

Econ Prof Sanford Berg Named TPUG Distinguished Member for 2007

Gainesville, Fla. – Sanford Berg, Distinguished Service Professor in economics and director of Water Studies for the Public Utility Research Center (PURC), was recently presented with one of the highest honors in infrastructure and policy making. Berg was named the Distinguished Member for 2007 by the Transportation and Public Utilities Group (TPUG).

TPUG president Christiaan Hogendorn presented the award, which recognizes both Berg's research contributions and the international training programs developed under PURC auspices. Formed in 1946, TPUG has served as the professional association for researchers and policy makers in infrastructure industries. Since 1965, TPUG has honored members who have made significant contributions to the field, and to TPUG, during their careers, including William Vickrey (Nobel Laureate) and UF alum Steven A. Morrison (BA 1973).

For 30 years, Berg served as director of PURC and remains the Florida Public Utilities Professor. During the past several years, he has led nearly 20 workshops for the Florida Public Service Commission. He also served on the Governor's Energy 2020 Study Commission to make recommendations to the Florida Legislature regarding electricity restructuring. Berg has provided consulting services to a number of utilities and government organizations in the U.S. and abroad, including the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment.

Berg's international work has led to a number of projects. In collaboration with World Bank staff, he designed the curriculum and directs the PURC/World Bank International Training Program on Utility Regulation and Strategy, a two-week course presented twice yearly in Gainesville since 1997. The World Bank presented a Certificate of Recognition to PURC during the 13th International Training Program on Utility Regulation and Strategy for "outstanding support and partnership provided to Supporting Infrastructure Regulators Team for the year 2002." He has delivered regulatory training programs abroad and presentations in Sweden, Russia, United Kingdom, Spain, France, Japan, China, Australia, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Bolivia, Saudi Arabia, and Uganda.

Professor Berg teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in microeconomics, managerial economics, and government regulation. He has been recognized for his teaching excellence within academia, receiving a number of departmental and College awards, including UF Distinguished International Educator Award in 2004; Outstanding MBA Core Faculty Award in 2003; Outstanding MBA Faculty Award Internet Classes of 2007, 2006, 2005, 2003 and 2002 and a number of others. Sanford Berg has published more than 100 journal articles on a variety of topics, has served as a referee/reviewer for numerous journals and publications, and has co-authored or edited four books.

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