



Community Colleges since the Great Recession

Speaker Biographies

David Baime is senior vice president for government relations and policy analysis for the American Association of Community Colleges. He directs the national advocacy efforts for the nation's 1,200 community colleges and their students. Previously, he was director of education funding for the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. Baime has also been assistant director of government relations for the Association of American Medical Colleges. He has appeared on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, C-SPAN, and NPR and is frequently quoted in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Inside Higher Education*, *Education Week*, and other education publications. He is the author of several published articles and essays and has cowritten a book on community college finance. Baime holds a bachelor's degree from Haverford College and a master's degree in economics from the London School of Economics.

Sandy Baum is a senior fellow in the Income and Benefits Policy Center at the Urban Institute and professor emerita of economics at Skidmore College. An expert on higher education finance, she speaks and writes extensively about issues relating to college access, college pricing, student aid policy, student debt, and affordability. Since 2002, Baum has coauthored the College Board's annual publications *Trends in Student Aid* and *Trends in College Pricing*. She is a member of the board of the National Student Clearinghouse and has chaired major study groups through the College Board and the Brookings Institution, developing proposals for reforming federal and state student aid. Baum's articles on higher education finance have been published in professional journals, books, and the trade press. Her recent work includes studies of how behavioral economics can inform student aid policy, a meaningful definition of college affordability, tuition and financial aid strategies for broad-access public institutions, and the National Science Foundation-funded *Educational Attainment: Understanding the Data*. Baum's book *Student Debt: Rhetoric and Realities of Higher Education Financing* was published by Palgrave-Macmillan in 2016. Baum earned her BA in sociology from Bryn Mawr College, where she serves on the board of trustees, and earned her PhD in economics from Columbia University.

Lauren Eyster is a senior research associate in the Income and Benefits Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where her research focuses on innovative workforce development programs and how best to evaluate and learn from them. Most recently, Eyster has examined industry-focused job training and career pathway initiatives implemented through the workforce investment system and at community colleges. She studies how these programs can best provide education and training to different groups, such as laid-off workers, youths, low-income people, and older workers. She also researches how systems and stakeholders can collaborate to help these people find and retain jobs. Eyster holds an MPP from the Johns Hopkins University.



Daniel Phelan is president and chief executive officer of Jackson College. He is also chairman of the board of directors for the American Association of Community Colleges and serves on its advocacy advisory group, finance committee, and joint executive committee with the Association of Community College Trustees. He is also chair-elect of the Higher Education Research and Development Institute and chair-elect of the Enterprise Group of Jackson County. Additionally, Phelan serves on the board for the Center for Community College Student Engagement and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and he is a founding board member for the international organization US-Brazil Connect. He is a regular national presenter and an author of numerous professional articles, monographs, and essays. His new book, *Unrelenting Change, Innovation, and Risk: Forging the Next Generation of Community Colleges*, was published in 2016 by Rowman and Littlefield. Phelan's discipline is business administration and higher education administration. He holds a BA in business administration and an AA in liberal arts from Mount St. Clare College, an MBA from St. Ambrose University, and a PhD in higher education administration from Iowa State University.

Margery Austin Turner is senior vice president for program planning and management at the Urban Institute, where she leads efforts to frame and conduct a forward-looking agenda of policy research. A nationally recognized expert on urban policy and neighborhood issues, Turner has analyzed residential location, racial and ethnic discrimination and its contribution to neighborhood segregation and inequality, and the role of housing policies in promoting residential mobility and location choice. Among her recent publications is the book *Public Housing and the Legacy of Segregation*. Before joining Urban, Turner was deputy assistant secretary for research at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from 1993 through 1996, focusing HUD's research agenda on the problems of racial discrimination, concentrated poverty, and economic opportunity in America's metropolitan areas. During her tenure, HUD's research office launched three major social science demonstration projects to test different strategies for helping families from distressed inner-city neighborhoods gain access to opportunities through employment and education. Turner has a BA in political science from Cornell University and an MA in urban and regional planning from the George Washington University.

David Wessel is a senior fellow in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution and director of the Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy, the mission of which is to improve the quality of fiscal and monetary policies and public understanding of them. He joined Brookings in 2013 after 30 years on the staff of the *Wall Street Journal*, where, most recently, he was economics editor and wrote the weekly Capital column. He is a contributing correspondent to the *Wall Street Journal* and appears frequently on NPR's *Morning Edition*. Wessel is the author of two *New York Times* best-sellers: *In Fed We Trust: Ben Bernanke's War on the Great Panic* (2009) and *Red Ink: Inside the High Stakes Politics of the Federal Budget* (2012). He has also shared two Pulitzer Prizes: one in 1984 for a *Boston Globe* series on the persistence of racism in Boston and one in 2003 for *Wall Street Journal* stories on corporate scandals. Wessel is a member of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Data Users Advisory Committee. He teaches in the Dartmouth Tuck School of Business Global 2030 executive education program and has been a visiting journalism professor at Princeton University. Wessel is a graduate of Haverford College. He was a Knight-Bagehot fellow in business and economics journalism at Columbia University in 1980–81.