

questions and answers rather than his own. As a group, then, his students have never been associated with a common approach or sub-field. He was able to supervise dissertations across an extraordinary range, including the political psychology of mass movements, the Cultural Revolution, industrial management, political theory, village-level politics, and Republican-era (pre-1949) politics, to name just a few. Though he eschewed imprinting his own particular approach on his students' work, he nonetheless influenced each one profoundly. Many years after graduate school, I reread my notes from his classes in order to write a paper for a *festschrift* in honor of his retirement. Perhaps I should not have been surprised to realize that much of what I had by then come to think of as my own ideas had in fact come from him. What his students did come to share was his scholarly sensibility that connected appreciation and respect for Chinese developments on their own terms with the analytical perspective afforded by Western political science. He showed the way to ask the most momentous questions, to think independently about them, and let the political chips fall where they may, and not to shy away from the controversy they would necessarily entail. As a political scientist, he urged his students to elaborate the creative role that political leadership, ideas, and institutions could play in fostering dramatic, historic change.

He experienced such change in his own life. Tang Tsou was the son of Tsou Lu, a prominent Guomindang politician and party historian. He attended National Southwestern Associated University, a joint institution created by China's four leading universities when they were forced into exile during World War II. He came to graduate school at the University of Chicago in 1941, writing a dissertation under David Easton on the methodologies of Charles Merriam and Harold Lasswell and the evolution of American political science. He had planned to return to China with a specialty in American politics. But, by the time he graduated in 1951, such a plan was im-

practical. After a few years at the University of Utah, Tsou returned to Chicago when Hans Morgenthau selected him to join the Center for the Study of American Foreign Policy. He commenced a series of studies of China's external relations that so impressed the Chicago faculty that, in 1959, they offered him an assistant professorship. Their faith in him was well founded: In 1965 *America's Failure in China* won the Gordon J. Laing Prize from the University of Chicago Press as the best book written during the previous two years by a Chicago faculty member. He coedited a multivolume set of essays from a 1967 conference titled *China in Crisis*, and, in 1986, published *The Cultural Revolution and Post-Mao Reforms: A Historical Perspective*—an anthology of his own articles with revisions based on reflections since their original publication. From 1978 to 1980 he was principal investigator of the NEH Modern China Project, which focused on the evolution of local government institutions from 1850 onward. He edited the summary volume *The NEH Modern China Project, 1978–80: Political Leadership and Social Change at the Local Level in China from 1850 to the Present*. However, most of his extraordinary scholarly energy was devoted to writing long articles in which he attempted to grasp the essential dynamics of Chinese politics of the day. In 1986, by which time his work had become widely known in the burgeoning field of political science in China, he was named Honorary Professor at Beijing University, where he was staying on an extended research trip.

Professor Tsou retired from the Chicago faculty in 1988 as Homer J. Livingston Professor of Political Science. When his former graduate students, under the editorial leadership of Brantly Womack, put together a *festschrift* titled *Contemporary Chinese Politics in Historical Perspective* (Cambridge University Press, 1991), he demonstrated how he would spend his retirement years by turning what was intended as a brief afterword into the lengthy chapter on "The Tiananmen Tragedy" that still stands as the most incisive scholarly

account of that extraordinary crisis. At his retirement dinner, he announced that his only request for gifts from his colleagues and students was that each of them give him a list of their ten favorite books in any field of political science, which he was anxious to read. He planned a return to his graduate school fascination with American politics, but, of course, he could not part from his abiding commitment to study and write about the politics of his native country.

In 1997 he was named an Honorary Member of the Chinese Academy of Social Science. He was still conducting research and writing actively and avidly until his death on August 7, 1999. In the days immediately preceding, he was still demanding that his colleagues supply him with lists of their latest favorite books so he could make good use of the many precious hours he was spending undergoing kidney dialysis.

He was extremely devoted to his wife, Dr. Yi-chuang Lu, a professorial fellow in psychiatry at the University of Chicago. I saw him just a few short weeks before his death, when he invited my family and me to their home so we could help welcome her home from a stint in the hospital. On that day he said that all he wanted was two more years to live so he could complete his current project of fashioning an historical explanation of the differences between China and the former USSR in the 1990s. At the end of his life, he evinced the very same youthful energy and single-minded commitment to his work, and to his ideals of helping China to become a great, modern country, with which he had started his long and illustrious career half a century before.

Marc Blecher
Oberlin College

Peter R. Weitz

Peter Robertson Weitz, 55, a political scientist, consultant, and former official of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, died of brain cancer September 7, 1999.

Weitz was a Washington native and grew up in Turkey and Europe,

where his father was a United Nations official. He graduated from Brown University and received a master's degree in Middle Eastern studies from Harvard University. He did further graduate work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In addition to English, he spoke Turkish, Italian, German, and French.

In 1972, he went to work for the German Marshall Fund, an independent American foundation that was created that year by the West German government. Its purpose is to commemorate the U.S. Marshall Plan, the massive U.S. aid program that revived the economies of Western Europe after World War II. It supports public policy research, conferences, exchanges, and similar projects aimed at promoting better understanding between the United

States and Europe, with a particular focus on U.S.-German relations.

Weitz was its first program officer, and he played an important role in guiding its work. Over the years, it made grants to organizations such as The Brookings Institution, The Heritage Foundation, and National Public Radio. Since the collapse of communism in the early 1990s, it has undertaken a number of programs to promote democracy and the transition to market economies in Eastern and Central Europe.

In 1997, Weitz resigned to become deputy director of the Institute for International Economics, a think tank that the German Marshall Fund established in 1981. For the past year, he had been an independent consultant on international affairs and was engaged in projects in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Weitz, who lived in Washington, lectured at the Foreign Service Institute and the Government Finance Corporation. He was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Industrial Relations Research Association, and the National Economists Club.

He was a past president of the Board of Trustees of Georgetown Day School.

Survivors include his wife, Judith Humphreys Weitz of Washington; two children, Jessica Weitz of Marlboro, Vermont, and Thomas Weitz of New York City; his parents, Charles and Gretchen Weitz of Portland and Vinalhaven, Maine; and a sister, Barbara Weitz of Madison, Wisconsin.

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