

U.S. Health in International Perspective: Public Discussion

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National Academy of Sciences Building
Lecture Hall
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC. 20418

Biographical Sketches

ROBERT M. HAUSER (NAS) is executive director of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education at the National Research Council and Vilas Research Professor and Samuel Stouffer Professor of Sociology, Emeritus, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While at the UW-Madison, he directed the Center for Demography of Health and Aging, the Institute for Research on Poverty, and the Center for Demography and Ecology. He has been an investigator on the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) since 1969 and has led the study since 1980. Hauser's current research interests include statistical methodology, trends in educational progression and achievement among American racial and ethnic groups, the uses of educational assessment as a policy tool, and changes in socioeconomic standing, cognition, health, and well-being across the life course. Recent publications include reports of the National Research Council, *Measuring Literacy: Performance Levels for Adults*; *Conducting Biosocial Surveys: Collecting, Storing, Accessing, and Protecting Biospecimens and Biodata*; *High School Dropout, Graduation, and Completion Rates: Better Data, Better Measures, Better Decisions*, and *A Plan for Evaluating the District of Columbia's Public Schools: From Impressions to Evidence* and journal publications about grade retention, educational expectations, social mobility, obesity, cognitive functioning, end-of-life planning, mortality, and genetic effects (and non-effects) on health and cognitive functioning. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Education, and the American Philosophical Society. He holds a B.A. in economics from the University of Chicago, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology, from the University of Michigan.

STEVEN H. WOOLF (IOM) is director of the Center on Human Needs and professor of family medicine, both at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is board certified in family medicine and in preventive medicine and public health. His work has focused on promoting effective health care services and on highlighting the importance of behavioral and social determinants of health, particularly with regard to the role of poverty, education, and racial and ethnic disparities in determining the health of Americans. In addition to his work as a researcher, he has also been involved with health policy issues. Dr. Woolf has served as science adviser, member, and senior adviser to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine. He holds an M.D. from Emory University and an M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University.

ROBERT M. KAPLAN (IOM) is the Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Sciences, and Director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Prior to working for government, Dr. Kaplan was Distinguished Professor of Health Services at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and Distinguished Professor of Medicine at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. His research interests include behavioral medicine, health services research, health outcome measurement and multivariate data analysis. Dr. Kaplan is a former Editor-in-Chief of two different academic journals: Health Psychology and the Annals of Behavioral Medicine. He is the author, co-author or editor of more than 18 books and approximately 480 articles or chapters. In 2005, Dr. Kaplan was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Sciences. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in psychology from the University of California, Riverside.

LISA SIMPSON is the president and chief executive of AcademyHealth. Before joining AcademyHealth, Dr. Simpson served as the director of the Child Policy Research Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and professor of pediatrics in the Division of Health Policy and Clinical Effectiveness, Department of Pediatrics, University of Cincinnati. Dr. Simpson serves on the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program National Advisory Council, the Editorial board for the Journal of Comparative Effectiveness Research. Her research focuses on improving the performance of the health care system and includes studies of the quality and safety of care, health and health care disparities and the health policy and system response to childhood obesity. Dr. Simpson holds an M.D. from Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland), and an M.S. in public health from the University of Hawaii.

GAIL CHRISTOPHER is vice president for programs at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Prior to joining the Foundation, she was vice president of the Joint Center for Political and Economic

Studies' Office of Health, Women and Families in Washington, D.C. Dr. Christopher is a nationally recognized leader in health policy, with particular expertise and experience in the issues related to social determinants of health, health disparities and public policy issues of concern to African Americans and other minority populations. A prolific writer and presenter, Dr. Christopher is the author or co-author of three books, a monthly column in the *Federal Times*, and more than 250 articles, presentations, and publications. She is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, and a recipient of the Leadership Award from the Health Brain Trust of the Congressional Black Caucus for her work in reducing racial and ethnic health disparities. She holds a doctor of naprapathy degree from the Chicago National College of Naprapathy in Illinois and completed advanced study in the interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in holistic health and clinical nutrition at the Union for Experimenting Colleges and Universities at Union Graduate School.

LAUREN TAYLOR is the co-author, with Elizabeth Bradley, PhD of a forthcoming book on the intersections of health care and social service expenditure, titled *The American Health Care Paradox* (PublicAffairs, 2013). She was formerly a program manager at the Yale Global Health Leadership Institute, where she led a research team in building a model for scaling-up public health innovations for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Ms. Taylor is currently studying public health and medical ethics as a Presidential Scholar at Harvard Divinity School. She holds a B.A. in the history of science and medicine, and an MPH in global health, both from Yale University.

JAMES S. HOUSE (NAS/IOM) is the Angus Campbell distinguished university professor of survey research, public policy, and sociology at the University of Michigan. He has previously held positions at Duke University and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. His research interests include social psychology, political sociology, social structure and personality, psychosocial and socioeconomic factors in health, survey research methods, and American society. Dr. House is a member of several professional associations and societies, including: the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and American Sociological Association. He has served as editor or associate editor of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Work & Stress* and *Journal of Occupational Behavior*; and has served on the editorial board of *Sociometry*, *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, and *Annual Review of Sociology*. Dr. House has previously served on the NRC Panel on Race, Ethnicity, and Health in Later Life; IOM Membership Committee; IOM Membership Section Leaders; and has served as an NAS section liaison for the social and political sciences. He holds a B.A. in history from Haverford College, and a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Michigan.