

Biographical Information/Titles/Affiliations for the Paying for America Panelists

Robert Bixby, Executive Director The Concord Coalition

Robert L. Bixby is Executive Director of The Concord Coalition, a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to fiscal responsibility.

The Concord Coalition was founded in 1992 by former U.S. Senators Warren B. Rudman (R-NH) and the late Paul Tsongas (D-MA). Former Senator Bob Kerrey (D-NE) now serves as Co-Chair of the organization.

Mr. Bixby was named Executive Director of the Concord Coalition in 1999, after serving as the organization's Policy Director, National Field Director, and in other capacities since 1992. He frequently represents Concord's views on budget and entitlement reform policy at congressional hearings and in the national media.

Mr. Bixby has a bachelor's degree in political science from American University in Washington, D.C., a juris doctorate from George Mason University School of Law in Arlington, Va., and a master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Prior to his work with the Concord Coalition Mr. Bixby practiced law and served as the Chief Staff Attorney of the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

<http://www.concordcoalition.org/about-us/national-staff/bbixby>

Isabel V. Sawhill, Senior Fellow in Economic Studies and Director, Budgeting for National Priorities The Brookings Institution

Isabel V. Sawhill is a senior fellow in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution. She serves as director of the Budgeting for National Priorities project and co-director of the Center on Children and Families. She holds the Cabot Family Chair. She served as Vice President and Director of the Economic Studies program from 2003 to 2006.

Prior to joining Brookings, Dr. Sawhill was a senior fellow at The Urban Institute. She also served as an associate director at the Office of Management and Budget from 1993 to 1995, where her responsibilities included all of the human resource programs of the federal government, accounting for one third of the federal budget.

In addition, she has authored or edited numerous books and articles including *Creating an Opportunity Society* with Ron Haskins; *Restoring Fiscal Sanity 2005: Meeting the Long-Run Challenge* and *Restoring Fiscal Sanity: How to Balance the Budget*, both with Alice Rivlin; *One Percent for the Kids: New Policies, Brighter Futures for America's Children*; *Welfare Reform and Beyond: The Future of the Safety Net*; *Updating America's Social Contract: Economic Growth and Opportunity in the New Century*; *Getting Ahead: Economic and Social Mobility in*

America; and *Challenge to Leadership: Economic and Social Issues for the Next Decade*. Her research has spanned a wide array of economic and social issues, including fiscal policy, economic growth, poverty and inequality, welfare reform, the well-being of children, and changes in the family.

Dr. Sawhill helped to found, and now serves as President of the board of, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a nonprofit organization devoted to reducing teen pregnancy in the United States. She has been a Visiting Professor at Georgetown Law School, Director of the National Commission for Employment Policy, and President of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. She also serves on a number of boards. She attended Wellesley College and received her Ph.D. from New York University in 1968.

<http://www.brookings.edu/experts/sawhilli.aspx>

**Brian M. Riedl, Senior Policy Analyst
The Heritage Foundation**

Brian Riedl is The Heritage Foundation's lead budget analyst and has built a solid reputation for interpreting, explaining and reforming the often arcane realm of federal budget policy.

Indeed, much of the current backlash against runaway federal spending can be attributed to Riedl's work. As far back as 2002 and 2003, his writings exposed the beginnings of a federal spending spree that was pushing real federal spending to more than \$20,000 per household for the first time since World War II.

In December 2003, Riedl – Heritage's Grover M. Hermann Fellow in Budgetary Affairs – quickly revealed the omnibus spending bill's 8,000 pork projects, including funding for the Please Touch Museum and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

In 2006, the Senate increased President George W. Bush's war funding bill with \$14 billion in unrelated domestic spending. Riedl's writings exposing this irresponsible spending, including Mississippi's "railroad to nowhere" received extensive media coverage, and the ensuing public backlash forced Congress to strip the \$14 billion from the bill.

Riedl's budget research has been featured in front-page stories and editorials in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post* and *The Los Angeles Times*. He has discussed budget policy on NBC, CBS, PBS, CNN, FOX News, MSNBC, and C-SPAN. He also participates in the bipartisan "Fiscal Wake-Up Tour," which holds town hall meetings across America focusing on the looming crisis in Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

In addition to overall spending trends, Riedl targeted the 2002 farm bill, which distributed most of its \$180 billion bounty to wealthy agri-businesses. In an op-ed essay published in dozens of newspapers nationwide, Riedl noted that "farm subsidies are America's largest and most expensive corporate welfare program." So effective were his criticisms that, weeks after the farm bill was enacted, the U.S. Agriculture Department felt it necessary to publish a 12-page report that tried to address many of the concerns Riedl had raised.

Riedl also contributes to Heritage's welfare research. In an op-ed published in *The Washington Post*, Riedl wrote that "Welfare recipients assigned to immediate work see their earnings increase more than twice as fast over the following five years as those first placed in education-based programs." In another study, he debunked the myth of a child care crisis by showing that funding has more than tripled since 1996, leaving very few truly needy families without access to child care assistance.

Before coming to Heritage in 2001, Riedl worked for then-Gov. Tommy Thompson, former Rep. Mark Green (R-WI), and the Speaker of the Wisconsin Assembly. Riedl holds a bachelor's degree in economics and political science from the University of Wisconsin, and a master's degree in public affairs from Princeton University.

<http://www.heritage.org/about/staff/BrianRiedl.cfm>

**Joseph J. Minarik, Senior Vice President and Director of Research
Committee for Economic Development**

Dr. Minarik leads CED's policy research projects on issues including economy and the federal budget, globalization, trade, early childhood education, campaign finance reform, and health care.

From 1981 to 1986, Dr. Minarik worked closely with Congressional Democrats, including Senator Bill Bradley, on efforts to reform the federal income tax. Dr. Minarik published *Making Tax Choices* (Urban Institute Press, 1985) and many articles on this issue, testified before the Congress on numerous occasions, served on the faculty of the two retreats of the House Ways & Means Committee, and worked informally with policymakers on the evolution of the legislation.

In 1991-92, Dr. Minarik served as executive director for policy and chief economist of the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives under Chairman Leon E. Panetta. When Chairman Panetta was nominated as Director of the Office of Management and Budget in 1993, Dr. Minarik became OMB's associate director for economic policy. He worked on the formulation and adoption of President Bill Clinton's 1993 economic program. When the Federal budget became a leading issue in 1995-96, Dr. Minarik worked with then-White House Chief of Staff Panetta and new OMB Director Alice M. Rivlin to formulate the Administration's program to eliminate the budget deficit, which evolved into the bipartisan Balanced Budget Act of 1997. From 2001-05 he served as policy director and chief economist for the House Budget Committee. He joined CED in 2005

Dr. Minarik received three graduate degrees in economics from Yale University, earning his Ph.D. in 1974. He has a B.A. in economics from Georgetown University.

<http://www.ced.org/experts/researchers>

**William Gale, Co-Director, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center
The Brookings Institution**

William Gale is the Arjay and Frances Miller Chair in Federal Economic Policy in the Economic Studies Program at Brookings. His research focuses on tax policy, fiscal policy, pensions and saving behavior. He is co-director of the Tax Policy Center, a joint venture of the Brookings Institution and the Urban Institute. He is also director of the Retirement Security Project, an initiative supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts, in partnership with Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute and Brookings.

From 2006 to 2009, he served as a Vice President Brookings and Director of the Economic Studies Program.

Prior to joining Brookings in 1992, he was an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a senior staff economist for the Council of Economic Advisers under President George H.W. Bush.

He is the co-editor of several books, including *Automatic: Changing the Way America Saves* (Brookings 2009); *Aging Gracefully: Ideas to Improve Retirement Security in America* (Century Foundation, 2006); *The Evolving Pension System: Trends, Effects, and Proposals for Reform* (Brookings, 2005); *Private Pensions and Public Policy* (Brookings, 2004); *Rethinking Estate and Gift Taxation* (Brookings, 2001), and *Economic Effects of Fundamental Tax Reform* (Brookings, 1996).

His research has been published in several scholarly journals, including the *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Political Economy*, and *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. He has also written extensively in policy-related publications and newspapers.

Gale has served on advisory boards for the Government Accountability Office, the Internal Revenue Service, the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Board of the Center on Federal Financial Institutions and on editorial boards for several academic journals.

Gale attended Duke University and the London School of Economics and received his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1987.

<http://www.brookings.edu/experts/galew.aspx>

**Diane Lim Rogers, Chief Economist
The Concord Coalition**

Diane Lim Rogers joined the Concord Coalition in April 2008 as the organization's first Chief Economist as well as their first "blogger" (EconomistMom.com). At Concord she writes issue briefs, gives speeches, and provides general expertise on the economic effects of federal budget and tax policy. She was previously Chief Economist for the House Budget Committee from January 2007 to April 2008, where she served Chairman John Spratt and other Democratic

members of the Committee. In 2006 she was Research Director of the Budgeting for National Priorities project at the Brookings Institution. While at Brookings she published several opinion pieces emphasizing the importance of fiscal responsibility and a paper on “Reducing the Deficit through Better Tax Policy,” and she also participated in the Concord Coalition’s “Fiscal Wake-Up Tour.”

From 2004 to 2006 Dr. Rogers served as Chief Economist for the House Ways and Means Committee Democrats, and prior to that was a Principal Economist covering tax and budget policies for the Joint Economic Committee Democrats. She was a Senior Economist on the staff of the Council of Economic Advisers during the last year of the Clinton Administration and first 100 days of the Bush Administration, and in President Clinton’s final Economic Report of the President (2001) drafted the sections extolling the merits of fiscal discipline. Dr. Rogers has also worked at the Urban Institute and the Congressional Budget Office, and was Assistant Professor of Economics at Penn State University.

Throughout her career, Dr. Rogers’ research has focused on the behavioral, distributional, and macroeconomic effects of U.S. fiscal policies. She continues to teach as an Adjunct Professor for the School of Public Policy and Public Administration at George Washington University.

Dr. Rogers received her B.A. in Economics from the University of Michigan in 1983, her M.A. from Brown University in 1984, and her Ph.D. from the University of Virginia in 1991. But more notably, she is the proud mother of four—three daughters and a son.

<http://www.concordcoalition.org/about-us/national-staff/drogers>

Donald Marron
Georgetown University’s Public Policy Institute
Marron Economics, LLC

From Mr. Marron’s Blog: I am spending the 2009-2010 academic year as a visiting professor at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute in Washington DC, where I will teach microeconomics and public finance.

I am also president of Marron Economics, LLC, through which I do consulting and public speaking on economic, budget, and financial issues.

And, of course, I write the economics and finance blog: dmarron.com.

From 2002 to early 2009, I served in various senior positions in the White House and Congress including:

- Member of the President’s Council of Economic Advisers (CEA)
- Acting Director of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO)
- Executive Director of Congress’s Joint Economic Committee (JEC)

In short, I’ve been blessed to serve at some of the best acronyms in government.

Before my government service, I had a varied career as a professor, consultant, and entrepreneur. In the mid-1990s, I taught economics and finance at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. I then spent about a year-and-a-half managing large antitrust cases (e.g., Pepsi vs. Coke) at Charles River Associates in Washington, DC. After that, I took the plunge into the world of new ventures, serving as Chief Financial Officer of a health care software start-up in Austin, TX. After that fascinating experience, I started my career in public service.

I received my Ph.D. in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and my B.A. in Mathematics a couple miles down the road at Harvard.

My wife Esther and I love nature and travel. For glimpses of our recent adventures, please click on over to donaldandesther.blogspot.com.

<http://dmarron.com/about/>

**The Hon. David M. Walker, President and CEO
Peter G. Peterson Foundation**

As President and CEO of the Foundation, Dave is now free to do what he wasn't able to do while running the Government Accountability Office: advocate for specific solutions, work proactively with grantees and other partners to build strong coalitions, and encourage and engage in grassroots efforts to bring pressure on Washington to act.

As Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) from 1998 to 2008, spanning both Democratic and Republican administrations, Dave served as the federal government's chief auditor. Appointed by President Bill Clinton and confirmed unanimously by the US Senate, he was an outspoken, nonpartisan advocate for addressing the major fiscal and other sustainability challenges facing the country. He also enacted transformational reforms at the agency and within the accountability profession.

Prior to his appointment to run the GAO, Dave served as a partner and global managing director of Arthur Andersen LLP and in several government leadership positions, including as a Public Trustee for Social Security and Medicare from 1990 to 1995 and as Assistant Secretary of Labor for Pension and Welfare Benefit Programs during the Reagan administration.

Although no longer the US government's chief auditor, Dave continues to serve as a global accountability expert as chairman of the United Nations Independent Audit Advisory Committee. He also serves on the boards of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget and the Partnership for Public Service. He has authored two books, is a regular commentator, and is the subject of the critically acclaimed documentary *I.O.U.S.A.*, which arrives in theatres around the country in August 2008.

Dave holds a B.S. in accounting from Jacksonville University, a Senior Management in Government Certificate in public policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and several honorary doctorate degrees. He has won numerous leadership and other

awards during his career. He and his wife Mary live in Alexandria, VA and have two children and three grandchildren.

<http://www.pgpf.org/about/leadership/dmw/>

**David D. Burstein, Executive Director and Founder
18 in 08**

David, 19, is the Director and Producer of “18 in ‘08.” The film aimed is the product of two years traveling the country, interviewing over 60 Congressmen, Senators, presidential candidates, policy makers, activists...young and old. David has devoted much of his time, efforts, and energy throughout his life to youth empowerment and political involvement. In 2003, David worked with a group of fellow students to create the highly successful Westport Youth Film Festival. The festival has since become the world’s premiere film festival run by high school students for high school students, for which David served as Director until leaving high school. In May of 2005, David was appointed to serve on the Weston Commission for Children and Youth, responsible for advising the Town of Weston on issues and activities related to students and children. David has also done extensive work with local civic and community based boards and organizations in Connecticut and New York. He has also won numerous awards for his work in fiction and journalistic writing as well as theater arts. He is a student at Haverford College in Pennsylvania. “18 in ‘08” is David’s directorial debut. He resides in Weston, Connecticut.

<http://www.18in08.com/>

**Heidi Gantwerk, Vice President
Viewpoint Learning**

Heidi Gantwerk is Vice President of Viewpoint Learning where she leads work in civic engagement and public policy research, bringing a background in community relations and media production combined with experience as a foundation program officer. Heidi has designed and directed numerous national and local civic and stakeholder engagement projects on a wide range of complex issues including healthcare reform, federal and local finances, land use and housing development, infrastructure, U.S.-Muslim relations, education, governance reform and caring for the elderly.

Recognized as a leader in the field of public dialogue, Heidi is often asked to speak about the critical role of public engagement in breaking through gridlock on complex, value-laden public policy issues. Since joining Viewpoint Learning in 2002, Heidi has built on her media background to produce videos demonstrating the power of public dialogue on a diverse set of topics, and spearheaded the addition of online dialogue to Viewpoint Learning’s array of methods for engaging the public and stakeholders on tough issues. Heidi runs the La Jolla office of Viewpoint Learning and manages the firm’s research, analysis and communications operations.

Prior to joining Viewpoint Learning, Heidi's career focused on building bridges between communities, including serving as a liaison between local communities and network television, and creating innovative educational opportunities for inner-city schoolchildren. She served as director of youth programs at Price Charities, and as director of community relations for San Diego's NBC owned and operated station.

Heidi holds a B.A. in psychology from Yale University. She lives in San Diego with her husband and three sons. When not facilitating conversations about complex public policy issues, Heidi can often be found behind a microphone, as a singer performing R&B, jazz and modern Jewish music.

<http://www.viewpointlearning.com/about/gantwerk.shtml>

**Martin V. Serna, Deputy Executive Director
Concerned Youth of America**

Martin Serna is Deputy Executive Director and co-founder of Concerned Youth of America. CYA is a nonpartisan, student-run, grassroots 501(c)3 organization dedicated to educating the nation's youth about the exploding national debt and its implications for young Americans. In the last two years, leaders and volunteers of CYA have spoken to high schools and colleges all over the country, educating and exciting young people while establishing numerous chapters. CYA's media appearances include TV interviews and interest pieces on CNN, MSNBC and MTV, and a feature in the critically acclaimed documentary "I.O.U.S.A.," alongside Robert Rubin, David Walker, Warren Buffett and others.

Martin is a student at Yale College in New Haven, Connecticut, where he is majoring in Economics. He is a member of Timothy Dwight College, Yale's finest residential college, and active in St. Thomas More Catholic Chapel at Yale. During the last few summers, Martin has interned with the House Ways & Means Committee at the Massachusetts State House, Yale University Office of Development, and the Boston Stock Exchange.

Prior to matriculating at Yale, Martin graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. Martin played defensive tackle for the Varsity Football Team and threw shotput for the Varsity Track & Field Team. He was the President of the Catholic Student Fellowship, Publisher of the campus multicultural magazine, and Managing Director of the Andover Economics Society. Martin resides in Andover, Massachusetts.

<http://www.cyamerica.org/leadership.aspx>

**Patrick Creadon, Director of IOUSA
O'Malley Creadon Productions**

Patrick Creadon (Director) was born in Chicago and is a 1989 graduate of the University of Notre Dame. He began his career as one of the youngest cameramen in the history of PBS, shooting and producing cinema-verite style stories for the critically acclaimed series "THE 90's".

He earned his Master's Degree in Cinematography at the American Film Institute, where his thesis film (on which he served as Director of Photography) was nominated for a student Academy Award. As a cameraman his work has appeared on every major network, including NBC, CBS, ABC, MTV, VH1, and ESPN. He has also done work for Paramount Pictures, Warner Brothers, Sony, Universal Studios, and Disney.

Wordplay, Creadon's feature-length directorial debut, is a documentary film about *The New York Times* crossword editor and National Public Radio personality Will Shortz. *Wordplay* became only the fourth documentary ever to be awarded the "Golden Tomato" from Rottentomatoes.com for "Best Reviewed Documentary of The Year." Previous winners of this award were *Spellbound*, *Supersize Me* and *March Of The Penguins*.

Christine O'Malley and Patrick Creadon are married and have three young daughters. They currently live in Los Feliz, CA.

<http://www.iouasathemovie.com/about/>