

2015 Government Relations Academy | Influencing Public Policy: Enhancing the Voice of Essential Hospital Advocates

## **Speaker Biographies**

Julius W. Hobson Jr. Senior Policy Advisor, Polsinelli Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of Political Management, George Washington University

Hobson has more than 40 years of experience dealing with Congress and federal departments and agencies. He advises and lobbies on a number of issues including health care, appropriations and budget, education, financial services, urban affairs, and taxes.

Hobson previously served for more than 13 years as lobbyist and director of congressional affairs at the American Medical Association (AMA). Prior to joining the AMA, Hobson served on the staff of Sen. Charles Robb (D-VA), where he was responsible for financial and economic issues. He also previously served as congressional and executive branch liaison for the District of Columbia Government and was chief of staff to a member of Congress and staff director of a house subcommittee. He also handled congressional and federal affairs for Howard University. He served a four-year term as an elected member of the D.C. Board of Education. Hobson holds a bachelor's degree in history from Howard University and a master's degree in legislative affairs from The George Washington University.

Sarah Mutinsky, JD, MPH Deputy General Counsel, America's Essential Hospitals Founding Senior Advisor, Eyman Associates

Mutinsky has represented America's Essential Hospitals since 2006. In that capacity, she has advocated on behalf of essential hospitals before Congress and federal agencies, and has developed legislation, regulations and other

policy proposals and positions to achieve the association's advocacy goals. In addition to work on a range of Medicaid and safety net financing issues, Sarah serves as a policy advisor on technical and advocacy issues about the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

In addition to her work with the association, Mutinsky represents hospitals and health systems, academic medical centers, physician group practices, national and state trade associations, and other clients on health care law and policy matters. She has particular expertise in helping clients with state and federal Medicaid program issues, including compliance, development of programs to support expanded coverage and improved care delivery, supplemental payments, and complex financing issues. Mutinsky's practice also includes legal, strategic, and operational advice related to a range of programs and requirements under the Affordable Care Act, the 340B program, the Medicare program, and health information technology payment programs. She joined Barbara Eyman in founding Eyman Associates in November 2011, after several years as an associate in the health care group at Ropes & Gray, LLP.

## Lisa Potetz, MPP Principal, Health Policy Alternatives, Inc

Potetz joined Health Policy Alternatives in 2006 with more than 25 years of health policy experience in the public and private sectors. Immediately before joining the firm, she spent eight years at the March of Dimes developing and managing a public policy research program focused on health insurance coverage and other issues of importance to women of childbearing age and children. She also authored a number of reports on Medicare trends and reform proposals as an independent consultant. She previously spent two years on the American Hospital Association's policy staff, examining the impact of federal budget proposals on hospitals.

Her government experience includes service as a professional staff member to both the Senate Committee on Finance and the Subcommittee on Health of the House Committee on Ways and Means, developing legislation involving Medicare payment to hospitals and other providers, health insurance, and health care reform. Prior to her time on Capitol Hill, Potetz was an analyst at the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission. She began her career at the Congressional Budget Office, providing analytic support to Congress during consideration of the original Medicare inpatient hospital prospective payment legislation. She holds a bachelor's degree from Boston College and a master's degree in public policy from the University of Michigan.

## David K. Rehr, PhD Program Director, Advocacy in the Global Environment, Graduate School of Political Management, George Washington University

Rehr is a leading association expert with more than 25 years of experience in creating influential trade associations through positioning, advocacy, and understanding the nuances of impacting policy in Washington, DC. In addition to his other roles, Rehr is CEO of TransparaGov, Inc., a privately held company with a mission to bring transparency and real-time information tools focused on performance metrics to state and local government leaders.

Rehr previously served as president and CEO of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB). He led the \$1.2 billion marketing effort of moving America from analog to digital television, the largest marketing campaign in TV history. Before joining the NAB, Rehr was president of the National Beer Wholesalers Association (NBWA). Under his leadership, NBWA's visibility in the advocacy community soared, and the association was ranked as one of the top ten most influential lobbying organizations by *Fortune magazine*. Rehr started his professional career serving on the staff of former Rep. Vin Weber (R-MN) and working on the House small business committee. He holds a doctorate in economics from George Mason University. He has been named to *Washington Life magazine's* Power 100 list, and has been listed as a top association lobbyist by *The Hill*.

## David Schwartz, JD Head of Global Policy, Cigna

Schwartz joined Cigna in August 2014. In that role, he provides executive leadership with strategic counsel about global legislative and regulatory trends and translating those trends into actionable business strategies. He drives the company's global positioning as a thought leader on policy issues, assuring consistency in the application of Cigna's public policy tenets across borders, and manages development of U.S. public policy positioning.

Before joining Cigna, Schwartz spent 15 years in public service. He was chief health and human services counsel on the Democratic staff of the Senate Finance Committee under Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) from July 2010 to March 2014. In that position, he was responsible for all of the health and human services issues in the finance committee's jurisdiction, including health reform and implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, and child welfare programs. Before that, Schwartz served in various capacities on the finance committee. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University at Albany, State University of New York, and a juris doctor from The George Washington University Law School.

Tim Gronniger Senior Policy Advisor for Health Policy White House Domestic Policy Council

Gronniger's portfolio includes Medicare and other elements of the Affordable Care Act. Before joining the Domestic Policy Council, he was a senior professional staff member for former Ranking Member Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) at the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. While on committee staff, Gronniger covered Medicare and health budgeting issues in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Affordable Care Act.

Gronniger previously spent more than four years at the Congressional Budget Office, where he worked on Medicare Advantage, Medicare budgeting, and private health insurance. He holds master's degrees in public policy and health services administration from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in biochemical sciences from Harvard University.