



W. A. Douglas Jackson
November 25, 1924 - March 9, 2009

Founder of Canadian Studies

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W. A. Douglas Jackson hailed from Toronto where he long-dreamed of being a concert pianist. Instead, he pursued a doctorate at the University of Maryland where he studied both Canadian history and Soviet geography. In 1955, he was appointed to the UW Geography Department and the Far Eastern and Russian Institute.

In the mid-80s Doug began working with colleagues Bob Monahan and Don Alper at Western Washington University to develop a joint program in Canadian Studies. In 1988, the UW and WWU received the first Title VI grant from the US Department of Education, to form the Pacific Northwest National Resource Center on Canada. At the same time, he worked with Bryan Downes from Oregon to hold the first meeting of regional Canadianists in what would become what is now known as the Pacific Northwest Canadian Studies Consortium.



Doug served as director of the Canadian Studies Center for over 12 years, taught and inspired hundreds of students, and spoke at community functions at every opportunity. In fact, he was still lecturing for the Center this last fall. In October, Doug gave four lectures as part of a series, *The Canadian Push to the Pacific*, for Edmonds Community College.

In 2003, the W. A. Douglas Scholarship Fund was created on Doug's 80th birthday, to support undergraduate research on Canada and study-in-Canada opportunities. Since that time, two students have been awarded scholarships for their written work (nominated by Doug) and six students were able to travel to Ottawa in Winter 2009 for eight days as part of the Task Force on Arctic Sovereignty thanks to W. A. Douglas Jackson Scholarships.

The contributions that Doug made to the Canadian Studies Center, the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, the Department of Geography, and the University of Washington as a whole will never be forgotten, and Doug will be sorely missed by all whose lives he touched.

Doug packed many lives into a single lifetime. A scholar, teacher, colleague, administrator, musician, and a witty and charming person, he was still going strong when I arrived at the Jackson School in 2002, several years after he had already retired from UW. I knew him as a Canada Studies person; someone who was devoted and dedicated to advancing the study of Canada on campus and in the US. In his earlier incarnation - he first came to UW in the mid-1950s - he was acclaimed for his role as a geographer who specialized in Russian and East European Studies. In fact, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, he headed up that program and worked tirelessly on its behalf, just as he did later on for Canada Studies. May we all have lives as accomplished, rich, and varied as Doug's was.

-Anand Yang, Director and Professor, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

W. A. Douglas Jackson Scholarship Fund

The Douglas Jackson Canadian Studies Undergraduate Scholarship Fund was launched in Fall 2003 in celebration of Professor Jackson's 80th birthday and to honor his founding of the Canadian Studies Center and his years of service to both the Center and the University of Washington.

The scholarship was first implemented during the 2004-05 academic year and recognizes undergraduate students for excellence in writing and for research on Canadian topics.

Would you like to help the W. A. Douglas Jackson Scholarship Fund grow? Donations should be made payable to the University of Washington with "Douglas Jackson Scholarship Fund" in the memo line, and may be sent to:

Canadian Studies Center
ATTN: Douglas Jackson Scholarship Fund
Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies
University of Washington
Box 353650
Seattle, WA 98195-3650

Inquiries may be directed to the Canadian Studies Center at canada@u.washington.edu or (206) 221-6374.



Canadian Studies Center

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