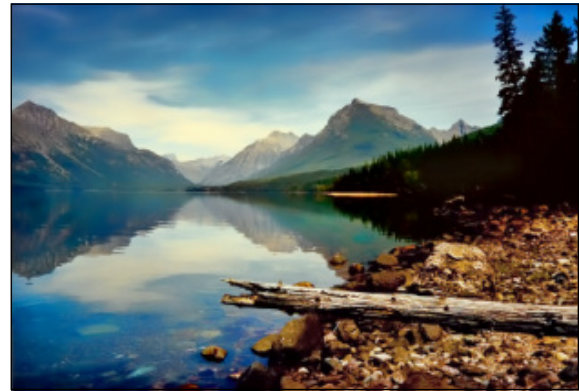


LEN & SANDY SARGENT STEWARDSHIP RECIPIENT

2007

Tom Roy

The ninth Len and Sandy Sargent Stewardship Award honored Tom Roy for his work in integrating social sciences with environmental studies as a former professor of social work and the longtime director of the Environmental Studies Program (EVST) at the University of Montana.



A long time ago, Olaus Murie told us that, “Our training. . . should not be such that we . . . come out pretty good technicians but philosophical illiterates. We need to look up from our technical study . . . and look at the horizon.” Under Tom’s leadership, EVST produced graduates capable of leading us to that horizon. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of his vision in a culture addicted to the production of technicians.

Over the past several decades, Tom gave students the tools and the motivation to engage in successful advocacy, changing the course of human events from the coalfields of Appalachia to the headwaters of Wilderness tributaries throughout the northern Rockies. When legislators threatened to terminate EVST, Tom and his students visited the ranch of a particularly harsh critic. There, they took on daily chores and wore down barriers. By extending his program’s reach to rural Montana, Tom had helped both his students and the legislator/landowner find common ground and common purpose, charting a course for others to follow as they pursue environmental goals.

As a true teacher, Tom led by example, enthusiastically volunteering his time and energy to serve on myriad nonprofit boards that reflected his passions for the environment and social service. All Montanans benefited from his service on the governor-appointed Environmental Quality Council.

Tom’s recognition for outstanding environmental achievement included a \$5,000 Special Award grant to the University of Montana’s Environmental Studies Program.