

OBITUARY

ANTHONY CLEMENT (TONY) RAYNER
1938–1990

On 16 February 1990, an era in the teaching of econometrics in New Zealand ended with the sudden and untimely death of Tony Rayner, who collapsed while hiking with his sons in the South Island mountains that he loved so much. At the time he was Professor of Economics at Lincoln University, and had just been appointed its foundation Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Born and educated in England, Tony held positions at M.I.T., Oxford, and the University of Tokyo before joining the Department of Economics at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, in 1966. He held the Chair in econometrics from 1972 to 1985. It was during this period that he made his impact on the teaching of econometrics in New Zealand, both at the undergraduate level and through the supervision of doctoral students. His first three Ph.D. students worked on topics in econometrics, and were the first to complete doctorates in economics at Canterbury. He was an outstanding supervisor, remembered especially for his fine intuition, warm encouragement, and thoroughly professional manner.

Tony was as much at home with large undergraduate classes as he was with individual graduate students, and his contribution there was equally impressive. His lectures were models of clarity, and his enthusiasm for econometrics rubbed off on a generation of students. The first edition of Johnston's classic text formed the basis for the undergraduate econometrics teaching, and when Malinvaud's *Statistical Methods of Econometrics* was translated into English, Tony (who adored its geometrical approach) adopted it for his graduate course for several years.

During this period Tony's research focussed on applying econometric tools to problems in agricultural, development, and regional economics. A man of varied tastes, both privately and professionally, he was later extremely productive in health economics and on matters of economic policy. It was typical of the man that his published work appeared in journals ranging from *Econometrica* to the *New Zealand Medical Journal*.

Tony's teaching, supervision, administrative skills and community service will be greatly missed. So, too, will be his energy, enthusiasm and outstanding sense of humor. Tony is survived by his wife, Hilary, and his sons, Nicholas and Julian.

D. E. A. Giles
Christchurch
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