The Malcolm Urquhart Memorial Fund for Courses in Economic Theory

Malcolm C. Urquhart, known as Mac to his friends, spent his entire academic career at Queen’s. He joined the University in the fall of 1945, at a time when the number of returning servicemen was so great that classes were held all year round. Although he officially retired in 1979, Mac continued to teach and do research for the next two decades. His last publication appeared in 1999, when he was 86.

For many years, Mac Urquhart was among the most important figures in Canadian Economics. *Historical Statistics of Canada* (1965), of which he was primary editor, was the cornerstone of nearly all work on Canadian economic development for many years. It provided the foundation for a second edition that was produced by Statistics Canada. In 1993, Mac’s *Gross National Product of Canada, 1870-1926* appeared. This extraordinary book was the product of more than ten years of work involving a team of Canadian economic historians. The book, and related articles, have set the stage for the rewriting of the Canadian experience during the formative period from Confederation to 1926.

Mac Urquhart received many awards and honours. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1966, and he was President (Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences) in 1975. In 1983, the Royal Society awarded him the Innis-Gérin Medal. Mac was President of the Canadian Economics Association in 1968-69. He received honorary degrees from Bishop’s University (1985) and Queen’s University (1991), and in 1996 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from his alma mater, the University of Alberta.

In keeping with Mac Urquhart’s long-held belief that economic theory is the key to understanding all sorts of economic phenomena, the *Malcolm Urquhart Memorial Fund for Courses in Economic Theory* is intended to support courses in the broad area of economic theory. As student-faculty ratios have risen in recent years, it has become increasingly difficult for the Economics Department to offer as many undergraduate courses in economic theory as it should, and class sizes have risen substantially. Income generated by the Urquhart Fund is used to pay for adjuncts and doctoral students to offer courses and sections of courses in economic theory.

For more information on how you can contribute to the Malcolm Urquhart Memorial Fund, please contact our Alumni Coordinator, Juanita Dennie (613 533-3122, denniej@econ.queensu.ca), or visit our website at:

http://www.econ.queensu.ca/support