

Elisabeth B. Reynolds, PhD.
Professor of the Practice
MIT, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
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Work Experience

National Economic Council **2021 – 2022**

Special Assistant to the President for Manufacturing and Economic Development

Engaged in national policy and priorities for the Biden-Harris Administration in key areas including supply chain resilience, manufacturing, regional economic development and R&D. Worked specifically on:

- White House response to pandemic-related **supply chain crises** across the goods movement chain as well as in critical supply chains including the Port of LA/LB, semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, food, fish, baby formula and rail. Helped to deliver multiple reports including [Supply Chain EO 14017](#) as well as launch the White House Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force.
- Helped craft and drive the federal government **manufacturing and industrial strategy**, leading to significant investment in U.S. industrial base across three major pieces of legislation. Worked in particular on aspects of the CHIPS and Science Act, a \$280 billion law that advances U.S. innovation capacity.
 - Launched new public/private effort to support SME manufacturers to adopt additive manufacturing through partnership with major aerospace/defense OEMs ([AM Forward](#))
 - Advanced manufacturing scale up through various whole-of-government efforts including a [Manufacturing USA summit](#) to elevate the 16 Manufacturing Innovation Institutes

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Professor of the Practice, MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning **2024**

Courses taught on *Regional Innovation Ecosystems* (2014, 2017), *Work of the Future* MIT MOOK (2020), *Technology and Work of the Future* (2021, with Professor David Mindell), *Bills and Billions: Policymaking in an Era of Transformation for U.S. Cities and States* (2023/24 with Professor Phil Thompson); PhD and Master's advisor for over 20 theses.

Executive Director and Principal Research Scientist **2010-2021**

MIT Industrial Performance Center (IPC)

Founded 30 years ago as an outgrowth of MIT's [Made in America](#) initiative, the [IPC](#) engages in multidisciplinary applied research focused on innovation, productivity and competitiveness with a focus on the U.S. Responsible for all aspects of the IPC's research agenda including managing faculty and student participation as well as fundraising, budget and communications. Projects included *Work of the Future* (2018-2021), *Accelerating Innovation in Brazil* (2014-2019), *Scaling Innovative Firms* (2013-2014), and *Production in the Innovation Economy* (2010-2013).

Executive Director, The MIT Task Force on the Work of the Future **2018 - 2021**

- Institute-wide initiative launched in 2018 to bring MIT's expertise to bear on questions related to how new digital technologies will change the nature of work and the skills and institutions needed to create broader shared prosperity. See <https://workofthefuture.mit.edu>
- A 2.5 year, \$5+ million initiative co-led with Professors David Autor and David Mindell; included 20 faculty members and a diverse [Advisory Board](#)
- Publication of a [book](#) in 2022, a [Final Report](#) in Nov., 2020 along with 20+ [research briefs](#).

The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) 1997 – 2005

ICIC is a Boston-based national non-profit founded by Professor Michael Porter of the Harvard Business School whose mission is to spearhead inner city economic development through job and business growth.

Director, City Advisory Practice (CAP); Vice President, Research

Founding Director of ICIC's consulting arm. Developed ICIC's on-the-ground initiatives with leaders from the public-, private- and non-profit sectors in over 20 US and UK cities; developed market-oriented, private-sector led economic development strategies based on regional industry clusters

The Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) Montreal, 1992-1994

Policy Analyst, Canadian think tank working on fiscal and social policy issues.

Goldman Sachs London, 1990-1992

Financial Analyst, Mergers and Acquisitions Department

Consulting/Advisor

Elisabeth B. Reynolds Associates

2023- Present

Strategic advisor on manufacturing-related issues for companies and non-profits.

Board Member

Advanced Regenerative Medicine Institute

One of 9 DOD-sponsored non-profit [R&D centers](#) focused on regenerative medicine.

2024 - Present

Advanced Functional Fabrics of America

2023 – Present

One of 9 DOD-sponsored non-profit focused on smart textile technologies for dual use

Massachusetts Emergency Response Team (MERT)

2020-2021

Member of the state-wide effort to increase state production of PPE to address COVID crisis

Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative

2011- 2021

Governor-appointed board to oversee the state's manufacturing strategy for both Governor Patrick (D) and Governor Baker (R)

Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative (M2I2)

2017- 2021

\$100m state grant-giving body to support MA-based investments in advanced manufacturing that leverage federal funding in industry-academic partnerships

Friends of Wellesley METCO

2017- 2021

Oldest voluntary U.S. desegregation program; brings Boston students into Wellesley public schools

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

- Ph.D. in Urban Studies and Planning; focus on urban and regional economic development
- Dissertation entitled *Institutions, Public Policy and the Product Life Cycle: The Globalization of Biomanufacturing and Implications for Massachusetts*. Winner, Best Dissertation Award, ISA.

University of Montreal,

- Masters in Economics. Thesis: *US Female Labor Supply, 1970-1990*

Cambridge University

- Harvard Fiske Scholar at Trinity College. Fellowship awarded annually to two seniors.

Harvard College

- A B in Government, *cum laude*. Co-Captain, Women's Varsity Squash.

Selected Publications, Presentations and Media

Book

Autor, David, David Mindell and Elisabeth Reynolds, [The Work of the Future: Building Better Jobs in an Age of Intelligent Machines](#), Cambridge: MIT Press, 2022.

Articles

Reynolds, E.B. "[U.S. Industrial Transformation and the "How" of 21st Century Industrial Policy](#)," Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade, Vol.24, article 8, April, 2024.

Armstrong, Ben and E.B. Reynolds, 2023. "[A Middle Model of Economic Development? Revisiting the Economic Geography of Middle-Wage Occupations in the United States](#)," Economic Development Quarterly. On line April 6, 2023, hard copy forthcoming in November, 2023.

Mills, Karen, E.B. Reynolds and M. Herculano. [Small Businesses Play a Big Role in Supply Chains](#), Harvard Business Review, December 6, 2022.

Reynolds, Elisabeth, 2021. [Innovation In Institutions and Technology Can Help Us In The Post-Pandemic Recovery](#), Forbes Magazine, March 18, 2021.

Reynolds, E.B. and Yilmaz Uygun, 2018. [Strengthening Advanced Manufacturing Innovation Ecosystems: The Case of Massachusetts](#) Technological Forecasting & Social Change. Volume 136, Nov. 2018, (pp.

178-191).

Reynolds, E.B., 2017. [The New Face of Manufacturing](#), Boston Globe Op-Ed. Feb. 3, 2017.

Reynolds, E.B., Hiram Samel and Joyce Lawrence, 2014: [Complementary Assets: Learning by Building and the Migration of Capabilities in U.S. Innovative Firms](#), *Production in the Innovation Economy*, Chapter 4, MIT Press, 2014.

Selected Recent Presentations and Panels:

Panelist: [Reindustrialize](#), “The Industrial Base We Need,” Detroit, June 25, 2024.

Moderator: [AI Expo for National Competitiveness](#), “America Builds: Ensuring U.S. Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing,” Washington, D.C., May 8, 2024.

Keynote: [Cambridge International Manufacturing Symposium](#), “A New U.S. Industrial Strategy for the 21st Century,” September 21, 2023, Cambridge University, UK.

Panelist: The Digital Factory, [Building Blocks of Resilience: Designing the Supply Networks of Tomorrow](#), Boston, September 13, 2023. Sponsored by Autodesk and FormLabs.

Panelist: Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), [Reviving America’s Hamiltonian Tradition to Win the Economic Competition with China](#), Washington, D.C., April 27, 2023.

Keynote: IMF, Institute for Capacity Development, “A New U.S. Industrial Strategy for the 21st Century”, March 28, 2023, Washington, D.C.

Keynote: Harvard Business School, “*The Microeconomics of Competitiveness: 20th Anniversary*”, Institute of Strategy and Competitiveness, December 13, 2022.

Keynote: [Manufacturing USA Network Meeting](#), “Administration Priorities and Manufacturing Initiatives”, March 22, 2022

Keynote: National Defense Industrial Association, *Priorities for U.S. Manufacturing*, Manufacturing Virtual Division Meeting, February 17, 2022

Selected Media Interviews and Quotes

[The US Manufacturing Agenda](#), Heavy Hitters Podcast with Ty Findley, August 12, 2024

[America's big year of climate action](#), MIT TILclimate Podcast, August 16, 2023; ranked second most popular TILclimate podcast as of 10/01/23

[The Robots We Were Afraid of Are Already Here](#), New York Times, July 29, 2023

[The Most Interesting Startup in America is in Massachusetts. You’ve Probably Never Heard of It](#), Boston Globe, June 23, 2023

[A new technology boom is at hand](#) *Financial Times*, March 27, 2023

[3-D Printing Grows Beyond Its Novelty Roots](#), New York Times, July 3, 2022