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Richard Vedder is Distinguished Professor of Economics at Ohio University. He received his degrees from Northwestern University and the University of Illinois. He has help a number of visiting appointments, including serving as an economist with the Joint Economic Committee of Congress and as John M. Olin Visiting Professor of Labor Economics and Public Policy at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the author or editor of numerous books, three of which include The American Economy in Historical Perspective, Out of Work: Unemployment and Government in Twentieth-Century America (with Lowell Gallaway), and Going Broke By Degree: Why College Costs Too Much. He has authored numerous scholarly papers for journals in economics and public policy, as well as shorter pieces for the serious popular press (e.g., Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Christian Science Monitor, Education Next, Cato Journal, The American Enterprise, Society, Forbes). Several of his papers and articles deal with issues relating to education at all levels. He has advised numerous political leaders on public policy leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin. He has won many awards for outstanding teaching performance.