

Dr. Daryl F. Kraft

Daryl grew up on the family cattle ranch southwest of Medicine Hat. He attended Mount Royal College in Calgary on a football scholarship. In 1968 he graduated with Honours from the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agriculture, with a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics and in 1975 he was awarded a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Washington State University. He joined the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Manitoba in 1973.

From the very beginnings of this country, agriculture has played a major part in both the Canadian and Manitoba economies; and in the area of agricultural economics over the last 25 years, both nationally and provincially, Daryl Kraft emerged as an outstanding educator and a leading figure in his field. He had a gift for clear analysis and his work encompassed a broad range of substantial studies on rural real estate markets, agricultural production, various dimensions of agricultural policy, and international trade. His knowledge and research – and his accessibility – made him an invaluable advisor to both farmers and government and he worked closely with industry, federal and provincial governments on numerous policies and projects. The media too used Daryl Kraft as a resource knowing they would receive nothing less than candid, substantiated information for their reports. His breadth and depth of understanding of the agricultural industry was astounding.

University Service

Daryl was a man of exemplary honesty and integrity who would have wished, above all, to be remembered as an educator of young people. He was, in fact an outstanding teacher of both undergraduate and graduate students.

To quote one of Daryl's graduate students, "although Dr. Kraft's industry knowledge and research brilliance made him a recognized leading Agricultural Economist in the world, one of his major strengths was his focus - his ability to wrap his mind intimately around the issue at hand and to draw up the research parameters better and faster than anyone else. In a field where objectivity is not only an important characteristic but an essential one, Dr. Kraft was able to maintain his unswervingly."

At the University he served on Senate, and a number of University and Faculty of Agriculture committees. As a member of the Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics he served on virtually every departmental committee and in its major administrative roles. He served as Director of the Solomon Sinclair Farm Management Institute and was Acting Head of the Department on two occasions in the 1980s and 1990s, and was Head of the Department from July 1997 to June of 2003. While Head of the Department he initiated the establishment of the Agribusiness Chair in Co-operatives and Group Marketing in the Department of Agricultural Economics.

Public Service

Daryl was fully committed to public service. At the time of his death he was the Chair of the Milk Prices Review Commission having recently stepped down as Board Member of the Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council. He served on the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange and was a Member of the Special Regulatory Committee of the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Inc. From 1991 onwards he served on the Coordinating Committee of the World Grain Outlook Conference. Earlier he had served on the Agriculture Committee of the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Cereal Processing Committee of Agriculture Canada.



Dr. Daryl F. Kraft Endowment Fund

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Honours & Awards

The American Agricultural Economics Association recognized Daryl for excellence in research with the Outstanding Ph.D. Thesis Award in 1975. In 1983 Daryl received the University of Manitoba Outreach Award for Community Service. In 1984 Daryl received an award for the Outstanding Journal Article in the Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics by the Canadian Agricultural Economics and Farm Management Society. In 1999 Daryl was named a Fellow of the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society. In May of 2003 Daryl received the Teaching Award of Merit from the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture.

Daryl was a man of great strength, both physical and moral. He was thoughtful, soft-spoken and unfailingly kind in his dealings with others. He possessed a fine mind and, over the years, came to be recognized as a man of sound and considered judgment, a man possessed of wisdom. He was admired and respected by all who knew him.

Individuals, organizations or corporations wishing to contribute may direct their gifts payable to the University of Manitoba c/o the Dr. Daryl F. Kraft Endowment Fund and send it to the Department of Private Funding (address as per the attached pledge form).

Further information is available from Ed Tyrchniewicz (204) 474-7463, Brian Oleson (204) 474-9782 or Bill Toews (204) 343-2002.

http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/agric_economics/



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Dr. Daryl F. Kraft Endowment Fund



Colleagues, friends and family of Dr. Daryl F. Kraft have established an endowment/trust fund at the University of Manitoba to encourage clear and objective discussion of agricultural issues in Canada. The Fund will provide an opportunity for individuals and institutions to contribute to a program of activities in agribusiness management within the Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics. The proceeds from this fund will be used to undertake two activities. Firstly an annual Daryl F. Kraft prize for the best undergraduate student paper in agricultural policy at the University of Manitoba; and a biennial Daryl F. Kraft lecture series on agricultural policy to be delivered by a prominent Canadian or international agricultural economist who embodies Daryl's approach to education and communication. Additional activities will be considered as the Fund grows.

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