

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

ELLIOT K. WICKS is an economist and policy researcher with more than 25 years experience analyzing health policy issues. He is a senior fellow at the Economic and Social Research Institute in Washington, D.C., a non-profit research group that specializes in health and social policy research. He is also a senior consultant with Health Management Associates, a Michigan-based consulting firm. Dr. Wicks specializes in analysis of policy reforms to help bring affordable health coverage to more Americans, especially workers in small firms. He has extensive knowledge of arrangements of pooled purchasing of health coverage and recently directed a project to investigate the barriers to the success of health purchasing cooperatives. Other recent research includes studies of small-group market reform, including an analysis commissioned by the State of Maryland legislature, and analyses of employers' and consumers' use of health plan report cards. He is currently working on a major project sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to develop comprehensive reform strategies to move toward universal health coverage, and as part of that project, he edited *Covering America: Real Remedies for the Uninsured, Volumes 1 and 2*, compilations of 13 major proposals for comprehensive reform written by nationally known health analysts and researchers. Dr. Wicks is the author of numerous articles and monographs on subjects related to health care financing and delivery. Dr. Wicks has worked for health care consulting firms, policy research institutes, a trade association, and state government, and he was formerly a faculty member at Michigan State University. He has a Ph. D. in Economics and Social Policy from Syracuse University and an M.A. in Economics from Northwestern University.

LEN NICHOLS joined the Center for Studying Health System Change as vice president in October of 2001. He provides leadership in shaping the research of the Center to inform the policy process in a timely and nonpartisan way, in addition to continuing his own research agenda related to private health insurance and health care markets. He continues to study the decisions of employers to offer health insurance, of workers to buy insurance, of health plans to use managed care techniques, of physicians to practice in certain ways, of nurses to work in certain settings, and of patients to use care in particular circumstances, all within environments and contexts defined by federal, state, and local policy makers. He has published and spoken widely on a range of health policy topics. He recently served as a member of the Competitive Pricing Advisory Commission (CPAC) for the Medicare program, and as a member of the Technical Review Panel for the Medicare Trustees Reports. During the first two years of the Clinton Administration, Len was the senior advisor for health policy at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). He managed and coordinated cost and revenue estimation for President Clinton's Health Security Act (HSA) and its congressional successors. He was part of the staff of the original Health Care Task Force, and he worked throughout 1993 on policy development for the HSA, with primary responsibility for the HSA cost and revenue estimates that went into the fiscal year 1995 budget submission to Congress. During 1994 he was part of a small team that provided technical policy development support for the White House and for congressional committees and leadership. He was the lead administration analyst for coordinating estimation methodology with the Congressional Budget Office. After OMB, Len was a Principle Research Associate at the Urban Institute until 2001. Prior to OMB, Dr. Nichols was a visiting Public Health Service Fellow at the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research during 1991-1992, and prior to that he was an Associate Professor and Economics Department Chair at Wellesley College, where he taught from 1980-1991.

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TOM MILLER focuses on restoring individual choice, control and responsibility to the U.S. health care system. He directs a research program that emphasizes expanded health care financing and purchasing options. Specific areas of study include defined contribution alternatives for individuals covered by employer-sponsored health plans, Medical Savings Accounts, restructuring Medicare to increase private insurance options, and reducing the burden of health services regulation. His writing has been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Reader's Digest*, *Reason*, *The American Spectator*, and *Health Affairs*. He is a contributing editor for *HealthCare News* and appears regularly as a panelist on the "Doc in the House" show on WMAL-AM in Washington. Before joining Cato, Miller spent 14 years at the Competitive Enterprise Institute as director of economic policy studies and as a senior policy analyst. He previously was a trial attorney, a radio broadcaster (including several seasons as play-by-play voice of the Davidson Wildcats basketball team), and a journalist. Miller holds a bachelor's degree in political science from New York University and a law degree from Duke University.

ROBERT B. HELMS is a resident scholar and director of health policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute. He has written and lectured extensively on health policy, health economics, and pharmaceutical economic issues. Mr. Helms currently participates in the Consensus Group, an informal task force that supports market-oriented health reform concepts. He is currently a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Children, Health Insurance, and Access to Care. From 1981 to 1989, he served as assistant secretary for planning and evaluation and deputy assistant secretary for health policy in the Department of Health and Human Services. Mr. Helms is also the editor of four recent AEI publications on health policy and reform, health care politics, and strategies in the pharmaceutical industry. He holds a Ph.D. degree in economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

UWE E. REINHARDT, a native of Germany, has taught at Princeton University since 1968, rising through the ranks from assistant professor of economics to his current positions. In 1978, Professor Reinhardt was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, on whose Governing Council he served from 1979 to 1982. He currently serves on the Institute's Committee on Technical Innovation in Medicine and on the Committee on the Implications of a Physician Surplus. During 1987-90, Professor Reinhardt was a member of the National Leadership Commission on Health Care, a private sector initiative established to develop options for health care reform and he continues to serve on that body's successor, the National Leadership Coalition on Health Care, co-chaired by former Presidents Carter and Ford. He is past president of the Association of Health Services Research on whose board he still serves. He is also past president of the Foundation for Health Services Research. Currently he serves as a trustee of the Duke University Health System. Professor Reinhardt has been a consultant to the United States Congress and the World Bank. In July 1997 he was appointed a member of the World Bank External Advisory Panel for Health, Nutrition and Population. Professor Reinhardt was or is a member of numerous editorial boards, among them *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, *The Journal of Health Economics*, the *Milbank Memorial Quarterly*, and *Health Affairs*.