2019 Student Forum
Speaker Biographies

Michael Doonan, PhD, Executive Director,
Massachusetts Health Policy Forum
Michael Doonan is an associate professor and Director for the Masters of Public Policy Program, Schneider Institute for Health Policy at The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University. He is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum. His Ph.D. from Brandeis is both in Political Science and Health Services Research. His research and publications focus on issues related to access to health care reform, federalism, Medicaid, federal/state relations, public health and the politics and economics of health system change. He speaks widely on state and national health care reform. He is author of American Federalism in Practice: The Formulation and Implementation of Contemporary Health Policy, published by the Brookings Institute Press in 2013.

Michael worked as program specialist for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in the area of Medicaid managed care and state health care reform. He served as a member of President Clinton’s Health Care Taskforce working primarily on the Low-Income and Working Families work group, and as a member of the Taskforce Speakers Bureau. Michael also worked as a fellow for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee as they considered national reform in 1994. He began his career as a legislative aide for Senator John Kerry where he worked on health and environmental issues.

Christie Hager, JD, MPH
Associate Vice Chancellor and Managing Director, University of Massachusetts Medical School—Commonwealth Medicine
Christie Hager, a public health lawyer, is an Associate Vice Chancellor and Managing Director of health law and policy research and evaluation at Commonwealth Medicine, the public service consulting and operations division of University of Massachusetts Medical School. She has spent most of her career in state and federal government service. She was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as the Regional Director of Region I of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where she oversaw the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in the six New England states from 2010-2014. Prior to her service in the Obama Administration, she was Chief Health Counsel to the Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives during the development, drafting, and first three years of implementation of the Massachusetts health reform law enacted in 2006. She also previously served in senior executive roles at Beacon Health Options, a national managed behavioral health organization, focusing largely on behavioral health and substance use disorder services for publicly insured populations. Christie’s first post-graduate position was Research Assistant to the editorial leadership at the New England Journal of Medicine, and since then she has held research and operations positions at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in the Division of Public Health Practice, and at the Schneider Institute for Health Policy at Brandeis University’s Heller School, where she was appointed the first Senior Fellow. She has served as Chair of the American Public Health Association’s Health Law Forum, President of the Massachusetts Public Health Association, and Co-Chair of the Health Law Section of the Boston Bar Association.

Christie has held appointments on the
faculties of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Suffolk University Law School. Her work has appeared in such publications as the New England Journal of Medicine, American Journal of Law and Medicine, and Journal of Legal Medicine.

Chris holds an A.B. from Smith College, a M.P.H. from the Boston University School of Public Health, and a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law.

Sarah Sabshon, Healthcare Policy Analyst, Office of House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo, Massachusetts State House
Sarah Sabshon serves as the Healthcare Policy Advisor for Massachusetts House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo. She previously served as Chief of Staff for State Representative Jeffrey Sánchez, during his appointment as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Sarah began her career at the State House as a research analyst for the Joint Committee on Public Health. In her various roles, she has worked on education and housing policy, and a variety of healthcare policy issues, including hospital financing and provider price variation, Medicaid managed care, opioid and substance use disorders, compounding pharmacy standards, violence prevention, women’s health, long-term care, and tobacco regulation. Before her time in the legislature, Sarah worked for several years in healthcare policy consulting. She is also a former ORISE Fellow at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sarah holds an MPH from Boston University School of Public Health and a BA with honors in Public Health and Creative Writing from Johns Hopkins University. She lives in Brookline with her husband and dog.

Michael Cannella, Esq., Legislative Director, Office of Senator James T. Welch, Massachusetts State House
Michael Evan Cannella is the Legislative Director and Counsel to Massachusetts State Senator James T. Welch, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Michael reviews and advises the Senator on healthcare legislation before the Committee and on other developments in state and federal healthcare policy. Michael is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts after graduating cum laude from Boston University Law School in 2014. He also received his MPH from Boston University School of Public Health in 2015 after serving as the Health Law and Bioethics Fellow. Upon completion of his MPH Michael was inducted into the Upsilon Phi Delta National Honor Society and was a recipient of the 2015 Allan R. Meyers Memorial Award for Excellence in Health Services. When not working on behalf of Senator Welch, Michael enjoys volunteering his time and skills. He serves as a community member on an Institutional Review Board at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and is a member of the Boston Bar Association’s Health Law Education Committee.

Philip W. Johnston, Chairman, Massachusetts Health Policy Forum
Philip W. Johnston is the President and Founder of Johnston Associates, LLC, a communications and public affairs consulting firm founded in 1996. Phil began his career by founding and serving as Executive Director of the Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps, one of the top juvenile justice and social services agencies in the country.

In 1984, Governor Michael S. Dukakis appointed Phil the Secretary of Health and
Human Services in Massachusetts. In 1991, Phil served as the Executive Director of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, in Washington, D.C. In 1992, he was appointed by President Clinton to serve as the New England Administrator of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He served in that role until 1996 when he became a Democratic candidate for the US Congress in the 10th District of Massachusetts.

In 2002, he was appointed to Chair the Board of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. He has served on many Boards including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, University of Massachusetts and Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights. Phil is the Board Chair of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum, an organization funded by Massachusetts health providers and payors, which serves both as a health policy research organization and as a convener of key players in the health field to address health policy issues confronting the state and the nation. The Forum is affiliated with Brandeis University.

Phil received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (Honors in History) and a Master of Arts degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Representative Denise Garlick, House Chair, Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, Massachusetts State House
Denise Garlick was elected to the House of Representatives in 2010, representing the 13th Norfolk District, composed of Needham, Dover and Medfield. She is a registered nurse with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Currently, she chairs the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery. She has previously served as the Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Education and on the Joint Committees on: Public Health, Healthcare Financing and Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Before serving in state government she was a member of a number of elected and appointed boards. Previously serving on Needham’s Board of Selectmen, she was responsible for municipal issues of education, public safety, public works and public health, and helped to manage a budget of more than $100 million. She also served as the Chair of the Needham Board of Health and as a Town Meeting Member. In 2006, Denise founded and chaired the Needham Coalition for Suicide Prevention, which continues its work today and serves as a model for communities across the United States. She also chaired the Needham Senior Center Exploratory Committees, which lead the charge in constructing a $8.2 million Senior Center. She also serves on the Harvard Center Advisory Board. Denise and her husband, Russell, are long-time residents of Needham, Massachusetts. They are the proud parents of four children.

Senator James Welch, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, Massachusetts State House
State Senator James Welch was sworn in January 2011 to represent Hampden District including Agawam, Chicopee, Springfield, and West Springfield. Senator Welch has lived in West Springfield his entire life; he graduated from West Springfield High School and continued his education at Springfield Technical Community College then transferred to Westfield State College to receive his B.S. in Business Management.
In 2001 Senator Welch began his career in public service, by joining the staff of then Representative Stephen J. Buoniconti. In 2004, Senator Welch was elected to the West Springfield City Council representing District 4. In January of 2005 he was elected to represent the 6th Hampden District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Senator Welch and his wife Kara (Flynn) reside in West Springfield with their two sons Tommy (4) and Christopher (2).

Ray Campbell, Executive Director, Center for Health Information and Analysis
Ray Campbell is the Executive Director of the Center for Health Information and Analysis, an independent state authority charged with collecting data and conducting analyses on the Massachusetts healthcare system. Prior to joining CHIA, Ray was at the state’s Group Insurance Commission in a variety of capacities, including acting Deputy Director and interim Executive Director. In addition to stints working as an independent consultant, from 2005 through 2012 Ray was the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Data Consortium, a multi-stakeholder non-profit comprised of virtually every organization in Massachusetts active in using health IT and health data to improve healthcare. While at MHDC he was involved in a wide range of public and private initiatives, both locally and nationally, relating to health IT, health information exchange, health data, administrative simplification, and payment reform. Ray’s other public sector experience includes service as the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Corporation for Educational Telecommunications, as the General Counsel of the Massachusetts Information Technology Division, and the Director of Special Projects at the Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance. Over the years Ray has served on numerous public and private boards, committees, and workgroups. He has an MPA from the Kennedy School of Government, a JD from Suffolk University Law School, and a BA from Bates College.

Marissa Woltmann, Associate Director of Policy and ACA Implementation Specialist, Massachusetts Health Connector
Marissa Woltmann is the Associate Director of Policy and ACA Implementation Specialist at the Massachusetts Health Connector. In this role, she is responsible for a broad variety of policy initiatives to support implementation of both Massachusetts and federal healthcare reform. In particular, her work focuses on state and federal policies related to the individual mandate, as well as individuals’ eligibility for benefits through ACA Marketplaces such as the Health Connector. In addition to over 10 years of experience in the public sector, Ms. Woltmann has a Master’s degree in Public Policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University and a Bachelor’s degree in English from Hartwick College.

Eric Gold, Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Health Care Division, Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office
Eric Gold is an Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Health Care Division in the Office of Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, where he has served since 2012. In the Health Care Division, Eric works on a broad range of law enforcement and policy matters related to pharmaceuticals, medical devices, health care providers, and health insurers. Among his policy related work, Eric co-authored the Attorney General’s 2016 report of its examination into pharmaceutical cost trends and has
been an active member of Attorney General Healey’s opiate task force since its founding.

Prior to joining the Attorney General’s Office, Eric worked in private practice in Boston, Chicago, and New York. Eric graduated from Cornell University and Washington University School of Law.

Dan Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth and Medicaid Director, Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Daniel Tsai is the Assistant Secretary for MassHealth and Medicaid Director for the Commonwealth. Tsai was appointed in January 2015 by Governor Charlie Baker to oversee the state’s $15 billion Medicaid program, which covers one in four residents in the Commonwealth. In his role, Tsai is responsible for ensuring a robust and sustainable MassHealth program. That includes developing new policies, payment models, and operational processes that improve the way health care is delivered to 1.8 million low- and moderate-income individuals and individuals with disabilities.

Before joining HHS, Tsai was a Partner and leader in McKinsey & Company’s Healthcare Systems and Services practice. He has significant experience on design and implementation of innovative, state-wide health care payment systems for Medicaid, Medicare and Commercial populations, and has worked closely with multiple state Medicaid programs, private payers, and health services companies. He received a Bachelor of Arts in applied mathematics and economics from Harvard University.

Assistant Secretary Tsai and his wife live in Cambridge. He volunteers at a local community health center in Boston’s South End.

Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Appointed by Governor Charlie Baker, Secretary of Health & Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders leads the largest executive agency in state government, overseeing a $22 billion state budget, twelve agencies and 22,000 public servants. EOHHS services directly touch the lives of slightly more than 1 in 4 residents of the Commonwealth. Sudders responsibilities include the state’s MassHealth (Medicaid) program that provides health coverage to 1.9 million low income or disabled residents, chairing the board of the state’s health care marketplace (The Connector), the Autism Commission and, the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) Oversight Council; and, co-chairs the Governor’s Interagency Council on Homelessness and the state’s first Governor’s Council to Address Aging in Massachusetts. Sudders is leading the Commonwealth’s efforts to address the opioid epidemic and efforts to reform and strengthen the Department of Children and Families.

Professionally trained as a social worker, Sudders has been a public official, private non-profit executive, advocate and college professor. She served as the Massachusetts Commissioner of Mental Health from 1996 to 2003. Prior to her appointment as Secretary, Sudders was an associate professor and chaired the health/mental health program at Boston College’s Graduate School of Social Work. She also served as an expert with the Department of Justice as a behavioral health expert.

She has been recognized by top business, social work and civic organizations, including the Boston Chamber of Commerce, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation,
Eastern Bank’s Social Justice Award and from the National Association of Social Work.

Sudders is an alumna of Boston University with a Bachelor’s degree with honors and a Master’s degree in social work, and received an honorary doctorate from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. Believing in community service, she has served on many charitable boards including the Pine Street Inn, DentaQuest Foundation, Massachusetts Association for Mental Health and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Commissioner Monica Bharel, MD, MPH, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Monica Bharel, MD, MPH, became Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in February of 2015. As Commissioner, she is responsible for implementing the state’s response to the opioid crisis, as well as leading the Department’s efforts in reducing health disparities, finding public health solutions for health care reform, developing innovative solutions using data and evidence-based practices, and other health care quality improvement initiatives.

Dr. Bharel comes to DPH widely recognized for her dedication to health care for underserved and vulnerable populations.

She previously served as the Chief Medical Officer of Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, the largest nonprofit health care organization for homeless individuals in the country. Dr. Bharel has served on the faculty of Harvard Medical School, Boston University Medical School, and Harvard School of Public Health. She was previously at Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Medical Center. She has practiced general internal medicine for 20 years in neighborhood health centers, city hospitals, the Veterans Administration, university hospitals and nonprofit organizations.

She received her Master of Public Health degree through the Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy. She received her medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine and completed a residency and chief residency in internal medicine at Boston City Hospital/Boston Medical Center.

Ben Wood, MPH, Director of the Office of Community Health Planning and Engagement within the Division of Prevention and Wellness, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Ben Wood is the Director of the Office of Community Health Planning and Engagement for the MA Department of Public Health, Division of Prevention and Wellness. In that role, he works with communities, state agencies and other stakeholders to increase knowledge of how policies, projects and plans of all types impact health and to develop capacity for collaborative community health improvement planning. This work includes building capacity for the practice of Health Impact Assessment with a focus on built environment related issues, oversight of the Mass in Motion Municipal Wellness and Leadership Program and the development and implementation of tools for the Community Health Initiative component of the Determination of Need program. Previous to working for MDPH, Ben was most recently the Director of Public Health...
for the City of Northampton. Among other accomplishments he led Northampton’s participation as a beta-test site for the newly formed Public Health Accreditation Board. He has significant experience in community health assessment, health improvement planning and policy development. He has presented at numerous state and national public health conferences on topics ranging from emergency preparedness and aging and disability issues and Health Impact Assessment. He was a member of the executive leadership team of the first permanent steering committee of the Society of Practitioners of Health Impact Assessment and received the Public Service Award from the Massachusetts Public Health Association in 2015. He received his MPH from the University of Michigan, School of Public Health and a Bachelor of Arts from Hampshire College. Ben lives in Northampton, Massachusetts.

**Jennica Allen, Community Health Planning and Engagement Specialist, Division of Community Health Planning and Engagement, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, Massachusetts Department of Public Health**

Jennica Allen is a Community Health Planning and Engagement Specialist within the Bureau of Community Health and Prevention at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. She has coordinated the Division’s statewide chronic disease efforts, overseen the Massachusetts Partnership for Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention and currently provides leadership to the Bureau’s community health planning initiatives with health care systems and community organizations focusing on capacity building for community engagement and social determinant of health investing and strategy implementation. Jennica has been a participant in the Bureau’s Racial Equity Initiative since its early days and in this capacity, leads affinity work, participates in core trainings, and serves as a member of the Racial Equity Leadership Team. She received her Master of Public Health from Boston University School of Public Health with a concentration in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**Jessica del Rosario, Director of Special Initiatives, Division of Community Health Planning and Engagement, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, Massachusetts Department of Public Health**

Jessica del Rosario has close to twenty years of experience in the nonprofit, philanthropic and public sector. Jessica has a diverse background in organizational development and subject matter content in the areas of emergency/basic needs, food systems, health, and housing and community development. Currently, Jessica is a Director of Community Initiatives at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In this role she oversees the Mass in Motion Municipal Wellness and Leadership Initiative, working with 27 partners, who collaborate with a diverse network in 70 cities, towns, and neighborhoods throughout the Commonwealth to implement proven policies and practices that create environments supportive of healthy living. Previously she was the Project Director for the Massachusetts Convergence Partnership, a public/private funder collaborative and worked at the Boston Foundation as an Associated Grant Makers Diversity Fellow then as a Program Officer. Earlier in her career, Jessica held various positions at hunger relief organizations (two food banks, a food pantry, and a soup kitchen) and private
sector firms (human resources, technology, management, and policy).

Jessica received her bachelor’s degree in sociology and political science from the University of Connecticut and a Master of Public Administration from Seton Hall University. Jessica’s work is guided by an inquisitive nature as a lifelong learner and a belief that her leadership is at its best when bringing people together to achieve common goals. She lives in Randolph with her partner Tim.

Lindsay Kephart, 
Epidemiologist, Massachusetts Tobacco Control Program, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Lindsay Kephart is an Epidemiologist and part of the evaluation team for the Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program (MTCP) at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. For the past three years, she has supported MTCP through surveillance, evaluation, analysis, and dissemination, including mapping and visualization. Her current efforts focus around addressing tobacco-related inequities, mitigating the impact of institutional racism on health outcomes, as well as serving as the chair for the Health Equity workgroup in the Office of Statistics and Evaluation. She received her Master of Public Health from Tufts University School of Medicine with a concentration in Biostatistics and Epidemiology.

Commissioner Joan Mikula, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
Joan Mikula was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health in May, 2015. She has served the Department for more than 30 years, most recently as Deputy Commissioner for Child and Adolescent Services. She has dedicated her career to ensuring that children, youth, families and adults have every opportunity to participate in their recovery and achieve their mental health goals. Passionate about consumer voice and choice, Commissioner Mikula’s experience in education, child welfare and juvenile justice as well as mental health administration in the private sector is significant. She is expert in the areas of systems of care development; strengths based interventions in the context of family practice; youth and family voice; and of the linkage between behavioral health and primary care. Her expertise has guided the Department’s efforts around children and their families and her commitment to interagency partnerships with families and youth have resulted in many cutting edge initiatives in the Commonwealth.

David Seltz, Executive Director, Massachusetts Health Policy Commission
David Seltz is the Executive Director of the Health Policy Commission (Commission). Recently established by comprehensive health care cost containment legislation, Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012, the Commission is an independent state agency governed by an 11-person, expert Board. The Commission aims to modernize the health care payment and delivery models in Massachusetts in order to establish a more accountable, affordable system. Prior to this appointment to this position, David was the Special Advisor for Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, responsible for coordinating the Administration’s efforts to implement all aspects of Chapter 224.

After receiving his Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Boston College in
2003, David worked for 4 years as a Fiscal Policy Analyst and Manager for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means as the primary staffer responsible for all state health care finance issues. David was the chief health care advisor for Senator Therese Murray, and was involved in the 6-month Conference Committee negotiations that produced the landmark Massachusetts Health Care Reform bill, or Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2006.

Subsequently, as a member of Senate President Murray’s senior staff, he assisted with the development, negotiation, and passage of three comprehensive health care cost and quality bills in 2008, 2010, and 2012. In addition to health care issues, David was the lead policy staffer responsible for managing the policy team and coordinating the development of the President’s policy agenda. In this role, he advised the Senate President on various public policy reforms, including education reform, municipal health insurance reform, and an overhaul of the public pension system.

Alan Sager, Ph.D., Boston University, School of Public Health

Alan Sager is a professor of health law, policy, and management at the Boston University School of Public Health, where he has taught since 1983. His courses on health finance, policy, planning, and management have won twelve awards. He directs the School’s certificate program in health policy and law.

In 1979, he designed a “time banking” method of mobilizing voluntary aid for disabled citizens by creating a parallel economy of good deeds. Volunteers could contribute time by helping others and then withdraw it when they needed support.

His ongoing analyses of hospital closings in 52 U.S. cities over 75 years have shown that neighborhood race and hospital size predict survival but efficiency does not. Closings undermine access while boosting cost.

He suggests that U.S. prescription drug prices can and should be cut, to make needed meds affordable for all Americans—and that this can be done while spurring drug makers to innovate. Alan Sager holds an undergrad degree in economics from Brandeis and a doctorate in city planning from MIT.

Priyanka Dayal McCluskey, Reporter, The Boston Globe

Priyanka Dayal McCluskey covers the health care industry for the Boston Globe. Her coverage includes health business and policy. She previously reported on business, politics, and general news for the Worcester Telegram & Gazette. She also covered health and medicine for the Boston Herald before joining the Globe in 2014. She grew up in Central Massachusetts and is a graduate of Boston University.

Brian Rosman, Former Government Relations and Policy Director, Health Care For All

Brian Rosman was the Government Relations and Policy Director of Health Care For All. HCFA is the leading consumer health advocacy organization in Massachusetts.

Brian’s work focuses on policy advocacy and analysis related to Massachusetts and national health reform, health delivery system reform and other policy issues. He also teaches health policy to Masters of
Public Policy students at Brandeis University, and to advanced nursing students at Regis College.

Before joining Health Care For All in 2003, Brian was a senior policy associate at the Schneider Institute for Health Policy at Brandeis University's Heller School. Before that, he worked at the Massachusetts state legislature, as counsel to Health Care, and Senate Ways & Means committees.

He has a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a degree in Political Science from Stanford University.

Eileen P. McAnneny, President, Massachusetts Tax Payers Foundation

Eileen McAnneny joined the staff of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation as its President in February, 2015. Founded in 1932, the Taxpayers Foundation is widely recognized as the state’s premier public policy organization dealing with state spending, tax and economic policies. The Foundation’s record of high quality research and non-partisan analysis has earned the organization broad credibility on Beacon Hill and across the state.

Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has won 16 prestigious national awards for its work on a wide array of topics, including health care, business costs, capital spending, state and municipal finances, transportation restructuring, and state government reform.

Ms. McAnneny, an attorney, comes to the Foundation after more than 20 years of government relations, public policy, advocacy and managerial experience in both the public and private sectors in Massachusetts. She held executive level positions at the Massachusetts Society of CPAs, serving as its President and CEO; at Fidelity Investments as a Director of Public Policy; and at Associated Industries of Massachusetts as its Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Associate General Counsel, where she focused on health care and tax policy issues for the employer community.

Ms. McAnneny worked in the public sector as a staff attorney for the Joint Committee on Revenue of the Massachusetts legislature, playing a key role in numerous significant tax policy changes, including reforms to the corporate tax code, an overhaul of the Appellate Tax Board, amendments to DOR’s administrative practices and updates to unclaimed property collections.

A cum laude graduate of Tufts University and Suffolk University Law School, Ms. McAnneny holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a juris doctorate in law. She is a Commissioner of the Group Insurance Commission and on the Board of Directors of the Cooperative Central Bank.