

## John Field (1949-2024)

It is very sad to announced that John Field Emeritus Professor in the University of Stirling, Visiting Professor at the University of Warwick, and Gastprofessor at the Universität zu Köln, born 6<sup>th</sup> of July 1949 passed away on 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. He was trained and dedicated historian with research focused in inter-organisational conflicts and settlements in wartime adult education, adult education and active citizenship, the educational ideas and practices of utopian movements, and the relationship between skills, work, and masculinities. His doctorate was on *Learning through Labour: training, unemployment and the state, 1890-1939*, Leeds University 1992, which he defended at Warrick University, to which he returned after many other appointments as Professor of lifelong learning. His recent publications include *Working Men's Bodies: Work Camps in Britain 1880-1940* (Manchester University Press, 2013). He also contributed with 155 academic articles, and was active to his last day. One of the issue of his research was an understanding of social capital and social movements. We stared together a network on Active Democratic Citizenship in 1990, which became ESREA network eventually. John Field came to Sweden several times. I especially remember when he visited me and Bernt Gustavsson in 1992 at Linköping University, as we were interested in Residential adult education. We were also involved in research on social movements. From 2008-2014, we collaborated in two European projects about non-traditional students in Higher Education; RANLHE and EMPLOY in which we contributed a lot to European perspectives on access, retention, drop-out and employability together. In both projects professor Camilla Thunborg was also involved.

John was a brilliant scholar, reliable colleague and a very good friend. He was energetic and quick in speech and thinking, and in movement as well as he had a humor and made people laugh.



April 2024, by Agnieszka Bron, Professor Emeritus Stockholm University