

2018 Student Forum Speaker Biographies

Senator James Welch Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, Massachusetts State House

State Senator James Welch was sworn in January 2011 to represent Hampden District including Agawam, Chicopee, Springfield, and West Springfield. Senator Welch has lived in West Springfield his entire life; he graduated from West Springfield High School and continued his education at Springfield Technical Community College then transferred to Westfield State College to receive his B.S. in Business Management. In 2001 Senator Welch began his career in public service, by joining the staff of then Representative Stephen J. Buoniconti. In 2004, Senator Welch was elected to the West Springfield City Council representing District 4. In January of 2005 he was elected to represent the 6th Hampden District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Senator Welch and his wife Kara (Flynn) reside in West Springfield with their two sons Tommy (4) and Christopher (2).

Timothy O'Neill Committee Director, Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, Massachusetts State House

Timothy O'Neill is the Committee Director for the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. An experienced manager of legislative and committee affairs, Timothy has served in senior staff positions in both the Massachusetts House of Representatives and State Senate. As Research Director, he is responsible for the development and

implementation of the Committee's legislative agenda, which includes health care cost and quality reform; patient safety and health care consumer rights; professional scope of practice and the realignment of the health care workforce; chronic disease prevention, management and wellness initiatives; biotechnology and life science priorities; and economic and tax policies related to healthcare. A graduate of Marquette University, Timothy lives in Hingham, Massachusetts with his wife Elizabeth and their daughter Claire.

Representative Mark Cusack House Chair, Joint Committee on Marijuana Policy, Massachusetts State House

Mark J. Cusack represents the 5th Norfolk House District, consisting of the Town of Braintree, Precinct 1 in the Town of Holbrook and Precinct 4 in the Town of Randolph. Mark is currently serving in his 4th term in the House of Representatives. He is a lifelong resident of Braintree, Massachusetts. He graduated from Braintree High School in 2003 and went on to attend the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he graduated from the Commonwealth College Honors Program in 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science.

Prior to joining the House of Representatives Mark served as Assistant to the Mayor of Braintree. He played a pivotal role in the implementation of Braintree's new government as it changed from a selectmen-town meeting form to a mayor-town council form. In 2010, Mark ran for representative of the 5th

Norfolk House District and was elected to the House of Representatives. Since being sworn in, Mark has served on numerous committees including Elder Affairs, Municipalities and Regional Governmental, Health Care Financing and Transportation. In previous sessions, Mark has served in leadership roles as Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy and as Chair of the House Committee on Technology and Intergovernmental Affairs. He is currently serving as the House Chairman of the Joint Committee on Marijuana Policy. Mark also serves as a commissioner on the Online Gaming, Fantasy Sports Gaming and Daily Fantasy Sports Commission.

***Michael Cannella, Esq.
Legislative Director, Office of
Senator James T. Welch,
Massachusetts State House***

Michael Evan Cannella is the Legislative Director and Counsel to Massachusetts State Senator James T. Welch, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Michael reviews and advises the Senator on healthcare legislation before the Committee and on other developments in state and federal healthcare policy. Michael is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts after graduating cum laude from Boston University Law School in 2014. He also received his MPH from Boston University School of Public Health in 2015 after serving as the Health Law and Bioethics Fellow. Upon completion of his MPH Michael was inducted into the Upsilon Phi Delta National Honor Society and was a recipient of the 2015 Allan R. Meyers Memorial Award for Excellence in

Health Services. When not working on behalf of Senator Welch, Michael enjoys volunteering his time and skills. He serves as a community member on an Institutional Review Board at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and is a member of the Boston Bar Association's Health Law Education Committee.

***Ray Campbell
Executive Director, Center for
Health Information and Analysis***

Ray Campbell is the Executive Director of the Center for Health Information and Analysis, an independent state authority charged with collecting data and conducting analyses on the Massachusetts healthcare system. Prior to joining CHIA, Ray was at the state's Group Insurance Commission in a variety of capacities, including acting Deputy Director and interim Executive Director. In addition to stints working as an independent consultant, from 2005 through 2012 Ray was the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Data Consortium, a multi-stakeholder non-profit comprised of virtually every organization in Massachusetts active in using health IT and health data to improve healthcare. While at MHDC he was involved in a wide range of public and private initiatives, both locally and nationally, relating to health IT, health information exchange, health data, administrative simplification, and payment reform. Ray's other public sector experience includes service as the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Corporation for Educational Telecommunications, as the General Counsel of the Massachusetts Information Technology Division, and the Director of Special Projects at the

Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance. Over the years Ray has served on numerous public and private boards, committees, and workgroups. He has an MPA from the Kennedy School of Government, a JD from Suffolk University Law School, and a BA from Bates College.

Marissa Woltmann
Associate Director of Policy and
ACA Implementation Specialist,
Massachusetts Health Connector

Marissa Woltmann is the Associate Director of Policy and ACA Implementation Specialist at the Massachusetts Health Connector. In this role, she is responsible for a broad variety of policy initiatives to support implementation of both Massachusetts and federal healthcare reform. In particular, her work focuses on state and federal policies related to the individual mandate, as well as individuals' eligibility for benefits through ACA Marketplaces such as the Health Connector. In addition to over 10 years of experience in the public sector, Ms. Woltmann has a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University and a Bachelor's degree in English from Hartwick College.

Eric Gold
Assistant Attorney General and
Chief of the Health Care Division,
Massachusetts Attorney General's
Office

Eric Gold is an Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Health Care Division in the Office of Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, where he has served since 2012. In the Health Care Division, Eric works on a

broad range of law enforcement and policy matters related to pharmaceuticals, medical devices, health care providers, and health insurers. Among his policy related work, Eric co-authored the Attorney General's 2016 report of its examination into pharmaceutical cost trends and has been an active member of Attorney General Healey's opiate task force since its founding.

Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, Eric worked in private practice in Boston, Chicago, and New York. Eric graduated from Cornell University and Washington University School of Law.

Dan Tsai
Assistant Secretary for
MassHealth and Medicaid Director
Executive Office of Health and
Human Services

Daniel Tsai is the Assistant Secretary for MassHealth and Medicaid Director for the Commonwealth. Tsai was appointed in January 2015 by Governor Charlie Baker to oversee the state's \$15 billion Medicaid program, which covers one in four residents in the Commonwealth. In his role, Tsai is responsible for ensuring a robust and sustainable MassHealth program. That includes developing new policies, payment models, and operational processes that improve the way health care is delivered to 1.8 million low-and moderate-income individuals and individuals with disabilities.

Before joining HHS, Tsai was a Partner and leader in McKinsey & Company's Healthcare Systems and Services practice. He has significant experience on design and implementation of innovative, state-wide health care

payment systems for Medicaid, Medicare and Commercial populations, and has worked closely with multiple state Medicaid programs, private payers, and health services companies. He received a Bachelor of Arts in applied mathematics and economics from Harvard University.

Assistant Secretary Tsai and his wife live in Cambridge. He volunteers at a local community health center in Boston's South End.

***Philip W. Johnston
Chair, Massachusetts Health Policy Forum, President and CEO,
Johnston Associates, LLC, Former
Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services, Former
Massachusetts State Legislator***

Philip W. Johnston is the President and Founder of Johnston Associates, LLC, a communications and public affairs consulting firm. Prior to establishing his firm in 1996, Phil served in senior positions in the Massachusetts legislature, the Massachusetts State cabinet, and the United States government. In 1984, Governor Michael S. Dukakis appointed Phil the Secretary of Health and Human Services in Massachusetts. As Secretary, he was responsible for the administration of seventeen state agencies in the health and human services field, which comprised over fifty percent of the state budget. Just prior to his appointment as Secretary, Phil had begun his fifth consecutive term as an elected State Representative from the Fourth Plymouth District of Massachusetts.

In 1991, Phil served as the Executive Director of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, in Washington, D.C., an organization established by the

Kennedy family to continue Robert F. Kennedy's work in the field of social justice and human rights in the United States and around the globe. In 1992, he was appointed by President Clinton to serve as the New England Administrator of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As the Administrator, Phil had supervisory responsibility for a multitude of federal Health and Human Services programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, Headstart, WIC and many other programs serving vulnerable populations in the six New England states. He reported directly to HHS Secretary, Donna Shalala. He served in that role until 1996 when he became a Democratic candidate for the US Congress in the 10th District of Massachusetts. From 2000-2007, Phil was twice elected Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party. Phil was appointed in 2007 by Governor Deval Patrick as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Massachusetts. He chaired the Search Committee for a new Chancellor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. He also served as Chair of the Search Committee for the new UMass

Amherst Chancellor. From June 2013 to June 2017, Phil served as Chairman of the University of Massachusetts Building Authority (UMBA) Board of Directors. He recently was elected Vice Chair of the University of Massachusetts Foundation.

Phil has served on the Board of Directors of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts from 1998 to 2017. In 2002, he was appointed to Chair the Board of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation, which has an endowment of \$115 million dollars and provides grants to Massachusetts

nonprofit organizations working in the healthcare field on behalf of low income citizens. Phil is the Board Chair of the Massachusetts Health Policy Forum, an organization funded by Massachusetts health providers and payors, which serves both as a health policy research organization and as a convener of key players in the health field to address health policy issues confronting the state and the nation. The Forum is affiliated with Brandeis University.

Phil also sits on the Boards of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, the Carroll Center for the Blind, the Tramuto Foundation, along with the Advisory Board for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. In 2012, Phil was appointed to the Advisory Board of the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at the Harvard Kennedy School. Most recently, Phil was named a trustee of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York.

Phil founded and served as Executive Director of the Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps, one of the top juvenile justice and social services agencies in the country. Currently, he serves on the Advisory Board of the Action Corps.

In addition to holding honorary degrees from the University of Massachusetts Boston, Bridgewater State College, and Curry College, Phil received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (Honors in History) and a Master of Arts degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Joan Mikula
Commissioner
Department of Mental Health

Joan Mikula was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health in May, 2015. She has served the Department for more than 30 years, most recently as Deputy Commissioner for Child and Adolescent Services. She has dedicated her career to ensuring that children, youth, families and adults have every opportunity to participate in their recovery and achieve their mental health goals. Passionate about consumer voice and choice, Commissioner Mikula's experience in education, child welfare and juvenile justice as well as mental health administration in the private sector is significant. She is expert in the areas of systems of care development; strengths based interventions in the context of family practice; youth and family voice; and of the linkage between behavioral health and primary care. Her expertise has guided the Department's efforts around children and their families and her commitment to interagency partnerships with families and youth have resulted in many cutting edge initiatives in the Commonwealth.

Lindsey Tucker
Associate Commissioner,
Department of Public Health

Lindsey Tucker Associate Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health Lindsey is the Associate Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). MDPH is a 3,000-person, \$1.08B organization with the mission to prevent illness, injury, and premature death; to ensure access to

high quality public health and health care services; and to promote wellness and health equity for all people in the Commonwealth. Lindsey currently oversees the Department's Bureaus of Community Health and Prevention, Family Health and Nutrition, and Environmental Health as well as the Office of Problem Gambling. In her first two years with the Department, she oversaw DPH's health care regulatory oversight work and the Office of Health Equity as well as the communications, policy, and legislative affairs teams. Lindsey is the former Principal Assistant to the Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access, which is responsible for the state's publicly-funded health care programs and reform efforts, including Medicaid and the health insurance marketplace. Also in Vermont, she was the founding chief executive of Vermont Health Connect (VHC), Vermont's state-operated health insurance marketplace. Prior to her years in Vermont, Lindsey worked on the implementation of health reform in Massachusetts at Health Care For All and the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. Lindsey has a master's degree from the Harvard School of Public Health and a BA from Yale College.

***Ben Wood, MPH
Director of the Office of
Community Health Planning and
Engagement within the Division of
Prevention and Wellness, Bureau
of Community Health and
Prevention***

Ben Wood is the Director of the Office of Community Health Planning and Engagement for the MA Department of Public Health, Division of Prevention

and Wellness. In that role, he works with communities, state agencies and other stakeholders to increase knowledge of how policies, projects and plans of all types impact health and to develop capacity for collaborative community health improvement planning. This work includes building capacity for the practice of Health Impact Assessment with a focus on built environment related issues, oversight of the Mass in Motion Municipal Wellness and Leadership Program and the development and implementation of tools for the Community Health Initiative component of the Determination of Need program. Previous to working for MDPH, Ben was most recently the Director of Public Health for the City of Northampton. Among other accomplishments he led Northampton's participation as a beta-test site for the newly formed Public Health Accreditation Board. He has significant experience in community health assessment, health improvement planning and policy development. He has presented at numerous state and national public health conferences on topics ranging from emergency preparedness and aging and disability issues and Health Impact Assessment. He was a member of the executive leadership team of the first permanent steering committee of the Society of Practitioners of Health Impact Assessment and received the Public Service Award from the Massachusetts Public Health Association in 2015. He received his MPH from the University of Michigan, School of Public Health and a Bachelor of Arts from Hampshire College. Ben lives in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Jean Zotter
Manager of Prevention and
Wellness Trust Fund within the
Bureau of Community Health and
Prevention

Jean Zotter, J.D. is Chair of the Board of Certification of Community Health Workers and Manager of the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund at the Department of Public Health (DPH). Previously, Jean was the Director of the Office of Integrated Policy, Planning and Management in the Division of Prevention and Wellness at DPH and the Asthma Director for the Asthma Prevention and Control Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. She is PI on several asthma research grants that study the role of home visiting CHWs on improving asthma outcomes for Black and Hispanic children and adults. Prior to coming to DPH, Jean served as the Executive Director of both the Boston Urban Asthma Coalition and the Massachusetts Asthma Advocacy Partnership, advocacy organizations with a focus on improving asthma and the environment in Boston and the state. Jean Zotter graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1995. She worked with the Family Advocacy Program (now the nationally renowned Medical Legal Partnership for Children) for 6 years and served as the Director for her last two years.

Glory Song
Epidemiologist, Office of Statistics
and Evaluation within the Bureau
of Community Health and
Prevention Massachusetts
Department of Public Health

Glory Song has been working as an Epidemiologist for the Department of

Public Health since 2011. She currently serves as the evaluation lead for the Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program (MTCP) and Mass in Motion, a statewide movement that promotes opportunities for healthy eating and active living. She has background and interest in chronic disease program evaluation, quasi-experimental study designs, survey instrument development, and community-level policy evaluation. Glory received her MPH from Boston University and a BA from The University of Chicago.

Secretary Marylou Sudders,
Massachusetts Secretary of Health
and Human Services

Appointed by Governor Charlie Baker, Secretary of Health & Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders leads the largest executive agency in state government, overseeing a \$22 billion state budget, twelve agencies and 22,000 public servants. EOHS services directly touch the lives of slightly more than 1 in 4 residents of the Commonwealth. Sudders responsibilities include the state's MassHealth (Medicaid) program that provides health coverage to 1.9 million low income or disabled residents, chairing the board of the state's health care marketplace (The Connector), the Autism Commission and, the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) Oversight Council; and, co-chairs the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness and the state's first Governor's Council to Address Aging in Massachusetts. Sudders is leading the Commonwealth's efforts to address the opioid epidemic and efforts to reform and strengthen the Department of Children and Families.

Professionally trained as a social worker, Sudders has been a public official, private non-profit executive, advocate and college professor. She served as the Massachusetts Commissioner of Mental Health from 1996 to 2003. Prior to her appointment as Secretary, Sudders was an associate professor and chaired the health/mental health program at Boston College's Graduate School of Social Work. She also served as an expert with the Department of Justice as a behavioral health expert.

She has been recognized by top business, social work and civic organizations, including the Boston Chamber of Commerce, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, Eastern Bank's Social Justice Award and from the National Association of Social Work.

Sudders is an alumna of Boston University with a Bachelor's degree with honors and a Master's degree in social work, and received an honorary doctorate from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. Believing in community service, she has served on many charitable board including the Pine Street Inn, DentaQuest Foundation, Massachusetts Association for Mental Health and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

***David Seltz
Executive Director
Health Policy Commission***

David Seltz is the Executive Director of the Health Policy Commission (Commission). Recently established by comprehensive health care cost

containment legislation, Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012, the Commission is an independent state agency governed by an 11-person, expert Board. The Commission aims to modernize the health care payment and delivery models in Massachusetts in order to establish a more accountable, affordable system. Prior to this appointment to this position, David was the Special Advisor for Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, responsible for coordinating the Administration's efforts to implement all aspects of Chapter 224.

After receiving his Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Boston College in 2003, David worked for 4 years as a Fiscal Policy Analyst and Manager for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means as the primary staffer responsible for all state health care finance issues. David was the chief health care advisor for Senator Therese Murray, and was involved in the 6-month Conference Committee negotiations that produced the landmark Massachusetts Health Care Reform bill, or Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2006.

Subsequently, as a member of Senate President Murray's senior staff, he assisted with the development, negotiation, and passage of three comprehensive health care cost and quality bills in 2008, 2010, and 2012. In addition to health care issues, David was the lead policy staffer responsible for managing the policy team and coordinating the development of the President's policy agenda. In this role, he advised the Senate President on various public policy reforms, including education reform, municipal health insurance

reform, and an overhaul of the public pension system.

Alan Sager, Ph.D.
Boston University
School of Public Health

Alan Sager is a professor of health law, policy, and management at the Boston University School of Public Health, where he has taught since 1983. His courses on health finance, policy, planning, and management have won twelve awards. He directs the School's certificate program in health policy and law.

In 1979, he designed a "time banking" method of mobilizing voluntary aid for disabled citizens by creating a parallel economy of good deeds. Volunteers could contribute time by helping others and then withdraw it when they needed support.

His ongoing analyses of hospital closings in 52 U.S. cities over 75 years have shown that neighborhood race and hospital size predict survival but efficiency does not. Closings undermine access while boosting cost.

He suggests that U.S. prescription drug prices can and should be cut, to make needed meds affordable for all Americans—and that this can be done while spurring drug makers to innovate.

Alan Sager holds an undergrad degree in economics from Brandeis and a doctorate in city planning from MIT.

Priyanka Dayal McCluskey
Reporter, The Boston Globe

Priyanka Dayal McCluskey covers the health care industry for the Boston Globe. Her coverage includes health

business and policy. She previously reported on business, politics, and general news for the Worcester Telegram & Gazette. She also covered health and medicine for the Boston Herald before joining the Globe in 2014. She grew up in Central Massachusetts and is a graduate of Boston University.

Brian Rosman
Government Relations and Policy
Director, Health Care for All

Brian Rosman is the Government Relations and Policy Director of Health Care For All. HCFA is the leading consumer health advocacy organization in Massachusetts.

Brian's work focuses on policy advocacy and analysis related to Massachusetts and national health reform, health delivery system reform and other policy issues. He also teaches health policy to Masters of Public Policy students at Brandeis University, and to advanced nursing students at Regis College.

Before joining Health Care For All in 2003, Brian was a senior policy associate at the Schneider Institute for Health Policy at Brandeis University's Heller School. Before that, he worked at the Massachusetts state legislature, as counsel to Health Care, and Senate Ways & Means committees.

He has a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a degree in Political Science from Stanford University.

***Eileen P. McAnneny
President, Massachusetts Tax
Payers Foundation***

Eileen McAnneny joined the staff of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation as its President in February, 2015. Founded in 1932, the Taxpayers Foundation is widely recognized as the state's premier public policy organization dealing with state spending, tax and economic policies. The Foundation's record of high quality research and non-partisan analysis has earned the organization broad credibility on Beacon Hill and across the state.

Over the past 15 years, the Foundation has won 16 prestigious national awards for its work on a wide array of topics, including health care, business costs, capital spending, state and municipal finances, transportation restructuring, and state government reform.

Ms. McAnneny, an attorney, comes to the Foundation after more than 20 years of government relations, public policy, advocacy and managerial experience in both the public and private sectors in Massachusetts. She held executive level positions at the Massachusetts Society of CPAs, serving as its President and CEO; at Fidelity Investments as a Director of Public Policy; and at Associated Industries of Massachusetts as its Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Associate General Counsel, where she focused on health care and tax policy issues for the employer community.

Ms. McAnneny worked in the public sector a staff attorney for the Joint Committee on Revenue of the Massachusetts legislature, playing a

key role in numerous significant tax policy changes, including reforms to the corporate tax code, an overhaul of the Appellate Tax Board, amendments to DOR's administrative practices and updates to unclaimed property collections.

A cum laude graduate of Tufts University and Suffolk University Law School, Ms. McAnneny holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a juris doctorate in law. She is a Commissioner of the Group Insurance Commission and on the Board of Directors of the Cooperative Central Bank.