

## **T. K. Warley August 19, 1930 – September 10, 2018**

T. K. (Sandy) Warley passed away at age 88, in Guelph, on September 10, 2018. Sandy was many things: a husband to Anita for 63 years and a father to Stephan and Linda; a Fellow of the CAES; a Professor of Food, Agriculture and Resource Economics; an expert on international agricultural trade; a voracious reader; a master gardener; and a tireless volunteer. Sandy became Chair of the then Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Guelph in 1970. This was a time of rapid change in what is now FARE. During his tenure the department added a Ph.D. program and he facilitated the growth of a fledgling agri-business program that provided general business courses for the entire university. Sandy put his stamp on FARE by hiring seven new faculty – three would become Fellows of the CAES and nearly all had long careers in the department.

Sandy was interested in trade and international relations long before it was fashionable in academia. He followed the Tokyo Round of trade negotiations closely and this led to his 1976 address to the AAEA on international trade relations where he said..." (there) is a growing perception that economic interdependence has its costs as well as its benefits." Sound familiar? Two major economic events framed the 1980's - the CUSTA negotiations and the Uruguay Round of international trade negotiations. Sandy co-authored an influential Economic Council of Canada report in 1982 highlighting the challenges facing Canada's agricultural sector and he was active on the speaking circuit during the heated debate about Canada – US free trade. One story he enjoyed telling, during this time, involved him giving an address at a local Women's Club. As Sandy told it, before his talk an elderly lady using a cane came up to him, shook her cane at him and said "if you are not against this agreement, I am leaving." Sandy would then chuckle and say, "I wasn't and she did."

In the 1980's Sandy joined a number of working groups formed by the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium to work on various aspects of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations. I recall one very long day when myself and a group of ten economists struggled to make sense of a particularly difficult topic. The next morning Sandy presented us with a table that neatly summarized the earlier day's work into various "boxes" that cut through the confusion and made sense. The group easily divided the remaining tasks and broke early for lunch, all thanks to Sandy. As an aside, and perhaps a sign of the times, near Sandy's retirement, in 1991, he told me he had never written a paper someone hadn't asked him to write. I would not suggest this as a career path for a young academic but it worked for Sandy because of the demand for his writing.

Sandy's most lasting professional contribution is *Agriculture in the GATT: past and future* an important and still timely book he co-authored with long time friends Tim

Josling and Stephan Tangermann. Tim, after hearing of Sandy's passing noted "The passing of Sandy leaves us each with a special feeling of loss. In my case he was both friend and mentor for forty years" and Stephan wrote, "Intellectual giants such as Sandy are a rare species. And people who combine such an intellect with a deep understanding of how the real world functions, with a broad perspective of the historical background of our culture and institutions, and with an absolutely clear set of values are even rarer. And how Sandy could write!".

As important as Sandy's written work was his largest contribution was in the classroom and in one-on-one discussions. Scott Jeffrey wrote, Professor "Warley is one of the people most responsible for my presence as an academic in a Canadian agricultural economics department..." A fall ritual I witnessed more than once went like this. (This was when the department still had coffee at 10 and 3 and many faculty and graduate students would attend.) Sandy would engage a beginning graduate student in small talk getting to know them better. He would then ask, "What are your research interests?" The newly minted graduate student would often give a short answer like – I am not sure but maybe sugar. Sandy would respond, then you must have read the 1958 report by the FAO on sugar policy and the student would respond – "no". Sandy would follow-up "well I am not sure how you are going to work on sugar without reading that report and I also have five file boxes in my office on sugar that you can collect this afternoon." Later that day you would see a student struggling to carry five jam packed file boxes of essential sugar material.

Sandy read more widely and deeply than most. His intellectual curiosity and impeccable memory survived until the end, in spite of MS robbing him of mobility. As he would say, I am okay from the neck up. So true. Sandy liked a good debate and his friends were not spared his good natured scolding if he felt they had missed an important point or were on the wrong track. Still, he was a friend who had your back when you needed it. Sandy left a huge mark on FARE, the University of Guelph and all of his academic friends – he will be missed. Sandy was a wonderful writer and it pains me to end by noting that he would, no doubt, have written this far better than I, but his modesty would have kept him from doing so.

Karl Meilke, Professor Emeritus, FARE, University of Guelph

More about Sandy can be found at: <https://necrocanada.com/obituaries-2018/thorald-keithwarley-august-19-1930-september-10-2018/>