

2022 POST-ELECTION BRIEFING

BIOGRAPHIES



Laura Barrón-López

White House Correspondent, PBS NewsHour

Laura Barrón-López is the White House Correspondent for the PBS NewsHour, where she covers the Biden administration for the nightly news broadcast. She is also a CNN political analyst.

Previously, Barrón-López was a White House reporter for POLITICO. In her time covering the Biden administration for POLITICO, she focused on the power dynamics between the White House and Capitol Hill, covering the president's agenda on gun violence, immigration, voting rights, infrastructure, and more. Barrón-López previously covered the 2020 presidential election for POLITICO as a national political reporter, focusing on voter demographics, and policy shifts within the Democratic Party.

Barrón-López previously led 2018 coverage of the Democratic Party for the Washington Examiner. Before that, Barrón-López covered Congress for HuffPost, focusing on climate change, criminal justice reform, and coal miner pensions, among other policy debates in the Senate and House.

Early in her career, she covered energy and environment policy for The Hill. Her work has been published in The Oregonian, OC Register, E&E Publishing, and Roll Call. Barrón-López earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Fullerton.



Honorable Charlie Dent

Executive Director & Vice President, Aspen Institute Congressional Program

The Honorable Charlie Dent is Executive Director and Vice President of the Aspen Institute Congressional Program, where he leads bipartisan, bicameral policy education programs for sitting members of Congress. In addition to his role at the Aspen Institute, Congressman Dent is a Political Commentator for CNN, a Senior Policy Advisor to the global law firm, DLA Piper, a Distinguished Advisor for Pew Charitable Trusts, and a former Visiting Fellow for the University of Pennsylvania (UPENN), Perry World House.

Prior to those positions, Congressman Dent served 7 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives representing the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania. During his time in Congress, Congressman Dent distinguished himself as a strong, independent leader who is well respected on both sides of the aisle. Congressman Dent was a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee where he chaired the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies. Additionally, he served as the Chairman of the House Committee on Ethics from 2015 – 2017. In addition to his role as a senior Appropriator, Congressman Dent was the co-chair of the Tuesday Group, a caucus of more than 50 center-right Republicans, where he played an important role in many of the most challenging policy and political issues confronted by Congress. Congressman Dent was a member of the Speaker of the House's weekly cross-section lunch and was a member of the Majority Leader's Chairman's Table.

Before his time in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Dent served for 6 years in the Pennsylvania State Senate and 8 years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Congressman Dent holds a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Service and International Politics from the Pennsylvania State University and a Master's of Public Administration from Lehigh University. He is a recipient of the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany. In 2015, Moravian College conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon Congressman Dent.



Bart Gordon

Partner, K&L Gates; Vice Chair, Research!America

Chairman Bart Gordon joined K&L Gates as partner in the Washington, D.C. office after 26 years representing the state of Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives. He served as Chairman of the House Committee on Science and Technology from 2007 to 2010. He was also a senior member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and served on the House Committee on Financial Services and the House Committee on Rules, Transatlantic Parliamentary Dialogue, and NATO Parliamentary Assembly. During his distinguished congressional career, Chairman Gordon developed a reputation as the undisputed bipartisan leader in innovation policy in the U.S. Congress. In 2007, he championed the America COMPETES Act, signed into law by President Bush, which promoted federal investments in innovation in order to make the U.S. more competitive. In 2010, he engineered the passage of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act.

Signed by President Obama, the Act renewed the federal commitment to R&D and education. Chairman Gordon played a key role in developing and passing the 21st Century Nanotechnology Research and Development Act, which encouraged the federal government to promote the transfer of nanotechnology breakthroughs from laboratories to commercial products. He also promoted legislation that would implement a research program focusing on the environmental, health, and safety aspects of nanotechnology.



Maura Keefe **Partner, Keefe Singiser Partners**

Maura was named one of the “20 Most Powerful Women on Capitol Hill” in 2015 by National Journal and is a well-regarded political strategist with an expertise in press and communications. She served as Senator Jeanne Shaheen’s Chief of Staff for more than 10 years where she oversaw all aspects of the Senator’s operation and continues to advise the senator and her team. Shaheen is a senior member of the Armed Services, Foreign Relations, Appropriations, and Small Business Committees. Earlier in her career, Maura served as Chief of Staff and Floor Assistant to U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro from Connecticut. DeLauro is a member of the Democratic Leadership in the House and Chairs the powerful Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee. DeLauro is Chair of the powerful House Appropriations Committee.

In the Senate, Maura chaired the Democratic Chiefs of Staff weekly meeting and was on the Steering Committee of the Bi-Partisan Chiefs of Staff, establishing deep relationships with senior staff on both sides of the aisle. Maura took a leave of absence to serve as Director of Congressional Relations for Hillary Clinton’s Campaign during the 2016 presidential primaries. Over many years, Maura has provided political commentary on radio, in print, and on cable news, including being a regular contributor to BBC.



Sudip Parikh, PhD **CEO, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)**

Sudip Parikh, Ph.D., became the 19th chief executive officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and executive publisher of the *Science* family of journals in January 2020. Parikh has spent two decades at the nexus of science, policy, and business.

Immediately prior to joining AAAS, Parikh was senior vice president and managing director at DIA Global, a neutral, multidisciplinary organization bringing together regulators, industry, academia, patients, and other stakeholders interested in healthcare product development. He led strategy in the Americas and oversaw DIA programs that catalyzed progress globally toward novel regulatory frameworks for advanced therapies not amenable to existing regulations.

Prior to DIA, Sudip was general manager of the Health and Consumer Solutions business unit and vice president at Battelle, a multibillion-dollar research and development organization. He led a \$150 million business unit with over 500 scientific, technical, and computing experts performing basic and applied research, developing medicines and healthcare devices, and creating advanced analytics and artificial intelligence applications to improve human health.

From 2001 to 2009, Parikh served as science advisor and professional staff to the United States Senate Appropriations Committee, where he was responsible for negotiating budgets for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, and other scientific and health agencies.

An active member of the scientific advocacy community, Parikh serves as a board member and officer for several impactful organizations, including Research!America, Friends of Cancer Research, and ACT for NIH. He has received multiple public service awards, including recognition from the American Association of Immunologists, the National AIDS Alliance, the Coalition for Health Services Research, and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



Mary Woolley President and CEO, Research!America

Mary Woolley is the president of Research!America, an alliance that advocates for science, discovery, and innovation to achieve better health for all. Under her leadership, Research!America has earned the attention and respect of elected and appointed officials, researchers in the public, private and academic sectors, media, and community leaders with its record of innovation in advocacy for research. Research!America's reports and publications, Web sites, and constituent education initiatives have been honored by leading regional and international communications and advocacy organizations.

Woolley is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine) and served two terms on its Governing Council. She is a recipient of the Adam Yarmolinsky Medal for distinguished contributions to the mission of the Academy over a significant period. Woolley has served two terms on the National Academy of Sciences Board on Life Sciences, and currently serves on its Board for Higher Education and Workforce. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She is a founding member of the Board of Associates of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research. She is co-chair of the Science and Technology Action Committee. She has served as president of the Association of Independent Research Institutes (AIRI), on a number of academic boards and advisory councils, as a reviewer for the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation, and as a consultant to several research organizations.

She has a 30-year editorial and publication history on science advocacy and research related topics. Her op-eds and letters to the editor are published in newspapers and magazines from coast to coast including The New York Times and Washington Post. She has been published in Science, Nature, Issues in Science and Technology, The New England Journal of Medicine, The Journal of the American Medical Association, The Scientist, Women's Health Magazine and others. She is a sought-after speaker and is frequently interviewed by science, news and policy journalists and has received recognition by PBS as an "Unsung Heroine."

A native of Chicago, Woolley received a bachelor of science from Stanford University and a master of arts from San Francisco State University. In her early career, Woolley served as San Francisco project director for the then largest-ever NIH-funded clinical trial, the Multiple Risk Factor Intervention Trial (MRFIT). In 1981, she became administrator of the Medical Research Institute of San Francisco, and in 1986 was named the Institute's executive director and CEO. Woolley has served as president and CEO of Research!America since 1990.