

## **Biographical Sketch**

### **Michelle J. White**

Michelle J. White is professor of economics at the University of California, San Diego, and a research associate at NBER. She received her Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University in 1973 and was formerly a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, New York University, and the University of Michigan. She has been at UCSD since 2001. She has also been a visiting professor at Yale, Wisconsin, Chicago, and Tilburg (the Netherlands) and a visiting scholar at Harvard Law School, Berkeley, the Hebrew University, Copenhagen Business School, and the Universities of Bonn, Tel Aviv, Uppsala, and Munich. She taught in the American Economics Association's master's degree program in Beijing and in the Ph.D. program at the New Economics School in Moscow. In 1990 she was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Warsaw. She is a member of the Executive and Supervisory Committee of CERGE-EI, a Ph.D.-granting economics program in Prague.

She is an associate editor of the *Journal of Economic Perspectives* and a current or former editorial board member of the *American Law and Economics Review*, the *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Land Economics*, and the *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*. She was on the Advisory Panel of the Law and Social Sciences Program of N.S.F. in 1987-88, was the American Economic Association's representative on the Board of Directors of the Social Science Research Council from 1994-2000, and was vice-president of the Midwest Economics Association in 1996-97. She is currently president of the American Law and Economics Association.

During the past several years, her research has focused on the personal bankruptcy system in the U.S., why households file for bankruptcy, how bankruptcy affects the decision to become an entrepreneur, the effects of bankruptcy on availability of credit to individuals and small businesses, and the effects of the recently-adopted U.S. bankruptcy reform. Other recent research projects include the effect of Proposition 13 in California on household mobility, the effects of SUVs and pickup trucks on traffic safety, and the causes and consequences of asbestos exposure and asbestos litigation.