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## **Distinguished Member Award**

### **ROBERT O. SINCLAIR**

#### **Professor of Agricultural Economics and Dean of College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

#### **University of Vermont**

Robert O. Sinclair was born and raised on a dairy farm in Johnson, Vermont. He graduated from the University of Vermont, College of Agriculture, with a B.S. in Animal Husbandry. He was appointed Washington County Agricultural Agent in 1944; a position he held for 9 years. In 1953, he joined the faculty of the Agricultural Economics Department at the University, earning a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics in 1955. He attended Michigan State University, receiving the Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics in 1958. He then returned to the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics as a professor, teaching courses in agricultural management, finance, and policy. He served as chairman of the department from 1973-1979.

On January 1, 1980, he was appointed Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station; and on the creation of the Division of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Extension in 1985, he was named Dean of the Division.

Dean Sinclair conducted research on property tax burdens, land use, and related issues for over 20 years. He served as a member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers under both Governors Salmon and Snelling. He was, and continues to be, a strong supporter of the NAREA and its predecessor organizations, serving as its president in 1970.

Bob has made many significant contributions to his profession. He has always been recognized as a rigorous and challenging instructor. His students benefited from his ability to relate the pertinent eco-

nomical issues of both historic and current events in agriculture. His concern for students was also reflected in the time he spent advising students.

His research in land economics and agricultural policy afforded him the opportunity to make significant contributions to the State of Vermont as it was developing its nationally recognized Act 250. This act prescribes the evaluation process required for the development of certain parcels of land. He also was influential in the passage of Vermont's farm and forest land use assessment statutes.

Bob, as Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences during a period of adverse conditions, has helped stabilize student enrollments and restored the University administration's confidence in the College. He was instrumental in bringing the College, Extension Service, and School of Natural Resources into a single Division which enhances the opportunities for these units to work cooperatively.

As a member of Task Force III of Project 2005 he will chair a work group to consider programs needed in instruction, research, and extension in a major effort to redefine the land grant college mission as we move toward the twenty-first century.

Bob has an enviable record of service and contribution to agricultural and resource economics. He has risen through the ranks of extension agent, professor, department chair, and Dean. At every step of the way his interest in and contributions to his profession, university, state, and nation have had a far reaching impact. It is in recognition of this service that we nominate him for the Distinguished Member Award.

## **Honorary Life Member Award**

### **RAYMOND C. SMITH**

**professor of Agricultural and Food Economics**

**University of Delaware**

Raymond C. Smith served on the faculty of the Department of Agricultural and Food Economics at the University of Delaware for 34 years. He was department chairman for 19 years. He served as statistical advisor to all departments in the College of Agricultural Sciences and played an instrumental role in the development of the University's computer system. Although his official retirement began July 1985, he will continue to teach a computer course for the College.

Smith obtained his bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Missouri in 1949, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois in 1950 and 1954, respectively. Since joining the University of Delaware in 1951, he has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in agricultural marketing, research methods and computer use in agriculture.

As a researcher, Smith has participated in and supervised studies on a variety of topics. Many of these were conducted in response to the perceived needs of local or regional industries for practical information on production or marketing. Thus his research program is characterized by the practicality of the problems he addressed and the results he obtained. One of his studies had students riding potato trucks around the country in order to analyze the spoilage of potatoes during shipping and handling. The findings from this study led to the adoption of refrigerated trucking and modified packing procedures which significantly improved the competitive position of Northeast potato growers. He was an early master of linear programming techniques; another pioneering study involved the first use in the United States of computers to formu-

late least-cost diets for commercial broiler flocks. In the course of his career he has published more than sixty articles and bulletins, and his extensive background in statistics enabled him to make significant methodological contributions to countless other research programs conducted at the University of Delaware.

Smith's entire career has reflected the fundamental missions of a land-grant college. Both his teaching and his research have been dedicated to meeting the needs of farm industries and their local communities within the region. His major research area, the broiler industry, is the principal agricultural industry in Delaware and his work comprises a significant part of the University of Delaware's tradition of excellence in poultry research. His research methods course became a central part of undergraduate and graduate programs throughout the College of Agricultural Sciences, as well as various programs in several other colleges in the University. Taught over three decades, the course stressed the importance of formal statistical methods, and provided two generations of farmers, academics, business managers and other former and current students with practical analytical skill. For many years he compiled and analyzed USDA data on Delaware crop and livestock production, thereby providing an important statistical foundation for much of the rural planning and agricultural policy-making in the state over the past twenty years.

Ray has been involved with the Northeast Association and served on its Executive Committee from the inception of the Northeast Council through 1984.

## DISTINGUISHED AND HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

### NAREA Distinguished Members

1977 Daymen W. Thatch  
 1978 Robert L. Christensen  
 1979 Kenneth D. McIntosh  
 1980 Alan R. Bird  
 1981 Irving F. Fellows  
 Stanley K. Seaver  
 1982 Lee M. Day  
 1983 None  
 1984 Dale K. Colyer  
 George E. Frick  
 1985 Bernard Stanton  
 Cleve E. Willis  
 1986 Robert O. Sinclair

### NAREA Honorary Life Members

1963 Paul Putnam  
 1964 Raymond G. Bressler, Jr.  
 Charles H. Merchant  
 Frederick V. Waugh  
 1965 None  
 1966 Mildred Smith  
 1967 Lawrence Vaughn  
 1968 A. H. Lindsay  
 Edmond A. Perregaux  
 1969 Joseph Ackerman (Fellow)  
 Ellsworth W. Bell  
 1970 George F. Dow

1971 Winn Finner  
 1972 Edwin T. Bardwell  
 Bradford Dean Crossmon  
 Stanley W. Warren  
 1973 None  
 1974 George E. Brandow  
 1975 James Reginald Bowring  
 1976 Stewart Johnson  
 1977 None  
 1978 Arthur W. Dewey  
 Elmar Jarvesoo Arthur  
 D. Jeffrey Edward A.  
 Lutz  
 1979 James Caliahan  
 James Clarke  
 George Toben  
 Leonard Sizer  
 1980 George Rogers  
 1981 Silas B. Weeks  
 1982 None  
 1983 Malcolm Bevins  
 Irving Fellows  
 Homer Metzger  
 1984 Howard E. Conklin  
 Stanley K. Seaver  
 1985 Fred Sargent  
 1986 Raymond C. Smith