Former Agricultural Economics Faculty

RAMON B. WILSON (1922-2013)

Professor Wilson developed an early reputation as an outstanding teacher, researcher, administrator, and extension specialist in agricultural marketing and farm cooperatives. After serving as Extension Economist, Utah State University (1950-53) and as Marketing Economist, California Department of Agriculture (1953-55), Ray joined the Purdue Department of Agricultural Economics. He was an Associate Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and Assistant to the Dean of Agriculture (1969-1974). He coordinated Purdue agricultural service and regulatory activities and provided legislative liaison.

In 1974 he became head of the USDA office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture. He also served on the Policy Staff, USDA. He returned to Purdue in 1976.

Over his career, Ray was involved in several trade missions including: U.S. Member of the NATO Food and Agriculture Planning Committee; Captain in the U.S. Army; and faculty member of Georgetown Universities Academy in the Public Service. He retired from the Department in 1978 as Professor Emeritus. Afterwards Ray returned to Utah and spent three years at the Ezra Taft Benson Agriculture and Food Institute at BYU. He participated in academic studies at the University of California, Berkley, and Georgetown University.

Ray was selected as President of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and cited for his service to United States, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky Agriculture. He was an active participant in the affairs of his community, church and profession.

B.S. Utah, 1947; M.S. Purdue, 1948; Ph.D. Purdue, 1950; Visiting Professor, University of California and Georgetown University (Sabbatical Leave).

An obituary about Ramon Wilson’s legacy is located at: