

In Memoriam

Minton Goldman

Soon after I was first hired at Northeastern, my new colleague Professor Minton Goldman invited me into his brick-walled corner office on the third floor of Meserve Hall. He had a prodigious collection of books and stacked files, reflecting both his research on the Soviet Union and his punctilious attention to student papers. But research and teaching were not the main topics we would broach at that private, inaugural welcome. It was rather two personal bonds that we shared: I had now joined him as (I erroneously thought) the only other political science department member who was Jewish. But much more salient was membership in a much more arcane club: alumni of The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Minton did love to talk about his research and teaching about the Soviet Union. Only five years after he welcomed me to the department, however, the Berlin Wall fell; in short order, so did the Soviet Union. Like most non-specialists of the region, I embraced the presumed end of the Cold War and wondered

how Minton would retool his career, now that its main object was no more. But Minton was adamant that the erstwhile remnants of the Soviet Union were indeed critical to scholarship and US policy interests, and he never lost sight—as many of us woefully did—of the looming presence of the wounded Russian bear, lurking in the not-so-Post Cold War era.

With the war in Ukraine slogging on, and renewed fears of nuclear weaponry or accidents, the expertise of Minton Goldman will be sorely missed. Minton taught me all sorts of lessons, from the grand, Eurasian historical to the minuscule departmental administrative (document every service activity you perform). Most of all, he personified to me the teacher-scholar, for whom enlightening students about his chosen region of focus was more than a vocation: it was a mission, one which demanded at least as much of him as it did of them. That dedication, both to subject and to students, has made a life-long impression on he who still sees himself as Professor Goldman's junior colleague.

—William F.S. Miles, Northeastern University

William D. (Woody) Kay

It is with sadness that we share news that William D. (Woody) Kay died on January 28, 2023 from cancer at the age of 68. At the time of his passing, Woody was an associate professor of political science at Northeastern University, where he taught since 1987.

Woody earned his PhD at Indiana University in 1987. While formally a scholar of organizations, it is safe to say that Woody was intrigued most by innovation and creativity. His two books on the US space program—*Can Democracies Fly in Space?* (1995) and *Defining NASA: The Historical Debate Over the Agency's Mission* (2005)—his stint as a Fulbright scholar in Iceland to study its energy sector, his deep dives into the files of the US Patent Office, and his myriad other intellectual pursuits all had in common a desire to understand how organizations think, innovate, and create. That at his death he was working on a book on the politics of *Star Trek* pretty much sums up his intellectual reach—seeking to boldly go where no political scientist had gone before.

Woody loved the classroom, and was readying lectures

for the Spring semester when he made what became his last trip to the hospital. His teaching interests reflected his intellectual range: organizational theory and bureaucracy, science and technology policy, politics and the arts, politics and film. In recent years he was especially fascinated by how Americans through history portrayed their presidents in both high and popular culture, with insightful comparisons to socialist realism. His courses were peppered with examples from Italian opera, obscure Russian films, Marvel Comics, and, of course, *Star Trek* (all versions), and never tired of spending office hours with any student who shared any of these interests. And he was a font of (frequently awful) puns, regularly tried out on his always-game colleagues.

Most of all, Woody loved his wife and soulmate Jennifer Davis-Kay, daughter Melanie, and son Will, a tight-knit and rollicking family unit if there ever was one. He gave much to his family, friends, community, and Northeastern University. Our hallways seem empty without his glee.

—Christopher Bosso, Northeastern University

Robert Charles Smith

Robert Charles Smith, political science professor at San Francisco State University (SFSU), passed away on April 13, 2023. He is known for his scholarship on race and politics in the United States. Dr. Smith taught and wrote on race and American politics for more than thirty-five years, publishing a multitude of articles and books, including *Race, Class, and Cul-*

ture: A Study in Afro-American Mass Opinion and Leadership; The Impact of Ronald W. Walters on African American Thought and Leadership; and Polarization and the Presidency: From FDR to Barack Obama.

Dr. Smith completed his undergraduate work with honors at UC Berkeley, earning a master's degree from UCLA and a PhD from Howard University, which awarded him the Distinguished PhD Alumni Award in 1998. He was also an associate editor of the *National Political Science Review* and co-author of the

textbook *American Politics and the African American Quest for Universal Freedom* and the *Encyclopedia of African American Politics*. Alongside his academic contributions, Dr. Smith made frequent media appearances analyzing the racial dimensions of American politics.

Dr. Smith had an encyclopedic knowledge of US presidents. His abiding interest (but not his only one by a long shot) was how various administrations dealt with racial issues. One of his later contributions to the literature was a discussion of how US conservatism was inherently related to anti-Blackness. Dr. Smith was a beloved teacher in our department. He spoke softly, requiring students to pay close attention. They were rewarded with his brilliant insights and deep knowledge of American politics. Dr. Smith was one of our faculty with the greatest national

prominence. He brought a huge amount to our program; his colleagues and former students still miss him dearly. His passing is a great loss, not only for his family and the Department of Political Science but also for the discipline as a whole.

This post appears on *Political Science Now*, courtesy of Karima Scott, at <https://politicalsciencenow.com/remembering-renowned-political-science-professor-and-black-politics-scholar-dr-robert-c-smith/>. Read the entire obituary on the San Francisco State University website at <https://politicalscience.sfsu.edu/news/obituary-emeritus-professor-robert-c-smith>.

—San Francisco State University Department of Political Science

Raymond Tatalovich

Raymond Tatalovich was born in the steel-mill town of McKeesport, PA, fifteen miles southeast of Pittsburgh on the Monongahela River. As he was nearing graduation from McKeesport High School, his mother urged him to leave their hometown for college and never move back. Ray took her advice. He was granted financial assistance to attend Ohio University, which he later told undergraduate students were the happiest four years of his life. Much later he endowed the Raymond and Anne K. Tatalovich Scholarship exclusively for students with need and merit who desired to enter OU's Honors College.

From Ohio he accepted admission to the University of Chicago for graduate study in political science, on the advice of a Harvard-trained faculty member at OU who said that Chicago then was one of the three best departments in the country. Ray trained under Theodore J. Lowi, considered the leading light who effectively founded modern policy analysis. Ray was immensely proud of the University of Chicago, which would have a special place in his life. In 1969 he married his beloved wife of more than 50 years, Anne Katrine Recktenwald, in Bond Chapel; in 1971 he earned his doctorate in political science; and in 1980 he was cured of a deadly fibrosarcoma cancer thanks to an experimental protocol used at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

After some time in the teaching trenches, Ray was recruited by Loyola University Chicago. This meant that he and Anne were able to put down permanent roots in the northern suburbs, where Ray would take great pleasure in his beautiful home and gardens. His scholarly career had begun to flourish when he published the first empirical analysis of V.O. Key's "friends-and-neighbors" voting thesis in the *Journal of Politics* in 1975. A huge body of scholarship on that topic has been published here and abroad, and virtually every study begins by citing Ray's path-breaking research.

Ray is perhaps best known for his work on what became known as morality politics. *Moral Controversies in American Politics*, coedited with former Chicago classmate Byron W. (Bill) Daynes, was published in four editions. Ted Lowi contributed a foreword in which he acknowledged that his policy typology would not accommodate policy debates over contested

values rather than conflicting economic views. Again with Bill, Ray co-authored *The Politics of Abortion* (1981), perhaps the first case study of the quintessential morality policy. More recently he teamed with sociologist Mildred A. Schwartz to write *The Rise and Fall of Moral Conflicts in the United States and Canada* (2018). Ray had taken a class with Professor Schwartz at the University of Chicago and over the years they became good friends as well as coauthors. He and Anne loved spending time in Canada, and Ray became an avid student of Canadian politics. Another area of scholarly interest was the US presidency, which led to coauthored volumes on presidential power, the president and economic policy, and *The Presidency and Political Science* (second edition, coauthored with Steven Schier and with a foreword by Theodore J. Lowi, 2014). Over his professional career, Ray produced seventeen books or editions, more than 50 articles in refereed journals, and many dozens of book chapters, book reviews, and presentations at professional meetings.

In 2012 Ray was diagnosed with a second cancer, one his physicians traced back to the radiation treatments he had gone through thirty years earlier. For a while he lost his sense of taste, but more troubling was the impairment of his ability to swallow solid foods; still later, he lost the ability to speak. But Ray's mind remained alert and he reliably used email to stay in touch with friends and colleagues and collaborators worldwide, although he was dismayed to realize that he was outliving many of his closest friends in the field. After retiring from Loyola in 2017, he continued to publish in professional journals, often with his departmental colleague John Fren dreis, with whom he had a long-time collaborative relationship. In his last years he devoted attention to reviewing manuscripts and coauthoring articles with younger scholars. He drafted this obituary and sent it to his former editor a year ago (Ray never missed a deadline). He died on June 21, 2023, a week before his 80th birthday.

Raymond Tatalovich loved the field of political science and believed the life of the teacher-scholar to be one of the most intellectually enriching vocations on earth. His life and career are testimony to the truth of that belief.

—Raymond Tatalovich (submitted by Patricia A. Kolb)

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