# RACHEL BRONSON, Ph.D.

Senior Fellow, Global Energy
The Chicago Council on Global Affairs
332 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1100
Chicago, IL 60614
W: (312) 821-7510 C: (312) 404-3071
rbronson@thechicagocouncil.org

#### PRIMARY FIELD OF EXPERTISE:

Rachel Bronson is an experienced organizational leader, with considerable management, fundraising, media and publishing experience. Her areas of expertise include global energy, Middle East politics and US foreign policy.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Senior Fellow for Global Energy, Vice President, for Studies, Vice President for Programs and Studies (1/07-present): Rachel Bronson is the senior fellow for global energy at The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, where she directs the Council's activities on the changing US energy landscape. She has overseen work on biomass residuals, the US-Canada energy relationship, Germany's energy transition and the Middle East energy pivot to Asia.

Prior to this, she served for seven years as the Council's vice president for studies, and vice president for programs and studies. In this capacity she helped raise more than a million dollars annually to support the Council's policy research, recruited top-flight strategic thinkers, and helped put the Council onto the University of Pennsylvania's 2013 global think tank ranking–including #11 "think tank to watch" and #5 "best policy study / report by a think tank."

At the Council, Dr. Bronson developed and instituted management practices to empower and direct the Council's growing staff and raise the Council's local, national and international profile. She helped create and oversee new programs such as the Council's successful Emerging Leaders Program. She regularly reports to the Council's Board of Directors, and has worked closely with members on special Board initiatives.

Council on Foreign Relations. Senior Fellow and Director, Middle East Studies (4/99-12/06): Dr. Bronson directed Middle East Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations and ran the CFR round table on "The Middle East and Islam." In 2006, Dr. Bronson published *Thicker than Oil: America's Uneasy Partnership with Saudi Arabia* (Oxford University Press) that was subsequently issued in paperback and Japanese. President George W. Bush acknowledged the book publically on several occasions. She codirected the joint CFR and Baker Institute report "Guiding Principles for U.S. Post-Conflict Policy in Iraq," the first major report issued on post-war planning (January, 2003).

<u>Testimonies:</u> Dr. Bronson has testified before Congress and submitted expert testimony on multiple occasions.

Other Professional Affiliations include: Adjunct Professor, Columbia University (Fall 2005), Consultant, NBC News (2003-2005), Consultant, CNA (1999-2001), Senior Fellow, CSIS (1997-1999): Fellow, Belfer Center, Harvard University (1994-1996).

### **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D., Political Science, Columbia University (May 1997)
- M.A., Political Science, Columbia University (May 1992)
- B.A., History, University of Pennsylvania (May 1990)

#### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- *Thicker than Oil: America's Uneasy Partnership with Saudi Arabia*, (Oxford University Press, May, 2006). Translated into Japanese (December, 2007) and published in paperback (June, 2008).
- Dr. Bronson has published dozens of articles and op-eds in outlets such as The New York Times, Washington Post, The Washington Times, Foreign Policy Magazine, Foreign Affairs, The Chicago Tribune, Crain's Chicago Business, International Herald Tribune, and Los Angeles Times.
- At The Chicago Council, Dr. Bronson developed, managed and published over a dozen reports on a
  wide ranging set of issues including: energy, immigration, public opinion, religion, global economy,
  and Midwest economic competitiveness.
- Co-Director, *Guiding Principles for U.S. Post-Conflict Policy in Iraq*, Council on Foreign Relations, January 2003. Report chaired by Ambassadors Edward P. Djerejian and Frank G. Wisner.

### **SELECT AWARDS AND HONORS:**

Dr. Bronson has received numerous awards and honors including *Today's Chicago Woman's* "100 Women to Watch" (2012), *Crain's Chicago Business'* "Women to Watch" (2008). Carnegie Corporation, "Carnegie Scholar" (2003), *Glamour Magazine's* "Wow Woman, (2002).

## **MEDIA**

Rachel has appeared on hundreds of television and radio programs including: CNN, NBC, BBC, The Jim Lehrer News Hour, The Charlie Rose Show, NPR's Morning Edition, al-Jazeera and The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. She has conducted interviews with newspapers including the New York Times, USA Today, the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, the Washington Post, al-Hayat, Rolling Stone Magazine, among others. During the 2003 Iraq war, she was a policy consultant to NBC news.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Dr. Bronson has served on the Board of the Truman National Security Project (2014-present), the American University of Iraq (2012-present), and cofounded and cochaired the Chicago Shakespeare Theater's Producers' Guild, a new leaders initiative (2012-present). One of her most rewarding experiences was serving on the Board of Directors of the Ruth Page Center for the Arts (2011-2014) where she helped to reconstitute the board of directors, define the Center's mission, raise new resources, and lead a task force to help secure the Center's magnificent School of Dance. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.