David Wessel Bio

David Wessel, 53, is economics editor of The Wall Street Journal and writes the "Capital" column, a weekly look at the economy and forces shaping living standards around the world. He also appears frequently on CNBC and National Public Radio.

David joined The Wall Street Journal in 1984 in Boston, and moved to Washington in 1987, where he was deputy bureau chief until assuming his current job in September 2007. In 1999 and 2000, he served as the newspaper’s Berlin bureau chief.

He previously worked for the Boston Globe, the Hartford (Conn.) Courant and Middletown (Conn.) Press. A 1975 graduate of Haverford College, he was Knight Bagehot Fellow in Business & Economics Journalism at Columbia University in 1980-81.

David has shared two Pulitzer Prizes, one for Boston Globe stories in 1983 on the persistence of racism in Boston and the other for stories in The Wall Street Journal in 2002 on corporate wrong-doing. He is the co-author, with Wall Street Journal reporter Bob Davis, of Prosperity, a 1998 book that argues that the next 20 years will be better for the American middle class than the previous 20.

He and his wife, Naomi Karp, senior policy advisor at AARP’s Public Policy Institute, have two children, Julia, a senior at Kenyon College, and Ben, a freshman at Middlebury College.

David is a trustee of Temple Sinai in Washington, D.C., and has served as a member of the Committee for Economic Development’s Research Advisory Board and the advisory board of the Community College Research Center at Columbia University.