

Preface

It was with great eagerness and joy that colleagues and former students of Professor David Boyce came together to produce this festschrift to celebrate his career. Here, we hope not only to honor his many professional contributions and accomplishments in the fields of regional science and transportation modeling, but to acknowledge the gifts he gave to all of us through the many years he has acted as our teacher, mentor, and colleague. Having had the good fortune to study and earn my PhD under Professor Boyce, I was altogether thrilled when Professor Tschangho John Kim at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign asked me to act as editor for this project.

I first met Professor Boyce in 1993 at the annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB). I was introduced by my master thesis advisor, Professor Huey-Kuo Chen, himself a former PhD student of Professor Boyce. And it was not long thereafter that I was enrolled in a PhD program with Professor Boyce at the University of Illinois-Chicago. I earned my degree in 1996, but Professor Boyce's influence continues with me to this day.

From the perspective of a student – and I am comfortable in saying that all of his academic children would agree – it was immediately apparent that Professor Boyce has great passion for his work. And that passion is infectious in his students. That love of learning was passed down to each of us; it would have been impossible to resist, as Professor Boyce took an interest in each one of us as individuals, both personally and professionally. Perhaps this is best exemplified through his consistent encouragement and support of his students to pursue our own interests and areas of study, and not to take on projects simply because they held an interest for him. He has constantly encouraged our independence and the ideal of excelling on our own. That he was always ready to support, to listen, to encourage, to guide, and to help us in innumerable ways is, I truly think, what makes Professor Boyce so special. In effect, he teaches each of his students the 'art of learning', which is the greatest thing a teacher can teach a student.

It is our further good fortune that Professor Boyce does not consider his work over once a student receives a diploma. Strong professional and personal ties established in graduate school continue even as his students move on to their own careers. In a sense, every student becomes a part of the big 'Boyce Family'. Even if it has been years since last studying with him, we, his former students, know that we can still call on him for advice, to talk over an idea, or just to catch up.

And his work continues. It was a great privilege to act as Professor Boyce's host at the National University of Singapore (NUS) in January and February 2003. Professor Boyce spent seven weeks with us as visiting professor, during which time he offered a course on travel forecasting. It was a pleasure to witness his NUS postgraduates experiencing the invaluable mentoring so many of us have benefited from firsthand over the years. Unfortunately, as it was only for seven weeks, NUS students got only a glimpse of the love of learning and dedication to students that are so central to Professor Boyce as a teacher.

Professor David Boyce's unlimited patience, continuous inspiration, honorable attitude toward life, and his work have created a shining landmark for all of us.

As editor of this festschrift, I want to express my appreciation to all of the contributing authors scattered around the globe. I also want to thank all the referees for their careful reviews of submitted manuscripts, and for working with me on the extremely tight timeframe – even during the holiday season. I must thank Mr Alan Sturmer at Edward Elgar for his administrative support and assistance in making this project possible. Special thanks go to Professors Tschangho John Kim and Anna Nagurney for their advice, comments, and suggestions during the preparation of this festschrift. Special thanks also go to Dr Maya Tatineni (who was a fellow PhD student with me under Professor Boyce in the early 1990s) for taking time from her busy schedule to proofread manuscripts and for sharing her thoughts and feelings about Professor Boyce. I would also like to thank my students and Professor Boyce's postgraduates at the Intelligent Transportation and Vehicle Systems Laboratory at the National University of Singapore – Mr Weizhong Zheng, Miss Lan Wu, Miss Liying Song, Mr Yueping Sun, and Mr Nan Liu – who were actively involved in the editing process. And finally, but certainly not least, I want to thank Professor David Boyce for all he has brought to the profession, to his colleagues, and to his students.

Der-Horng Lee
National University of Singapore
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