About the Authors

James D. Gwartney holds the Gus A. Stavros Eminent Scholar Chair at Florida State University, where he directs the Stavros Center for the Advancement of Free Enterprise and Economic Education. His writings have been widely published in both professional journals and popular media. He is the coauthor of *Common Sense Economics: What Everyone Should Know About Wealth and Prosperity* (St. Martin's Press, 2005), a primer on economics and personal finance. His current research focuses on the measurement and determination of factors that influence cross-country differences in income levels and growth rates. In this regard, he is the coauthor (with Robert Lawson) of the annual report, *Economic Freedom of the World,* which provides information on the institutions and policies of 141 countries. This data set, published by a worldwide network of institutes in seventy-nine countries, is widely used by scholars investigating topics ranging from economic growth to peaceful relations among nations. He served as chief economist of the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress during 1999 to 2000. In 2004 he was the recipient of the Adam Smith Award of the Association of Private Enterprise Education for his contribution to the advancement of free market ideals. He is a past president of the Southern Economic Association and the Association for Private Enterprise Education. His PhD in economics is from the University of Washington.

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