

EAGLETON SCIENCE AND POLITICS WORKSHOP

Climate Politics and Congressional Simulation

September 23, 2016

SPEAKER & NETWORKING GUEST BIOS

SPEAKERS:



Joshua C. Huder, Ph.D., is a senior fellow at The Government Affairs Institute (GAI) at Georgetown University. He has taught courses on American government, advanced legislative process, and other American politics courses. He has provided political analysis to several news outlets, including *The Washington Post*, *Congressional Quarterly*, *Newsweek*, Bloomberg News, CNN, *The Washington Examiner*, *U.S. News*, Al-Jazeera, and Yahoo News. He is a regular contributor for the *Christian Science Monitor*. Prior to joining GAI, Huder worked on Capitol Hill as an American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellow. His portfolio included legislative procedure, government affairs, financial services, voting rights, campaign finance, trade, small business, and other issues. He is currently writing a book on the history of congressional procedure and politics since 1879. He received a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Florida and is a graduate of Rutgers University.



Ruth B. Mandel, Ph.D., is director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, and Rutgers Board of Governors Professor of Politics. She has led Eagleton's expansion of graduate and undergraduate offerings and launched new program areas in youth political engagement, immigrant political behavior, and the study of governors. In 1971, Professor Mandel co-founded Eagleton's Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP). As CAWP'S director for over two decades, she developed the nation's premier research and education center for the study of women's changing political roles. Her *In the Running: The New Woman Candidate* was the first book about women campaigning for office. During three administrations (1991 to 2006), Mandel held a presidential appointment on the governing council of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Named Council Vice Chairperson by President Clinton in 1993, she led the process to create the Committee on Conscience and became its founding chair. Her board service also includes the Charles H. Revson Foundation and the National Council for Research on Women. She currently serves on the board of the New Jersey Council on the Humanities.



John Weingart is associate director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics. He also chaired New Jersey's Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council from its establishment in 2004 through 2009. Before coming to Eagleton, Weingart worked in New Jersey state government, focusing on environmental and land use issues, during the administrations of Governors Byrne, Kean, Florio and Whitman. His posts included director of the Division of Coastal Resources and assistant commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection; and executive director of the state's Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility Siting Board. He chaired the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission from 2002-2004. Weingart holds a B.A. in sociology from Brandeis University and M.P.A. from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. He is the author of *Waste Is A Terrible Thing To Mind: Risk, Radiation and Distrust of Government*.



The Honorable Christine Todd Whitman served in the cabinet of President George W. Bush as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from January of 2001 until June of 2003. She was the 50th governor of the State of New Jersey, serving as its first woman governor from 1994 until 2001. As governor, Whitman earned praise from both Republicans and Democrats for her commitment to preserve a record amount of New Jersey land as permanent green space. She was also recognized by the Natural Resources Defense Council as having instituted the most comprehensive beach monitoring system in the nation. As EPA administrator, she promoted common-sense environmental improvements such as watershed-based water protection policies. She championed regulations requiring non-road diesel engines to reduce sulfur emissions by more than 95 percent. During her tenure, the agency was successful in passing and implementing landmark brownfields legislation to promote the redevelopment and reuse of “brownfields”, previously contaminated industrial sites. Prior to becoming governor, she was the president of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and served on the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Whitman is the founder and president of the Whitman Strategy Group, which specializes in government regulations and environmental and energy issues. She holds a BA from Wheaton College in Norton, MA.

NETWORKING GUESTS:



Nancy H. Becker recently retired as the program development associate for Eagleton’s Center on the American Governor. She was the founder of Nancy Becker Associates, an independent public affairs consulting firm that she guided for 30 years. She represented the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, her first client, for all of those years. Becker oversaw the firm’s government affairs and public relations divisions. She sold the firm in July of 2006. She currently chairs the board of Capital Health and serves on the Community Advisory Board of NJTV. Previously, Becker served on the boards of Rider University, the Mental Health Association of New Jersey, Greenwood House, and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. She served for eight years as the vice-chair of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and was a long-time member of the board of the American Repertory Ballet, where she served as chair from 2002-2004. Her other affiliations include the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, the Center for Non-Profit Corporations, Women in Philanthropy and the Trust Company of Princeton. She also authored a handbook on lobbying for Eagleton’s Center for American Women and Politics. Becker is a graduate of the University of Michigan and received an M.A. from Manhattan College.



Fern Goodhart, M.S. in P.H., RMCHES, has a 40-year career in public health. She has worked in the NJ State Department of Health and as director of the NJ Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, and she served on Governors' Councils on Trails and on Bicycle Safety. For 22 years, she directed the Rutgers University Health Services' health education department. Goodhart has held appointed office for ten years as a member of autonomous boards of health, and elected public office in Highland Park, NJ for 7 years, presiding over its Borough Council for 2 years. In 2007, Goodhart was selected as APHA's first public health fellow in government, selecting an assignment with U.S. Senator Robert Menendez. Senator Tom Udall (NM) hired her as his Legislative Assistant in health and education in 2008 when he was elected to his first Senate term. She served as his senior policy advisor for over seven years, drafting 14 bills and resolutions (as well as amendments included in the ACA and the education reauthorization law), staffing him on health and education issues for the Commerce and Indian Affairs committees, and advising constituents on his behalf. Having recently retired from staffing Senator Udall, Goodhart is currently a board member of the Rutgers University Arts & Sciences IRB and the Rutgers Community Health Foundation.



Jane M. Kenny is a founder and the managing partner of The Whitman Strategy Group, LLC, an all-women firm specializing in sustainability issues, including energy and environmental policy and the marketing of innovative environmental technologies. In 2001, she was appointed by President George W. Bush as the regional administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where she oversaw the federal agency's work in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Prior to that, she was appointed commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs by Governor Christine Todd Whitman, and she served as chief of policy and planning after Whitman's first election. Governor Thomas H. Kean appointed her as cabinet secretary for his second term in office. In between her years in government, she was a vice president of corporate and community affairs in the financial services industry. Kenny is a director at New Jersey Resources and a member of its nominating and corporate governance and leadership and development committees. She also serves on the board of NJ Resources Clean Energy Ventures, which invests in, owns and operates renewable energy projects. She is a trustee for New Jersey Future and for the Sustainable State Institute of New Jersey.



Patrick Riccards is chief communications and strategy officer for the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. He began his career on Capitol Hill, where he served in senior communications positions for U.S. Sen. Robert C. Byrd (WV), U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley (NJ), and U.S. Rep. John Olver (MA). After leading the healthcare and business/technology practices for one of DC's largest independent public affairs firms, Riccards headed marketing and public affairs for a trio of Texas-based education start-ups. He has also served as executive director for communications and public affairs at American Institutes for Research and CEO for a one of the nation's leading state-based education reform organizations. In 2014, he sold his communications consulting firm, Exemplar Strategic Communications, to Collaborative Communications Group to join the Woodrow Wilson Foundation. Riccards is the author of two books, including the award-winning *Dadprovement*. He holds a B.A. in Government and in Rhetoric and Communications Studies from the University of Virginia. He previously served as the chairman of the Falls Church (VA) Public Schools Board.