administrative records of earnings and benefits. In collaboration with Steve Sandell, he designed and developed the Modeling Income in the Near Term (MINT) data system with matched SIPP data. SSA uses MINT to estimate the distributional impact of Social Security reform proposals and to project the baby boom and other future retirees in the 21st Century.

David S. Johnson

Chief, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau

David S. Johnson became the Chief of the Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division in March 2006. The division is responsible for housing issues such as homeownership; income, poverty and health insurance statistics; and other reports on economic well-being. Before joining the Census Bureau, he served as the Assistant Commissioner for Consumer Prices and Price Indexes at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

He began his federal career at BLS, where he started in 1990 as a research economist in the Division of Price and Index Number Research, and eventually became Chief of the Division. In that capacity, he wrote several journal articles on such topics as the measure of consumption inequality and mobility, equivalence scale estimation, poverty measurement, specification testing, and the well-being of children. He has published articles in the *American Economic Review*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Income and Wealth*, and *Monthly Labor Review*.

During his tenure at BLS, he was active in several interagency groups, such as the Interagency Technical Working Group to Improve the Measurement of Income and Poverty and the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. While at BLS, he was actively involved in the Alternative Poverty Measurement program at Census, co-authoring the first “Experimental Poverty Measures” report and assisted in many other Census reports.

He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota, and he received his Bachelors degree in mathematics and economics from the University of Puget Sound. He has been an adjunct faculty for the Georgetown Public Policy Program. He lives in Alexandria with his wife and their three children.

Don Oellerich

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

Don Oellerich received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1984 and after 8 years of teaching and research at the University of Denver and Boston University he began his civil service career at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services where he has been for almost 15 years. He is currently Senior Advisor and Deputy to the Chief Economist in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Prior to his current position he was the Director of the Division of Data and Technical Analysis and from 1993 to 1996 he headed a cost and impact analysis team in the Department on welfare reform proposals. His current research and policy interests include welfare, poverty, and income and work supports for low-income families.

Andrew Reamer

Fellow and Deputy Director, Urban Markets Initiative, Metropolitan Policy

Andrew Reamer is Deputy Director of the Urban Markets Initiative (UMI) in the Metropolitan Policy Program, The Brookings Institution. He develops and manages UMI’s federal data agenda—encouraging the development of a federal statistical system that meets the data needs of public and private sector decision-makers in urban areas. Prior to joining Brookings, he managed Andrew Reamer & Associates, a consulting practice in regional economic development and public policy. From 1984 to 1995, he was a partner in Mt. Auburn Associates, a regional economic development consulting firm. Dr. Reamer received a Masters in City Planning and a Ph.D. in Economic Development and Public Policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Urban Studies and Planning.