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Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld is a professor and associate dean at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University, where he leads research on agile institutions and teaches courses on strategy and operations in the Social Impact MBA. Previously, he was a professor and dean of the School of Labor and Employment Relations at the University of Illinois, USA. Joel is a former president of the Labor and Employment Relations Association.

He has written 14 books and over 100 articles and book chapters for which he has received 13 awards, including the Engineering Sciences Book of the Year Award in 2003 from the International Academy of Astronautics.

He is highly recognized for his expertise in social dialogue, complex governance systems, large-scale systems change, and negotiation and dispute resolution. Joel has developed, implemented, and advanced high performance work systems and labor-management partnerships in the automobile industry, health care, and other sectors.