

# Roundtable Discussion on Sectoral Research In New York City CUNY Graduate Center, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002

Co-Sponsored by Fiscal Policy Institute, Consortium for Worker  
Education and the CUNY Graduate Center

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## Agenda

### 9:30-10:00 Opening

Welcome and objectives

James Parrott, Deputy Director, Fiscal Policy Institute

Bruce Herman, Director, Center for Workforce & Economic Development, CWE

NYC sectoral research: common threads

Matt Mitchell, Project Director, Fiscal Policy Institute

### 10:00-10:45 Examples from Practice

Adam Friedman, Executive Director, NY Industrial Retention Network

“Launching sectoral initiatives in the jewelry and food industries.”

Susan Christopherson, Professor, Cornell University School of Architecture,  
Department of City and Regional Planning

“Workforce and other issues in New York’s new media industry.”

Linda Dworak, Executive Director, Garment Industry Development Corporation

“Labor-management partnerships that address local and global industry needs.”

*Questions to the presenters: What have been some of the most critical challenges in terms of developing sectoral initiatives and how have they been addressed? What role does research play? How is the impact of a sectoral initiative measured?*

*(continued on other side)*

## **10:45-12:00 Group Discussion: Sectoral Research and Economic Development Policy and Programming**

### Questions for the group

- *A common perception exists that sector-based economic development strategies are not pursued to any significant degree by the City and State of New York. Is this true?*
- *Sectoral reports have customers who affect both methodology and general focus. Is the resulting lack of consistency among sectoral studies problematic?*
- *A sectoral strategy assumes an analytical, as opposed to a power-based, approach. However, sectoral strategies often require powerful stakeholders to achieve success. Is this paradox inevitable?*
- *What is the relationship between sectoral strategies and the creation of more middle-income jobs in New York City? Is a sector-based strategy the same thing as a job-based strategy?*
- *How can a sectoral approach be introduced more effectively into current discussions on the city's economic future?*