

JEAN PAELINCK

EUROPEAN PRIZE IN REGIONAL SCIENCE WINNER—2003

Jean Paelinck was born in Belgium and received his Ph.D. from Liege University. He went on to do postgraduate studies at Cambridge with Professor Richard Stone, Nobel Prize in Economics. Paelinck has held a professorship at several universities; among them: Lille, Paris, Namur, Louvain, Erasmus University of Rotterdam, and now George Mason University in Virginia.

In both his teaching and administrative tasks, Jean Paelinck has been able to integrate theoretical and applied research. He has done so for the United Nations, the European Economic Union, the Commission for European Economic Community and several other world-wide organizations.

Jean Paelinck has published more than 55 books and over 300 papers in well-known refereed journals as his early research in economic modelling evolved more toward spatial econometrics in the 1970s. His presidential address at the French-speaking Regional Science Association in 1982 and his book with Leo Klaasen on “Spatial Economics” are now considered classics in regional science. By presenting the general principles of interdependence, asymmetry, topology, allotopy, and investment-functioning and applying them to regional research in many countries the world over, Jean Paelinck has become one of the world’s most well-known regional scientists. He is the holder of seven Honorary Doctorates, and has been honoured by the President of the Regional Science Associations, including the international association..

A truly Renaissance man, Paelinck is a humanist, a musician and a linguist—he speaks more than ten languages— and composed the “march” for the Western Regional Science Association. Respected by his colleagues, appreciated by his students, Jean Paelinck is a real leader, not only in regional science, but in life in general.