

# In Memoriam

## Richard W. Cottam

Richard W. Cottam, 72, University Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh died on August 29, 1997 after a long and courageous struggle with cancer.

Cottam was born in Provo, Utah, and received his B.A. from the University of Utah in 1948 after service in the U.S. Navy. He then received his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1954, and, between 1953 and 1958, served in the U.S. Foreign Service and in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. He came to the University of Pittsburgh in 1958 where he taught until his retirement in 1991.

Dick Cottam was one of America's leading experts on the Middle East and one of the country's premier scholars of Iranian politics. His books, especially *Nationalism in Iran* and *Iran and the United States: A Cold War Case Study*, and several articles on Iran and U.S. policy demonstrated a scholarship that combined intimate knowledge of his subject with conceptual analysis based on political psychology and the identification of societal trends. Cottam was deeply interested in what made people tick, what they identified with, and with what consequences. His interests moved him both to scholarly observation of the world and a commitment to make U.S. policy toward it more rational and knowledgeable. He was convinced that too often U.S. policies were predicated upon stereotypical and simplistic understandings of the world and that the base assumptions behind these policies lay unexamined. He emphasized the need to constantly challenge the assumptions of foreign policy decisionmakers.

To bargain effectively required accurate perceptions of trends and levers in other societies. This concern was the basis of his book, *Competitive Interference and 20th Century Diplomacy*. Cottam explicitly rejected the notion, especially prevalent during the Cold War, that authoritarian

anticommunist leaders should be accommodated on their terms. Such a policy, he believed, was mindlessly short-term in its focus and ultimately disastrous in its consequences.

Cottam's central contribution to theoretical development in international relations came in 1977, when he published *Foreign Policy Motivation*. In this book, he proposed a perceptual framework now routinely referred to as Image Theory and examined the complex of motivations entering into foreign policy. He did not look at a country's international strategy solely in terms of perceptions, however, and included system dynamics in his broader approach to the study of strategy development and implementation and other political phenomena. One of his major final projects was a collaboration with Bahman Fozouni on a manuscript dealing with strategy formation in international politics.

Chief among Cottam's enduring interests were the patterns of behavior associated with nationalism. Throughout his career, beginning with his dissertation on nationalism in Iran, he examined the political psychology of nationalism, the power of nation states compared to multinational states, and patterns of political conflict related to identity dynamics. He had been working on a manuscript on this subject with his daughter, Martha Cottam, also a political scientist, which was completed just days before his death. The manuscript was, for Dick Cottam, a culmination of nearly fifty years of research on, analysis of, and theorizing about nationalism.

Cottam was committed to both theory and praxis. The ultimate test for any theory, he felt, was its policy relevance, and theory informed his position on major political events. He was very active in the anti-war movement during the Vietnam war, believing that our policy was deeply conceptually misguided and could only result in tragedy, which it did.

During the U.S. embassy hostage crisis in Iran, Dick was approached by the Carter administration to use his contacts in the Iranian government to try to resolve the crisis. Hamilton Jordan met surreptitiously with Cottam in Pittsburgh to try to figure out what the U.S. could do. With characteristic candor, Cottam told Jordan that the Carter administration inherited a flawed policy and continued it, whether or not the administration thought it was doing so.

To those who had the good fortune to be his student or his colleague or his friend, Dick was an extraordinarily charismatic person, although, characteristically, he would have been embarrassed by such a description. His teaching was legendary. It is doubtful if anyone had the capacity that Dick had to alter the way in which students viewed the world. He never provoked needlessly, but never shirked from provocation when it was necessary to stimulate thinking and reappraisal. Cottam received a distinguished teaching award from the University of Pittsburgh, and his commitment to his students, undergraduate, and graduate was unstinting. During the Iran hostage crisis when Dick was deeply enmeshed in intermediation and often spent sleepless nights because of the time difference with Tehran, he continued to meet his classes and his students, giving them his fullest commitment.

Dick never thought of the classroom or even his doctoral students' dissertations as the boundary of his teaching. He was constantly engaged in teaching and learning. He loved conversation, discussion, and argumentation. The more one challenged him, the greater the respect he reciprocated.

Richard Cottam was a presence in the life of anyone who came to know him well. Despite his enormous intellectual vitality, his love of life, and the impact he had on people's lives, he had a very old fashioned sense of dignity and integrity. He was inter-

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ested in advancing his ideas, not himself.

James Malloy, a former student, colleague, and friend of Richard Cottam's poignantly summed up his life and the meaning of his death:

He saw his life among us of the academy as a vocation to be measured by the standards of honor and integrity, not success and self advancement. He lived for his vocation and thereby kept faith with himself, generations of students, and the countless audiences he reached with his books and public speeches. He was a man of the academy and a public man. He loved the world. He sought to ease its pain and point toward the resolution of its tragic conflicts. He gave the best of his mind to his students; gave fully of his heart and spirit as well. In doing so he conveyed to his students, colleagues, and friends the compassionate respect that makes a life in common possible. He won our respect, our admiration, our love. He cannot be replaced.

Martha Cottam  
*Washington State University*

Richard K. Herrman  
*Ohio State University*

Bert A. Rockman  
*University of Pittsburgh*

### Francesco Kjellberg

It was with great surprise and deep sorrow that colleagues and friends of Francesco Kjellberg received the news of his death on October 5 of this year. Though it was well-known that Franco recently had confronted cancer, it was generally believed that he had overcome the worst of the illness. He was indeed proclaimed at the end of his treatment over a year ago to represent a highly successful example of how far medicine in the area had come. When it became clear earlier this year that the treatments had in fact not been completely successful, and that he had to begin with a completely new regimen, he chose to confront the situation largely on his own. He continued with his teaching and research, and participated to the full on all fronts at the IPSA World Congress in Seoul. Tough and brave man that he was, he kept the real state of his sickness to himself right up to the very last. He was admitted

to the hospital on a Friday afternoon, and passed away on Sunday evening.

Franco Kjellberg was among the youngest of an exceptional generation of Norwegian social scientists who distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally: Stein Rokkan, Wilhelm Aubert, Johan Galtung, Christian Bay—all equally at home with several disciplines, languages, and organizational affiliations. Though originally trained as a sociologist, with a highly creative and insightful doctorate on communal politics in Sardinia, he quickly established himself as Norway's leading political scientist within the area of local government. Having at an early age held all of the normal administrative positions in the Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, he was soon recruited to numerous national commissions and research bodies. He served the original Norwegian Research Council for Science and the Humanities (NAVF) in numerous capacities, and was chairman of several institutional boards, including the Norwegian Institute of Applied Social Research (INAS) and the Centre for Environment and Development at the University of Oslo (SUM). He was also Chair of the Governmental Commission on Income Policy in 1987–89, and served on several other high-level legislative and administrative commissions.

As head of the doctoral program in the Department of Political Science between 1981 and 1985, and through his own graduate seminar on municipal governance over the entire span of his teaching career, Franco Kjellberg exerted an enormous influence on several generations of researchers and public servants. No teacher of political science in Norway has counselled more graduate theses and dissertations than Franco, and his network of ex-students reads as a *Who's Who* in social research and public service. Like everything else in life, he took his responsibilities as teacher and graduate advisor very seriously, never cutting corners and never trying to shirk what he perceived as an essential function for the discipline. On the international scene, it was first and foremost IPSA that at-

tracted Franco's attention and that, over the years, received so much from him. Having been secretary of the Norwegian Political Science Association already in 1967, he continued for the rest of his life to devote a large part of his organizational and administrative talent to a profession he truly admired. His image of the discipline was thoroughly professional. With numerous contacts as visiting professor at leading political science institutions around the world, he brought to his work in IPSA an exceptional understanding of differing scientific cultures and standards. He was a bridge-builder and mediator *par excellence*, traits that not only characterised his period as secretary general of IPSA between 1988 and 1994, but which also coloured his growing involvement in the politics of divided societies. Having been born into a dual-culture family of Italian-Norwegian origin, Franco understood the tensions of cultural conflict at first hand and gradually developed his insights into a truly "internationalist" perspective.

In addition to his period as secretary general, Franco served IPSA in numerous other capacities. He was, for example, secretary of the research committee on the "Comparative Study of Local Government and Politics" between 1976–79, member of the executive committee between 1979 and 1985, and program chair of the XIII World Congress in Paris in 1985. During his period as secretary general, the organization made considerable strides both financially and organizationally. He was a demanding secretary general, both of himself and of others. But his standards were always those which he believed to be in the best interests of the discipline. His period as secretary general, with Lise Fog in assistance, will be remembered as one of professionalism and a focused attention on the internationalisation of IPSA. His contacts and efforts on behalf of third-world organizations and colleagues will be particularly remembered.

At his death, Franco was also a member of the executive committee of the International Social Science Council (ISSC), an office he took with the utmost seriousness and