

Director, Great Lakes Economy Initiative
Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program

The Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program seeks a “policy entrepreneur” with relevant expertise and skills to direct its Great Lakes Economic Initiative (GLEI). The GLEI is a multi-year research, policy development, and support-building project for assisting the Great Lakes Region transition from an industrial economy to a knowledge-based and globally competitive one. Its director works on a contractual basis, ideally from his or her office in the region, and serves as a Brookings nonresident senior fellow. Some regionally-based staff assistance is available. For more information about GLEI, refer to: <http://www.brookings.edu/projects/great-lakes.aspx>.

Responsibilities:

- Continue the effective promotion of existing reports and policy recommendations through organizing forums, summits, media interviews and related activities and making presentations at them;
- Provide on-going leadership and management of the stakeholder and partnership networks that have been developed over the past three years;
- Ensure the timely publication and effective dissemination of the research reports currently in the pipeline, and the meeting of contractual obligations by the commissioned authors of these reports;
- Serve as the author or co-author of some reports;
- Ensure that all products meet Brookings standards for quality, independence and impact;
- Identify and act on new opportunities for research and policy recommendations, network building, and public outreach that advance the GLEI;
- Work with Brookings colleagues and an advisory council to develop a vision of where the GLEI should go over the next few years;
- Work with Brookings colleagues to raise the needed funds;
- Keep Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program directors informed, and consult with them on all important decisions.

Qualifications:

- An advanced degree in economics, public policy or a related field;
- Seven or more years of relevant experience – in policy research, government, philanthropy or non-profit management;
- Broad understanding of the region’s economic challenges and opportunities.

Ideal Director:

- Is a superb communicator – in writing, public speaking, and dealing with partners, funders, public officials and the media;
- Has expertise in a critical area of the GLEI agenda, including innovation-based economic development, education and workforce development, infrastructure and transportation improvement, and the revitalization of older industrial cities;
- Is skilled at identifying and engaging relevant constituencies and building networks of partners among business, education, and civic leaders;
- Is entrepreneurial and strategic about recognizing and seizing new opportunities to expand the work and its impact;

- Has a reputation for intellectual rigor, professional productivity, personal integrity, cheerful collegiality and an ability to work independently.
- Is able to work from an existing home or institutional office in the region and to travel as needed to meetings across the region and occasional meetings in Washington, DC.

Relationship: Contractual position (one-year annually renewable), rather than full-time, onsite employee.

Title/Affiliation: Director, Great Lakes Economic Initiative and Brookings Nonresident Senior Fellow

Inquiries: Please send your letter of interest and resume to Jamaine Fletcher at jfletcher@brookings.edu