

# Preface

The essays of this book deal with important topics related to the Chinese economy. They are up-to-date and original. Most of them were published in Chinese in major newspapers in the last two years. A Chinese edition of this book 中国经济随笔 has been published by CITIC Press. Although written for the general reader, the essays are not casual comments but based on academic research and may benefit graduate and undergraduate students and professional economists. They result from more than 30 years of intensive study of and research on the Chinese economy and more than 40 years of experience in advising top government officials of Taiwan and the People's Republic of China on economic policy, economic reform and economics education.

In the process of studying China's economy I owe a great debt to students and colleagues at Princeton University and other major universities in the US and China that I have visited during this period, as well as friends in the government and the business community in mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan who have shared with me their understanding of China from

personal experience. I would like to acknowledge financial support from the Gregory C Chow Econometric Research Program of Princeton University for research on which many of the articles in this book are based. Critical comments from readers would be much appreciated.

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