



Tax Policy Center

Urban Institute and Brookings Institution

BIOGRAPHIES

William M. Gentry is Professor of Economics at Williams College. He received his S.B. in from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University, all in economics. Prior to moving to Williams in 2003, he was a faculty member at Duke University and the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University. His research focuses on various aspects of taxation. Currently, he is the Co-editor of the National Tax Journal. He has served as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Treasury and on the staff of the President's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform.

James R. Hines Jr. is the L. Hart Wright Collegiate Professor of Law and co-director of the Law and Economics Program. He is also the Richard A. Musgrave Collegiate Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics and serves as the research director of the Office of Tax Policy Research in the Stephen M. Ross School of Business. His research is focused on various aspects of taxation. Prof. Hines taught at Princeton and Harvard universities prior to joining the Michigan faculty in 1997, and has held visiting appointments at Columbia University, the London School of Economics, the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard Law School. He is a research associate for the National Bureau of Economic Research, research director of the International Tax Policy Forum, and co-editor of the Journal of Public Economics. He holds a BA and MA from Yale University and a PhD from Harvard, all in economics.

George A. Plesko is the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Research at the University of Connecticut and an Associate Professor of Accounting. Plesko's research focuses on corporate tax policy, the interactions of the financial and tax reporting systems, and the behavior of loss firms. Plesko has previously held positions at the MIT Sloan School of Management, Northeastern University, and the U.S. Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis, and visiting positions at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and in the International Tax Program at the Harvard University Law School. Professor Plesko holds a B.A. from the George Washington University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, all in economics.

Victoria Perry is Division Chief of the Tax Policy Division of the Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) at the International Monetary Fund. Since joining the IMF in 1993, she has provided technical assistance in tax policy and revenue administration to more than 30 countries in Africa, Europe, and Asia. From 2002 to 2008 she served as Division Chief for Revenue Administration in FAD. She is a coauthor of the book “The Modern VAT,” published by the IMF in 2001. Prior to joining the IMF, Ms. Perry was the Deputy Director of the Harvard University International Tax Program, teaching comparative income taxation and value added taxation and providing technical assistance in revenue policy through the Harvard Institute for International Development. Ms. Perry previously practiced tax law with the Boston law firm of Hale and Dorr (now WilmerHale). She is past president of the American Tax Policy Institute; a member of the board of the National Tax Association; and past Chair of the Value Added Tax Committee of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation. She received her J.D. from the Harvard Law School, and her B.A. from Yale University in economics and philosophy.

Douglas A. Shackelford is the Associate Dean of MBA@UNC, the Meade H. Willis Distinguished Professor of Taxation, and director of the UNC Tax Center at the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School. Shackelford addresses taxes and business strategy in his research and teaching. His current areas of interest include the effects of shareholder taxes on equity prices, the taxation of multinationals and the disclosure of corporate tax information. Dr. Shackelford is a research associate in public economics at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge, Mass. He has published widely in accounting, economics, finance and law journals and held visiting faculty positions at Stanford University, Universiteit Maastricht in the Netherlands and Oxford University. A CPA, he was a senior tax consultant with Arthur Andersen in Boston and Greensboro from 1981-85. He received his PhD from the University of Michigan and his BS from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Eric J. Toder is an Institute Fellow at the Urban Institute and co-director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. Dr. Toder’s recent work includes papers on using a carbon tax to pay for corporate rate cuts, cutting tax preferences to pay for lower tax rates, tax expenditures and the size of government, tax policy and international competitiveness, value added taxes, the home mortgage interest deduction, trends in tax expenditures, the distributional effects of tax expenditures, corporate tax reform, charitable tax incentives, taxation of saving, the tax gap, effects on retirement income of changes in pension coverage and stock prices, employing older workers, and energy tax incentives. Dr. Toder previously held a number of positions in tax policy offices in the U.S. government and overseas, including service as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Tax Analysis at the U.S. Treasury Department, Director of Research at the Internal Revenue Service, Deputy Assistant Director for Tax Analysis at the Congressional Budget Office, and consultant to the New Zealand Treasury. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Rochester in 1971.