



National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service

Public Forum – Boston, MA

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Suffolk University

Sargent Hall

#Inspire2Serve

5:45-6:00 pm Opening Remarks

Introduction: *Mr. Mark Gearan, Commissioner*

Welcome: *Mr. Andrew Perlman, Dean of Suffolk University Law School*

6:00-7:00 pm “Benefits and Barriers of Service”

Moderator: *Ms. Avril Haines, Commissioner*

Panelists:

- *Dr. Marc Holzer, Distinguished Professor, Public Administration, Suffolk University*
- *Dr. Robert Behn, Senior Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School*
- *Dr. Rachael Cobb, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Government, Suffolk University*

7:00-7:45 pm Questions & Public Comments

The Commission’s work includes understanding why people serve, why people may choose not to serve, and recommending ways to increase the number of Americans in military, national, and public service. The Commission is actively seeking input from the public and invites you to join the conversation. Share your thoughts at: www.inspire2serve.gov.



SPEAKER AND PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Andrew Perlman, *Dean of the Suffolk University Law School*

Dean Andrew Perlman is a nationally recognized voice on the future of legal education and law practice. Dean Perlman was the chief reporter of the American Bar Association's Commission on Ethics 20/20 and also served as the vice chair of the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services. Most recently, he was appointed by the president of the American Bar Association to serve as the chair of the governing council of the ABA's new Center for Innovation. Dean Perlman was the founding director of Suffolk's Institute on Law Practice Technology and Innovation as well as the related Legal Technology and Innovation Concentration. Dean Perlman has written numerous articles on professional responsibility that have appeared in some of the nation's leading law reviews. He regularly speaks about professional responsibility and the future of legal services at academic conferences, bar association programs, and local and international law firms. Prior to entering academia, Dean Perlman clerked for a federal district court judge in Chicago and practiced as a litigator there. He is an honors graduate of Yale College and Harvard Law School, and he received his LL.M from Columbia Law School.



Dr. Marc Holzer, *Distinguished Professor of Public Administration at Suffolk University*

Former founding dean of the School of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers University, Dr. Holzer is a prominent international leader in the field of public administration, and has been recognized by many international public management leadership organizations including the Chinese Public Administration Society, the Korean Association for Public Administration, the European Group on Public Administration and the United Nations. Dr. Holzer is a past president of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), and founded the Northeast Conference on Public Administration and the ASPA's Sections on Korea, China and Humanities/Arts. He is a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and of the World Academy of Productivity Science, and has been recognized with over 20 national and international awards for his contributions in the field of research, teaching and service. He is a world-renowned author and lecturer, and currently chairs the ASPA Endowment supporting education in strong, effective and ethical public governance.



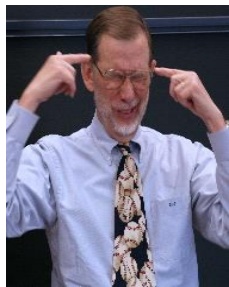
Dr. Rachael Cobb, *Associate Professor and Chair at Department of Government at Suffolk University*

Rachael V. Cobb, Ph.D. is Chair and Associate Professor of Government at Suffolk University. Cobb specializes in U.S. elections, election administration, electoral politics, civic engagement, and political participation. In 2006, with a grant from the United States Election Assistance Commission, Cobb established the University Pollworkers Project, a nonpartisan program designed to recruit college students as poll workers. More than 1,000 students from the Greater Boston area have received training and worked as poll workers as part of this program. In 2008, Professor Cobb served as co-principal investigator on the Boston Area Colleges Exit Poll, in collaboration with D. James Greiner (Harvard Law School) and Kevin Quinn (Harvard University Government Department). In 2016, she and colleague Brian Conley (Suffolk University Government Department) co-founded Suffolk University Campaign Lab, a non-partisan program designed to help people learn how to manage and run political campaigns and issue-based campaigns. Her work as appeared in the *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* and *Studies in American Political Development*. Professor Cobb serves on the board of MassVOTE, iVote, the Boston Election Advisory Committee, and the Cambridge Homes. She is a regular contributor to the SCRUM on NPR's Morning Edition on WGBH. She received her Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and her AB from Bryn Mawr College.



Dr. Robert Behn, *Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School*

Robert D. Behn, a lecturer at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, is the faculty chair of the School's executive-education program on "Driving Government Performance: Leadership Strategies that Produce Results." He focuses his research and teaching on the leadership challenge of improving the performance of government jurisdictions and public agencies. Bob earned a B.S. in physics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a Ph.D. in applied mathematics from Harvard. He served on the staff of Massachusetts Governor Francis W. Sargent, as a scholar in residence with the Council for Excellence in Government, and on the faculty of the Harvard Business School and of Duke University's Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy, where he was director of its Governors Center. For over three decades, Bob has taught numerous executive-education programs at Duke and Harvard and conducted executive-education seminars for public agencies in half the states. He has led sessions at retreats for gubernatorial staff and cabinets in Delaware, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and



Washington. Bob has conducted executive seminars on six continents. Bob grew up a fan of the Brooklyn Dodgers. At the end of the 1967 season, however, he went to Fenway Park for the Boston Red Sox' last game.



COMMISSIONER BIOGRAPHIES

Joseph Heck, Chairman, served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the 3rd District of Nevada from 2011 to 2017. During that time, he was a member of the Armed Services Committee, where he chaired the subcommittee on Military Personnel; the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; and the Committee on Education and the Workforce. From 2004 to 2008, Dr. Heck served in the Nevada State Senate. A graduate of The Pennsylvania State University with a degree in health education, he received his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and completed his Emergency Medicine Residency at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia. He is a fellow of both the American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians and the American College of Emergency Physicians. An active member of the United States Army Reserve, Dr. Heck holds the rank of Brigadier General and is currently assigned as the Deputy Joint Staff Surgeon, Office of the Chairman – The Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dr. Heck also currently serves as President of RedRock Government Relations, where he oversees a team that provides insightful and innovative strategic guidance to help clients achieve their public policy goals.



Mark Gearan, Vice Chair for National and Public Service, is the Director of the Institute of Politics, Harvard Kennedy School and Special Advisor for Public Service Initiatives at Harvard College. From 1999 to 2017, Mr. Gearan served as President of Hobart and William Smith Colleges. In 1995, Mr. Gearan was appointed by the President to serve as the Director of the Peace Corps. Previously, he served in the White House as Assistant to the President, Director of Communications, and Deputy Chief of Staff. Mr. Gearan was an appointee of the Bipartisan Policy Center's Commission on Political Reform, which focused on developing policy recommendations to encourage greater public service, amongst other things. He was a former member of the White House Council for Community Solutions, a group of cross-sector leaders appointed to recommend collaborative solutions to increase civic engagement, and has served on numerous boards. He is the co-chair of the National Advisory Board on Public Service at Harvard College. He earned his bachelor's degree in government *cum laude* from Harvard University, his law degree from Georgetown University, and he is the recipient of 13 honorary degrees.

Debra Wada, Vice Chair for Military Service, was appointed in 2014 to the position of Assistant Secretary of Manpower and Reserve Affairs for the U.S. Army. In that position, she was responsible for all personnel, training, and readiness of the Army. Prior to her appointment, she worked on the U.S. House Armed Services Committee with responsibility for military personnel policy. She also worked for Senator Daniel K. Akaka. Originally from Hawaii, Ms. Wada graduated from Drake University in Iowa with a degree in economics and political science, and also attended the Naval War College.



Edward Allard III served most recently as the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Selective Service System from April 2010 to January 2017, where he chaired improvement projects to ensure effective and efficient Agency operations. He had previously served in the Clinton Administration, as the Director of the Performance Excellence Office in the Energy Department and as an adviser to the Secretary of Defense. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for more than 10 years, resigning as a Captain in 1973. For over 25 years, Mr. Allard was the President and CEO of Allard & Associates, a management consulting firm, which provided management and performance improvement consultations nationally and internationally. He also worked with several nonprofit organizations, including as the President of the Roybal Foundation, which provides scholarships to health care students for work in low-income communities; as Vice-President of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce; and various positions with the United Way of America. Mr. Allard received a Master of Business Administration from the University of Miami in 1984.

Steven Barney served as the General Counsel to the Committee on Armed Services in the U.S. Senate, supporting 26 elected U.S. Senators comprising the full committee and six subcommittees to plan, develop, draft, and assure Congressional passage of the annual National Defense Authorization Act. He was the lead professional staff member responsible for defense personnel programs, including support for the active force of over 1.3 million servicemembers. Mr. Barney also served for over 22 years in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Navy, leading military and civilian legal professionals and staff at sea and ashore. During that service, he worked as the Inspector General of the Naval Legal Service Command, was the Fleet Judge Advocate for the U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk and the U.S. Seventh Fleet in Japan. He retired in the grade of Captain in 2013. He received his law degree from Suffolk University Law School and his bachelor's degree from Saint Michael's College.





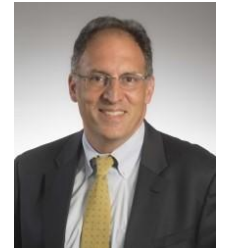
Janine Davidson currently serves as the President of Metropolitan State University of Denver. From 2016 to 2017, Ms. Davidson served as the 32nd Under Secretary of the United States Navy, where she managed all Department of the Navy affairs including Navy and Marine Corps integration, acquisition, finance, personnel, legislative affairs, research and development. In that role, she was responsible for the health and well-being of nearly 900,000 sailors, marines, civilians, and their families. Prior to the Navy, Ms. Davidson served as a senior fellow for defense policy at the Council on Foreign Relations, where she is a lifetime member. She has taught national security policy and political science at Georgetown University, George Mason University, and Davidson College. She holds a master's degree and doctorate from the University of South Carolina and a bachelor's of science degree in architectural engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder. She was a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Squadron Officer School and was the first woman to fly the Air Force's tactical C-130.

Avril Haines is currently a Senior Research Scholar working on Columbia World Projects, which attempts to bring extraordinary scholarship to bear on the most basic fundamental challenges that we are facing today. She is also a fellow at the Human Rights Institute and National Security Law Program at Columbia Law School. Ms. Haines served as Principal Deputy National Security Advisor from 2014 to 2017. Just prior, she was the Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and before that she served as the Legal Adviser to the National Security Council. Before joining the NSC, she led the Treaty Office at the Department of State, was the Deputy Chief Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, worked for The Hague Conference on Private International Law, and served as a law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Prior to obtaining her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center, Ms. Haines founded and ran a successful bookstore café in Baltimore and was active with local community organizations. Ms. Haines received a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Chicago.



Jeanette James is retired from the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services where she served as a Professional Staff Member and Lead Staff on the Military Personnel Subcommittee. During her time on the Committee, she focused on the Defense Health Program and the Military Health System, the integration of women into previously closed military occupational specialties, family programs, sexual assault and sexual harassment, Arlington National Cemetery, and Wounded Warrior programs. Prior to her joining the Committee, Ms. James served 31 years in the Army as a Nurse Corps officer, with assignments ranging from clinical nursing to executive leadership. Ms. James is a graduate of several military and health care leadership development programs including the Army Management Staff College, the Interagency Institute for Federal Health Care Executives, and the Army War College, where she earned a Master of Strategic Studies. She received a bachelor's degree in nursing from Syracuse University and a Master in Nursing Administration from New York University.

Alan Khazei is a social entrepreneur who has pioneered ways to empower citizens to make a difference. He is the Founder and CEO of Be The Change, Inc., which has three campaigns: Opportunity Nation, to promote social mobility and expand opportunity; Got Your 6, to empower post 9/11 Veterans to lead a resurgence of community; and Service Year Alliance, to promote a year of national service as a civic rite of passage. Mr. Khazei is the Co-Founder and former CEO of City Year, which unites young adults, ages 17 to 24, from all backgrounds for an intensive year of full-time community service mentoring, tutoring, and educating children. City Year served as the model for President Clinton's AmeriCorps program. Mr. Khazei is also the author of *Big Citizenship: How pragmatic idealism can bring out the best in America*.



Tom Kilgannon is the President of Freedom Alliance, a charitable organization which honors and supports America's military personnel and their families and advocates for a strong national defense. Under his leadership, Freedom Alliance grants millions of dollars to hospitalized heroes to help them and their families with unexpected costs during their recovery. Mr. Kilgannon also created the *Service to America Award*, which pays tribute to individuals "whose efforts reflect a love of country that makes America and her communities a more perfect Union." He began his career as a Deputy Press Secretary for Pat Buchanan's 1992 presidential campaign and later worked in the U.S. House of Representatives as a top aide to Congressman Mark Neumann of Wisconsin, a member of the historic freshman class of 1995. Mr. Kilgannon is a graduate of New York University and has appeared on numerous television and radio programs. He has published dozens of opinion columns and is the author of *Diplomatic Divorce: Why America Should End Its Love Affair With the United Nations*.

Shawn Skelly served as the Director of the Office of the Executive Secretariat at the U.S. Department of Transportation from June 2016 until January 2017. She previously served two and one-half years as Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics at the Department of Defense, coordinating the Warfighter Senior Integration Group. In that role, she was responsible for facilitating the Departmental response to the most urgent and unique support requirements of Combatant Commanders, including the Counter ISIL Campaign and operations in Afghanistan. Ms. Skelly served on active duty in the U.S. Navy for 20 years as a Naval Flight Officer, retiring with the rank of Commander. Between her military career and 2013, Ms. Skelly spent five years in industry with ITT Exelis. She received a bachelor's degree in history from the University of South Carolina and a Master in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

