John Williamson—Biographical Sketch

John Williamson was born in 1937 and educated at the London School of Economics and Princeton University. He has taught at the Universities of York (1963-68) and Warwick (1970-77) in England, the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (1978-1981) in Brazil, as a Visiting Professor at MIT (1967 and 1980), LSE (1992), and Princeton (1996), and as an Honorary Professor at the University of Warwick (since 1985). He was an economic consultant to the UK Treasury in 1968-70, where he worked on a range of international financial issues, and an advisor to the International Monetary Fund in 1972-74, where he worked mainly on questions of international monetary reform related to the work of the Committee of Twenty. He has been a Senior Fellow at the Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC, since its founding in 1981. From 1996-99 he was on leave from the Institute to serve as Chief Economist for the South Asia Region of the World Bank. In 2001 he served as Project Director for the UN High-Level Panel on Financing for Development (the Zedillo Panel). He retains his British nationality.

His publications have mainly concerned international monetary issues and include The Crawling Peg (Princeton Essays in International Finance, 1965); The Failure of World Monetary Reform, 1971-74 (Nelson, 1977); IMF Conditionality (1983); The Exchange Rate System (1985); Political Economy and International Money (Wheatsheaf, 1987); Latin American Adjustment: How Much Has Happened? (1990); The Political Economy of Policy Reform (1993); Estimating Equilibrium Exchange Rates (1994); What Role for Currency Boards? (1995), The Crawling Band as an Exchange Rate Regime: Lessons from Chile, Colombia, and Israel (1996), and Exchange Rate Regimes for Emerging Markets: Reviving the Intermediate Option (2000); with Donald Lessard, Financial Intermediation Beyond the Debt Crisis (1985) and Capital Flight and Third World Debt (1987); with Marcus Miller, Targets and Indicators: A Blueprint for the International Coordination of Economic Policy; with Chris Milner, The World Economy (Harvester-Wheatsheaf, 1991); and, with Molly Mahar, A Survey of Financial Liberalization (Princeton Essays in International Finance, 1998). His most recent major publications are (with Nancy Birdsall) Delivering on Debt Relief: From IMF Gold to a New Aid Architecture (2002), (jointly edited with Pedro Pablo Kuczysnki) After the Washington Consensus: Restarting Growth and Reform in Latin America (2003), and (jointly edited with C. Fred Bergsten) Dollar Adjustment: How Far? Against What? (Except as noted, all are published by the Institute for International Economics.)