

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS GLEN C. PULVER

Glen C. Pulver is widely acknowledged as the “father of community economics.” Through his efforts in research, extension, and instruction, rural and community economic development has become an integral part of the University of Wisconsin tradition. While Glen’s influence was felt in numerous arenas, his greatest contributions were in the creation of lasting institutions, in policy analysis through applied research, and in teaching, where he helped to establish and nurture a cadre of community economic development professionals.

Glen received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from UW-Madison in 1956 and began his career as a farm management specialist here. After a short period of time in extension administration at Purdue University, Glen returned to the University of Wisconsin and served as dean of the Division of Human Resources Extension from 1966 to 1970 and dean of the Division of Cooperative Extension from 1970 through 1974. During his tenure as a dean, Glen challenged the commonly held perception that a healthy farm economy meant a healthy rural economy. As dean of Cooperative Extension, Glen created a structure in which the resources of the university could be brought to bare on the problems faced by a broad cross-section of rural residents. One of his most important steps was to establish a network of community resource development agents across the state of Wisconsin.

When Glen returned to the faculty of the Department of Agricultural Economics in 1974, he recognized that a network of county agents in and of itself was insufficient to achieve his vision. He channeled his efforts into building an applied research program that would serve as the intellectual foundation for community development extension education programming. Glen forced applied economists to confront the tough issues associated with rural community adjustment. He was a deep thinker who continuously challenged conventional approaches and policy perceptions.

As a result of his pioneering work, Glen was sought out as a speaker and advisor on many occasions by such groups as the National Governors’ Association, the Council of State Governments, the National League of Cities, the Urban Institute, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. Glen acted as advisor to three Wisconsin governors, the Congress of the United States, public agencies in Norway, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Indonesia, the Ford Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, and many other organizations.

Glen was both firm and fair in mentoring graduate students. Several of his students went on to initiate undergraduate, graduate, and extension education programs in community economic development at various land grant universities. They continue to serve with distinction.

Today, thanks to Glen’s sustained efforts over his long career, the Wisconsin model of rural and community economic development through research, extension, and teaching is widely acknowledged throughout the world. In honor of his lasting contributions, he was elected a fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association in 1998.

Glen died in Madison on December 4, 2000, at the age of 71.

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