

BROOKINGS

Baltimore and Beyond: Creating Opportunity in Places

Brookings Institution, Falk Auditorium
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Thursday, May 21

Biographies

Derek Douglas

Vice President for Civic Engagement, University of Chicago

As the vice president for Civic Engagement, Derek Douglas leads the University's local, national and international urban development and civic engagement efforts. He spearheads the University's efforts to work in partnership with the surrounding south side neighborhoods, city, region, nation and globe to advance urban economic development, enhance the quality of life for residents, and enrich the work of University faculty and students through research, education and direct engagement. He also is senior fellow and lecturer at the University's Harris School of Public Policy.

From 2009 through 2011, Douglas served on the White House Domestic Policy Council (DPC) as special assistant to President Barack Obama, where he led the DPC's work on urban and metropolitan policy issues. Prior to his White House service, Douglas worked as Washington counsel to New York Governor David A. Paterson and director of Paterson's Washington, D.C. Office. In this capacity, Douglas acted as the governor's chief architect for federal policy and oversaw federal policy development and advocacy on domestic, economic, and urban policy issues for the State of New York.

Douglas also has served as associate director of economic policy at the Center for American Progress where he founded and served as director of the Economic Mobility Program. Prior to joining the Center, Douglas was a counsel at O'Melveny & Myers LLP and an assistant counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Douglas serves as a board member for the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF); Metropolitan Planning Council; Openlands; Urban Land Institute (ULI); Skills for Chicagoland's Future and University of Chicago Urban Education Institute Governing Committee.

Douglas graduated from the University of Michigan with Highest Honors in Economics and from the Yale Law School.

F. Barton Harvey III

Former Chairman of Enterprise Community Partners

After 10 years in corporate finance and investment banking, Bart Harvey joined legendary developer Jim Rouse in 1984 and helped build an idea into one of the largest nonprofit housing and community development organizations in the country, raising over \$10 billion from private sources and providing over 250,000 homes to low-income Americans. He was chair and chief executive officer of Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. from 1994 to 2008.

Under his leadership, Enterprise led the effort to create a national standard for sustainable development, changing the way affordable housing is done today. By only allowing fixed rate, long-term financing, defaults have been minimal and the organization prospers today.

Harvey remains most proud of “those heroes in America I was blessed to know as community leaders, battling difficult odds to make their communities better. They do more than I could imagine, and it was a joy to be able to help them accomplish their goals.”

He has served on numerous civic, housing, and national boards including currently Fannie Mae's, was appointed by congress to the Millennial Housing Commission from 2000 – 2002, and has and continues to serve on environmental, housing, and social service nonprofit boards. Among other honors, he is the recipient of the Urban Land Institute's Visionary Leadership Award, the National Housing Conference's National Housing Person of 2008, and is in the Affordable Housing Hall of Fame.

He and his wife, architect Janet Marie Smith, have three children and live in Baltimore.

Donald Hinkle-Brown

President and Chief Executive Officer, The Reinvestment Fund

As president and chief executive officer, Don Hinkle-Brown leads a staff of 80 highly skilled lenders, researchers, developers and other professionals at The Reinvestment Fund, a national leader in rebuilding America's distressed towns and cities through the innovative use of capital and information. With over 20 years of experience in the CDFI industry, Hinkle-Brown is widely recognized as an expert in developing new programmatic initiatives, raising capital and creating new products to meet market demand.

Hinkle-Brown previously served as president of Community Investments and Capitals Markets at TRF, leading TRF lending during a tenure where it lent or invested over \$1 billion. Hinkle-Brown has also provided his underwriting and capitalization expertise to many community development loan funds and organizations, including the Hope Enterprise Corporation, Opportunity Finance Network, LIIF and as adjunct faculty at the Center for Urban Redevelopment Excellence at University of Pennsylvania and University of New Orleans. He serves as Community Development Trust's founding board member and until recently was on the board of Housing Partnership Network and its affiliated CDFI.

Hinkle-Brown served as adjunct faculty at Temple University's Geography and Urban Studies program and the University of Pennsylvania's City Planning department. He holds an M.B.A. from the Fox School at Temple University in Real Estate and Urban Planning as well as a B.A. in Economics.

Amy Liu

Senior Fellow and Co-Director, Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program

Amy Liu is a senior fellow, and co-director of the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program. She and Bruce Katz, the Institution's vice president, launched the program in 1996 to provide decision-makers with the latest trends analyses, policy ideas, and on-the-ground practices to help metropolitan areas, compete and prosper. Over the years, she has worked directly with neighborhood, city, suburban, and rural leaders within metropolitan areas; and government, business and civic leaders at the regional, state, and national level to address the most pressing challenges and opportunities facing our communities.

Liu is a frequent speaker on ways to advance U.S. economic competitiveness by harnessing the unique assets of regional economies. She particularly focuses on the importance of strengthening industry clusters, innovation, skills, and exports and trade to excel in the global economy.

Liu is leading a “practice” effort at Brookings to help civic, political and business leaders in metro areas adopt intentional, market-oriented strategies for growth, including the role of state and federal policies to align with those strategies. She is also advancing a Global Cities Initiative to help U.S. and international cities, with their state partners, act on their roles as engines of the global economy.

Liu has authored a number of Brookings publications, including “Establish a Regional Export Accelerator Challenge (REACH) Grant Program to Boost U.S. Exports and Trade Capacity,” “Ten Steps to Delivering a Successful Metro Export Plan,” and “Delivering the Next Economy: The States Step Up.” Her opeds and commentary have appeared in the New York Times, Reuters, and the Huffington Post. She is also an expert on the rebuilding efforts in greater New Orleans and southern Louisiana post Hurricane Katrina. She is often cited for her co-authorship of the “The New Orleans Index at Five.”

Joel Miranda

Director of Leadership Development and Graduate Leadership, YouthBuild USA

Joel Miranda is the director of Leadership Development and Graduate Leadership at YouthBuild USA. As the first YouthBuild graduate to serve in a director’s role at YouthBuild USA, Miranda leads efforts to help deepen the practice of Leadership Development at local YouthBuild programs, overseeing the development of YouthBuild’s graduate leadership work, and helping to move the impact of YouthBuild’s leadership work deeper into the wider world. Prior to joining YouthBuild USA, Miranda worked at the grassroots level as a mentor, case manager, and lastly deputy director at the YouthBuild Just A Start Chelsea/Cambridge program.

Miranda sits on the board of directors for Just A Start Corporation, a non-profit housing development, homelessness prevention, and education and training provider to adults and young people in the Massachusetts cities of Cambridge, Chelsea, and Somerville. He was a 2012-2013 community fellow at Boston University School of Management’s Institute for Non-Profit Management and Leadership and a graduate of the 2014 American Express Leadership Academy for emerging non-profit leaders.

In addition to his work and community roles, Miranda serves as a steering committee member on the My Brother’s Keeper Youth Table, is a steering group member of the America’s Promise Alliance Caring Adults Initiative, and serves as an advisor to the National Council of Young Leaders and the newly organized Opportunity Youth United (OYU) movement. His thoughts and life stories have been highlighted in the Huffington Post and he’s been a featured speaker at the Tufts University John M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service Frontiers of Democracy gathering, and at various U.S. Department of Labor convenings where he shares how youth leadership development, love, and opportunity can help young people transform their lives and their communities.

Miranda lives in Revere, Massachusetts with his wife Mellie Sanchez.

Michael D. Smith

Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director of Cabinet Affairs for
'My Brother's Keeper'

Michael Smith is special assistant to the president and senior director of Cabinet Affairs for My Brother's Keeper at the White House. In this role he manages the president's initiative to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color and ensure that all young people can reach their full potential.

Prior to joining the White House team, Smith served as director of the Social Innovation Fund (SIF), a key White House initiative and program of the Corporation for National and Community Service that combines federal and private investment to help scale and replicate evidence-based solutions to complex social challenges. Before joining the Obama Administration, Smith served as senior vice president of Social Innovation at the Case Foundation, where he oversaw the Foundation's giving and program strategy, and guided numerous sector-building initiatives and public-private partnerships, such as the Startup America Partnership.

Prior to the Case Foundation, Smith helped build national initiatives aimed at bridging the "digital divide" at the Beaumont Foundation of America and PowerUP, served as a senior program and communications staff member at the Family Center Boys & Girls Club in Springfield, MA, was an aide to U.S. Congressman Richard E. Neal and received a B.A. in Communications from Marymount University. Smith also served for many years on the boards of Philanthropy for Active Civic Engagement (PACE), Idealist.org and Public Allies prior to his government service.

Jennifer Vey

Fellow, Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program

Jennifer S. Vey is a fellow at the Brookings Institution whose work primarily focuses on the competitiveness and quality of life of cities and metros in the next economy.

She is the author of "Building from Strength: Creating Opportunity in Greater Baltimore's Next Economy," "Restoring Prosperity: The State Role in Revitalizing America's Older Industrial Cities," "Organizing for Success: A Call to Action for the Kansas City Region," and "Higher Education in Pennsylvania: A Competitive Asset for Communities." She has co-authored several other Brookings publications, including "Recapturing Land for Economic and Fiscal Growth," "The Next Economy: Economic Recovery and Transformation in the Great Lakes Region," "Back to Prosperity: A Competitive Agenda for Renewing Pennsylvania," "Seizing City Assets: Ten Steps to Urban Land Reform," and others.

Jennifer also co-edited Retooling for Growth: Building a 21st Century Economy in America's Older Industrial Areas, published by the American Assembly and Brookings Institution Press.

Prior to joining Brookings in June, 2001, Jennifer was a Community Planning and Development Specialist at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, where she assisted urban Empowerment Zones in implementing their strategic plans. She earned a Master of Planning degree from the University of Virginia in 1997, and holds a B.A. in Geography from Bucknell University. She lives with her family in Baltimore.