

Bio-details of Wing Thye WOO (胡永泰)

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Wing Thye Woo is Distinguished Professor in the Department of Economics, University of California at Davis, and Research Professor at Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur where he heads the Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia (JCI) and the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development (JSC). He is also Adjunct Professor at Fudan University in Shanghai, Distinguished Fellow at Penang Institute in George Town, and Adjunct Researcher at the Institute of Population and Labor Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing. He is an expert on the East Asian economies, particularly, China, Indonesia and Malaysia. His current research focuses on efficient, equitable pathways to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals with projects on Green Finance, Middle Income Trap, and Global Economic Architecture for the Multi-Polar World.

In 2004, University of California at Davis awarded Wing Thye Woo its Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award. He delivered the *Cha Chi Ming Cambridge Public Lecture on Chinese Economy* at the University of Cambridge in 2004, *Nan Qiang Lecture* at Xiamen University in 2008, *Fourth Annual Sadli Lecture* at University of Indonesia in 2010, *Wan-Lin Kiang Lecture* at the University of California at Irvine in 2011, the inaugural *Penang in Asia Lecture* at Penang Institute in 2011, the inaugural *Sir John Monash Distinguished Lecture* at Monash University Malaysia in 2014, and the *Werner Sichel Lecture* at Western Michigan University in 2015. In 2006, he was appointed a Yangtze River (*Chang Jiang*) Professor by the Ministry of Education of China. In July 2009, the Governor of Penang conferred on him the chivalry order of *Darjah Setia Pangkuan Negeri* (DSPN), which bestows on him the title *Dato*, for his academic achievements, professional leadership, and public service contributions. In 2016, the Thousand Talents Program of China appointed him a National Distinguished Expert. Wing was appointed Distinguished Professor by University of California at Davis in 2019

Wing has published over 170 articles in professional economic journals and books on topics like exchange rate economics, current account determination, technological innovation, US-China relations, state enterprise restructuring, financial crises, and economic management China, in Indonesia, and Malaysia. Google Scholar (25 December 2019) reported 10,021 citations of Wing's research, and computed his h-index to be 44. Wing's article "The Monetary Approach to Exchange Rate Determination under Rational Expectations: The Dollar-Deutschemark Case," Journal of International Economics (JIE), February 1985, was identified by JIE in 2000 to be one of the twenty-five most cited articles in its 30 years of history. His article "China Meets the Middle-Income Trap: The Large Potholes in the Road to Catching-Up," Journal of Chinese Economic and Business Studies (JCEBS), November 2012, was awarded the Best Paper Prize at the 30th Anniversary Conference of the Chinese Economist Association (UK/Europe) in 2018.

In 2001, Wing Thye Woo helped establish the Asian Economic Panel (AEP), which is now sponsored by Columbia University in New York City, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in Jakarta, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) in Seoul, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Sunway University in Kuala Lumpur. AEP is a forum of about 50 leading specialists on Asian economies which meets in March, June, and September in different parts of the world to discuss economic issues that are of particular importance to Asia. Selected proceedings are published in the triannual journal Asian Economic Papers, MIT Press. Wing is the Convener of AEP and the Editor-in-Chief of its journal.

From 1994-96, Wing Thye Woo led an international team (which included Leszek Balcerowicz, Boris Fedorov, Fan Gang and Jeffrey D. Sachs) to study the reform experiences of centrally-planned economies. The findings were disseminated in high-level conferences in Prague, Beijing, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Ulan Bator and Washington D.C.; and published as Economies in Transition: Comparing Asia and Europe, MIT Press, 1997.

He directed the Harvard Institute for International Development project “China’s Integration into the World Economy” (1997-98); and a part of that report was published as “Discrepancies in International Data: An Application to China-Hong Kong Entrepot Trade,” in American Economic Review, May 1999. In 1998, Wing Thye Woo headed the project “Asia Competitiveness Report 1999” to analyse the Asian financial crisis for the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, February 1999. The updated report was published as The Asian Financial Crisis: Lessons for a Resilient Asia, MIT Press, 2000.

Wing Thye Woo has advised a number of governments and international organizations on economic policy (e.g. Macroeconomic Crisis and Long-Term Growth: The Case of Indonesia, 1965-1990, World Bank Press, 1994). He was a member of Consultant Team to China's Ministry of Finance that helped to design the tax and exchange rate reforms implemented in January 1994; and the report has been published as Fiscal Management and Economic Reform in the People's Republic of China, Oxford University Press, 1995. During 1997-1998, Wing Thye Woo served as a special advisor to the U.S. Treasury; duties included accompanying Secretary Robert Rubin to meetings in China, and to the IMF-World Bank annual meeting in Hong Kong. From 2002-2005, he was the Special Advisor for East Asian Economies in the Millennium Project of the United Nations (to help mobilise global effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals). In July 2005, he was appointed to the International Advisory Panel to Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi of Malaysia; and in April 2009, he was appointed Chairman of the International Economic Advisory Panel of Penang state, Malaysia.

From 2009-2015, Wing was the Convener, first, of the International Monetary Advisory Group (IMAG) and, then, of the International Policy Advisory Group (IMG), co-sponsored by the Asian Development Bank and the Earth Asia, 2009-2015. The meetings ("The Shadow G-20 Workshop") were held in New York City, Seoul, Beijing, Paris, Bali, and Manila. Selected proceedings of these meetings will be published as A New Global Financial Architecture for a Multi-Polar World, MIT Press (forthcoming). Wing was a coordinator of the ADB Institute project, Financing Green Development, 2017-2019, and the report has been published as Handbook of Green Finance: Energy Security and Sustainable Development, Tokyo: Springer, 2019.

Wing Thye Woo has held research and teaching positions (of longer than a month) at the Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis in Australian National University, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (Singapore), Center for Strategic and International Studies (Indonesia), London School of Economics, Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Developpement International (CERDI) at Universite d'Auvergne (France), East-West Center (Hawaii), International Monetary Fund, University of Hong Kong, National Taiwan University, Institute for Strategic and International Studies (Malaysia), Lowy Institute (Sydney), People's University of China, and the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He has also served as external reviewer for academic programs and personnel at Lingnan University (Hong Kong), Chinese University of Hong Kong, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (Malaysia), University of Hong Kong, Australian National University, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore) and National University of Singapore; and as external examiner for master and doctoral dissertations submitted to University of Colorado, Australian National University, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore), Universite Toulouse I, Oxford University, University of Alberta, James Cook University (Australia), University of Sydney, and University of Hong Kong.

Wing Thye Woo has been active in academic societies and journals. He was President of the Chinese Economists Association of North America (CEANA), 2001-2002; and of the Chinese Economists Society (CES), 2015-2016. Presently, Wing serves on several boards, including Sunway University; University of Cambodia; Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE) in Warsaw; Bank of Finland's Institute for Economies in Transition (BOFIT); China Institute of Finance at East China Normal University in Shanghai; Technology & Management Centre for Development of Oxford University; UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN); Institute for Sustainable Development Goals of Tsinghua University in Beijing; Chinese Economists Society; East Asian Economic Association; UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN); Pacific Economic Review, Journal of International Economics and Economic Policy, China

Economic Journal, and China & World Economy. Wing is Editor of Asian Economic Papers and Journal of Chinese Economic and Business Studies, and Associate Editor of Economic Change and Restructuring.

Wing Thye Woo was born in 1954 in Penang, Malaysia, where he was a member of the 2nd. Georgetown (S) Senior Scout Troop, out of Methodist Boys' School. He graduated from Swarthmore College in 1976 with a B.A. (High Honors) in Economics, and a B.S. in Engineering. Wing Thye Woo received an M.A. in Economics from Yale in 1978, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard in 1982. He has been with the University of California at Davis since 1985.



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Wing Woo has advised several governments and international organizations. In early 1990s, he advised several centrally-planned economies on their transition strategies to market economy (Economies in Transition: Comparing Asia and Europe, MIT Press, 1997); and Indonesia on growth strategies and exchange rate management (Macroeconomic Crisis and Long-Term Growth: The Case of Indonesia, 1965-1990, World Bank Press, 1994). He advised China's Ministry of Finance on the comprehensive tax and exchange rate reforms implemented in January 1994 (Fiscal Management and Economic Reform in the People's Republic of China, Oxford University Press, 1995), and the U.S. Treasury in 1997-98 on the Asian Financial Crisis (The Asian Financial Crisis: Lessons for a Resilient Asia, MIT Press, 2000). From 2002-2005, Wing was the Special Advisor for East Asian Economies in the Millennium Project of the United Nations; in July 2005, he was appointed to the International Advisory Panel to Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi of Malaysia; and in 2008, he became the economic advisor to Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng of Penang State. From 2009-2015, Wing was the Convener of "The Shadow G-20 Workshop" co-sponsored by the Asian Development Bank and Earth Institute at Columbia University; and selected proceedings of these workshops will be published as A New Global Financial Architecture for a Multi-Polar World, MIT Press (forthcoming). He was a coordinator of the ADB Intitute project, Financing Green Development, 2017-2019, and the outcome is Handbook of Green Finance: Energy Security and Sustainable Development, Tokyo: Springer, 2019.

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Wing was born in 1954 in George Town, Penang, Malaysia. He graduated from Swarthmore College in 1976 with a B.A. (High Honors) in Economics, and a B.S. in Engineering; and received an M.A. in Economics from Yale in 1978, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard in 1982.