# MEASURING CASH CREATION AND FLOW

## Depreciation and Capital Expenditures

James P. Weston
Professor of Finance
The Jones School, Rice University

#### DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

- ► Wear and Tear
- ► Loss of value
- ►Non-cash expense
- ► Amortization for intangibles
- ►Included in earnings!

#### CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

- ▶Buying/ replacing long-term assets
- ▶ Property, plant, equipment
- This spending not reported in earnings
- ► Need to be subtracted for FCF

### FREE CASH FLOW (FCF)

- FCF = Operating Profit (after tax)
  - Increase in WC
  - + Depreciation
  - Capital expenditure
  - + After-tax salvage value

#### **SUMMARY**

- ▶D&A is noncash reflected in earnings
- ► Add D&A back for FCF
- ► CAPX is cash not reflected in earnings
- ►FCF needs to account for CAPX