

CAG Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography

Maureen Reed is a Professor in the School of Environment and Sustainability at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Reed is internationally recognized for her research on environmental governance and sustainability in forestry communities, biosphere reserves, and Indigenous communities, as well as for addressing the interconnections between gender, politics, and environmental management. Her PROGRESS (Practices of Governance for Resilience, Environmental and Social Sustainability) Lab works to understand models of governance and action that can help communities become resilient and make progress towards environmental and social sustainability. Over the course of her thirty- year career, Dr. Reed has made exceptional contributions to how we understand the social dimensions of sustainability.

Dr. Reed is a leading expert on gender and forestry in the global north and one of the first to incorporate feminist theory and gender-based analyses in sustainability science. Her award-winning book, *Taking Stands: Gender and the Sustainability of Rural Communities* (2003), explained why, in contrast to prevailing general assumptions about women's support for environmental causes, women living in forestry-dependent communities in Canada's temperate rainforest supported industrial forestry. The book won the K.D. Srivastava Prize in 2004, and opened new avenues of discussion around women's activism in environmental protection debates. In 2006, she gave the prestigious Suzanne Mackenzie Memorial Lecture at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers on the issues raised in *Taking Stands*. Her work has inspired researchers and colleagues around the world to consider forestry and natural resource development in terms of gender, and she has given invited talks on this topic in locations such as Sweden, Japan, and India.

Alongside her pathbreaking work on gender and forestry, Dr. Reed is also an internationally recognized researcher in multi-level governance for conservation and sustainability. She uses biosphere reserves as exemplars of changing philosophies and practices in environmental governance, and is one of the few social scientists conducting research with biosphere reserves worldwide. She has worked with biosphere reserves since 2001, most recently as Principal Investigator of a SSHRC-funded Partnership Development Grant (2011-2015). This project with Canadian UNESCO biosphere reserves sought to find ways these organizations, which are largely staffed by volunteers, can become more effective in advancing their mission of promoting biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, research, and education. Dr. Reed and her partners established a community of practice among 70 practitioners, policy advisors, and academic researchers and students across Canada by employing social learning and networking strategies. The partnership developed and nurtured relationships with practitioners and Indigenous communities, improved alignment of local activities with international strategic priorities, co-created usable knowledge for policy audiences, and provided international recognition for both research about, and practice within, Canadian biosphere reserves. This work was prominently featured at the 2013 EuroMAB conference, the leading European and North American gathering of UNESCO biosphere researchers and practitioners, and is influencing UNESCO biospheres worldwide to work differently to promote their sustainability goals. This project was one of three finalists in the 2014 SSHRC Impact Awards in the "connections" category. Dr. Reed's innovative work with Canadian biosphere reserves has most recently manifested in her role as Executive Producer for an 8-part documentary series based on her work

on biosphere reserves now airing on Knowledge Network and TV Ontario (<http://strikingbalance.ca/>). An accompanying e-book, *Sustaining Home*, targets a public audience about the efforts of Canadian biosphere reserves to advance a sustainability agenda (<https://itunes.apple.com/ca/book/sustaining-home/id1168439372?mt=11>).

Although much of her work centres on Canadian communities, Dr. Reed is internationally renowned. She has given over 55 invited talks in places like Sweden, Peru, Japan, and China. In 2015, Dr. Reed was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature in Kyoto working on a multi-million dollar project on Integrated Local Environmental Knowledge. She has also served as a member of the Swedish Forest System Scientific Advisory Board of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Umeå) and serves as an officeholder with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), coordinating international research efforts related to gender research in forestry.

Dr. Reed has published or co-published ten books, monographs, and reviewed reports; 30 book chapters; and 63 peer-reviewed articles. Her papers have appeared in *Progress in Human Geography*, *Environment and Planning A*, *Ambio*, *Journal of Rural Studies*, and other prestigious venues. In 2016, her policy perspective in *Conservation Letters* was selected to be included in a special issue published to coincide with the World Conservation Congress of the IUCN. Google Scholar shows that her work has been cited 2000 times, including 1028 citations since 2011. Her h-index is 21, which is exceptional for a social scientist. In addition to these accomplishments, no less than three of Dr. Reed's books are required reading in courses across Canada. Along with *Taking Stands*, she is the co-author of the widely used and respected *Our Environment: A Canadian Perspective* (Draper and Reed, 2005, 2009). *The Social Transformation of Rural Canada* (Parkins and Reed (eds.), 2013) brings together works by Canada's leading rural researchers in a valuable text for both senior undergraduate and graduate classes.

Dr. Reed has been awarded over \$1.2 million as a principal investigator on nine successful SSHRC grants and has attracted a further \$1.5 million from other sources. She has served as a reviewer for over 45 national and international journals and has been an editorial board member of *The Canadian Geographer*. Dr. Reed was invited by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO (CCUNESCO) to serve on the Canadian Man and the Biosphere (MAB) committee, and presently serves as an assessor for Canada Research Chair applications and renewals (Tier 1 and Tier 2). She was named a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society in 2010.

In addition to her exceptional research contributions, Dr. Reed is dedicated to training the next generation of academics. She has supervised over 100 students to date, and was instrumental in the founding of the University of Saskatchewan's Graduate School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS). In addition to her other roles and responsibilities, she is currently Assistant Director of SENS.

Dr. Reed has received many awards and honours, including the inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Waterloo (2007), the University of Saskatchewan's Distinguished Graduate Supervisor Award (2015), and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the YWCA-Saskatoon Women of Distinction Awards (2016).