

Robert A. Lawson

Bridwell Institute for Economic Freedom
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Education

1992 Ph.D. in Economics, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida
1991 M.S. in Economics, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida
1988 B.S. in Economics, Ohio University, Honors Tutorial College, Athens, Ohio
Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Work Experience

2011 – Present Southern Methodist University, Cox School of Business, Dallas, Texas
Clinical Professor (2020-present); Professor of Practice (2011-2020)
Jerome M. Fullinwider Centennial Chair in Economic Freedom (2011-present)
Director, Bridwell Institute for Economic Freedom (2020-present)
Director, O’Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom (2015-2020)

2008 – 2011 Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama
Associate Professor of Finance
Co-Director, Center for International Finance and Global Competitiveness

1996 – 2008 Capital University, Columbus, Ohio
George H. Moor Chair (2001-2008)
Professor of Economics (2002-2008)
Associate Professor of Economics (1999-2002)
Assistant Professor of Economics (1996-1999)

1992 – 1996 Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, Ohio
Associate Professor of Economics (1995-1996)
Assistant Professor of Economics (1992-1995)

Other Current Affiliations

2020 – Present Board of Directors, Mont Pelerin Society
2019 – Present Board of Directors, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2014 – Present Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute
2013 – Present Editorial Board, Journal of Private Enterprise

Honors & Awards

2019 Adam Smith Award, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2013 Kent Aronoff Service Award, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2009 Distinguished Scholar Award, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2009 Best Educational Note, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2007 Best Educational Note, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2005 President’s Award, Association of Private Enterprise Education
2002 Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, Capital University School of Management
1999 Antony Fisher Award for best book published by a think tank for *Economic Freedom of the World, 1997 Annual Report*
1988 Gene Chapin Memorial Award for best undergraduate paper in economics, Ohio University

Books

- Lawson, R. and B. Powell. 2019. *Socialism Sucks: Two Economists Drink Their Way Through the Unfree World*. Washington: Regnery Publishing.
- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson, J. Hall, and R. Murphy. 2018. 2019. *Economic Freedom of the World: Annual Report*. Vancouver: The Fraser Institute. (Published annually from 2018-)
- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson, and J. Hall. 2010. 2011. 2012. 2013. 2014. 2015. 2016. 2017. *Economic Freedom of the World: Annual Report*. Vancouver: The Fraser Institute. (Published annually from 2010-2017.)
- Burakova, L. and R. Lawson. 2014. *Georgia's Rose Revolution: How One Country Beat the Odds, Transformed Its Economy, and Provided a Model for Reformers Everywhere*. Guatemala: Universidad Francisco Marroquin/The Antigua Forum.
- Hall, J. and R. Lawson (eds.). 2011. *Economic Freedom: Causes and Consequences*. Hauppauge NY: Nova Science Publishers.
- Gwartney, J. and R. Lawson, 1997. 1998. 1999. 2000. 2001. 2002. 2003. 2004. 2005. 2006. 2007. 2008. 2009. *Economic Freedom of the World: Annual Report*. Vancouver: The Fraser Institute. (Published annually from 1997-2009.)
- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson, and W. Block. 1996. *Economic Freedom of the World, 1975-1995*. Vancouver: The Fraser Institute.

Journal Articles

- Dean, J. and R. Lawson. 2021. "Who Gains from Economic Freedom? A Panel Analysis of Decile Income Levels." *Economics and Business Letters*.
- Lawson, K. and R. Lawson. 2020. "Economic Liberalizations Around the World Since 1970: Shock Therapy Versus Gradualism." *Cato Journal* 40(3): 665-83.
- Lawson, R., R. Murphy, B. Powell. 2020. "The Determinants of Economic Freedom: A Survey." *Contemporary Economic Policy* 38(4): 622-42.
- Lawson, R. 2019. "The Consequences and Causes of Economic Freedom: Adam Smith Award Remarks." *Journal of Private Enterprise* 34(3): 1-10.
- Grier, K, R. Lawson, and S. Absher. 2019. "So You Say You Want a (Rose) Revolution? The Effects of Georgia's 2004 Market Reforms." *The Economics of Transition and Institutional Change* 27(1): 301-23.
- Lawson, R. and R. Murphy. 2019. "What Matters More, Institutions or Specifications? A Critical Assessment of the Correlates of Institutional Development." *Institutions and Economies* 11(1): 1-20.
- Lawson, R. and J. R. Clark. 2019. "Taxation in the Classical Liberal Tradition." *Review of Austrian Economics* 32(2): 131-37.
- Lawson, R. and R. Murphy. 2018. "Economic Freedom and Growth Specification Debate: A Retrospective." *Applied Economic Letters* 25(15): 1038-40.
- Murphy, R. and R. Lawson. 2018. "Extending the Economic Freedom of the World Index to the Cold-War Era." *Cato Journal* 38(1): 265-84.
- Lawson, R. 2016. "Human Trafficking: Interview." *International Affairs Forum* 7(2): 114-16.

- Heller, L., R. Lawson, R. Murphy, and C. Williamson. 2016. "Is Human Trafficking the Dark Side of Economic Freedom?" *Defence and Peace Economics* 29(4): 355-82.
- Lawson, R., R. Murphy, and C. Williamson. 2016. "The Relationship Between Income, Economic Freedom, and BMI." *Public Health* 134: 18-25.
- Murphy, R. and R. Lawson. 2016. "Does Antitrust Policy Promote Competition?" *Applied Economics Letters* 23(14): 1034-36
- Lawson, R. and K. Lawson. 2016. "Good Cops, Bad Cops, Whatcha Gonna Do?" *Journal of Private Enterprise* 31(4): 85-96.
- Lawson, R. and E. F. Stephenson. 2016. "Why Statutory Incidence Matters." *Journal of Private Enterprise* 31(1): 37-44.
- Lawson, R. and S. Roychoudhury. 2016. "Do Travel Visa Requirements Impede Tourist Travel?" *Journal of Economics and Finance* 40(4): 817-28.
- Lawson, R. 2016. "Can two observations confirm a theory? A comment on Max U versus Humanomics." *Journal of Institutional Economics* 12(1): 49-51.
- Powell, B, R. Lawson, A. Nowrasteh, J. R. Clark, and R. Murphy. 2015. "Does Immigration Impact Institutions?" *Public Choice* 163 (3-4): 321-335. [Reprinted in *Economic Freedom and Prosperity* by Benjamin Powell (ed.). London and New York: Routledge.]
- Huskinson, T. and R. Lawson. 2014. "Clusters of Economic Freedom." *Applied Economics Letters*. 21(15): 1070-1074.
- Lawson, R. and A. Young. 2014. "Capitalism and Labor Shares: A Cross-Country Panel Study." *European Journal of Political Economy* 33: 20-36.
- Hall, J. and R. Lawson. 2014. "Economic Freedom of the World: An Accounting of the Literature." *Contemporary Economic Policy* 32(1): 1-19.
- Lawson, R. and T. Nesbit. 2013. "Alchian and Allen Revisited: Law Enforcement and the Price of Weed." *Atlantic Economic Journal* 41: 363-370.
- Lawson, R. and J. Lemke. 2012. "Travel Visas." *Public Choice* 153(1-2): 17-36.
- Gropper, D., R. Lawson, and J. Thorne Jr. 2011. "Economic Freedom and Happiness." *Cato Journal* 31 (2): 237-256.
- Hall, J., R. Lawson, and R. Wogslund. 2011. "The European Union and Economic Freedom." *Global Economy Journal* 11(3) Manuscript No. 1731.
- Hall, J., R. Lawson, and C. Skipton. 2010. "Estimating the Size of the Trade Sector in the Economic Freedom of the World index." *Economics Bulletin* 31(1): 466-72.
- Lawson, R. and J. Ross. 2010. "Economic Freedom and Beauty Pageant Success in the World." *Journal des Economistes et des Etudes Humaines* 16(1): Article 2.
- Carden, A. and R. Lawson. 2010. "Human Rights and Economic Liberalization." *Business and Politics* 12(2), Article 2.

- Calcagno, P., J. Hall, and R. Lawson. 2010. "Objectivism v. Subjectivism: A Market Test." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 76: 445-448.
- S. Roychoudhury and R. Lawson. 2010. "Economic Freedom and Sovereign Credit Ratings and Default Risk." *Journal of Financial Economic Policy* 2(2): 149-162.
- Lawson, R. and J. R. Clark. 2010. "Examining the Hayek-Friedman Hypothesis on Economic and Political Freedom." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 74(3), 230-39.
- Hall, J. and R. Lawson. 2009. "Economic Freedom and Peace." *Atlantic Economic Journal* 37(4), 445-46.
- Lawson, R. and C. Green. 2009. "The Trade Game." *Journal of Private Enterprise* 24(2), 175-180. {
- Hall, J. and R. Lawson. 2008. "Theory and Evidence on Economic Freedom and Economic Growth: A Comment." *Economics Bulletin* 15(18), 1-6.
- Lawson, R., K. Sheehan, and E. F. Stephenson. 2008. "Vend It Like Beckham: David Beckham's Effect on MLS Ticket Sales." *International Journal of Sport Finance* 3(4), 189-195.
- Lawson, R. and S. Roychoudhury. 2008. "Economic Freedom and Equity Prices among U.S. States." *The Credit and Financial Management Review* 14(4), 33-46.
- Hall, J.C., R. A. Lawson, and W. Luther. 2008. "Economic Freedom is Negative Liberty: A Comment on Legum (2007) and Stanford (2007)." *Real-World Economics Review* 47, 261-262.
- Clark, J. R. and R. Lawson. 2008. "The Impact of Economic Growth, Tax Policy and Economic Freedom on Income Inequality." *Journal of Private Enterprise*. 23(3), 23-31. [Reprinted in J. Hall and R. Lawson (eds.). 2011. *Economic Freedom: Causes and Consequences*. Hauppauge NY: Nova Science Publishers.]
- Hall, J., R. Lawson, G. D. Mateer, and A. Rice. 2008. "Teaching Private Enterprise Through Tunes: An Abecedarium of Music for Economists." *Journal of Private Enterprise* 23(2), 157-66. [Winner of the 2008 Best Educational Note Award from the Association of Private Enterprise Education.]
- Clark, J.R. and R. Lawson. 2007. "To Whom Does Wealth Belong." *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* 9(7).
- Hall, J., R. Lawson, and G. D. Mateer. 2007. "From Abba to Zeppelin, Led: Using Music to Teach Economics." *Journal of Economic Education* 39(1), 107.
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- Hall, J., R. Lawson, and L. Raymer. 2007. "Do Gas Stations Raise the Price of Gasoline on the Weekend or Holidays?" *Atlantic Economic Journal* 35(1), 119-20.
- Cole, J. and R. Lawson. 2007. "Handling Economic Freedom in Growth Regressions: Suggestions for Clarification." *Econ Journal Watch* 4(1), 71-78.
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- Lawson, R. and L. Raymer. 2006. "Testing the Alchian-Allen Theorem: A Study of Consumer Behavior in the Gasoline Market." *Economics Bulletin* 4(35), 1-7.

- Block, W. and R. Lawson. 2006. "Promotion, Turnover and Preemptive Wage Offers" with Walter Block. *Humanomics* 22(3), 133-38.
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- Gwartney, J., R. Holcombe and R. Lawson. 2006. "Institutions and the Impact of Investment on Growth." *Kyklos* 59(2), 255-76.
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- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson and R. Holcombe. 1998. "The Scope of Government and the Wealth of Nations." *Cato Journal* 18(2), 163-190.
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- Walker, M., J. Gwartney, R. Lawson, and W. Block. 1996. "El Concepto y la Medida de la Libertad Económica." *Revista del Instituto de Estudios Económicos: Libertad Económica y Progreso I* 17(1), 29-183.
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- Mateer, G. D. and R. Lawson. 1995. "The Thrill of Victory; The Agony of Defeat." *Public Choice* 83(3): 305-312.

Gallaway, L., R. Vedder, and R. Lawson. 1991. "Why People Work: An Examination of Interstate Variations in Labor Force Participation." *Journal of Labor Research* 12(1): 47-59.

Articles in Books

- Lawson, R. 2018. "The Economics of Gross-Receipts Taxes: A Case Study of Ohio" in *For Your Own Good: Taxes, Paternalism, and Fiscal Discrimination in the Twenty-First Century* by Adam J. Hoffer and Todd Nesbit (eds.), Washington, DC: Mercatus Center.
- Sobel, R. and R. Lawson. 2017. "The Effect of Early Media Projections on Presidential Voting in the Florida Panhandle" in *Explorations in Public Sector Economics* by Joshua Hall (ed.), Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
- Hall, J., R. Lawson, and S. Roychoudhury. 2017. "Creating the Environment for Entrepreneurship through Economic Freedom" in *Public Policy and the Productive Entrepreneur* by Greg Randolph, Michael Tasto and Rob Salvino (eds.), Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, Inc.
- Lawson, R. 2015. "Economic Freedom in the United States and Other Countries" in *What America's Decline in Economic Freedom Means for Entrepreneurship and Prosperity* by D. Boudreaux (ed.), Vancouver: Fraser Institute. [Book won 2015 Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Award.]
- Lawson, R. and R. Murphy. 2015. "Measuring Institutions and Policies Across Countries" in *Economic Behaviour, Economic Freedom, and Entrepreneurship* by Richard Cebula, Joshua C. Hall, Franklin G. Mixon, and James E. Payne, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Lawson, R. 2014. "Freedom as Development: Reflections on James Gwartney's Contributions to Measuring Institutions" in Joshua C. Hall (ed.) *The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations: 2013-2014*. Beloit, WI: Beloit College Press.
- Lawson, R. 2010. "My Path to Libertarianism" in Walter Block (ed.) *I Choose Liberty: Autobiographies of Contemporary Libertarians*. Auburn, AL: Ludwig von Mises Institute.
- Lawson, R. 2010. "Economic Freedom, Democracy and the Wealth of Nations" Christopher Newport University BB&T Colloquium Collection.
- Lawson, R. 2010. "Economic Freedom and the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations" in Emily Chamlee-Wright (ed.), *The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations: 2009-2010*. Beloit, WI: Beloit College Press.
- Lawson, R. 2008. "On the Methodology of the Economic Freedom of the World Index" in *The Design and Use of Political Economy Indicators* by King Banaian and Bryan Roberts (eds.) (New York: Palgrave Macmillan).
- Lawson, R. 2008. "Economic Freedom and Property Rights: The Institutional Environment of Productive Entrepreneurship," in *Making Poor Countries Rich: Entrepreneurship and the Process of Economic Development* by Benjamin Powell (ed.) (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press).
- Lawson, R. 2007. "Economic Freedom" in *The Concise Encyclopedia of Economics* by David R. Henderson (ed.) (Indianapolis: Liberty Fund).
- Gwartney, J. and R. Lawson. 2006. "Buchanan, James M. (1991-)" in *American Conservatism: An Encyclopedia* by Bruce Frohnen, Jeremy Beer, and Jeffrey O. Nelson (eds.) (Wilmington, DE: Intercollegiate Studies Institute).

- Gwartney, J., R. Holcombe, and R. Lawson. 2006. "Constitutions and Prosperity: The Impact of Legal and Economic Institutions on the Wealth of Nations," in *Democratic Constitutional Design and Public Policy: Analysis and Evidence* by Roger Congleton and Birgitta Swedenborg (eds.) (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press).
- Gwartney, J. and R. Lawson. 2004. "What Have We Learned from the Measurement of Economic Freedom?" in *The Legacy of Milton and Rose Friedman's Free to Choose* (Dallas: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas).
- Lawson, R. 2002. "Eliminating the Oklahoma Estate Tax," in *Oklahoma Policy Blueprint: An Action Plan for Advancing Economic and Educational Freedom* (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs).
- Gwartney, J. and R. Lawson. 2000. "Developing a Measure of Economic Freedom," in William Rushing (ed.) *The Visible Hand: The Challenge to Private Enterprise in the 21st Century* (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press).
- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson, and W. Block. 1992. "Measuring Economic Freedom," in Easton, Stephen T. and Michael A. Walker (eds.) *Rating Global Economic Freedom* (Vancouver: The Fraser Institute).

Book Reviews

- Lawson, R. 2017. "Branko Milanovic: Global inequality: a new approach for the age of globalization." *Public Choice* 170(1).
- Lawson, R. 2012. "The quality of government: corruption, social trust, and inequality in international perspective by Bo Rothstein" *Public Choice* 150(3), 793-795.
- Lawson, R. 2007. "Why I, Too, Am Not a Conservative by James M. Buchanan" *Public Choice* 131, 249-51.
- Lawson, R. 2002. *How to be Human Though an Economist* by Deirdre McCloskey in *The Independent Review* 7(2), 287.
- Lawson, R. 2002. *The Great Breakthrough and Its Cause* by Julian Simon in *Ideas on Liberty*, July.
- Lawson, R. 2000. *The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization* by Thomas Friedman in *Ideas on Liberty*, August.

Policy Reports/Other Articles

- Lawson, R. 2019. "Capitalism Is (Slowly) Winning Around the World." *The Catalyst: A Journal of Ideas from the Bush Institute* 16: Fall.
- Lawson, R. 2017. "Trade." Teaching Free Enterprise Curriculum Unit, O'Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom, Southern Methodist University.
- Lawson, R. 2017. "Economic Freedom of the World." Teaching Free Enterprise Curriculum Unit, O'Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom, Southern Methodist University.
- Lawson, R., R. Sobel, J. Hall and B. Poulson. 2005. *Should Ohio Limit Government Spending and Taxes?* (Columbus: The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions).
- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson, and B. Benson. 2004. "Estimated Impact of the ILD Reforms on the Growth of the Egyptian Economy" in *The Extralegal Economy where the Majority of Egyptians Live and Work: What the Government of Egypt Can Do to Integrate Them into the Mainstream Economy and Substantially Reduce Poverty and Increase Economic Development* for Hernando DeSoto's Institute of Liberty and Democracy.

- Gwartney, J. and R. Lawson. 2004. *Ten Consequences of Economic Freedom* with James Gwartney. Dallas, TX: National Center for Policy Analysis).
- Sobel, R., R. Lawson and J. Hall. 2004. *Taxing Times: How California's Steep Income Tax Stifles Economic Growth* (Sacramento: Pacific Research Institute).
- Sobel, R., R. Lawson and J. Hall. 2003. *Income Tax Progressivity in Oklahoma: Hindering Economic Growth, Varying State Revenue* (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs).
- Sobel, R. and R. Lawson. 2003. *Income Tax Progressivity in Ohio* (Columbus: The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions).
- Lawson, R. 2001. *Making Sense of Ohio's Estate Tax* (Columbus: The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions).
- Lawson, R. and J. Damask. 2001. *Tax Reform for Ohio's New Millennium* (Columbus: The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions).
- Gwartney, J., R. Lawson, and R. Holcombe. 1998. *The Size and Functions of Government and Economic Growth* (Washington, D.C.: The Joint Economic Committee of Congress).
- Lawson, R. 1997. "Welfare Reform in the States: Let 50 Flowers Bloom," *Issue Brief* (Lewisville, Texas: The Institute for Policy Innovation).
- Vedder, R., L. Gallaway, R. Lawson. 1997. *50 State Medicaid Report Card: An Analysis of Performance From the Taxpayer Perspective* (Washington, D.C.: Citizens for a Sound Economy Foundation).
- Lawson, R. and S. Staley. 1994. *Rating the Policy Climate in Ohio Cities: A Ranking of Ohio's 19 Largest Cities Based on Taxes, Crime, and Government Burden* (Dayton: Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions).

Invited Lectures/Seminars

Université Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseilles III (France), Liberální Institut (Czech Republic), International Policy Network (United Kingdom), Ohio State University, Ohio University, Santa Clara University, Miami University, Auburn University, George Mason University, Trinity College, New Economic School (Georgia), San Jose State University, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Wright State University, Bowling Green State University, West Virginia University, Penn State University, Penn State University-Erie, College of Charleston, Metro State University, Christopher Newport University, Berry College, Mercer University, Friends University, Loyola University New Orleans, Southern Methodist University, Clemson University, Florida State University, Beloit College, Suffolk University, University of Texas-El Paso, University of Kentucky, Northeastern State University, Campbell University, Wingate University, Ilia State University (Georgia), Tbilisi State University (Georgia), Washburn University, University of Missouri-KC, University of Alaska-Fairbanks, West Texas A&M University, James Madison University, Mississippi State University, Texas Tech University, Charleston Southern University, University of Louisville, Transylvania University, Oklahoma State University, University of Mary Hardin Baylor, Wake Forest University, University of Central Arkansas, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Gulf Coast University, Towson University, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (Spain), University of Georgia (Georgia), International Black Sea University (Georgia), Gori State University (Georgia), University of North Carolina Wilmington, University of North Carolina Charlotte, Mackenzie Presbyterian University (Brazil), Samford University, Western Carolina University, Ball State University, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Texas Christian University, Duke University.

Expert Witness Testimony

Ohio Grocer's Association et al. vs. State of Ohio. Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Case No. 06CVH02-2278.

Application of The East Ohio Gas Company for Approval of a Plan to Restructure Its Commodity Service Function. Public Utility Commission of Ohio, Case No. 05-474-GA-ATA.

Current Professional Memberships

Mont Pelerin Society
Association of Private Enterprise Education.

References

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