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David Storey: A Tribute

For many who knew him or about him around the world, Professor David Storey was a distinguished scholar renowned and admired in the academic research and policy communities for his sagacity and humanity, in equal measure. Sadly, David passed away on the 15th of July 2023.

David has left a remarkable legacy in the field of entrepreneurship and small businesses for all of us to learn from, safeguard and advance. He was a visionary with great insight, combining creativity with a rigorous scientific approach and taking on a multitude of small business issues as they evolved in different parts of the world. The impact of his work transcends the scientific domain, with a significant influence on entrepreneurship and small business policy at local, regional, national and international levels.

Professor Storey was not only an eminent scholar, but he was also a wonderful human being. He valued making the research engaging and fruitful while maintaining an outstanding relationship with his collaborators, colleagues and anyone he had the opportunity to interact with. Treating everyone with respect and dignity, he would listen carefully to his interlocutors, teasing out the best of argumentation and discourse. He supported, mentored and assisted young researchers. We appreciated the way he would be catholic and even-handed about differences of opinion, allowing truth and his commitment to his subject to prevail over anything else. His loss is huge, and he will be mourned by all of us. But, we were fortunate enough to have known him and imbibe the fruits of his endeavours. With respect, we will follow the path he forged, preserving his memory and disseminating scientific knowledge about small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), and his ethical attitude to future generations. And, there was always Cricket to discuss after the 'hurly burly' of research was done, all part of a passionate engagement with life.

We are grateful for what he bestowed upon us, and which we hope we can pass on to others. Rest in peace, David Storey.

George Saridakis and Jay Mitra