Adequacy Lawsuits:
Their Growing Impact on American Education
October 13-14, 2005

Taubman Building, 5th Floor Conference Rooms
J. F. Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University

Sponsored by: Program on Education Policy and Governance, Taubman Center for State and Local Government with the support of the John M. Olin Foundation, Inc.

Thursday, October 13

8:00-8:45 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:45-9:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks
Paul E. Peterson, Harvard University

9:00-10:30 Panel I. The Origins of Adequacy Litigation

Chair: Theda Skocpol, Harvard University

Joseph Viteritti, Hunter College – City University of New York

“When did Education Become a Civil Right? The 20th Century’s Modifications to State Constitutional Provisions for Public Education”
John C. Eastman, Chapman University School of Law

Discussant: Morton Keller, Brandeis University

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:45 Panel II. The Legal Theory of Adequacy: A Current Overview

Chair: Rocco Testani, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP

Paper: “The Legal Landscape”
Michael Heise, Cornell Law School

Discussants: Peter Schrag, Sacramento Bee
Clint Bolick, Alliance for School Choice
11:45-12:45  Panel III. The Politics of Adequacy Litigation

Chair: TBA

Paper: “Accountability, Adequacy, and the Impact of No Child Left Behind”
Andrew Rudalevige, Dickinson University.

Discussant: Andrew Rotherham, Progressive Policy Institute

12:45-2:30  Lunch

2:30-3:45  Panel IV. Defining Adequacy

Chair: TBA

Paper: “An Evaluation of the Methods Used to Calculate the Cost of an Adequate Education”
Eric Hanushek, Hoover Institution – Stanford University

Discussants: James Guthrie, Vanderbilt University
Paul Gazzerro, Standard & Poors School Evaluation Services

3:45-4:00  Break

4:00-5:30  Panel V. The Politics of Adequacy Implementation

Chair: Kenneth Wong, Peabody College of Vanderbilt University

Papers: “The Politics of Implementing an Adequacy Judgment”
Frederick Hess, American Enterprise Institute

“The Politics of Not Implementing an Adequacy Judgment: the Case of New York”

Discussants: Terry Moe, Hoover Institution – Stanford University
Molly Hunter, Campaign for Fiscal Equity
Friday, October 14

8:00-8:45 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:45-10:30 Panel VI. Adequacy Lawsuits, Local Effort, and Student Outcomes

Chair: TBA

Papers: “Impact of Increased State Aid on Spending on Education and Other Functions”
Christopher Berry, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago.

“Impact of Incremental State Aid on Student Learning”
Caroline Hoxby, Harvard University.

Discussant: Ed Glaeser, Taubman Center for State and Local Government, Harvard University

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:00 Panel VII. The Adequacy of Teacher Pay

Chair: TBA

Michael Podgursky, University of Missouri – Columbia

Discussants: Lawrence Mishel, Economic Policy Institute
Raji Chakrabarti, Harvard University

12:00-1:15 Lunch

1:15-3:00 Panel VIII. The Relationship between Adequacy and Equity

Chair: TBA

Paper: “The Legal Theory of Adequacy in Light of the Equity Movement”
Richard Briffault, Columbia University School of Law.

“Evaluating Adequacy and Equity in Massachusetts School Finance: The Hancock Case”
Robert Costrell, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Discussant: TBA
3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-5:00 Panel IX. The Role of the Courts: Opportunities and Limitations

Chair: TBA

Papers:
- “Who Should Govern?”
  Martha Derthick, University of Virginia
  Josh Dunn, University of Colorado
- “Alternative Remedies?”
  Martin R. West and Paul E. Peterson
  Harvard University

Discussants:
- Shep Melnick, Boston College
- Michael Rebell, Campaign for Fiscal Equity
- Al Lindseth, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP