David Boyce Award – John Leatherman

The David Boyce Award for Service to Regional Science this year goes to Prof. John Leatherman.

John Leatherman is Professor at Kansas State University and has served as Executive Director of the Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (MCSA) since 2001. During that time he has done an exceptional job in this role. Due to John's judicious leadership, the MCRSA has not only stabilized but grown in recent years. Additionally, the MCRSA is in a significantly stronger financial position than when John assumed the Executive Director role. John has achieved this while taking the MCRSA Conference to what one might think of as less-than-salubrious cities. In recent years, for example, MCRSA annual meetings have been held in Detroit, Michigan and Toledo, Ohio. We applaud him for doing so.

In addition to his exceptional service to MCRSA, John has found the time and energy to be of precious service to NARSC. In fact, on four occasions Prof. Leatherman served as the Local Organizer for NARSC meetings - Las Vegas (2005), Denver (2010), Minneapolis (2016), and Vancouver (2017). His attention to detail and ability to meet deadlines are two of John’s traits which make him the perfect conference organizer. If you enjoyed the NARSC meeting in Las Vegas, Denver, Minneapolis, or Vancouver you have, to a large extent, John to thank.