



## Acceptance Speech

### **Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen Lifetime Achievement Award**

***By Prof. Herman Daly***

*(Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland)*

I am very honored to accept the Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen Lifetime Achievement Award. To have labored with others in the vineyard that Nicholas planted has been a great satisfaction. If my writing has made some of his ideas more accessible to the public then I am very glad of it. We still have a long way to go to get The Entropy Law and the Economic Process into mainstream economics, so there is plenty of work left for future recipients of the Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen Awards.

I studied under Nicholas at Vanderbilt University in the early 1960s. I did not go there because of Nicholas. At the time I was interested in economic development in Latin America and more attracted to other professors who specialized in that area. But I was obliged to take courses in advanced economic theory and in statistics from Nicholas because they were required in the curriculum. I would have avoided advanced theory if I could, but fortunately I did not have that option. After three weeks in the course I realized how lucky I was to have been put in the presence of a genius who was devoted to scholarship and truth. Somewhat against my will, I became his diligent and devoted student. My hope is that others will have a similar experience in reading his writings.

Although capable of great kindness, Nicholas was not an easy person to get along with, as all who knew him will attest, even those of us who most loved and respected him. My obituary essay about him closed with the words, "he demanded a lot; but he gave more". I am honored to have helped to spread his important gift to others.

***---Herman Daly***