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Mike has received many awards, two honorary degrees, and has been a visiting professor at numerous international universities. In 2011 he was awarded an OBE for services to higher education and business. In 2017 he received the Beale Medal of the UK Operational Research Society for 'a sustained contribution over many years to the theory, practice, and philosophy of Operational Research'.

Mike is known as a key figure in the development of 'critical systems thinking' - a topic on which he has published ten books and over 100 articles. His latest book 'Critical Systems Thinking and the Management of Complexity' was published by Wiley in March 2019.