

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

JOHN ODLAND

(March 26, 1943 – September 14, 2009)

Professor Emeritus John Odland spent much of his youth in The Dalles, Oregon, and earned Bachelor and Master of Science degrees at Oregon State University in 1966 and 1967, respectively. John subsequently migrated to the Midwest and earned a Ph.D. in geography at Ohio State University in 1972, taking part in pioneering research in economic geography. He was part of the quantitative revolution that swept through the discipline, bringing new life, vigor and rigor to the discipline of geography. In this paradigm shift, increasingly sophisticated statistical and mathematical modeling techniques were brought to bear upon spatial analyses.

Dr. John Odland spent his entire academic career at Indiana University, Bloomington. He joined the Department of Geography in 1970, rose through the ranks to become Professor in 1989, and served as Department Chair 1989-1993. John retired from Indiana University in December 2007. He was a consummate academic and a loyal and notable member of the IUB family. He even met his wife, fellow geographer Eliza Steelwater, when she made a presentation to the IU geography department!

John was a scholar of the highest order. His research was meticulous, rigorous and innovative. He received grants from the National Science Foundation, and published a number of seminal articles in local and regional labor markets, migration and population redistribution and quantitative methods and models of spatial choice. His book *Spatial Autocorrelation* was published by Sage publications in 1988.

John Odland was an outstanding researcher, but perhaps his greatest legacy is the scholars he mentored. He shaped the scholarship and guided the careers of many of our foremost alumni and faculty. He was always generous with his time, insightful with his critique, and thorough with his reviews. John challenged all scholars to be the best they could be and was quick to applaud excellence. The students who benefited from his counsel and instruction now hold faculty positions in four continents. All speak of John's key role in their professional development, and that they now seek to emulate his style of advising; gently guiding while allowing a budding intellect to flourish.

Due to his diligence and scholarship John was frequently called upon to chair committees within the University and was a member of the editorial board of several scholarly journals, including *Geographical Analysis*, *Geography Research Forum* and *Geographic and Environmental Modeling*. He acted as an external reviewer for graduate degrees and numerous tenure and promotion cases from across the USA. He also served on advisory committees for

the Association of American Geographers, and review panels for the National Science Foundation.

John died unexpectedly from complications of colon cancer, and is mourned and missed by his family, colleagues and many friends. His contributions are many, his legacy enormous, and his loss is deeply felt.

On behalf of John's colleagues, I respectfully request this memorial become part of the minutes of the Bloomington Faculty Council and the University Archives.

Sara C. Pryor

Professor

Department of Geography