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## David Pearce 1941–2005

Ken Willis Editor

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## OBITUARY



## David Pearce 1941 – 2005

The *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* is very sad to announce the sudden death of Emeritus Professor David Pearce, OBE, DSc, on Thursday 8th September 2005. David had been an active member of the Editorial Advisory Board of JEPM since the journal was inaugurated in 1992.

David made a huge contribution to the field of environmental economics and was widely regarded as ‘the father of environmental economics’ in Britain. He taught economics at Lancaster, Southampton, Leicester and Aberdeen Universities, before being appointed to the Chair in Environmental Economics, in the Department of Economics at University College London in 1983. It was at UCL that he established the internationally renowned MSc in Environmental and Resource Economics, which produced an entire generation of British environmental economists and many others throughout the world who are currently shaping and developing environmental policy and research.

David was the co-director of the Centre for Social and Economics Research on the Global Environment (CSERGE) from 1991–2001, and from 1989 to 1992 was personal advisor on environmental economics to the Secretary of State for the Environment. Among his many distinctions he was named in 1989 in the Global 500 Roll of Honour for Services to the World Environment by the United Nations Environment Programme; was the winner of the 1991 Gambrinus – Guiseppe Mazzotti Prize for Literature (for his book *Blueprint for a Green Economy*); and was presented with the First Social Benefit Award, Financial and Economic Publishing House, Beijing, China (for his book *World Without End*). In 2000 he was awarded the OBE (Officer, Order of the British Empire); a DSc Honoris Causa (University of East Anglia) in 2001; and in June 2005 he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists.

His contribution to environmental economics was immense, spanning a huge range of theoretical and policy-relevant issues and problems. He will continue to be remembered for the clarity and incisiveness of his path-breaking contributions not only to environmental economics but also cost-benefit analysis. As the author or

editor of over 50 books and 300 papers, he was enormously prolific, and influential in his engagement with the UK Government, the OECD, the European Commission, The World Bank, the UN, and many other organisations.

David's support and spirit touched so many lives and people. It was a privilege and an honour to know him. His memory and his influence will live on through his writings and his thoughts.

*Ken Willis, Editor  
Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*