RICHARD CHURCH

Dr. Richard Church is one of the two 2018 recipients of the Walter Isard Award for distinguished scholarly achievement.

Richard Church is Research Professor at the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) where he is a Professor of Geography. There, he also served as an Associate Dean of Math, Life and Physical Sciences and as Chair of the Department of Geography. Before coming to UCSB, he was on faculty at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Professor Church has made important and sustained academic contributions to location science,

spatial optimization, natural resource management, and transportation. He has authored over 270 publications, including a book, journal articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, and technical reports. This research has had a major influence on regional science. He has over 14,000 Google Scholar citations and his Scopus citations total over 6,800. Rich is most prominently known for his research in location science. His contributions have spanned the spectrum of location science, but there are two that clearly stand out. One is coverage modeling, beginning with one of his first papers appearing in *Papers in Regional Science* (1974) entitled “The Maximal Covering Location Problem.” It is a major contribution, garnering over 2,380 Google citations.

The other area Professor Church has made his most significant contributions is in location-allocation modeling, especially his work that enhances capabilities for solving the p-median problem. His approach is now the standard for quickly and efficiently solving the p-median problem. A culmination of his research expertise in location science is the 2009 book titled

*Business Site Selection, Location Analysis and GIS*. This book reflects on his theoretical contributions to location science while addressing application-oriented issues central to site selection and land use planning. Professor Church has also made important contributions to transportation, biological conservation, natural resource management, and remote sensing.

Professor Church is a Fellow of both the Regional Science Association International and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He received his Ph.D. from John Hopkins University.

The North American Regional Science Council is therefore pleased to present the 2018 Walter Isard Award for distinguished scholarly achievement to Richard Church.