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SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

COMMITTEE ON EXPLORING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP FOR YOUNG CHILDREN
FROM BIRTH TO AGE EIGHT

PUBLIC INFORMATION GATHERING SESSION
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BIOGRAPHIES

Carolyn Barnes, Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. Her research agenda broadly explores the social and political implications of social policy on low-income populations in the areas of childcare policy, family services and supports for young children. Her book, “State of Empowerment,” is an in-depth organizational ethnography that examines how publicly funded after-school programs shape the political behavior of low-income parents. Barnes has initiated a new line of interdisciplinary research that examines how social policy implementation reproduces racial inequality in rural southern communities. She completed a PhD in Political Science and Public Policy from the University of Michigan, where she worked as an affiliate of the National Poverty Center conducting research on the effects of nonprofit community-based service provision on parenting practices and the psycho-social well-being of families and children.

Janet Currie, Ph.D., is the Henry Putnam Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University and the Co-director of Princeton's Center for Health and Wellbeing. She also co-directs the Program on Families and Children at the National Bureau of Economic Research. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, and of the American Academy of Art and Sciences. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Society of Labor Economists, and of the Econometric Society, and has honorary degrees from the University of Lyon and the University of Zurich. She is a past President of the American Society of Health Economics and the Society of Labor Economics and has served as the Vice President of the American Economics Association. She was named a *Nomis Distinguished Scientist* in 2018, and was named as one of the top 10 women in economics by the World Economic Forum in July 2015. She has served on the Board of Reviewing Editors of

Science, as the Editor of the Journal of Economic Literature, and on many editorial boards. Currie is a pioneer in the economic analysis of child development. Her current research focuses on socioeconomic differences in health and access to health care, environmental threats to health, and the important role of mental health.

Pamela Herd, Ph.D., is a professor of public policy in the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University. Dr. Herd's research focuses on inequality and how it intersects with health, aging, and policy. Her recent book, *Administrative Burden: Policymaking by Other Means*, co-authored with Donald Moynihan, was reviewed in the New York Review of Books and received Best Book Awards from the Academy of Management Public and Nonprofit Section and the American Society of Public Administration, as well as the Louise Brownlow Book Award from the National Academy of Public Administration. She has published related commentary in the New York Times and the Washington Post. Her work has appeared in journals such as the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Sociological Review, Health Affairs, and Nature Genetics. She also has expertise in survey research and bio-demographic methods. She has received grant awards for her work from the National Institutes for Health, National Institutes on Aging, the Russell Sage Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and AARP.

Rucker C. Johnson, Ph.D., is the Chancellor's Professor of Public Policy in the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, and faculty research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. As a labor economist who specializes in the economics of education, Johnson's work considers the role of poverty and inequality in affecting life chances. Johnson was inducted as the Sir Arthur Lewis Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, inducted as a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, the National Academy of Education, and received the 2017 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. His research has appeared in leading academic journals, featured in mainstream media outlets, and he has been invited to give policy briefings at the White House and on Capitol Hill. He is the author of the book *Children of the Dream: Why School Integration Works*. Johnson is committed to advance his scholarly agenda of fusing insights from multiple disciplinary perspectives to improve our understanding of the causes, consequences, and remedies of inequality in this country. Johnson earned his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Michigan. At UC-Berkeley (2004-present), he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in applied econometrics and topical courses in race, poverty & inequality.