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A SELECTION OF DOCUMENTS RECENTLY PUBLISHED ON THE WEB

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GENERAL INTEREST

Isabel V. Sawhill

Capitalism and the Future of Democracy

Brookings – Report - July 9, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/capitalism-and-the-future-of-democracy>

“Are rising populist sentiments the result of a liberal market-based economic system? Isabel Sawhill argues that America’s capitalist mindset is failing to produce what citizens want and need.”

Gonzalo Schwarz

The Coddling of American Agency

Archbridge Institute – Essay – July 2019

<https://medium.com/@ArchbridgeInst/the-coddling-of-american-agency-9f5786b9cc13>

“Archbridge President and CEO Gonzalo Schwarz puts forward the provocative thesis that Americans are losing their sense of agency. Pulling together threads from *The Coddling of the American Mind* and *The Complacent Class*, Schwarz details economic trends and societal attitudes that signal a change in people's sense of agency; including a mainstream culture of safetyism, changing preferences for security over dynamism, and misguided policy proposals based on fears of technological change. Furthermore, Schwarz highlights how prominent figures on both the political left and right continuously promote attitudes of helplessness among their audience. He concludes by issuing a warning about the economic consequences of a failure to revive Americans’ sense of agency and offers some ideas on how to begin the process.”

Economic Mobility: Is the American Dream in Crisis?

Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs – Hearing – July 16, 2019

<https://www.banking.senate.gov/hearings/economic-mobility-is-the-american-dream-in-crisis>

“We’re here to discuss economic mobility and the American Dream. When economists discuss these things, they often think in terms of GDP growth and consumer prices. To exaggerate just a little, they often seem to believe that so long as the economy grows at 3 percent and Americans can afford more cheap plastic stuff from China, that America must be doing great. But is that really true?”

Daniel Block

Free Trade For Liberals

Washington Monthly - July/August 2019

<https://washingtonmonthly.com/magazine/july-august-2019/>

“If we have learned anything from the last few years, it’s that the forces behind this kind of populism are global in nature, able to thrive in a wide variety of national soils. The solution must therefore be global, too. Illiberalism is simply too big and powerful to be stopped by any one state, or even one region. Working with Europe—a continent full of democracies, many our partners since the end of World War II—is the best place to start.”

GROWTH

Andrew Foerster, Andreas Hornstein, Pierre-Daniel Sarte, and Mark Watson

How Have Changing Sectoral Trends Affected GDP Growth?

FRB San Francisco - Economic Letter - July 8, 2019 – 5 pages

<https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/files/el2019-18.pdf>

“Trend GDP growth has slowed about 2.3 percentage points to 1.7% since 1950. Different economic sectors have contributed to this slowing to varying degrees depending on the distinct trends of technology and labor growth in each sector. The extent to which sectors influence overall growth depends on the degree of spillovers to other sectors, which amplifies the effect of sectoral changes. Three sectors with slowing growth and linkages to other sectors—construction, nondurable goods, and professional and business services—account for 60% of the decline in trend GDP growth.”

Charles S. Gascon, Brian Reinbold

Industry Mix May Help Explain Urban-Rural Divide in Economic Growth

FRB St. Louis - Regional Economist - Second Quarter 2019

“The BEA recently released county-level GDP, thus providing another way to analyze differences between urban and rural areas in the U.S. Data suggest that rural areas have been growing more slowly because of greater exposure to the government sector and lower exposure to the private service-providing sector. The urban-rural divide appears greater in the Eighth District. This may be due to the composition of the District’s goods-producing sector.”

Bill Dupor

Auto Sales and the 2007-09 Recession

FRB Saint Louis – Economic Synopsis – July 7, 2019

<https://research.stlouisfed.org/publications/economic-synopses/2019/07/05/auto-sales-and-the-2007-09-recession>

“The Great Recession hit the auto industry hard: New vehicle sales fell nearly 40%, and industry employment fell over 45%. Consumers’ driving habits didn’t change, so why the drop in sales? Survey data show that consumers saw their worsening economic future as a good-enough reason to delay buying a new car.”

FISCAL AND TAX POLICIES – DEBT

Chye-Ching Huang and Roderick Taylor

How the Federal Tax Code Can Better Advance Racial Equity

Budget Center on Policy and Priorities – Report - July 25, 2019 – 39 pages

<https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/7-25-19tax.pdf>

“The federal tax code does not explicitly benefit one race over another. Yet historical racism and continuing racial prejudice and discrimination have helped to shape factors that determine households’ tax liability, such as their income, wealth, and consumption... In a new paper, we highlight how racism has helped shape the tax code’s historical development in ways that continue to influence tax policy today, as in the current debate over a wealth tax and direct taxation.”

Jeffrey R. Campbell, Filippo Ferroni, Jonas D. M. Fisher, and Leonardo Melosi

The Macroeconomic Effects of the 2018 Bipartisan Budget Act

FRB Chicago – Economic Perspectives – Article – Posted July 2019 – 22 pages

<https://www.chicagofed.org/publications/economic-perspectives/2019/2>

“The 2018 Bipartisan Budget Act raised government spending caps by \$300 billion for fiscal years 2018 and 2019. While spending does not increase immediately, private sector investment and consumption may respond ahead of an anticipated fiscal stimulus. This Economic Perspectives article assesses the strength of this mechanism based on the private sector’s expectations.”

Olivier Blanchard and Ángel Ubide

Why Critics of a More Relaxed Attitude on Public Debt Are Wrong

Peterson Institute - Realtime Economic Issues Watch – July 15, 2019

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/realtime-economic-issues-watch/why-critics-more-relaxed-attitude-public-debt-are-wrong>

“Two counterarguments have arisen to the thesis advanced by Blanchard and Ubide in favor of a more relaxed attitude toward public debt and deficits. The first is that telling governments that there is more fiscal space will lead them to misbehave, so it is better not to tell them. The second is that, sooner or later, interest rates will increase and so there is no reason to rethink fiscal policy. The blog rebuts both arguments.”

Foreign Holdings of Federal Debt

Congressional Research Service – Report – Updated July 26, 2019 – 10 pages

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS22331.pdf>

“From December 2014 to December 2018, foreign holdings of debt increased by \$0.1 trillion to approximately \$6.3 trillion. During the same period, total publicly held debt increased by approximately \$3.1 trillion to \$16.1 trillion. Because the total debt has increased faster than the debt held by foreigners, the share of federal debt held by foreigners has declined in recent years. In December 2018, foreigners held 39% of the publicly held debt. Interest on the debt paid to foreigners in 2018 was \$120.2 billion.”

MONETARY POLICY

Òscar Jordà, Chitra Marti, Fernanda Nechio, and Eric Tallman

Why Is Inflation Low Globally?

FRB San Francisco - Economic Letter - July 15, 2019 – 5 pages

<https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/files/el2019-19.pdf>

“A hot economy eventually boosts inflation. Such is the simple wisdom of the Phillips curve. Yet inflation across developed countries has been remarkably weak since the 2008 global financial crisis, even though unemployment rates are near historical lows. What is behind this recent disconnect between inflation and unemployment? Contrasting the experiences of developed and developing economies before and after the financial crisis shows that broader factors than monetary policy are at play. Inflation has declined globally, and this trend preceded the financial crisis.”

*Robert E. Scott***What’s Good for Wall Street is Often Bad for American Workers and Manufacturing: The Overvalued Dollar**

Economic Policy Institute – Blog - June 27, 2019

<https://www.epi.org/blog/whats-good-for-wall-street-is-often-bad-for-american-workers-and-manufacturing-the-overvalued-dollar>

“A strong dollar is hurting American workers and main street manufacturers... In order to rebalance U.S. trade, the dollar needs to fall 25–30 percent, especially against the currencies of countries with large, persistent trade surpluses such as China, Japan, and the European Union. This would help to address the trade deficits that have eliminated nearly 5 million good-paying American manufacturing jobs over the past two decades and some 90,000 factories. In fact, trade with low-wage countries has pulled down the incomes of 100 million non-college educated workers by roughly \$2,000 per year.”

*Gara Afonso, Fabiola Ravazzolo, and Alessandro Zori***From Policy Rates to Market Rates—Untangling the U.S. Dollar Funding Market**

FRB New York - Liberty Street Economics - July 08, 2019

<https://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed.org/2019/07/from-policy-rates-to-market-ratesuntangling-the-us-dollar-funding-market.html>

“How do changes in the rate that the Federal Reserve pays on reserves held by depository institutions affect rates in money markets in which the Fed does not participate? Through which channels do changes in the so-called administered rates reach rates in onshore and offshore U.S. dollar money markets?”

Examining Regulatory Frameworks for Digital Currencies and Blockchain

Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs – Hearing – July 30, 2019

<https://www.banking.senate.gov/hearings/examining-regulatory-frameworks-for-digital-currencies-and-blockchain>

The witnesses will be: Mr. Jeremy Allaire, Co-Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Circle, on behalf of The Blockchain Association; Ms. Rebecca M. Nelson, Specialist in International Trade and Finance, Congressional Research Service; and Ms. Mehrsa Baradaran, Professor of Law, University of California, Irvine School of Law.

Examining Facebook’s Proposed Digital Currency and Data Privacy Considerations

Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs – Hearing – July 16, 2019

<https://www.banking.senate.gov/hearings/examining-facebooks-proposed-digital-currency-and-data-privacy-considerations>

The witness is Mr. David A. Marcus, Head of Calibra, Facebook

Examining Facebook’s Proposed Cryptocurrency and Its Impact on Consumers, Investors, and the American Financial System

House Committee on Financial Services – Hearing – July 17, 2019

<https://financialservices.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=404001>

Witnesses:

David Marcus, Chief Executive Officer, Calibra

Chris Brummer, Director, Institute of International Economic Law, Georgetown University Law Center

Katharina Pistor, Edwin B. Parker Professor of Comparative Law at Columbia Law School

Gary Gensler, MIT Sloan School of Management, MIT Media Lab

Robert Weisman, President, Public Citizen

Erwin Fielt, Kevin C. Desouza, and Chen Ye

How Should Governments Respond to Facebook’s Libra Initiative?

Brookings – TechTank - July 26, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2019/07/26/how-should-governments-respond-to-facebooks-libra-initiative/>

“Facebook’s plan to launch its Libra cryptocurrency recently hit a major roadblock: lawmakers’ concerns over privacy and regulatory compliance issues. Erwin Fielt, Kevin Desouza, and Chen Ye discuss how governments can learn from past experiences to proactively respond to the tech giant’s new financial services.”

FINANCE

Alan Basmajian, Brad Groarke, Vanessa Kargenian, Kimberley Liao, Erika Ota-Liedtke, Jesse Maniff, and Asani Sarkar

Research Conference on FinTech

FRB New York - Liberty Street Economics – July 19, 2019

<https://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed.org/2019/07/at-the-new-york-fed-research-conference-on-fintech.html>

“In March, the New York Fed hosted “The First New York Fed Research Conference on FinTech” to understand the implications of FinTech developments on issues that are relevant to the Fed’s mandates such as lending, payments, and regulation. In this post, we summarize the principal themes and findings of the conference.”

Rajdeep Sengupta and Jacob Dice

Did Local Factors Contribute to the Decline in Bank Branches?

FRB Kansas City – Economic Review – Third Quarter 2019 – 22 pages

[https://www.kansascityfed.org/~media/files/publicat/econrev/econrevarchive/2019/3q19senguptadice.pdf](https://www.kansascityfed.org/~/media/files/publicat/econrev/econrevarchive/2019/3q19senguptadice.pdf)

“After increasing for about a decade, the number of bank branches has declined since the 2007-08 financial crisis. Rajdeep Sengupta and Jacob Dice find that changes in local market and competitive factors may partly explain this decline.”

Falk Bräuning and José L. Fillat

Stress Testing Effects on Portfolio Similarities Among Large US Banks

FRB Boston - Current Policy Perspectives – Report posted in July 2019 – 40 pages

<https://www.bostonfed.org/publications/current-policy-perspectives/2019/stress-testing-effects-on-portfolio-similarities-among-large-us-banks.aspx>

“We use an expansive regulatory loan-level dataset to analyze how the portfolios of the largest US banks have evolved since 2011... In general, stress testing has resulted in more diversified bank portfolios in terms of sectoral and regional distributions. However, we also find that all the large US banks diversified in a similar way, creating a more concentrated systemic portfolio in the aggregate.”

Jeffrey Levine and Asani Sarkar

Large Bank Cash Balances and Liquidity Regulations

FRB New York - Liberty Street Economics – July 15, 2019

<https://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed.org/2019/07/large-bank-cash-balances-and-liquidity-regulations.html>

“The liquidity needs of the largest U.S. commercial banks play an important role in understanding the banking system’s appetite for actual reserve holdings—bank reserve demand. In this post, the authors discuss the recent evolution of large bank cash balances, the effect of liquidity regulations on these balances, and how banks might react to changes in the supply of reserves.”

Jeffrey Levine and Asani Sarkar

How Do Large Banks Manage Their Cash?

FRB New York - Liberty Street Economics – July 17, 2019

<https://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed.org/2019/07/how-do-large-banks-manage-their-cash.html>

“In this post, we provide new evidence on how large banks have managed their cash, which is the largest component of reserves, on a daily basis since the implementation of liquidity regulations.”

Alex Horowitz

Banks to Offer Alternatives to Costly Payday Loans?

Pew Research Center – Article – July 15, 2019

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2019/07/15/bank-regulators-set-to-make-big-decisions-about-small-loans>

“If banks offered affordable small-dollar loans with clear guidelines, millions of payday loan borrowers could save billions of dollars annually. Now, the nation’s federal bank regulators have a chance to make this a reality.”

CONSUMER FINANCE

Karen Kavanaugh

Many Americans Still Face Financial Instability Despite Economic Growth

Pew Research Center – Article - July 29, 2019

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2019/07/29/many-americans-still-face-financial-instability-despite-economic-growth>

“National labor market data over the last few years show a strong, high-performing economy, but those big-picture numbers do not include microeconomic indicators that reflect the more difficult reality of many Americans’ financial lives... Interviews show continued challenges linked to income, job markets, and family situations.”

Cheryl R. Cooper

An Overview of Consumer Finance and Policy Issues

Congressional Research Service – Report – July 12, 2019 – 33 pages

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R45813.pdf>

Consumer finance refers to the saving, borrowing, and investment choices that households make over time. These financial decisions can be complex and can affect households’ financial well-being both now and in the future. Safe and affordable financial services are an important tool for most American households to avoid financial hardship, build assets, and achieve financial security over the course of their lives. Understanding why and how consumers make financial decisions is important when considering policy issues in consumer financial markets.”

HOUSING

Can We Deregulate Ourselves Out of the Affordable Housing Crisis?

Urban Institute – Blog – July 1, 2019

<https://www.urban.org/urban-wire/can-we-deregulate-ourselves-out-affordable-housing-crisis>

“There is renewed bipartisan interest in stronger federal efforts to rein in restrictive zoning laws to unleash housing supply and improve affordability. But will deregulatory strategies really work?”

Jenny Schuetz

Is Rent Control Making A Comeback?

Brookings – Report - July 17, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/is-rent-control-making-a-comeback>

“As cities attempt to cope with rising housing costs, a handful of states are showing renewed interest in rent control policies. Jenny Schuetz takes a closer look at some of the common arguments for and effectiveness of rent regulation in the United States.”

Jenny Schuetz and Cecile Murray

California Needs to Build More Apartments

Brookings - The Avenue - July 11, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2019/07/10/california-needs-to-build-more-apartments>

“What can be done about California’s high housing costs? Jenny Schuetz and Cecile Murray explain how restrictive zoning laws have contributed to the problem by limiting the development of multifamily apartment buildings in high-rent neighborhoods.”

OTHER ECONOMIC POLICIES

Amy Sinden

The Cost-Benefit Boomerang

The American Prospect – Article - July 25, 2019

<https://prospect.org/article/cost-benefit-boomerang>

“The right devised cost-benefit analysis to discredit regulation. Now this technique is showing massive net benefits, and the foes of environmental regulation are in a panic.”

Darrell M. West

Why National Preemption Has Become A Technology Policy Flash Point

Brookings – TechTank – July 18, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2019/07/18/why-national-preemption-has-become-a-technology-policy-flash-point/>

“From privacy legislation to emerging 5G wireless infrastructure, citizens and policymakers alike are fighting jurisdictional battles over the right to regulate various new technologies. Darrell West explains why debates over state and federal regulation continue to persist in modern tech policy.”

Counterfeits and Cluttering: Emerging Threats to the Integrity of the Trademark System and the Impact on American Consumers and Businesses

House Committee on the Judiciary – Hearing - July 18, 2019

<https://judiciary.house.gov/legislation/hearings/counterfeits-and-cluttering-emerging-threats-integrity-trademark-system-and>

Mary Boney Denison, Commissioner for Trademarks, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Jeanne Fromer, Professor of Law, New York University School of Law

Peter M. Brody, Partner, Ropes & Gray, LLP

Joseph Cammisio, President, Automotive Anti-Counterfeiting Council, Inc.

Robert Barchiesi, President, International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition

Rebecca Mond, Vice President, Federal Government Affairs, The Toy Association

BUSINESS

François Gourio

Has Business Fixed Investment Really Been Unusually Low?

FRB Chicago – Fed Letter – July 2019 – 9 pages

<https://www.chicagofed.org/publications/chicago-fed-letter/2019/418>

“Business fixed investment represents the spending by businesses to increase production capacity. It is traditionally decomposed into equipment (such as computers and machines), structures (such as plants, shopping malls, or warehouses), and intellectual property (such as software and R&D). After declining sharply during the Great Recession, business fixed investment (BFI) recovered in 2010, but investment was again quite low in 2015 and 2016. This slowdown was driven in part by the decline of oil prices that led to a significant contraction in the oil drilling industry. Since then, growth has resumed.”

Small Business: Access to Capital and Job Creation

Congressional Research Service – Report – Updated July 16, 2019 – 31 pages

<https://fas.org/sfp/crs/misc/R40985.pdf>

“This report addresses a core issue facing the 116thCongress: What, if any, additional action should the federal government take to enhance small business access to capital? It discusses the role of small business in job creation and retention, then provides an assessment of the supply and demand for small business loans and recently enacted laws designed to enhance small business access to capital by increasing either the supply of small business loans or the demand for small business loans, or both. It also examines recent actions concerning the SBA’s budget and concludes with a brief overview of three legislative options available to address small business access to capital issues during the 116thCongress: wait-and-see, enact additional programs, or reduce and consolidate existing programs.”

How Regulations Stifle Small Business Growth

House Small Business Committee – Hearing - July 22, 2019

<https://smallbusiness.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=2742>

“Despite a growing economy, America’s small businesses continue to face challenges complying with federal regulations. Regulatory burdens constrain small business job creation and business expansion. This hearing aims to highlight how federal rules and regulations are impacting Oklahoma’s small businesses.”

David Dayen

The Biggest Abuser of Forced Arbitration Is Amazon

The American Prospect – Article – July 10, 2019

<https://prospect.org/article/biggest-abuser-forced-arbitration-amazon>

“With 2.5 million third-party sellers, it’s the largest employment-related class barred from using courts for complaints, and confined to the online retailer’s private law.”

Shaoul Sussman

How Amazon Controls Its Marketplace

The American Prospect – Article - July 26, 2019

<https://prospect.org/article/how-amazon-controls-its-marketplace>

“Amazon’s dominance doesn’t merely rely on competing with sellers on its platform. It extracts a deep cut from every transaction, at the expense of sellers and customers.”

INDUSTRY

Darrell M. West

Brookings Survey Finds 58% See Manufacturing as Vital to US Economy, But Only 17% Are Very Confident In Its Future

Brookings – TechTank - July 9, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2019/07/09/brookings-survey-finds-58-percent-see-manufacturing-as-vital-to-u-s-economy-but-only-17-percent-are-very-confident-in-its-future>

“A new poll on American attitudes toward manufacturing finds that while most believe it to be a vital part of the U.S. economy, very few feel confident in its future.”

TECHNOLOGY

Carroll Doherty and Jocelyn Kiley

Americans Have Become Much Less Positive About Tech Companies’ Impact on the U.S.

The Pew Research Center – Survey -

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/07/29/americans-have-become-much-less-positive-about-tech-companies-impact-on-the-u-s/>

“Four years ago, most Americans saw tech companies as having a positive impact on the country. That share has tumbled since, from 71 percent to just 50 percent.”

Online Platforms and Market Power, Part 2: Innovation and Entrepreneurship

House Committee on the Judiciary – Hearing - July 16, 2019

<https://judiciary.house.gov/legislation/hearings/online-platforms-and-market-power-part-2-innovation-and-entrepreneurship>

Testimonies by representatives of Amazon, Google, Facebook, Apple, and academics.

Cameron F. Kerry and John B. Morris

Why Data Ownership Is the Wrong Approach to Protecting Privacy

Brookings Center for Technology Innovation – TechTank – June 26, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2019/06/26/why-data-ownership-is-the-wrong-approach-to-protecting-privacy/>

“Treating user data as personal property has understandable appeal, but Cameron Kerry and John Morris Jr. say there are a number of downsides that policymakers should keep in mind.”

Proposed New York Bill Expands Scope of Data Privacy Debate

Brookings Center for Technology Innovation – TechTank – June 24, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2019/06/24/proposed-new-york-bill-expands-scope-of-data-privacy-debate>

“Jack Karsten and Raj Karan Gambhir examine how the New York Privacy Act differs from its predecessors and discuss its implications for the future of U.S. data privacy.”

Dina Srinivasan

How Digital Advertising Markets Really Work

The American Prospect – Article – June 24, 2019

<https://prospect.org/article/how-digital-advertising-markets-really-work>

“They’re shaping our market, our democracy—our entire reality. If we’re going to fix them, we need to understand them.”

Shaoul Sussman

Superpredators

Washington Monthly - July/August 2019

<https://washingtonmonthly.com/magazine/july-august-2019/superpredators/>

“There’s no doubt that negative cash-flow juggernauts like Amazon have used technological innovations to provide consumers with excellent services at a fantastic bargain. The question is whether they are also using illegal tactics to push competitors—including tomorrow’s would-be innovators—out of the market. If they are, and they aren’t stopped soon, we will likely come to find that the bargain wasn’t worth it.”

Mark Jamison

\$700 Billion: The Cost to Consumers if the Government Regulates Google

American Enterprise Institute - AEIdeas - July 11, 2019

<http://www.aei.org/publication/3-reasons-regulation-of-big-tech-could-cost-consumers-700-billion/>

“3 reasons regulation of Big Tech could cost consumers \$700 billion.”

INFRASTRUCTURE – TRANSPORTATION

Bumper to Bumper: The Need for a National Surface Transportation Research Agenda

House Subcommittee on Research and Technology – Hearing – July 11, 2019

<https://science.house.gov/hearings/bumper-to-bumper-the-need-for-a-national-surface-transportation-research-agenda>

“Our current transportation infrastructure is in dire straits, and despite that, it is shockingly underfunded. It is not surprising that research may not be the highest priority for transportation managers who are just trying to keep their bridges from collapsing. However, investing in research and development is critical to developing smart, resilient, and cost-effective transportation infrastructure for the future. Where would our auto industry be if DARPA hadn’t funded the grand challenge that catalyzed today’s connected and automated vehicle technologies? Unfortunately, the public sector investment in transportation research has been declining.”

The Commercial Space Landscape: Innovation, Market, and Policy

House Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics – Hearing - July 25, 2019

<https://science.house.gov/hearings/the-commercial-space-landscape-innovation-market-and-policy>

Witnesses:

Dr. Bhavya Lal, Research Staff Member, IDA Science and Technology Policy Institute

Ms. Carissa Christensen, Chief Executive Officer, Bryce Space and Technology

Mr. Eric W. Stallmer, President, Commercial Spaceflight Federation

Mr. Mike French, Vice President, Space Systems, Aerospace Industries Association

Ms. Laura Montgomery, Proprietor, Ground Based Space Matters, Professor, Catholic University’s Columbus School of Law

AGRICULTURE

Supporting the Next Generation of Agricultural Businesses

House Small Business Committee – Hearing - July 25, 2019

<https://smallbusiness.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=2759>

“A focus of the subcommittee is to increase the economic development of rural areas of the country. The hearing will discuss the challenges the nation’s younger generation faces in rural areas, particularly in the agricultural industry. America’s farmers are getting older, with the average age of 58 years old. As older farmers look to retire or transition away from the business of farming, new farmers are presented with opportunities and difficult challenges. This hearing is designed to enable Members to have a dialogue about the problems and the potential solutions within the rural agricultural industry as it pertains to beginning farmers and younger entrepreneurs.”

Agricultural Research and 2018 Farm Bill Implementation

Senate Committee on Agriculture – Hearing – July 18, 2019

<https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/hearings/agricultural-research-and-2018-farm-bill-implementation>

Witness: Dr. Scott Hutchins, Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, USDA

Reviewing the State of the U.S. Livestock and Poultry Economies

House Committee on Agriculture – Hearing - July 16, 2019

<https://agriculture.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=975>

Assessing the Effectiveness of the National Organic Program

House Committee on Agriculture – Hearing - July 16, 2019

<https://agriculture.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=976>

Testimony by Greg Ibach, Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, USDA

EMPLOYMENT - WAGES

Mark Muro and Jacob Whiton

Who’s Employed by the Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous?

Brookings – The Avenue – July 30, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2019/07/15/whos-employed-by-the-lifestyles-of-the-rich-and-famous>

“Occupations catering to the needs of the well-off—such as maids, trainers, dog walkers, and gardeners—represent the fastest-growing segment of the American job market for non-college-educated workers. Mark Muro and Jacob Whiton break down where these “wealth work” positions are found, who holds them, and why the sector’s growth is so unsettling.”

Marc Levinson

Job Creation in the Manufacturing Revival

Congressional Research Service – Report – Updated July 19, 2019 – 22 pages

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41898.pdf>

The health of the U.S. manufacturing sector is of ongoing interest to Congress. Numerous bills aimed at promoting manufacturing are introduced in each Congress, often with the stated goal of creating jobs. Implicit in many of these bills is the assumption that the manufacturing sector is uniquely able to provide well-paid employment for workers who have not pursued education beyond high school... This report addresses the outlook for employment in the manufacturing sector.”

Marcus Noland and Soyoung Han

Automation, Labor Market Disruption, and Trade Policy

Peterson Institute – Trade and Investment Policy Watch - July 25, 2019

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/automation-labor-market-disruption-and-trade-policy>

“Research also suggests that technological change, not trade competition, has been the main source of job loss in most US manufacturing industries. If this analysis is correct, the trade protection that is now a centerpiece of the Trump administration’s policies will not only fail to resolve the underlying problem but that failure could cause the political system to reach for even stronger and more destructive cures than erecting trade barriers.”

All School and No Work Becoming the Norm for American Teens

Brookings - Hamilton Project – Blog – July 2, 2019

https://www.hamiltonproject.org/blog/all_school_and_no_work_becoming_the_norm_for_american_teenagers

“The analysis explores how 16-19-year-olds have shifted away from work and toward schooling, calculating the impact of this change on the broader labor force participation rate.”

Richard Fry

Baby Boomers Are Staying in the Labor Force at Rates Not Seen in Generations for People Their Age

Pew Research Center – FactTank – July 24, 2019

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/07/24/baby-boomers-us-labor-force>

“The majority of Baby Boomers are still in the labor force: 53% of those ages 54 to 72 were working or looking for work in 2018. The oldest Boomers – those ages 65 to 72 – are staying in the labor force at the highest annual rate for people their age in more than half a century.”

Makada Henry-NickieHao Sun

How To Build An Inclusive Workforce for the Future

Brookings – Brief – July 2019 – 58 pages

<https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/skills-opportunities-pathways-071719.pdf>

“As emerging technologies continue to change the future of work, the United States must consider what innovation and new kinds of jobs will mean for marginalized groups. Makada Henry-Nickie and Hao Sun offer a framework to ensure underrepresented populations are fully included in the emerging workforce.”

Real Wage Trends, 1979 to 2018

Congressional Research Service – Report – Updated July 23, 2019 – 35 pages

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R45090.pdf>

“Real wages rose at the top of the distribution, whereas wages stagnated or fell at the middle and bottom... The gender wage gap narrowed, but other gaps did not... Real wages fell for workers with lower levels of educational attainment and rose for highly educated workers... Education and occupation patterns appear to be important to wage trends.”

EDUCATION - APPRENTICESHIPS

Scaling Up Apprenticeships: Building on the Success of International Apprenticeship Models

House Committee on Education and Labor – Hearing – July 16, 2019

<https://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/scaling-up-apprenticeships-building-on-the-success-of-international-apprenticeship-models>

“Today, we look forward to learning more about the apprenticeship systems of Australia, Germany, and Switzerland, including how these systems strike a balance between strong government oversight and the flexibility to meet the needs of employers and the labor market through innovation. We hope to use what we learn today to strengthen apprenticeship opportunities here in the U.S.”

Rajashri Chakrabarti, Michelle Jiang, and William Nober

Did the Value of a College Degree Decline during the Great Recession?

FRB New York - Liberty Street Economics – July 19, 2019

<https://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed.org/2019/07/did-the-value-of-a-college-degree-decline-during-the-great-recession.html>

“The authors have previously explored the impact of choices regarding school and major on employment, earnings, and upward economic mobility. In this post they extend their work with an

investigation into whether these labor market effects were preserved across the last business cycle: Did students with certain types of educational attainment weather the recession better?"

Dick Startz

Free College for All Americans? Yes, But Not Too Much

Brookings - Brown Center Chalkboard - Monday, July 22, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2019/07/22/free-college-for-all-americans-yes-but-not-too-much>

"Though free college proposals have obvious political attraction, Dick Startz explains why providing a four-year free ride may go too far."

Meta Brown, Rajashri Chakrabarti, Wilbert van der Klaauw, and Basit Zafar

Understanding the Evolution of Student Loan Balances and Repayment Behavior: Do Institution Type and Degree Matter?

Federal Reserve Bank of New York – Economic Policy Review – Posted July 2019 - 23 pages

https://www.newyorkfed.org/medialibrary/media/research/epr/2019/epr_2019_student-loan-balances_brown_final.pdf

"To help inform the policy debate regarding student debt, the authors analyze the evolution of student loan balances and repayment behavior. They find that student loan growth and performance has varied across degrees, institutions, and time. Among their findings: Student loan balances at college exit for those pursuing undergraduate certificates and associate's and post-bachelor's degrees at private institutions increased sharply in the 2000-10 period relative to loans for corresponding degrees at public institutions."

Adam Looney and Constantine Yannelis

The Consequences of Student Loan Credit Expansions: Evidence from Three Decades of Default Cycles

FRB Philadelphia – Working Paper – July 2019 – 90 pages

<https://www.philadelphiafed.org/-/media/research-and-data/publications/working-papers/2019/wp19-32.pdf>

"This paper studies the link between credit availability and student loan repayment using administrative federal student loan data. We demonstrate that expansions and contractions in federal student loan credit to institutions with high default rates explain most of the time series variation in student loan defaults between 1980 and 2010."

Adam Looney

Who Owes the Most Student Debt?

Brookings – Up Front – June 26, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2019/06/28/who-owes-the-most-student-debt/>

"With more than one-third of student loan debt owed by the top 20% of U.S. earners, Adam Looney explains how, if passed, proposals for universal student loan forgiveness may not be as progressive as Democratic candidates hope for them to be."

PENSIONS

How Well Are Independent Workers Prepared for Retirement?

Pew Research Center – Issue Brief - June 28, 2019

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2019/06/how-well-are-independent-workers-prepared-for-retirement>

“With the goal of helping researchers and policymakers, this brief provides a short review of the literature that attempts to define independent workers and measure their retirement plan coverage. The discussion also highlights the limited information and data gaps analysts and policymakers face when addressing the demand for such savings opportunities. In particular, existing research does not adequately identify whether independent workers, or specific subsets of independent workers, would like greater access to retirement plan coverage. There are no data on what percentage of independent workers have coverage through another job.”

Greg Mennis & David Draine

Economic Recovery Has Not Reduced Pension Debt for Many States

Pew Research Center – Article - July 10, 2019

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2019/07/10/economic-recovery-has-not-reduced-pension-debt-for-many-states>

“Every state pension system experienced investment losses during the 2007-09 Great Recession, but not every state has rebounded equally in the recovery, new research by The Pew Charitable Trusts shows. In fact, the disparity between well-funded public pension systems and those that are fiscally strained has never been greater.”

Finn Schuele and Louise Sheiner

How Bad Is the State and Local Pension Crisis Really?

Brookings- Up Front - July 15, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2019/07/15/how-bad-is-the-state-and-local-pension-crisis-really>

“Most state and local government pension plans hold more liabilities than assets, leading many to declare the plans in crisis. However, new research presented by Byron Lutz and Louise Sheiner at this week’s Municipal Finance Conference at Brookings suggests that the funding situation is not as dire as it may seem.”

Martin Neil Baily and Benjamin H. Harris

Can Annuities Become A Bigger Contributor to Retirement Security?

Brookings – Report – June 2019 – 22 pages

https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/ES_20190624_BailyHarris_Annuities.pdf

As traditional pensions disappear, individual workers must do more to ensure their own retirement security. In a new report, Martin Neil Baily and Benjamin H. Harris explore how policies that encourage investment in annuities could provide a more stable stream of income over the lifespan.

J. Mark Iwry, William G. Gale, David C. John, and Victoria Johnson

Reducing Regulatory Obstacles to Annuities in 401(K) Plans

Brookings – Report - July 24, 2019 – 41 pages

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/reducing-regulatory-obstacles-to-annuities-in-401k-plans/>

“Retirees with defined contribution plans face a key dilemma: how and when to convert their retirement savings into income in a way that minimizes the risk of outliving their assets without unnecessarily sacrificing their standard of living. Annuities offer one way to resolve this dilemma. We explore legislative and regulatory reforms that could encourage workers to annuitize more of their 401(k) and other defined contribution balances upon retirement. We propose changes that would create an appropriately protective fiduciary safe harbor for plan sponsors selecting annuity providers, increase the portability of annuities, and reform the required minimum distribution rules relating to retirement income.”

HEALTH

Stipica Mudrazija

Work-Related Opportunity Costs of Providing Unpaid Family Care in 2013 and 2050

Health Affairs – Article – June 2019

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2019.00008>

“Older Americans living in the community who need help with functional limitations overwhelmingly rely on unpaid care, which is often provided by working-age family members. This study assessed the impact of unpaid family caregiving on the likelihood of working and hours worked for caregivers and calculated the related cost of forgone earnings in 2013 and 2050. The current economic cost is about \$67 billion, which by midcentury will likely double to \$132–\$147 billion, fueled primarily by the growth of the disabled older population and the increased share of better-educated caregivers.”

James C. Capretta

Toward Meaningful Price Transparency in Health Care

AEI Economic Perspectives - June 2019 – 17 pages

<https://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Toward-meaningful-price-transparency-in-health-care.pdf>

“In the current health care environment, providers have little incentive to disclose prices and allow comparison with competitors. The federal government can do two things to redirect how the market functions and increase price transparency. First, it should require open pricing for a set of common and standardized services and interventions. Second, it should require insurance companies to provide reference-based payments tied to in-network rates for all services on that list, with patients covering the difference should they select more expensive out-of-network care.”

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The Importance of Imports

FRB Saint-Louis – FRED – July 22, 2019

<https://fredblog.stlouisfed.org/2019/07/the-importance-of-imports/>

“Could changes to U.S. trade policy affect firms’ ability to be productive? The latest FRED Blog post looks at what other countries export to the U.S. that we use for investment and production here at home. These imports account for over 15% of total investment and over 50% of total U.S. imports.”

Marcus Noland

Protectionism under Trump: The China Shock, Intolerance, and the "First White President"

Peterson Institute – Working Paper – June 2019 – 28 pages

<https://www.piie.com/system/files/documents/wp19-10.pdf>

“Noland rejects the popular explanation that the election of a protectionist president in 2016 was purely a backlash against globalization. He finds that the electoral data show that exposure to trade competition helped shift voters to the Republican candidate, but that this effect is mediated by race, diversity, education, and age—factors that may limit the scope for constructive policy intervention.”

Simon Lester and Huan Zhu

Closing Pandora’s Box: The Growing Abuse of the National Security Rationale for Restricting Trade

Cato Institute – Policy Analysis - June 25, 2019

<https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/closing-pandoras-box-growing-abuse-national-security-rationale>

“Over its first two years, the Trump administration has aggressively reshaped U.S. trade policy. One of its most controversial initiatives is the expansive use of national security to justify imposing tariffs and quotas. Internationally, many U.S. trading partners responded immediately to the tariffs with tariffs of their own, and both the U.S. tariffs and the retaliatory tariffs are the subject of litigation that will test the limits of the WTO’s dispute settlement process and the trading system itself. In a new paper, Cato scholars Simon Lester and Huan Zhu suggest an alternative mechanism to handle these issues.”

Olivier Blanchard and Christopher G. Collins

Markets Don't Believe Trump's Trade War Is Zero-Sum

Peterson Institute – Trade & Investment Policy Watch – July 16, 2019

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/markets-dont-believe-trumps-trade-war-zero-sum>

“The Trump administration views trade mostly as a zero-sum game. But do markets agree that when China wins, the United States must lose? An analysis of the response of the Chinese and US stock markets demonstrates that markets typically move in the same direction following President Donald Trump's China-related tweets. In short, markets do not see trade negotiations as a zero-sum game.”

Export Control Reform Implementation: Outside Perspectives

Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs – Hearing – July 18, 2019

<https://www.banking.senate.gov/hearings/export-control-reform-implementation-outside-perspectives>

The witnesses will be: The Honorable Eric L. Hirschhorn, former Under Secretary for Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce; Mr. Nova J. Daly, Senior Public Policy Advisor, Wiley Rein LLP; and Dr. Ben Buchanan, Senior Faculty Fellow, Center for Security and Emerging Technology, Georgetown University.

The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement

Senate Committee on Finance – Hearing - July 30, 2019

<https://www.finance.senate.gov/hearings/the-united-states-mexico-canada-agreement>

“Good morning, and welcome to our witnesses, who are with us today from a range of industries to tell us about the importance of the United States –Mexico –Canada Agreement, or the USMCA. We look forward to hearing from you about the significance of USMCA to the American businesses, small and large; the workers; and the farmers that you represent.”

Chad P. Bown

Trump's Mini-Trade War with India

Peterson Institute – Trade & Investment Policy Watch – July 8, 2019

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/trumps-mini-trade-war-india?>

“Successive US administrations have tried to pry open India's protectionist markets by offering trade concessions to get it to play by the multilateral rules, with limited success. President Donald Trump is now reversing course, seeking instead to punish India with tariffs. Since the beginning of 2018, his administration has increased duties on 14 percent of India's exports to the United States. India has recently retaliated by slapping new tariffs on about 6 percent of US exports to India, including \$600 million of almonds from California.”

Simon Lester, Inu Manak, and Kyoungghwa Kim

Trump's First Trade Deal: The Slightly Revised Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

Cato Institute – Free Trade Bulletin - June 13, 2019

<https://www.cato.org/publications/free-trade-bulletin/trumps-first-trade-deal-slightly-revised-korea-us-free-trade>

“While the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement has received far more attention, a lesser-known U.S. trade deal has also been reworked. In April of 2017, President Trump proclaimed his displeasure with the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (commonly referred to as “KORUS”), stating, “It was a Hillary Clinton disaster, a deal that should've never been made.”

CHINA

Sherman Robinson and Karen Thierfelder

Who's Winning the US-China Trade War? It's Not the United States or China

Peterson Institute - Trade & Investment Policy Watch – July 11, 2019

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/trade-and-investment-policy-watch/whos-winning-us-china-trade-war-its-not-united-states-or>

“The US-China trade war will leave both countries worse off in coming years, according to an analysis of current and threatened trade scenarios that is based on a global simulation model of the world economy. The model assumes that US tariffs will raise prices for American consumers and for producers who import intermediate inputs from China and that Chinese tariffs will disrupt supply chains of US exporters and producers. By contrast, all other countries benefit from shifts in markets and world prices caused by such a trade war. In addition, imposing more tariffs on China, as President Donald Trump has threatened, would exacerbate all these effects.”

Martin Chorzempa

Who Likes Facebook's Libra Currency? Not the Chinese

Peterson Institute - Blog – July 16, 2019

<https://www.piie.com/blogs/realtime-economic-issues-watch/who-likes-facebooks-libra-currency-not-chinese>

“Facebook's announcement in June 2019 of plans to launch a "simple global currency" called Libra to "empower billions of people" to move money around the world has sparked predictable skepticism in the Trump administration, the US Congress, and the Federal Reserve. An equally revealing reaction, however, has come from China, which sees Libra as a threat to the comfortable lead it has enjoyed in financial technology or "fintech" since 2013.”

Derek Scissors

China’s Global Business Footprint Shrinks

American Enterprise Institute - July 10, 2019 – 12 pages

<http://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Chinas-Global-Business-Footprint-Shrinks.pdf>

“China’s investment and construction around the world plunged in the first half of 2019 and is unlikely to return to 2016–17 levels in the foreseeable future, writes Derek Scissors. The principal cause is fewer large transactions by state-owned enterprises.”

DEVELOPMENT

Landry Signé and Eric Olander

Can Trump’s Prosper Africa Make America Greater Than China and Other Partners in Africa?

Brookings – Blog - June 26, 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2019/06/26/can-trumps-prosper-africa-make-america-greater-than-china-and-other-partners-in-africa>

“Landry Signé and Eric Olander identify six ways the Trump administration can bridge the gap between the praiseworthy business principles outlined in its new Prosper Africa initiative and the policies needed to turn them into reality.”

2020 and Beyond: Maintaining the Bipartisan Narrative on US Global Development

Brookings – Policy Briefs – July 2019

<https://www.brookings.edu/multi-chapter-report/2020-and-beyond-maintaining-the-bipartisan-narrative-on-us-global-development>

“Kicking off the 16th annual Brookings Blum Roundtable forum, these eight policy briefs examine some of the biggest challenges in international development in the context of the 2020 U.S. election and the continuation of U.S. development leadership.”

Minxin Pei

Can the U.S. and China Cooperate on Development?

Brookings – Blum Roundtable – Policy Brief – July 2019 – 4 pages

https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Brookings_Blum_2019_us_china_cooperation.pdf

“With the risk that U.S.-China tensions will escalate into a new cold war, Minxin Pei outlines the four factors that will determine whether the two countries can work together to find international development solutions in spite of their rivalry.”

ENVIRONMENT

Building America's Clean Future: Pathways to Decarbonize the Economy

House Committee on Energy and Commerce – Hearing - July 24, 2019

<https://energycommerce.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/hearing-on-building-americas-clean-future-pathways-to-decarbonize-the>

“Research suggests that deep decarbonization of the U.S. economy will require a multipronged approach, including: (1) transitioning to a low-carbon electricity system; (2) reducing emissions from

the transportation, buildings, and industrial sectors; (3) deploying negative emissions measures; and (4) reducing non-CO2 greenhouse gas emissions.¹¹ The United States already has a number of tools at its disposal to chart a path towards net-zero emissions.”

Latest DOE Actions on Appliance Standards Will Cost Consumers and Increase Carbon Emissions

ACEEE –July 11, 2019

<https://aceee.org/press/2019/07/latest-doe-actions-appliance>

“Today, the Department of Energy (DOE) reversed course and sided with the gas industry, at the expense of consumers, by indicating it plans to ignore energy-efficient condensing technology when developing future efficiency standards for gas furnaces and water heaters. This decision is the latest in a series of DOE actions that undermine US appliance standards which save huge amounts of energy, lower bills for consumers and businesses, and reduce harmful pollution. In addition to this rule, DOE is also in the process of weakening national dishwasher standards, rolling back the light bulb standards, and providing a pathway for manufacturers to exempt themselves from product testing requirements.”

Annie Gilleo

Going Clean: How Energy Efficiency Is Helping States Zero Out Emissions

ACEEE – Blog – July 16, 2019

<https://aceee.org/blog/2019/07/going-clean-how-energy-efficiency>

“A growing number of states is adopting ambitious clean energy goals, aiming to zero out emissions in the power sector and, in some cases, the statewide economy.”

Aparna Mathur

Rethinking the Green New Deal: Using Climate Policy to Address Inequality

AEI - Economics Working Paper Series – July 2019 – 37 pages

<https://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Mathur-Green-New-Deal-WP-6.pdf>

“The Green New Deal is best understood as an ambitious mobilization of the country's economic and environmental resources to achieve, within a period of 10 years, the twin targets of a cleaner economy with net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and a more equal and fair society where workers can get decent paying jobs with benefits, health care, housing, and economic security. The challenge with the Green New Deal is combining these two goals and addressing the question of financing both in a practical and effective manner. This paper explains how a carbon tax can help meet these goals. A well-designed carbon tax could raise over a \$100 billion in revenues annually, which could then be used to achieve other social and economic policy goals.”

ENERGY

Energy Innovation

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources - Hearing - July 25, 2019

<https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=498D92B4-17A9-4E53-B3EF-3EDF199C97C8>

“The purpose of the hearing is to examine the importance of energy innovation to economic growth and competitiveness.”

The Future of Electricity Delivery: Modernizing and Securing our Nation's Electricity Grid

House Subcommittee on Energy Date – Hearing - July 17, 2019

<https://science.house.gov/hearings/the-future-of-electricity-delivery-modernizing-and-securing-our-nations-electricity-grid>

“One thing I’ve heard both sides of the aisle emphasize is the need for increased infrastructure investment. Any infrastructure plan must include the grid, and we need new technology solutions to upgrade the backbone of the energy system for the 21st century. It’s clear the energy sector is changing as our grid faces challenges like cyber threats and climate change.”

Electric Battery Production and Waste: Opportunities and Challenges

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works – Hearing – July 17, 2019

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=22DBE78B-11F0-491A-B8FB-7A9F3049F8EF>

Witnesses:

James Greenberger, Executive Director, NAATBatt International

Michael Sanders, Senior Advisor, Avicenne Energy US

Ajay Chawan, Associate Director, Navigant Consulting, Inc.

The Important Role of U.S. LNG in Evolving Global Markets

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources - Hearing - July 11, 2019

<https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings-and-business-meetings?ID=02393987-3534-425F-91B0-EE39CE30061F>

“The purpose of the hearing is to examine evolving global natural gas markets, the increasingly important role of U.S. liquefied natural gas, and the competitive outlook.”

The Future of the Federal Coal Program

House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources – Hearing - July 11, 2019

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/the-future-of-the-federal-coal-program>

“The opportunity before us is to set the stage for the future of our federal coal program. I sincerely hope that it will account for the human impact, diverse policy solutions and financial assurance tools that keep communities solvent. We must properly value the actual cost of coal today in our society and provide citizens with new skillsets for an American energy infrastructure that will generate reliable energy while competing with market forces for generations to come.”