

George M. von Furstenberg

George M. von Furstenberg was born in the western part of Germany in the middle of World War II. In 1961 he arrived as a 19-year-old immigrant alone in New York to make it the hard way—study, work, and no play—first at Columbia University’s School of General Studies and then at Princeton University, from which he received a Ph.D. in economics in 1967, having become an American citizen one year earlier. Since then several years of work at the International Monetary Fund (division chief, 1978–1983) and at various U.S. government agencies, including the president’s Council of Economic Advisers (senior staff economist, 1973–1976) and the Department of State (1989–1990), have alternated with his academic pursuits. He has had Fulbright research and teaching fellowships to both Poland and Canada, and has been featured in successive editions of *Who’s Who in America*, starting with the 44th, and in the 1999 edition of *Who’s Who in Economics*. In 2000 he became president of the North American Economics and Finance Association, which he previously had served as president-elect and program chair.

A prolific writer and frequent editor, his interests are policy-oriented, broad, and international. However, he is very particular about sharing in the teaching of open-economy macroeconomics and international finance. At Indiana University, where he still serves, he became a full professor in 1973 and a J. H. Rudy Professor in 1983. In 2000–2003 he was the inaugural Robert Bendheim Chair in Economic and Financial Policy at Fordham University’s Graduate School of Business Administration, Lincoln Center. He is deeply involved with his students and their professional success, currently working with them on topics of monetary union and financial integration. His latest book, with Michael K. Ulan, is *Learning from the World’s Best Central Bankers* (Kluwer, 1998). A co-edited manuscript on *Monetary Unions and Hard Pegs: Effects on Trade, Financial Development, and Stability*, was published in 2004 by Oxford University Press. In May 2006 he hosted an international conference entitled New Monetary and Exchange-Rate Arrangements for East Asia, which was held at the Rockefeller Foundation’s conference center in Bellagio, Italy.

George will be spending the first year of his retirement working at the National Science Foundation with an appointment as a Federal Visiting Scientist. He and his wife, Gabrielle, will be splitting their time between Washington, D.C., and Bloomington, as well as on the occasional international trip.