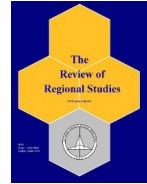




## The Review of Regional Studies

*The Official Journal of the Southern Regional Science Association*



### Mark S. Henry (1946-2012)

Mark Henry passed away on July 23, 2012, after a courageous seven-year battle with cancer. Mark was an Emeritus Professor of Applied Economics, Co-Coordinator of the Regional Economic Development Research Laboratory, and Co-Director of the University Center for Economic Development at Clemson University. The Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA) was Mark's favorite professional organization, and he was a dedicated member of it since 1979. He was selected President of SRSA in 1991 and Fellow of the Association in 2004. For the past 20 years Mark served as a member of the SRSA Executive Council and Board of Editors for the *Review of Regional Studies*. He also served on the Board of Editors of *Papers in Regional Science and Growth and Change*. In recognition of his extensive contributions to SRSA and Regional Science Association International (RSAI), Mark was awarded the 2000 D. E. Boyce Award for Distinguished Service to Regional Economics.

Mark was a native of the Kansas City metropolitan area, and he received a B.A. in Economics from Baker University (Kansas) in 1968 and a Ph.D. in Economics from Kansas State University in 1973. He was an Assistant/Associate Professor of Economics at the University of North Dakota from 1973 to 1978 and an Associate Professor and Professor of Applied Economics at Clemson University from 1978 to 2010. Mark was the Director of Graduate Studies for Applied Economics and a dedicated teacher of graduate and undergraduate courses in statistics, economic impact analysis, regional economics, and area economic development. He maintained an active research program on a diverse set of topics including rural poverty, industry clusters, industry targeting, regional innovation systems, economic impact analysis, and the role of education in rural development. He was a prolific writer with over 200 journal articles, book chapters, and research reports. In addition, Mark had the ability to communicate in print and orally with audiences ranging from shrimp boat captains to small-town civic organizations to professional societies. Mark's contributions and expertise in rural economic development were especially well recognized, and he was selected to serve on advisory boards for the Southern Rural Development Center, Rural Policy Research Institute, Farm Foundation, and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

A common thread running through Mark's diverse research activities was his consistent interest in improving the economic opportunities and quality of life for individuals and communities that were left behind by changes in the national economy. Mark's favorite research programs involved working directly with individuals, industries, and communities in need of economic expertise to assist them in adapting to new economic situations. For example, Mark was the co-leader for the South Carolina Pathways from Poverty Program whose goal was to identify potential problems and unintended consequences in the state's new anti-poverty programs. He also was the lead researcher on a project to develop an efficient multicounty bus

system that would provide rural workers with transportation to jobs on Hilton Head Island. The resort island needed workers in hotels and restaurants, but most employees of the hospitality industry could not afford to live on the island or even drive from their distant rural homes. The bus system meant jobs and an escape from poverty for many rural families. Finally, perhaps Mark's favorite project was our work with the South Carolina seafood industry to help make it more competitive with foreign producers. Mark greatly enjoyed traveling throughout the South Carolina and Georgia coastal regions and visiting with the shrimpers, dock owners, seafood processors, and restaurants managers. I was skeptical that the shrimp boat captains would participate in our survey because they are a famously independent, anti-government group and we represented the government. But Mark had an idea. He bought a cooler, bag of ice, and case of beer, and we waited at the picnic tables by the docks where the shrimp boats returned in the afternoon. The hot and tired shrimpers were more than happy to visit with us over complimentary refreshments. We now had abundant survey data for our study, although we were less than 100 percent confident in its quality.

Mark was an exacting but excellent instructor, and his students greatly appreciated his ability to demonstrate the practical applications of theoretical concepts. He also provided excellent guidance to numerous graduate students as their major professor or committee member. Many current members of the regional science community benefited significantly from Mark's instruction in regional economics, his leadership in the development of their research skills, and his tireless efforts to teach them how to write as professional economists. Mark, along with others, built a graduate program in rural development economics at Clemson University that was recognized as one of the leading programs nationally.

Mark also was well known in the regional science community for his generosity, sense of humor, and enjoyment of life. At the end of a day of regional science meetings, you wanted to join Mark for dinner because he knew the best local restaurants and where to go for music after dinner. Mark was a connoisseur of what he referred to as the 3 B's (beer, BBQ, and the blues), and he would research the best blues clubs and BBQ joints in the cities where the next regional science association meetings were to be held. Many SRSA members spent enjoyable evenings with Mark at music clubs in Memphis, New Orleans, Miami, Savannah, Charleston, Austin, Louisville, and elsewhere. I remember sitting in the Blues City Cafe in Memphis long after midnight when I reminded Mark that we had a presentation in the morning and so probably should head back to the hotel. Mark responded with something like "This band's really good. I'll buy all remaining rounds if we stay for the next set." Thus I learned that an evening out with Mark was not advisable when a paper presentation was due the next morning.

In summary, Mark was a true scholar of regional science who prided himself on keeping current with the most recent economic theories and statistical methods, and he was willing to share his insights with any colleague or student who requested his help. Mark also was a willing participant in the committee work necessary for the efficient operation of an academic department, research program, or professional society. He took these responsibilities seriously, and his contributions were always timely and of the highest quality. Yet Mark's scholarly and professional activities were accompanied with his dry, subtle sense of humor that brought many enjoyable moments to even the most tedious research tasks or committee assignments. It was both fun and rewarding to work with Mark, and he will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

Mark is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Joan Welden Henry, his two sons Matthew H. Henry (Rebecca) and Jeffrey W. Henry (Meredith), and his five grandchildren. Memorial tributes may be made to the Mark S. Henry Memorial, Low-Country Food Bank, 2864 Azalea Drive, Charleston, SC 29405.

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