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## Editors' Note

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When Dr. Michael Scriven died on August 28, 2023, we lost a legend and an important voice in the evaluation field. Surely, his impact will be explored for years to come. Given Scriven's role, along with Dr. E. Jane Davidson, in founding *JMDE*, we want to hold space in the journal for those who knew him to say a few words about their perceptions of his impact.

Born in 1928 in the United Kingdom, Dr. Scriven received degrees in mathematics from the University of Melbourne and his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Oxford. His early work was in the areas of philosophy of science, logic, and mathematics. He carried these perspectives into his writing and teaching in the field of evaluation, where he is most well-known. Scriven coined many of the terms used in the field, including "formative and summative evaluation." Some of his many key contributions to the field of evaluation include the concepts of evaluation as a transdiscipline, the logic of evaluation, and goal-free evaluation.

Scriven authored over 400 publications. Some of his most notable books include *The Logic of Evaluation* (1980), *Evaluation Thesaurus* (1991), and the Key Evaluation Checklist (2015; [https://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachment\\_s/u1105/2023/kec-scriven.pdf](https://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachment_s/u1105/2023/kec-scriven.pdf)). (This last one isn't a book, but at 60 pages, it might as well be.) Scriven served on the editorial review boards of over 40 journals and mentored dozens of students across nine different institutions. He served as president of the American Evaluation Association and the American Educational Research Association. "Prolific" is an understatement.

Our initial compass for this special issue dedicated to Scriven was three-fold. Firstly, as he was a champion of *JMDE* and a frequent contributor, we were in a unique position to look back through the journal's history and summarize his published contributions. Secondly, some expressed the desire to revisit and reinvigorate some of Scriven's contributions. Finally, we wanted to provide a venue for more personal reflections on how Scriven impacted individual lives. Taking time to reflect on personal and professional relationships with Scriven and his intellectual contributions has given contributors to this issue a way to remember and say thank you.

Contributors to this issue include Scriven's colleagues and former students, people who knew him well, and those who felt greatly impacted by his work. You'll notice authors from across the globe, reflecting Scriven's international influence. After we review Scriven's contributions to *JMDE*, Stewart Donaldson sets the stage of Scriven's broader contributions to conceptualizing evaluation as a transdiscipline. Ryo Sasaki brings a Japanese context to Scriven's reach, and Janet Clinton and John Hattie then make the case for the importance of formative and summative concepts in evaluation. Brian Yates and Nadini Persaud revisit Scriven's "missing half of quantitative evaluation," that of cost-inclusive evaluation. Brandon Youker then brings us up to date on Scriven's goal-free evaluation. David Fetterman, who had a complicated relationship with Scriven, describes how Scriven helped Fetterman hone his explanations of empowerment evaluation through his critical friend role. Arnold Love provides a

Canadian perspective on Scriven's contributions in a republication of the Canadian Evaluation Society's public statement on Scriven's passing. This is followed by Bill Fear's and then Gene Glass's remembrances of their long relationships with Scriven. Nadini Persaud, who was one of Scriven's early students at Western Michigan, reflects on some personal experiences as a student and later mentee. Finally, E. Jane Davidson closes this special issue with personal reflections on a long and enduring professional and personal relationship with Scriven. Fortunately, many of the authors provided photos from different moments in Scriven's life, and we are particularly fond of the one Jane provided of Scriven and his wife Mary Anne from their earliest days together.

We hope that these contributions do some justice to Dr. Michael Scriven's legacy, remind you of his role in our discipline's development, and focus your attention, for more than a few moments, on the intellectual giant that left us.