Biographies

Keynote Speaker

Lawrence A. Kudlow
Assistant to the President for Economic Policy
Director of the National Economic Council

Lawrence A. Kudlow serves as Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Director of the National Economic Council. He leads the coordination of President Donald J. Trump's domestic and global economic policy agenda.

During President Trump's campaign, Mr. Kudlow served as a tax and economic advisor. Prior to the White House, Mr. Kudlow was a CNBC Senior Contributor and host of CNBC's primetime show "The Kudlow Report." He also served as chief economist and senior managing director of Bear Stearns & Company.

During President Reagan's first term, Mr. Kudlow was associate director for economics and planning at the Office of Management and Budget, where he was engaged in the development of the Administration's economic and budget policy.

He started his career at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Mr. Kudlow has been a nationally syndicated columnist. He was a senior editor of National Review magazine, as well as a columnist and economics editor for National Review Online. He is also the author of "JFK and the Reagan Revolution: A Secret History of American Prosperity" and "American Abundance: The New Economic and Moral Prosperity."

He previously served as the president of St. Patrick's Church Parish Council in Redding, Connecticut and on the Fordham University Board of Trustees. Mr. Kudlow has won numerous awards, including the Bishop's Humanitarian Award from the Catholic Charities of Brooklyn & Queens, the New York Police Department Holy Name Society's Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Ambassadors for Mission Award from the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States.

Mr. Kudlow was educated at the University of Rochester and Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

Alex Brill
Resident Fellow
American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

Alex Brill is a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), where he studies the impact of tax policy on the US economy as well as the fiscal, economic, and political consequences of tax, budget, health care, retirement security, and trade policies. He also works on health care reform, pharmaceutical spending and drug innovation, and unemployment insurance reform. Brill is the editor of *Carbon Tax Policy: A Conservative Dialogue on Pro-Growth Opportunities* (2017) and the coauthor, with Alan D. Viard, of *The Real Tax Burden: More Than Dollars and Cents* (2011). He has testified numerous times before Congress on tax policy, labor markets and unemployment insurance, Social Security reform, fiscal stimulus, the manufacturing sector, and biologic drug competition.

Before joining AEI, Brill served as the policy director and chief economist of the House Ways and Means Committee. Previously, he served on the staff of the White House Council of Economic Advisers. He has also served on the staff of the President's Fiscal Commission (Simpson-Bowles) and the Republican Platform Committee (2008).

Brill has an MA in mathematical finance from Boston University and a BA in economics from Tufts University.

Experience

- Louis O. Kelso Fellow, Rutgers University, 2017-18
- Fellow, National Chamber Foundation, 2012-13
- Adviser (tax policy), President's Fiscal Commission, 2010
- Staff Adviser, Economy Subcommittee of the Republican Platform Committee, 2008
- Policy Director and Chief Economist, Committee on Ways and Means, US House of Representatives, 2002-07
- Staff Economist, President's Council of Economic Advisers, 2001-02
- Research Assistant, AEI, 1997-99

Education

MA, mathematical finance, Boston University
BA, economics, Tufts University

Randy Gartin
Chief Tax Counsel – Republican
House Committee on Ways and Means

Randy Gartin is the Chief Tax Counsel of the Republican staff in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Prior to this role, Gartin served as Tax Counsel for the Ways and Means Tax Policy Subcommittee, focusing on American competitiveness for local business. Prior to joining the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Gartin held positions at KPMG, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. He received his bachelor's degree from University of Utah, his J.D. from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, and his LL.M. in taxation from Georgetown University Law Center.

Andrew Grossman
Chief Tax Counsel – Democrat
House Committee on Ways and Means

Andrew Grossman serves as the Chief Tax Counsel for the Committee on Ways & Means. He comes to the Committee by way of the Joint Committee on Taxation, where he served as Legislation Counsel for the seven years. In that role, he was the Joint Committee's primary attorney on all matters related to the individual income tax. He also advised Members of Congress and congressional staff on matters related to tax incentives for higher education, a variety of Federal excise taxes, tax-related disaster relief provisions, and taxpayer compliance.

Prior to joining the Joint Committee staff, Andrew was an associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, where he worked for four years, advising clients on a wide variety of tax matters. He has spoken widely on Federal tax issues, and the legislative process generally, for industry associations, at colleges and law schools, and at the District of Columbia Bar Association (where he previously served as a member of the tax section's steering committee).

Andrew received his law degree, and an LLM in tax, from New York University School of Law, a BA from Amherst College, as well as a Masters of Education from George Washington University. Prior to attending law school, he worked as a middle and high school math teacher for three years, in Boston and New York City.

Mindy Herzfeld
Professor of Practice
Director, LL.M. in International Tax Program
University of Florida

Professor Mindy Herzfeld joined UF Law in 2017 as professor of tax law and director of the LL.M. in International Tax Program. Prior to joining UF Law, since 2014 Professor Herzfeld has been a contributing editor for Tax Analysts, authoring weekly columns on international tax policy developments and cross-border transactions in Tax Notes International. She continues to serve as a regular contributor to TNI, and is also of counsel at Ivins, Phillips & Barker, a specialty tax law firm based in Washington, D.C. Prior to assuming the position at Tax Analysts, Professor Herzfeld worked as an international tax advisor for Deloitte Tax LLP, based in its Washington, D.C., and New York offices. She began her career at Weil Gotshal & Manges in New York City and has also worked as tax counsel at Ford Motor Company. Professor Herzfeld received her J.D. from Yale Law School and her LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center. She has published over 100 articles in Tax Notes International and Tax Notes, many of which have been cited in law review articles by the leading international tax scholars, in Congressional Research Service Reports and in Treasury Department studies.

Doug Holtz-Eakin
President
American Action Forum

Before founding AAF in 2009, Dr. Holtz-Eakin served in a variety of influential policy positions. During 2001-2002, he was the Chief Economist of the President's Council of Economic Advisers (CEA), where he had also served during 1989-1990 as a Senior Staff Economist. At CEA he helped to formulate policies addressing the 2000-2001 recession and the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. From 2003-2005 he was the 6th Director of the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which provides budgetary and policy analysis to the U.S. Congress. During his tenure, CBO assisted Congress as they addressed numerous policies — notably the 2003 tax cuts (the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act), the 2003 Medicare prescription drug bill (the Medicare Modernization Act), and the 2005 push for Social Security reform.

During 2007 and 2008, he was Director of Domestic and Economic Policy for the John McCain presidential campaign. After that, he was a Commissioner on the congressionally chartered Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission.

Dr. Holtz-Eakin built an international reputation as a scholar doing research in areas of applied economic policy, econometric methods, and entrepreneurship. He began his career at Columbia University in 1985 and moved to Syracuse University from 1990 to 2001. At Syracuse, he became Trustee Professor of Economics at the Maxwell School, Chairman of the Department of Economics and Associate Director of the Center for Policy Research.

Dr. Holtz-Eakin writes a daily column in AAF's morning newsletter, the Daily Dish, and regularly comments on current policy and political debates for a variety of news outlets.

Mark Mazur
Robert C. Pozen Director, Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center
Vice President, Urban Institute

Mark J. Mazur is the Robert C. Pozen director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and a vice president at the Urban Institute. His research interests cover all aspects of tax policy. From 2012 until early 2017, he was the assistant secretary for tax policy at the US Department of the Treasury. Mazur served in the federal government for 27 years in various positions, including policy economist at the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, senior economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers; senior director at the National Economic Council; chief economist and senior policy adviser and director of policy at the US Department of Energy; acting administrator of the Energy Information Administration; director of research, analysis, and statistics at the Internal Revenue Service; and deputy assistant secretary for tax analysis in the Office of Tax Policy. Before entering public service, Mazur was an assistant professor in Heinz College at Carnegie-Mellon University. He has a bachelor's degree in financial administration from Michigan State University and a master's degree in economics and a PhD in business from Stanford University.

Kitty Richards
Senior Advisor
Groundwork Collaborative

Kitty is a policy consultant with more than a decade of experience in tax and fiscal policy research, policymaking, and advocacy at both the federal and local level. She is currently Senior Advisor to the Groundwork Collaborative. She has previously worked at several think-tanks, including the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) and the Center for American Progress (CAP). She has served as a staffer on Capitol Hill and in the White House, including as Economic Policy Advisor to Vice President Joseph R. Biden. She also spent two years as Chief of Staff to DC Councilmember Elissa Silverman, managing the day to day work of the Councilmember's team and working on a wide range of issues including tax and fiscal policy, workforce development, and the Universal Paid Leave Act. Most recently Kitty returned to CBPP as Acting Executive Director of the DC Fiscal Policy Institute during a leadership transition at the organization.

Kitty received her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Reed College, and her J.D. from New York University School of Law, as part of the Leadership Program in Tax Law and Fiscal Policy.

Russell Sullivan
Shareholder
Brownstein Hyatt Farber & Schreck

Russ Sullivan chairs the firm's National Tax Policy Group and provides unparalleled insight into the legislative and regulatory risks and opportunities related to tax policy. Russ is a Capitol Hill veteran who spent 14 years with the Senate Finance Committee, including nine as staff director. He leverages his vast network and industry expertise to devise and execute complex strategies for both nonprofit and for-profit clients on a broad range of issues, including health care, pension planning, trade, economic development and tax policy.

As Senate Finance Committee staff director, Russ worked across the aisle to advise committee chairs from both political parties, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT). During his time there, Russ saw some of the most important issues within the business community come before the committee, and he played an integral role in drafting such sweeping legislation as the JOBS Act of 2004, the Medicare Modernization Act of 2004, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 and the Affordable Care Act of 2009. His firsthand contributions to these pieces of legislation allow him to provide contextual insight into current tax and health care policy debates. Prior to his time as staff director, Russ served as chief tax counsel on the Senate Finance Committee and as legislative director for Sen. Bob Graham (D-FL). During his career on Capitol Hill, Russ developed an extensive network, managing over 600 staff members and policy professionals – many of whom currently serve in senior government positions.

This experience has driven successful outcomes for Russ' clients. He recently shepherded a grandfather provision into tax legislation to save a multi-billion dollar transaction and helped lead an effort to prevent tax increases proposed during tax reform from becoming law.

Russ is passionate about fostering at-risk youth, serving as the legal or designated guardian for 22 teenagers over the past two decades. He has continually fought for an increase in the adoption tax credit.

Tiffany Smith
Chief Tax Counsel, Democratic Staff
Senate Finance Committee

Ms. Smith is currently Chief Tax Counsel for Ranking Member Ron Wyden's staff of the United States Senate Committee on Finance. She has handled tax issues relating to international and corporate tax, tax exempt organizations and estate and gift taxes. Ms. Smith has also worked on small business/pass-throughs and individual issues, including the alternative minimum tax, and education tax incentives.

Prior to working with the Senate Finance Committee, Ms. Smith worked with the Office of Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service. While with the Office of Chief Counsel, Ms. Smith held the positions of Assistant to the Branch Chief and Attorney-Advisor, working on procedural issues.

Ms. Smith was also an Assistant Chief Counsel for the City of Chicago's Office of Chief Counsel. She handled local tax issues in the Regulatory and Aviation Litigation Division.

Ms. Smith received her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, and her LL.M in Taxation from Georgetown University. Ms. Smith is licensed to practice law in Illinois and Virginia.

Mark Warren
Chief Tax Counsel – Republican
Senate Finance Committee

Mark Warren is Chief Tax Counsel to the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa). Prior to his current position, he served as Senior Tax Counsel to Senator John Thune (R-South Dakota), and as a Tax Counsel to the House Committee on Ways and Means for nearly five years where he worked primarily on tax reform. He has spent more than 20 years in the government handling tax, retirement, and other financial issues. Mark served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Tax and Budget) in the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Legislative Affairs and worked on several congressional committees as well as for individual members of the House and Senate. Mark holds a Bachelor's degree in finance and a law degree from Georgetown University, and an LLM in taxation from New York University. He has also spent time in the private sector and has practiced law in New York, NY, and Washington, DC.