

Acknowledgments

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Named for Nobel Laureate James Tobin (1918–2002) and modeled after earlier efforts to link scholars and lawmakers, the Tobin Project seeks to influence public debate by reaching simultaneously outward to connect with the policy community and inward to shape debate within the academic community.

The Tobin Project's Government and Markets initiative is focused on the economic role of the state and, in particular, on questions of when and how regulation functions best. The project aims with this work to increase understanding about the role of government in facilitating a healthy economy and society.

This volume is one product of those efforts.

The scholars who contributed the succeeding chapters first met as a group at a 2008 Tobin Project conference with the same title and purpose as this book – to reinvigorate the study of regulation and help foster new theories and strategies for our challenging times. The conference of some sixty scholars and policymakers was held at the White Oak Conference & Residency Center in Florida with the generous support of the Howard Gilman Foundation and the Ford Foundation. We gratefully acknowledge the members of the board of the Howard Gilman Foundation and Katherine McFate at the Ford Foundation for their encouragement and participation.

This effort has depended in no small measure on the Tobin Project's Board of Directors, as well as the Tobin Project's financial supporters, whose generosity reflects their faith in the power of ideas. The work of several members of the Tobin Project's staff was indispensable to both the conference and the completion of this volume. Alison Damaskos and Laura Einhorn helped organize the 2008 regulation conference, while John Cisternino, Rebecca Chang, and Sage Trombulak assisted greatly with the editorial process. As a research fellow, Jessica Leight helped us formulate our early regulation efforts. It is wonderful to see her involvement in this volume.

We are grateful to Lewis Bateman and Scott Parris at Cambridge University Press for recognizing the contribution this book could make, to Professor Daniel Carpenter for introducing us to them, and to three anonymous reviewers for their suggestions, which have improved this volume.

Professors David Moss and Edward Balleisen championed this initiative. We are especially grateful to David for founding the Tobin Project and giving shape to

this effort and to Ed for his leadership of our regulation team and for working with chapter authors to foster linkages among the contributions.

The network of scholars who have signed on to Tobin efforts has grown from a handful to almost 200. We thank each of them for participating and for bringing their colleagues and graduate students into the fold.

James Tobin noted in *Essays in Economics* that “the most important decisions a scholar makes are what problems to work on.” Our deepest acknowledgment is to the spirit of public service that he left to all of us and to the seventeen scholars who took up his call in this book.