
**Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
On the Death of Professor Emeritus Donald R. Field**

Professor Emeritus Donald Reed Field died on Saturday, April 7th, 2018, at the age of 78. His research and teaching career spanned more than 40 years during which time he founded an interdisciplinary field of study on society and natural resources and focused his research on the social policy and management of parks and protected areas. His work took him to many parts of North America, but his career concluded where it began, in Wisconsin.

Don Field earned B.S. (1963) and M.S. (1965) degrees in Rural Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison before completing a Ph.D. in Rural Sociology and Demography at The Pennsylvania State University in 1968. His first academic appointment was as an Assistant Professor of Rural Sociology at South Dakota State University. He subsequently held academic appointments at the University of Washington (where he was promoted through the ranks to Professor, 1970-83) and at Oregon State University (1983-88). Between 1973-1983, he also served as Chief Scientist and Associate Regional Director of the National Park Service's Pacific Northwest Region. In addition, he served as the agency's first Senior Scientist in Sociology.

Don Field returned to Wisconsin in 1988 as Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) and Director of the School of Natural Resources. As Dean, he also provided academic and administrative leadership for all the social science departments in CALS. In 1998, he joined the Departments of Forestry and Rural Sociology to conduct research and teaching in these disciplines. Following 23 years of outstanding teaching, research and administrative leadership, Don Field retired as Professor Emeritus in 2011. However, he remained active in many societies and professional organizations.

Field's research focused on the relationships among people, parks, natural resources, and rural communities. He studied social-biophysical systems in Alaska and along the Pacific Northwest coast, resource dependent communities in the Midwest and West, and agricultural-wildlife problems in the Midwest. His career interests formed the basis of his instructional program, where at the University of Wisconsin he taught "Social Policy and Management of Parks" and "Social Policy and Recreation Resources Management". The latter course drew upon his professional experiences and associations with the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and various state land management agencies. In addition, he taught the introductory course, entitled "Leisure and Recreation in America," for incoming majors in Recreation Resources Management. Many students benefitted enormously from Don's wisdom and guidance as they prepared to enter careers in academia, natural resource management, public service or other professions.

Don Field's pioneering studies in natural resource sociology were reported in many leading journals and, together with numerous books, book chapters and research monographs, form the foundation for much contemporary work in rural sociology related to human demography and natural resource management. The significance of his contributions is well-documented by the numerous awards he received during the course of his career, including a Fulbright Fellowship to Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia, the U. S. Department of Interior's Meritorious Service Award, the George Hartzog Award from the National Park Service, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association for Society and Natural Resources, the Distinguished Rural Sociologist Award from the Rural Sociological Society, an Outstanding Alumnus Award from Pennsylvania

State University, and election as a Fellow of the Academy of Leisure Sciences. His contributions to sociology and to public service were well-known and appreciated by his colleagues and peers.

Don Field was a leader in the Rural Sociological Society where he served as an elected Council member, Secretary, and Vice-President. He served for six years as co-editor of the recreation resource-based journal *Leisure Sciences*. He was the founder of the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) after organizing the first symposium in 1986. He continued to play a lead role in nurturing and organizing ISSRM symposia for several decades. In 1988, he founded the journal *Society and Natural Resources* and continued as the journal's co-editor until 2003. He also co-founded a new professional association, the International Association for Society and Natural Resources and served as the IASNR's founding executive director from 2002 until 2005.

Don was a beloved mentor for many students and scholars. He was a prolific photographer and traveled extensively with his wife, Nan Field, who developed children's education resources on wildlife and nature. He will be dearly missed. Many are following the footsteps of his intellectual trails and taking them in new directions.

Memorial Resolution Committee

Raymond Guries, Professor Emeritus, Forest and Wildlife Ecology
Thomas Heberlein, Professor Emeritus, Community and Environmental Sociology
Adena Rissman, Associate Professor, Forest and Wildlife Ecology