Generating a Robust Recovery: Biographies of Speakers

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro has worked a lifetime for the people of Connecticut. She was first elected to Congress from Connecticut’s Third District in 1990, and is currently serving her tenth term. Congresswoman DeLauro sits on the influential House Appropriations and Budget Committees. She serves as chairwoman of the Agriculture-FDA Appropriations Subcommittee and as a member of the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education and Financial Services Appropriations Subcommittees. In 1999, she was elected Assistant to the Democratic Leader by her colleagues, making her the second highest ranking Democratic woman in the House of Representatives. She was re-elected to this position in 2000. She has served as co-chair of the House Steering and Policy Committee since 2002.

DeLauro has helped Connecticut families get ahead by making economic improvement a top priority. The first bill she introduced as a Member of Congress was a middle-class tax cut. More recently, she has fought for targeted tax cuts such as a $500 per child tax credit, a tax cut for children’s health care, and education tax cuts to give every Connecticut family the chance to send their kids to college. DeLauro has authored legislation that would guarantee men and women equal pay for equal work. In addition, DeLauro has become a leader in the effort to protect and strengthen Social Security for today’s seniors and future generations.

Geoff Garin

Geoffrey Garin is the president of Peter D. Hart Research Associates, one of the nation's leading survey research firms. He became president of Hart Research in 1984, after having worked in the firm since 1978 as a senior analyst and vice president. Mr. Garin has brought his skill, insight, and innovative approaches as a researcher and strategist to a wide variety of fields – including social and economic policy, consumer marketing, and politics.
In politics, Mr. Garin has a well-earned reputation for helping candidates win in difficult circumstances. Mr. Garin has directed the polling and created winning campaign strategies for many of the leading Democrats serving in the U.S. Senate, including Dick Durbin, Dianne Feinstein, Chuck Schumer, Russ Feingold, Robert C. Byrd, Jay Rockefeller, Patrick Leahy, Max Baucus, Kent Conrad, Byron Dorgan, and Bernie Sanders. He is recognized as a leader in helping Democratic campaigns incorporate advanced analytical techniques, including segmentation analysis and predictive modeling. In 2008, he helped direct the strategy team for Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign during its final two months.
Steven Pearlstein

Steven Pearlstein is an award-winning business and economics columnist for The Washington Post. He joined the Post in 1988 as deputy business editor, overseeing the paper’s daily and Sunday coverage. He returned to reporting in 1991 to cover the defense industry following the end of the Cold War. Two years later, he became the newspaper’s chief economic correspondent. In 1998, Steve moved to Toronto as the Post's Canadian correspondent, returning in 2000 to Washington and the business sector to cover the bursting of the tech and telecom bubble. He began writing his twice-weekly opinion column for the Post in the spring of 2003, and quickly got a reputation for unpredictable, hard-hitting commentary on a wide range of issues, from business and management to economics and economic policy. Steve won the Gerald Loeb Award for his columns in 2006. In 2008, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 2008, the first business columnist ever to win that award.

Paul Krugman

Paul Krugman joined The New York Times in 1999 as a columnist on the Op-Ed Page and continues as professor of Economics and International Affairs at Princeton University. He is the author or editor of 20 books and more than 200 papers in professional journals and edited volumes. At the same time, Mr. Krugman has written extensively for a broader public audience. Some of his recent articles on economic issues, originally published in Foreign Affairs, Harvard Business Review, Scientific American and other journals, are reprinted in Pop Internationalism and The Accidental Theorist.

His professional reputation rests largely on work in international trade and finance; he is one of the founders of the "new trade theory," a major rethinking of the theory of international trade. In recognition of that work, in 1991 the American Economic Association awarded him its John Bates Clark medal, a prize given every two years to "that economist under forty who is adjudged to have made a significant contribution to economic knowledge." In 2008, Mr. Krugman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics for his work on explaining patterns international trade and the geographic concentration of wealth. According to IDEAS/RePEc, he is one of the most influential economists in the world.
J. Bradford DeLong

J. Bradford DeLong is a professor of economics at the University of California at Berkeley, chair of its political economy major, a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Mr. DeLong also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy from 1993 to 1995, where he worked on the Clinton Administration’s 1993 budget, on the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, on the North American Free Trade Agreement, on macroeconomic policy, and on the unsuccessful health care reform effort.

He is best known for his work on business cycle dynamics through economic growth, behavioral finance, political economy, economic history, international finance, and the history of economic thought.

John Irons

John Irons joined the Economic Policy Institute in 2007. His areas of research include the U.S. economy and economic policy, with an emphasis on federal tax and budget policy. He previously worked as the Director of Tax and Budget Policy at the Center for American Progress (2004-2007) and as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Economics at Amherst College (1999-2003). Mr. Irons has also worked for the Brookings Institution (1995) and at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors (1992-1994). His academic publications have appeared in several journals including the *Journal of Monetary Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics*, and the *Review of Financial Economics*. He is also co-editor of *Testing Exogeneity*, published by Oxford University Press. He has won several awards for his economics Web sites, including top-5 awards from *The Economist* and *Forbes*. He currently serves on the Committee on Electronic Publishing for the American Economic Association, and on the Board of Governors of the National Economists Club.