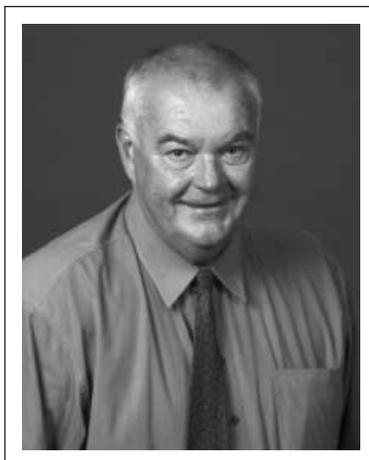


2005 AARES Distinguished Fellow

Ronald Roy Piggott



Ronald Roy Piggott, better known as Roley Piggott, has been a part of the Australian agricultural economics landscape for almost 40 years. Following graduation with Honours in Agricultural Economics from the University of New England in 1966, Roley undertook graduate study at the University of New England (Master of Agricultural Economics, 1970) and at Cornell University (Doctor of Philosophy, 1974). He has held academic appointments at the University of Wollongong, Cornell University, Monash University, the University of Newcastle, and most recently at the University of New England, where he has been a staff member since 1979. Currently, he is Executive Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Business and Law.

Roley's research and teaching has focussed mostly on agricultural marketing, and he has published widely in this field. For example, Roley's status as a leader in this field in Australia was recognised by an invitation to prepare the chapter on agricultural marketing for the most recent edition of the William's compendium *Agriculture in the Australian Economy*. He has contributed to various government enquiries relating to the efficiency of agricultural marketing (including the Royal Commission on Grain Storage, Handling and Transport), and has acted as an Associate Commissioner with the then Industry Commission (now Productivity Commission) for its Horticulture Inquiry.

Roley gained an international reputation for his work in agricultural marketing as evidenced by his receipt of a Kellogg International Fellowship in Food Systems by the Kellogg Foundation (1986–89) and a Joyce Fellowship by the United States Agricultural Biotechnology Council (1991). He has published widely on world grain markets, including co-editing a book with

David Blandford and Colin Carter. He has also delivered workshops in Indonesia, Pakistan and China, and published on the food systems in developing countries.

He has been a leading proponent of equilibrium displacement modelling, and is a recognised authority on its use in analysing complex market structures and marketing and policy issues. His presidential address to this Society, published by AJARE in August 1992, and his 1995 article with Nick Piggott and Vic Wright in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* are still some of the most accessible pieces on this technique.

He has served as a co-editor with Roy Powell of the *Australian Journal of Agricultural Economics* (1981–83), been president of the Australian Agricultural Economics Society (1991) and member-at-large of the executive of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (2000–2003). He has also been a key figure in the New England branch of the Society, serving on the executive committee and more recently, being a key organiser of the AARES Symposium on the US Farm Bill hosted by the Branch in 2002.

Roley also has contributed in a quiet and less visible way through generous gifts of his time and energy to help others, including a host of students from less developed countries as well as a number of other colleagues. Not only has he supervised a large number of undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations, including several that have won University and AARES prizes, but more generally, he has provided a mentoring role to young professionals both during and after their university studies. His enormous contribution to the Australian agricultural and resource economics profession owes nearly as much to his roles as teacher, mentor, and friend; as it does to the scholarly work that is the primary basis for his formal recognition as a fellow of AARES.