The 2012 Mortimer Caplin Conference on the World Economy:
“High-Skilled Immigration: Politics, Economics and Law”

Panelist Biographies

Panel One: Countries in Competition: How Have Receiving Countries Worked to Attract the Highly Skilled?

Edward Schumacher-Matos, Moderator, is Director of Harvard University’s Migration and Integration Research Program and a syndicated columnist for the Washington Post Writers Group. He was previously the founding editor and associate publisher of The Wall Street Journal Americas, and a bureau chief for The New York Times in Buenos Aires and Madrid.

Gary P. Freeman is chair of the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin and serves as co-director of its European Union Center of Excellence. He is editor (with Terri Givens and David Leal) of Immigration Policy and Security, and editor (with David Leal and Randall Hansen) of Immigration and Public Opinion in Liberal Democracies.

Giovanni Facchini is a professor of macroeconomics at the Erasmus School of Economics. He also is a research affiliate at the Center for Economic Policy Research in London, a research fellow at the CES-Ifo institute in Munich, and at IZA in Bonn, and the coordinator of the International Migration Program at the Centro Studi Luca d’Agliano in Turin.

Susan Martin is the Donald G. Herzberg Associate Professor of International Migration and executive director of the Institute for the Study of International Migration in the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She joined Georgetown from the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform, where she served as executive director.
Panel Two: Highly-Skilled Immigration: Contributions and Controversy

B. Lindsay Lowell, Moderator, is director of policy studies at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University. Previously, he served as director of research at the congressionally-appointed Commission on Immigration Reform, where he was also assistant director for the Mexico-U.S. Binational Study on Migration.

Peter H. Schuck is Simeon E. Baldwin Professor of Law Emeritus at Yale University, a position that he has held since 1984. Previously, he was principal deputy assistant secretary for planning and evaluation in the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; director of the Washington Office of Consumers Union; and consultant to the Center for Study of Responsive Law.

Ron Hira is an associate professor of public policy at Rochester Institute of Technology, specializing in technological innovation, offshoring, high-skill immigration, and the U.S. engineering workforce. He is a research associate with the Economic Policy Institute and co-author of Outsourcing America, a finalist for best business book in the PMA’s Benjamin Franklin Awards.

Jennifer Hunt is professor of labor economics at Rutgers University and her current research focuses on immigration and innovation in the U.S. science and engineering workforce. She also is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a research fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research in London.

Panel 3: Admission, Persistence, and Retention of the Highly Skilled

Michael S. Teitelbaum is a Wertheim Fellow at Harvard Law School and a senior advisor at the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. He previously served as staff director of the House Select Committee on Population and vice chair and acting chair of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform.

Madeline Zavodny is a professor of economics at Agnes Scott College. She is also a research fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor in Bonn, Germany. Her recent research has focused on economic issues related to immigration, and she co-authored, with Pia Orrenius, Beside the Golden Door: U.S. Immigration Reform in a New Era of Globalization.

Michael G. Finn is an economist at the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, a U.S. Department of Energy facility operated by Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Finn served previously as director of studies and surveys at the National Research Council’s Office of Scientific and Engineering Personnel.

Keynote Roundtable: High-Skilled Immigration: Pathways to Progress


Teresa A. Sullivan is president of the University of Virginia (UVA) and a professor of sociology in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Her research focuses on labor force demography, with particular emphasis on economic marginality and consumer debt. Sullivan served previously as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Michigan and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs for the University of Texas System. She is the past chair of the U.S. Census Advisory Committee and past secretary of the American Sociological Association. She is the author or co-author of six books, including: “The Social Organization of Work,” with Randy Hodson, and “The Fragile Middle Class: Americans in Debt,” with Elizabeth Warren and Jay Lawrence Westbook.
Mark Warner has represented Virginia in the U.S. Senate since November 2008. He serves on the Senate Banking, Budget, Commerce and Intelligence committees and as co-chair of the Senate’s bipartisan India Caucus. While in office, Warner has focused significant attention on alleviating the nation’s debt and deficit problems through the Gang of Six and leadership of a bipartisan task force working to eliminate unnecessary program overlap and wasteful duplication within the federal bureaucracy. From 2002 to 2006, he was Governor of Virginia. Warner was an early investor in cellular phone technology as a co-founder of Nextel. In that capacity, and following the sale of Nextel, he has invested in hundreds of start-up technology companies that contributed to the creation of tens-of-thousands of private sector jobs.

Steve Case is chairman of the Case Foundation, an entrepreneur, and a leading voice in shaping government policy related to the internet. He chairs the Startup America Partnership, co-chairs the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and serves as a member of President Obama’s Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. In 2005, he launched Revolution, a company that seeks to drive transformative change by shifting power to consumers and building businesses that give people more choice, control, and convenience in important areas of their lives. Case co-founded America Online (AOL) in 1985 and then merged AOL and Time Warner in the largest merger in business history; following the merger in 2001, he served as chairman of AOL Time Warner.