

Wing Thye Woo

Wing Thye Woo is a Nonresident Senior Fellow in the Global Economy and Development and Foreign Policy programs at Brookings Institution. He is also Professor in the Department of Economics, University of California at Davis, and the Director of the East Asia Program within the Center for Globalization and Sustainable Development at Columbia University.



His current research focuses on the economic issues of East Asia (particularly, China and Indonesia), international financial architecture, economic growth, and exchange rate economics. His 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 25 most cited articles in its 30 years of history.

From 1994-96, Woo led an international team (which included Leszek Balcerowicz, Boris Fedorov, and Jeffrey D. Sachs) to study the reform experiences of centrally-planned economies. In 1998, Woo headed the project "Asia Competitiveness Report 1999" to analyze the Asian financial crisis for the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, February 1999. In 2001, Woo helped establish the Asian Economic Panel (AEP). Woo has advised a number of governments on macroeconomic and exchange rate management, state enterprise restructuring, trade issues, and financial sector development.

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. During 1997-1998, 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. In July 2005, he was appointed to the International Advisory Panel to the Prime Minister of Malaysia. In 2004, the University of California at Davis awarded Woo its Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award, and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies in Malaysia appointed him a Distinguished ISIS Fellow. In March 2006, he was appointed a Chang Jiang Scholar (by the Ministry of Education of China based on nation-wide competition among universities) at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing, China.

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