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In Memoriam: Gil Friedman

Harvey Starr

University of South Carolina, starr-harvey@sc.edu

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with scholars from the respective countries. Sam began these projects because of his intellectual curiosity, his desire to learn and study political parties in a broad context, and an innate commitment to teach and collaborate with other scholars.

In addition to the Woodrow Wilson Award, Sam received much professional recognition for his scholarship. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1977. In 1987, the Political Organizations and Parties section of the APSA created the Eldersveld Lifetime Contribution award and immediately presented it to Sam. Closer to home, the University of Michigan recognized Sam as the Senior Distinguished Professor lecturer for 1986 and the department’s conference room was named the Eldersveld Room.

Sam’s approach to academic organizations was just as farsighted as his approach to his scholarship. He became chair of the Michigan political science department in 1964, with the goal of making it one of the country’s best departments. He was determined that the department would hire the “brightest and best,” regardless of any defined positions or slots. During the period of his chairship, the department hired 30 new faculty members, while losing 17 to retirement, death, or moves to other universities. It was both the absolute growth and the replacements that made the department a top department.

He also believed that the behavioral approach he adopted for his own work was the future for the department. When recruiting one of those 30 new members, who later became a very prominent scholar at Michigan, one of Sam’s older colleagues remarked that what this person did was not political science. To which Sam responded, “This may not be the way we were taught to do political science, but it is the way political science will be done in the future.” Just as his own work moved away from his traditional training, so the department moved away from its traditional roots. Sam was not dogmatic in pursuing this view, but the department certainly acquired a behavioral orientation and reputation during his tenure.

Sam showed the same vision and skill used to transform the political science department in significantly altering the teaching and research used to train public officials. When he became department chair, most of the appointments and work in the Institute of Public Administration were located in political science. Sam saw that an interdisciplinary approach using many of the behavioral and analytical concepts that he had pushed the department to adopt needed to be the basis for a new public policy curriculum. As department chair, Sam was in a position to encourage the public administration faculty to adapt or look for new positions. He was appointed to chair a committee to define the future for the Institute and its educational and scholarly mission. The result was the creation of the Institute of Public Policy Studies, built on a multidisciplinary faculty drawn from a number of departments and other units. The Institute became a leader in the emerging field of public policy and ultimately became the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

Sam did not just study political leaders, he was one. In the mid-1950s, he applied what he had learned about party organizations and voter turnout to become Ann Arbor’s first Democratic mayor since 1931. His research had shown that personal contact was the most effective way to get people to the polls. To implement that finding, his campaign created organizations in each precinct whose task was to contact those likely to vote Democratic.

Then, a well-organized phone bank contacted these people again on Election Day. This organizational work was backed by continuing survey work under the direction of Morris Janowitz. With this political machine behind him, Sam collected 53% of the vote to become mayor in April 1957.

The election was followed by a steady stream of confrontations with the Republican-dominated City Council. In most of these confrontations, Sam routinely showed his Dutch tenacity and frequently prevailed. On of his proudest accomplishments was the passage of a human rights ordinance and the creation of the state’s first Human Relations Commission to investigate and report on allegations of discrimination. This commission, renamed the Human Rights Commission, still exists.

Sam was a formidable and courageous administrator, both academically and governmentaly. Organizations large and small, private and public, reach a point of needing bold reforms, and some leaders have clear visions of the future, but both languish because of inability and lack of courage to act decisively. As evidenced in his positions as department chair, mayor, and advisor to the Institute of Public Administration and then the Institute of Public Policy Studies, Sam saw when radical changes needed to be made and exercised the leadership to execute them, often in the face of strenuous resistance.

Sam’s personal life had its various moments, but a highlight was when he met Els Nieuwenhuijzen at a meeting of the Netherlands American University League in October 1985. This meeting blossomed into a deep friendship, with Els traveling with Sam to China, among other places. They were married in 2000, and Els became much more than a partner for Sam. She helped with his last two projects after his eyesight and then his health began to fail. She was devoted to him and vice-versa. Her presence for the last 25 years of his life had a profound effect on Sam that was evident to all. Sam had two children, Lucy Angeline Murphy and Samuel Keith Eldersveld, and two grandchildren, Colin and Beth, that he adored and valued.

A constant in all his ventures was Sam’s honesty, directness, and commitment to social justice. As an administrator, he emphasized transparency. One always knew where one stood with Sam. He had reasons for doing things, and he stated them openly and honestly. The policies and decisions he espoused were often opposed, but his candor always contributed positively to the health of the organization. His commitment to social justice at all levels of society is legendary, as evidenced by his pride in the Ann Arbor Human Rights Commission and his encouragement of Els’s work with the Ann Arbor Disability Commission. Sam’s passing is to be lamented, but his legacy and contributions evident in his students, family, scholarship and the institutions he led will be with us and treasured forever.

John E. Jackson
University of Michigan
M. Kent Jennings
University of California, Santa Barbara, and University of Michigan
Lawrence B. Mohr
University of Michigan
Hanes Walton, Jr.
University of Michigan

GIL FRIEDMAN
Gil Friedman, lecturer in political science at Tel Aviv University, passed away on July 16, 2009, at the age of 42 after a short bout with cancer. Much too young, and with so much promise, Gil’s death was an unexpected shock to his relatives, friends,
In Memoriam

BETTY GLAD

Dr. Betty Glad, 82, died August 2, 2010. She enjoyed a truly distinguished career as a scholar of American politics and foreign policy. Betty was the Olin D. Johnston Professor of Political Science and Distinguished Professor Emerita at the University of South Carolina. She was an exemplary scholar and an expert on the American presidency, U.S. foreign policy, and political leadership. She was the author of Jimmy Carter: In Search of the Great White House, Charles Evans Hughes and the Illusions of Innocence, Key Pittman: The Tragedy of a Senate Insider, and, most recently, An Outsider in the White House: Jimmy Carter, His Advisors, and the Making of American Foreign Policy (Cornell University Press, 2009). Betty was also editor or co-editor of The Psychological Dimensions of War, The Russian Transformation, and other books. In addition, she published dozens of articles, book chapters, and commentary. Her first book, Charles Evans Hughes, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Betty earned her BS degree magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Utah. She received her doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1962. Afterwards, she taught at Mt. Holyoke College and Brooklyn College and then taught for many years at the University of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign. She also served as a visiting professor at New York University during the years 1986–88. Betty was one of the first women to earn a Ph.D. in political science and then teach at a Ph.D.-granting institution. She served as the first woman