

March 1, 2017

**Thad Williamson**

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**Current Position**

Associate Professor of Leadership Studies and Philosophy, Politics, Economics & Law (tenured),  
University of Richmond, 2011- present

**Previous Academic Positions**

Assistant Professor of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond, 2005-2011 (promoted March  
2011)

Lecturer on Social Studies, Harvard University, 2004-05.

**Additional Professional Experience**

Senior Policy Advisor for Opportunity, Office of Mayor Levar M. Stoney, City of Richmond,  
VA, January 2017 – present (part-time appointment).

Director, Office of Community Wealth Building, City of Richmond, June 2014-May 2016 (full-  
time appoint while on professional leave).

Research Associate, Institute for Policy Studies and National Center for Economic and Security  
Alternatives (joint appointment), Washington, DC, 1992-1996.

**Education**

Ph.D. in Political Science, Harvard University, 2004. Dissertation Title: *Sprawl, Justice, and  
Citizenship: A Philosophical and Empirical Inquiry*. Thesis committee: Michael J. Sandel  
(chair), Robert D. Putnam, Ann Forsyth, J. Russell Muirhead.

M.A. in Religion, Union Theological Seminary, 1998. Concentration in Christian Ethics. Thesis  
title: *Is There a Light At the End of the Tunnel? An Examination of Proposed Explanations for  
Mainline Church Decline in the United States, Followed by An Exploration of Future  
Trajectories in Mainline Church Life*.

A.B. Brown University, 1992. Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude. Concentrations in History and Religious Studies.

### **Major Awards**

Robert Wood Lynn fellowship for graduating student with promise of excellence in teaching or in a ministry of education, Union Theological Seminary (New York), 1998.

Harold D. Lasswell Award for best dissertation in public policy from the American Political Science Association and the Policy Studies Organization (co-winner), received 2005.

Distinguished Educator Award, University of Richmond, 2012.

### **Publications**

#### ***Books***

*Property-Owning Democracy: Rawls and Beyond*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012. Co-edited with Martin O'Neill.

*Leadership and Global Justice*. Palgrave, 2012. Co-edited with Douglas A. Hicks.

*Sprawl, Justice and Citizenship: The Civic Costs of the American Way of Life*. Oxford University Press, 2010. 416 pp.

*Making a Place for Community: Local Democracy in a Global Era*. 400 pages. Routledge Press, 2002. Co-author with David Imbroscio and Gar Alperovitz.

*More Than a Game: Why North Carolina Basketball Means So Much to So Many*. 320 pages. Economic Affairs Bureau, 2001.

*What Comes Next? A Preliminary Bibliography of Recent Proposals for a Different Society, With Critical Annotations*. 190 pages. National Center for Economic and Security Alternatives, 1998.

Associate author/contributing researcher, *The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb and the Architecture of an American Myth*. (Principal author: Gar Alperovitz). (New York: Knopf), 1995.

#### ***Works in Progress (Book Manuscripts)***

Book-length study of power and politics in Richmond, Virginia from 1990- present, co-authored with Dr. Amy Howard, University of Richmond.

***Academic Journal Articles (Peer-Reviewed)***

“Reframing Public Housing in Richmond, Virginia: Segregation, Resident Resistance and the Future of Redevelopment.” *Cities* 57 (2016): 33-39.

“Constitutionalizing Property-Owning Democracy.” *The Good Society* 22 (2013): 74-90. Also published in *Analyse und Kritik* 35 (2013): 237-253.

“Beyond Social Capital: Social Justice in Recovery and Resilience.” (In symposium on Daniel Aldrich’s *Building Resilience*.) *Risks, Hazards & Public Policy* 4 (2013): 28-31.

“Introduction” to Symposium on Erik Olin Wright’s *Envisioning Real Utopias*. *New Political Science* 34 (2012): 358-59.

“Emancipatory Politics, Emancipatory Political Science: On Erik Olin Wright’s *Envisioning Real Utopias*.” 34 (2012): 386-395.

“Introduction” to Symposium on Property-Owning Democracy. *The Good Society* 21 (2012): 1-3. With Alan Thomas.

“An Emancipatory Interpretation of Property-Owning Democracy: Rawls, Wright, Sen and Politics.” *The Good Society* 21 (2012): 74-89.

“Anchoring Wealth to Sustain Cities and Population Growth.” *The Solutions Journal* 4 ( July 2012): 50-57. With Gar Alperovitz and Steve Dubb.

“Privatization, Marketization, and Neoliberalism—The Political Dynamics of Post-Katrina New Orleans.” (Part of symposium on Cedric Johnson’s *The Neoliberal Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, Late Capitalism, and the Remaking of New Orleans*.) *Perspectives on Politics* 10 (2012): 720-723.

“Inactive by Design? Neighborhood Design and Political Participation.” *Political Behavior* 34 (2012): 79-101. With Daniel Hopkins.

“Putting Experts in Their Place: The Challenge of Expanding Participation While Solving Problems.” (In symposium on Mark Bevir’s *Democratic Governance*.) *International Journal of Organizational Theory and Behavior* 14 (2011).

“Who Owns What? An Egalitarian Interpretation of John Rawls’s Idea of a Property-Owning Democracy.” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 40 (2009): 434-453.

“Property-Owning Democracy and the Demands of Justice.” *Living Reviews in Democracy* 1 (2009).

“The Good Society and the Good Soul: Plato’s *Republic* on Leadership.” *Leadership Quarterly* 19 (2008): 397-408.

“Sprawl, Spatial Location, and Politics.” *American Politics Research* 36 (2008): 903-933.

“Local Policy Responses to Globalization: Place-based Ownership Models of Economic Enterprise,” *Policy Studies Journal* 31 (2003): 231-252. With David Imbroscio and Gar Alperovitz.

"True Prophecy? An Analysis and Critique of the Mainline Church's Social Witness," *Union Seminary Quarterly Review* 51 (1997): 79-116.

### ***Book Chapters***

“Everybody’s Got To Wonder What’s the Matter With This Cruel World Today’: Social Consciousness and Political Commentary in ‘*Love and Theft*’ and *Modern Times*.” In *Tearing the World Apart: Bob Dylan in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, edited by Nina Goss and Eric Hoffman, University of Mississippi, forthcoming fall 2017.

“Spiritual Leadership for Social Change in the United States.” In *Frontiers of Spiritual Leadership: Discovering the Better Angels of Our Nature*, edited by Scott Allison, George R. Goethals and Craig Kocher, Palgrave MacMillan, 2016.

“The Tangled Relationship of Democracy, Leadership and Justice in Urban America: A View from Richmond.” In *On Good Democratic Leadership: Prudence and Judgment in Modern Democracies*, edited by John Kane and Haig Patapan, Oxford University Press, 2014.

“Introduction.” With Martin O’Neill. In Martin O’Neill and Thad Williamson, eds. *Property-Owning Democracy: Rawls and Beyond*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

“Is Property-Owning Democracy a Politically Viable Aspiration in the United States?” In Martin O’Neill and Thad Williamson, eds. *Property-Owning Democracy: Rawls and Beyond*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

“Realizing Property-Owning Democracy: A Twenty-Year Strategy to Create an Egalitarian Distribution of Assets in the United States.” In Martin O’Neill and Thad Williamson, eds. *Property-Owning Democracy: Rawls and Beyond*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

“Introduction.” (With Douglas A. Hicks). In Douglas A. Hicks and Thad Williamson, eds. *Leadership and Global Justice*, Palgrave, 2012.

“Leadership Towards Global Justice: Conceptual and Practical Challenges.” (With Douglas A. Hicks). In Douglas A. Hicks and Thad Williamson, eds. *Leadership and Global Justice*, Palgrave, 2012.

“Urban Sprawl.” Entry in *Oxford Companion to American Politics*, edited by David Coates, Oxford University Press, 2012.

“Justice, the Public Sector, and Cities: Re-legitimizing the Activist State.” In Clarissa Hayward and Todd Swanstrom, eds. *Justice and the Contemporary American Metropolis*. University of Minnesota Press, 2011.

“Changing the People, Not Simply the President: The Limitations and Possibilities of the Obama Presidency, in Tocquevillian Perspective.” In Brian Danoff and Joseph Hebert, eds. *Alexis de Tocqueville and the Art of Democratic Statesmanship*. Lexington Books, 2011.

“Beyond Sprawl and Anti-Sprawl.” In Jonathan Davies and David Imbroscio, eds. *Critical Urban Studies: New Directions*. SUNY Press, 2010.

“Leadership and Political Traditions, I: Conservatism, Liberalism, and Civic Republicanism.” In Richard Couto, ed. *Political and Civic Leadership: A Reference Handbook*. SAGE, 2010.

“Leadership and Political Traditions, II: Radical and Left Traditions.” In Richard Couto, ed. *Political and Civic Leadership: A Reference Handbook*. SAGE, 2010.

“The Challenge of Urban Sprawl.” With David Imbroscio and Gar Alperovitz. In Nancy Kleniewski, ed. *Cities and Society*. Blackwell, 2005.

"Ecological Sustainability--Some Elements of Longer Term System Change." With Gar Alperovitz and Alex Campbell. In Fred Gale and Michael M'Gonigle, eds. *Nature, Production, and Power*. Edward Elgar Press, 2000.

### ***Book Reviews and Review Essays (Academic Journals)***

Review of Peter Norton's *Fighting Traffic: The Dawn of the Motor Age in the American City* in *Contemporary Sociology* 42 (2013): 263-265.

Review of Edward Soja's *Seeking Spatial Justice* in *City & Community* 12 (2013): 78-80.

Review of Noel Cazenave's *Impossible Democracy: The Unlikely Success of the War on Poverty Community Action Programs* in *American Journal of Sociology* 115 (2009): 928-931.

Review essay on Raj Patel's *Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System* and Andrew Szasz's *Shopping Our Way to Safety* in *New Political Science* 31 (2009): 109-113.

Review of Robert Barsky's *The Chomsky Effect* in *New Political Science* 31 (2009).

Review essay on Jonathan Levine's *Zoned Out*, Robert Brueggman's *Sprawl: A Compact History*, and William Bogart's *Don't Call It Sprawl* in *Urban Affairs Review* 43 (2008): 284-291.

Review essay on Gar Alperovitz's *America Beyond Capitalism* in *The Good Society: A PEGS Journal* 15 (2006): 31-36.

Response to Harry Boyte's essay on "Public Work" in *The Good Society: A PEGS Journal* 9 (1999).

Review of David Imbroscio's *Reconstructing City Politics*, in *Review of Radical Political Economics* 31 (1999): 159-163.

Review of Larry Rasmussen's *Earth Ethics, Earth Community* in *Union Seminary Quarterly Review*, 50 (1996): 151-157.

### ***Research Reports***

"Climate Change, Community Stability and the Next 150 Million Americans" published by The Democracy Collaborative at the University of Maryland, September 2010; available at [community-wealth.org](http://community-wealth.org). With Steve Dubb and Gar Alperovitz. 92 pages.

*Index of Environmental Trends*, published by the National Center for Economic and Security Alternatives, Washington, DC. April 1995. With Gar Alperovitz, Ted Howard, and Adria Scharf.

### ***Additional Scholarly Essays and Reviews (Invited)***

"Free Market Fairness: Is There a Moral Case for Free Markets?" (Review of John Tomasi's *Free Market Fairness*), *Boston Review*, November 5, 2012. With Martin O'Neill.

"Beyond the Welfare State: Rawls's Radical Vision for a Better America." *Boston Review*, October 24, 2012. With Martin O'Neill.

"The Promise of Pre-Distribution." *Policy Network* feature essay (online), September 28, 2012. With Martin O'Neill.

"Philosophical Foundations for 'Good Capitalism'? Labour's Business Agenda, John Rawls, and Property-Owning Democracy." *Renewal: A Journal of Social Democracy* 20 (2012): 20-32. With Martin O'Neill.

"The Triple Threat to Community," *Indicators: The Journal of Social Health* 2 (2003): 84-102. With David Imbroscio and Gar Alperovitz.

"Sprawl, Politics, and Participation: A Preliminary Analysis," *National Civic Review* 91 (2002): 235-244.

"The Usefulness—And Limitations—of Social Capital as an Analytic Tool for Progressives," *Antipode* 34 (2002): 809-811.

"Monica, Bill, and Ethics," *Cross Currents: The Journal of the Association for Religion and Intellectual Life* 49 (1999): 153-163.

## Conference Papers and Presentations

“Progressive Urban Policy in the Age of Austerity: Richmond, Virginia's Comprehensive Anti-Poverty Initiative.” Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, August 2014.

“Capitalism and Justice.” Paper given at symposium, American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division) meetings, Baltimore, MD, December 29, 2013.  
Panel Presentation on “The Theory and Practice of Civic Studies,” Frontiers of Democracy Conference, Tufts University, July 2013.

“Mobility and Its Opponents: Richmond, Virginia’s Refusal to Embrace Mass Transit.” Presentation at Urban Affairs Association, San Francisco, April 2013, and Conference on “Accessibility as a Condition of Spatial Justice in Urban Context,” University of Montreal, May 2013.

“The Tangled Web of Leadership, Democracy, and Justice: The View from Richmond.” Conference on Democratic Leadership, Yale University, February 2013.

“Re-THINK Big: Liberals, Conservatives, and the Search for Human Scale.” Panel presentation with Mark Mitchell, McConnell Center at University of Louisville, February 2013.

“The Seven Habits of Civically Engaged Human Beings.” Speech given at Western Kentucky University Honors College, February 2013.

Panel Presentation on “Justice and Social Identity,” Symposium on the State of Leadership Studies, Jepson School of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond, January 2013.

“Why Richmond Is Not (But Should Be) a Progressive City.” Policy History Conference, Richmond, VA, June 2012.

“Constitutionalizing Property-Owning Democracy.” Conference on Property-Owning Democracy at University of Zurich, May 2012.

“Christianity, Leadership, and the Ecological Crisis.” Presented at Annual Meetings of the International Leadership Association, London, UK, October 2011.

“On Erik Olin Wright’s *Envisioning Real Utopias*.” Presented at Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, September 2011.

“Emancipatory Social Science and Property-Owning Democracy.” Presented at Workshop on Rawls and Property-Owning Democracy, Tilburg University (Holland), June 2011.

“The City’s Right to Capital.” Presented at conference on “Spatiality and Justice: Interdisciplinary Investigations on the Political Philosophy of the City.” University of Montreal, May 2011.

“Power to Do and Power to Deny: How Two Unelected White Men Run Richmond, Virginia.” Presented at Annual Meetings of the Urban Affairs Association, New Orleans, March 2011.

“Taming Leviathan? The Problem of Large-scaled Economic Power in Capitalism and Its Alternatives.” Presented at Annual Meetings of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Philadelphia, June 2010, and Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, September 2010.

“Barack Obama as Civic Republican.” Conference Paper, Annual Meetings of the International Leadership Association, Prague, November 2009 (paper read by a colleague in my absence due to illness).

“Justice, the Public Sector, and Cities: Re-legitimizing the Activist State.” (Revised.) Conference Paper, Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, September 2009.

“Justice, the Public Sector, and Cities: Re-legitimizing the Activist State.” Conference Paper, Conference on Justice and the American Metropolis, Washington University (St. Louis), May 2009.

“Bringing History Back In? An Assessment of the ‘New Suburban History.’” Conference Paper, Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, August 2008.

“Cutting Leadership Down to Size: Leadership and Workplace Democracy.” Conference Paper, Annual Meeting of the International Leadership Association, Vancouver, CA, November 2007.

“A Fair Stake and a Fair Shake: John Rawls’s Idea of a Property-Owning Democracy and Its Political Plausibility.” Conference Paper, Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, August 2007.

“Involving Students in Rebuilding New Orleans: The Collegiate Disaster Relief Team at the University of Richmond,” presentation with Eric Van Der Hyde, UR ’08, Annual Meeting of the Planners Network, New Orleans, LA, May 2007.

Respondent on panel on leadership studies and political theory, Annual Meetings of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2006.

“Was Ivan Illich Right? The Promise and Limitations of Experiential Learning,” Conference Paper, Annual Meeting of the International Leadership Association, Amsterdam, November 2005.

“Towards a Morally Coherent Anti-Sprawl Politics: Community Land Trusts as an Alternative to Gentrification,” Conference Paper, Annual Meetings of the Western Political Science Association, Oakland, CA, March 2005.



“The Relationship Between Workplace Democracy and Economic Democracy: Three Views,” Conference Paper, Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2004.

"Sprawl and Civic Participation," Conference Paper, Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Washington, DC, March 2004.

Panel Presentation, "Sprawl, Politics, and Participation: A Preliminary Analysis," Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Boston, September 2002.

“Is Employee Ownership a Road to Anywhere? (That is, Anywhere Economic Democrats Want to Go?)” Paper presented at The Democracy Collaborative conference, University of Maryland, January 2002. Revised, October 2002.

Panel presentation: “What Can Social Capital and Communitarian Theory Contribute to Urban Analysis?,” Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association, Detroit, April 2001.

“Toward the Economic Stabilization of America's Urban Communities: Policy and Institutional Alternatives in the Global Era.” Co-authored with Gar Alperovitz and David Imbroscio. Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association in Washington, D.C., September 2000.

Respondent on panel on "Alternatives to Capitalism," Annual Meetings of the Pacific Sociology Association, April 1999, Portland, Oregon.

"Disney-fied and Mesmerized: A Political and Economic Critique of the Walt Disney Company." Conference Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Academy of Religion, November 1998, Orlando, Florida. (Part of joint presentation with Aana Vigen.)

Panelist on PEGS forum on civil society and democracy, Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, New York, September 1, 1994.

### **Community Service and Leadership (Major Highlights)**

Member, Mayor’s Anti-Poverty Commission (Richmond, VA), March 2011—January 2013.  
Chair, Committee on Policy and Legislation. Primary author, final report of Commission.

Co-Chair (with Councilwoman Ellen Robertson), Maggie L. Walker Initiative for Expanding Opportunity and Fighting Poverty (successor to Mayor’s Anti-Poverty Commission), Richmond, VA, January 2013-March 2014. Produced recommendations leading to formation of the City of Richmond’s Office of Community Wealth Building.

Transition Director, Mayor-elect and Mayor Levar M. Stoney, City of Richmond, November 2016-January 2017.

