

EDGAR L. JACKSON

Ed Jackson is the leading figure in North America, and indeed the world, in promoting an understanding of constraints to recreation and leisure participation. Over the past 15 years, he has not only undertaken pioneering conceptualization and research in this area, but has also stimulated the research of others and helped set the agenda for future constraints research. No piece of research will be published any time soon that does not use Ed Jackson's work as the foundation for its contribution. This assertion could only be made about the contributions of a few people from our field, most of whom have already received this award.

Ed's work epitomizes the intent of the Roosevelt Award by combining quality basic and applied research with meaningful applications for both the research community and practitioners in the field. Besides setting the cornerstones for our understanding of constraints, Ed's work has been extremely practical in its impact. His efforts have helped focus the attention of practitioners and university faculty and students on the problems that people face in identifying, utilizing, and getting the most out of their recreation experiences. Constraints research has led us to think about the obstacles that people must negotiate in order to achieve participation and satisfaction in desired leisure involvements. The research effort has helped focus attention on the varying constraints faced by different segments of the population (women, the disabled, single parents, older adults, etc.), thus sharpening our ability to design and deliver quality services.

Ed Jackson's publications have appeared in every major leisure research journal and as chapters in a number of books. In 1991, Ed guest edited the fourth quarter issues of both the *Journal of Leisure Research* and *Leisure Sciences*, the only time the two journals have worked together in this manner. This land-mark effort squarely established that constraints research is one of the dominant themes in leisure studies over the last 15 years and is likely to be a significant topic for a number of years to come. The majority of Ed's 50 plus journal articles, 12 book chapters, and 30 papers at conferences have dealt with constraints issues, though he has also skillfully advanced research in several other areas as well. His edited book with Tim Burton (*Understanding Leisure and Recreation: Mapping the Past and Charting the Future*, soon to be in its second edition) is a widely used text and an outstanding contribution to the literature. This work set a new standard for edited books in leisure studies, with carefully written chapters from most of the major researchers in the field.

In addition to his scholarly contributions, Ed has found time to be involved with our profession in a number of different ways. For the last four years, Ed has served as an associate editor for the *Journal of Leisure Research* and edited a constraints newsletter which goes to about 100 interested persons each issue. He has been very active in the Canadian Association for Leisure Studies and in 1989 was elected as a member of the Academy of Leisure Sciences. He is the current President of the Academy of Leisure Sciences, the creator and inspiration of the Academy's Web page. And on, and on, and on. . .

As if all of the above were not enough reasons to honor Ed, he has also made outstanding contributions as a friend and mentor to many throughout Canada and the United States. Quoting Karla Henderson: "He has always been willing to share ideas, take time to review manuscripts for colleagues before they are submitted for publication, and take leadership in organizing special sessions at conferences as well as guest editing publications. His unselfish commitment to this field is laudable. He is a colleague in the truest sense of the word."

Like all good academics, Ed has pursued his work with vigor, enthusiasm, and a great deal of thoughtfulness. His colleagues at the University of Alberta are lucky to have him as a fellow faculty member, and the world of leisure research owes him a debt of gratitude for his thorough, exacting efforts, his outstanding leadership and the opportunity to count him as a valued member of the leisure research community.

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