# RICHARD VAGUE

RENAISSANCE MAN. THOUGHT LEADER. PRIVATE SECTOR DEBT EXPERT.

"Debt is a paradox. It can both create and destroy, and even short of those extremes, debt distorts. Debt, especially private sector debt, brings growth, and economies cannot function without it, but its overuse can bring harm and disaster. The ratio of debt to income almost always rises, with the only exceptions coming from a small number of economically painful, calamity-induced contractions. And even these disasters interrupt, but do not stop, the upward march of debt."

Richard is the author of *The Paradox of Debt*, which presents a new view of macroeconomics, *The Case for a Debt Jubilee*, a policy exploration of debt relief, *An Illustrated Business History of the United States*, the story of our nation's business progress, *A Brief History of Doom*, a chronicle of major world financial crises, and *The Next Economic Disaster*, a book with a new approach for predicting and preventing financial crises.

Richard currently serves on the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees and the Penn Medicine Board of Trustees, and on a number of business boards. He serves a Vice Chair of PSERS, Pennsylvania's largest public pension fund, chair of the University of Pennsylvania Press, and chair of the Innovation Advisory Board of the Abramson Cancer Center. He also serves on the Governing Board of the Institute for New Economic Thinking and the board of the Fund for the School District of Philadelphia. He is the founder of the economic data service Tychos (tychosgroup.org), which specializes in analyzing private debt trends, and the email newsletter service Delanceyplace.com, which focuses on non-fiction literature.

He previously served Secretary of Banking and Securities for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And as Chair of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. Richard served as managing partner of Gabriel Investments, an early stage venture capital company, co-founder, Chairman and CEO of Energy Plus, an electricity and natural gas supply company, and co-founder and CEO of two consumer credit card banks, First USA and Juniper Bank.

# Hot Topics

- » Where Do Wealth, Money, and GDP Growth Come From?
- » Why Does Debt Always Grow?
- » The Major Drivers of Wealth and Inequality
- » The Covid Bubble, Inflation, and the Great Reversal
- » The Dark Side of Debt
- » The Student Debt Epidemic & How to Solve it Fairly
- » Why We Need to Focus on Private Sector Debt
- » How We Can Boost Asset Ownership for the Economically Less Fortunate
- » How is Debt Impacting Global Economic Trends, Especially in China and Germany

### Availability

- » By telephone and video call from Philadelphia, PA
- » In person in Philadelphia, New York, and Washington D.C.



#### Other Relevant Activities

- » Secretary of Banking and Securities for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (2020-2023)
- » Founder of Tychos Analytics Group (tychosgroup.org)
- » Founder of Debt Economics (debteconomics.org)
- » Founder of the nonfiction literature blog Delanceyplace.com
- » University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees Member
- » Penn Medicine Board of Trustees Member
- » Governing Board of the Institute for New Economic Thinking Member
- » Chair of the Innovation Advisory Board of the Abramson Cancer Center

### Guest Expert Links

RichardVague.com

in LinkedIn

# **Booking Contact**

To book Richard to speak at your next event or appear on your TV show, radio program, or podcast, contact Charlie Fusco:

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