

Michael Rich
Executive Vice President, RAND Corporation
Cochair, RAND-Qatar Policy Institute Board of Overseers

Michael D. Rich has been executive vice president since January 1993. Prior to that, he served as vice president of the RAND National Security Research Division and director of the National Defense Research Institute. He has published numerous classified and unclassified RAND reports, including studies of the B-2 acquisition strategy, trends in weapons acquisition, multinational coproduction of aerospace systems, various readiness issues, and other topics related to national defense.

Before becoming vice president, he served at RAND as deputy vice president and director of the Defense Resource Management Program and as associate head of the Political Science Department. He has been a member of and chairs the Admissions Committee of the Pardee RAND Graduate School.

Rich chairs the International Institute for Strategic Studies-U.S. and chaired The Communications Institute from 2004 to 2009. He is a member of the California Bar; the board of directors of the Council for Aid to Education (chairman, 1996-2005) the Council on Foreign Relations; the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center Board of Advisors; the board of directors of WISE & Health Aging; the Blue Ribbon Committee of the WISE/Los Angeles Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program; the UCLA Foundation Board of Councillors; and the advisory board of the Everychild Foundation. He chaired the Financial Oversight Committee of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District from 2000 to 2003, and was a member of the Council of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London, from 2001 to 2007.

Research Focus

General queries about RAND; acquiring defense systems; global security environment

RAND Research Areas

International Affairs; National Security

Selected Publications

Khaled Abou El Fadl et al., Democracy and Islam in the New Constitution of Afghanistan, RAND Corporation, 2003

Michael Rich, RAND and Middle East Policy Analysis, RAND Corporation, 2003

Michael Rich, "RAND: How Think Tanks Interact with the Military", U.S. Foreign Policy Agenda, 7(3), 2002

Monica Banken
Outreach Programs Coordinator, RAND Corporation
Chair, Trade Commissioners Networking Group
L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

Monica Banken is the Outreach Programs Coordinator for the RAND Corporation, responsible for the coordination and promotion of public programs at RAND's Santa Monica office that highlight RAND researchers and findings. The RAND Corporation is a nonprofit research organization providing objective analysis and effective solutions that address the challenges facing the public and private sectors around the world.

Ms. Banken has served in state and local government. She has most recently worked as the Deputy Chief of Staff to Orange County Supervisor Janet Nguyen, and began her career as a Jesse M. Unruh State Assembly Fellow in Sacramento, CA. While working in California state government, Ms. Banken worked for Rep. Tom McClintock as an Assembly Fellow and legislative aide and served as the Legislative Director to State Senator Dennis Hollingsworth. She has also worked on a number of federal, state, and local campaigns.

Ms. Banken worked for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Western Regional Office from 2002 to 2006. In this position, she helped to encourage business and chamber grassroots involvement in federal legislative issues specific to small business. She arranged conferences, congressional roundtables, and served as a media liaison. In this position, she helped to build business and chamber support in the western states for free trade agreements with Australia, Chile, Peru, and DR-CAFTA, as well as promoting fast track trade authority. She was instrumental in working to build grassroots support for CAFTA-DR and arranged a three city visit in California by El Salvadorean President Elias Antonio Saca.

Ms. Banken has served on the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce World Trade Week Committee, the legislative affairs committees of the United Chambers of Commerce and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, and recently served as an elected member of the 69th Assembly District Central Committee.

Ms. Banken holds a Masters in Public Policy and Administration from California Lutheran University and an A.B. from Occidental College.

Jennifer Gould
Director of Strategy and Outreach, Office of External Affairs
RAND Corporation

Gould works to improve awareness, understanding, and support of RAND's mission and accomplishments among its many constituencies. She directs strategic communications initiatives and manages the RAND brand to increase visibility and positive perception of the organization. Gould is a corporate transactional attorney. Prior to joining RAND, she was a member of the corporate department of Folger, Levin & Kahn LLP.