

Dante Germino

We are sad to report the death of our former colleague Dante Germino, who was killed in a tragic accident in Amsterdam on May 25, 2002. Dante had a long and distinguished career as scholar and teacher. After receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1956, working with Carl Friedrich, he began to teach political theory at Wellesley. Although promoted to associate professor, with tenure, Dante left Wellesley in 1965 to teach at the University of the Philippines for the Rockefeller Foundation. In 1968 he accepted a professorship at the University of Virginia, where he stayed for 29 years, until his retirement in 1997. After retiring, Dante moved to Amsterdam, where he had some of his most productive years, teaching at the Universities of Amsterdam and Leiden, and at the University of Bangkok.

His many books include *The Italian Fascist Party in Power: A Study in Totalitarian Rule* (1959), *Beyond Ideology: The Revival of Political Theory* (1976), *Machiavelli to Marx: Modern Western Political Thought* (1979), *Political Philosophy and the Open Society* (1982), *The Inaugural Addresses of American Presidents* (1984), and *Antonio Gramsci: Architect of a New Politics* (1990). This is a remarkable list. Dante's erudition spanned the entire history of Western political theory, from ancient times to the present day, and encompassed Italian politics and American political rhetoric. Throughout his career, Dante received many awards, including a Z Society's Medallion for Distinguished Teaching at Virginia and a Guggenheim fellowship. In 1974, he chaired the political theory section for the American Political Science Association meeting.

A list of dates and accomplishments conveys little of Dante's essence. He had passionate convictions and was not shy about expressing them. This could make him a challenging colleague, but he was also a fiercely loyal friend. As a political theorist, Dante described himself as "interested in the recovery of political philosophy in its pre-modern range and depth." He resisted mainstream opinions, turned his back on the scientific study of politics, and maintained a lifelong interest in the political philosophy of Eric Voegelin, to the explication and extension of which he

devoted many of his works. Dante recently completed editing and writing a new introduction for Volume 16 of Voegelin's *Collected Works, Plato and Aristotle* (2000). He idolized the apparently disparate figures of Plato and Machiavelli, finding in the former symbolic expression of the ambiguities inherent in man's relationship to reality which he believed to lie at the heart of true political theory. Dante also cared deeply about social justice. At usually placid U.Va. he was a leader in university protests against the Vietnam war, and a lifelong combatant in the cause of civil rights, and later, gay rights. During the last few years, substantial portions of his teaching and research were addressed to the phenomenon of right-wing violence.

Dante taught political theory on three continents. His courses in the Philippines were some of his finest hours. He introduced Philippine students to Friedrich's constitutionalism and separation of powers. But more than that, by going back to Plato, Aristotle, Adams, and Jefferson, he helped them understand what sets the American political system apart. Many of the students he inspired went into journalism and government; an impressive group taught political science at the University of the Philippines and other universities in the Philippines and abroad. The course he cotaught with O. D. Corpuz, then Chairman of the Government Department at the University of the Philippines, was at that time the largest class in the University's history. Some 1,000 students enrolled in the course, which was held in the field house, otherwise used only for such events as graduation.

One of Dante's most enduring legacies at U.Va. is the program in Political and Social Thought, an interdisciplinary undergraduate major, of which he was founding director. He not only raised the money but recruited faculty from Philosophy, Religious Studies, History, Government and Foreign Affairs, and other departments to teach selected courses. Single-handedly he built a program that is thriving a quarter century later. But his concern for his students was seen most clearly in his highly personal, emotional style of teaching.

In "The Meaning of Ethical Neutrality," Max Weber classically expresses the position that the teacher has an obligation not to use the lecture platform as

a pulpit. This view Dante rejected. In teaching political theory, he used his subject matter as a vehicle to argue for his central values of freedom, tolerance, and the open society. He believed it was part of a teacher's role to challenge his students, to push them to see through society's dominant values. Not to present provocative arguments was to allow the status quo to prevail by default. Passionate advocacy made Dante a controversial teacher. While some students rejected his message and unusual style, others flocked to it. Throughout his career, he profoundly affected generations of students.

George Klosko
Kenneth W. Thompson
University of Virginia

Joseph Pois

Joseph Pois, professor, lawyer, consultant and civil servant, died of pneumonia on July 12, 2001, at the age of 95.

The youngest of eight children of Turkish immigrants Adolph and Augusta Pois, Joe was born on December 25, 1905, in New York City's Hell's Kitchen. Joe never lost his Bronx accent nor his sensitivity toward human suffering, attachment to social justice or quick wry New York wit. Raised as much by siblings as by his parents, Joe's lifelong zeal for learning was encouraged by a school-teacher sister and financed by a successful entrepreneur brother.

Joe's academic career began with a bachelor's degree and a Phi Beta Kappa key from the University of Wisconsin in 1926. In the course of the next three years he earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Chicago where he studied under Leonard White and Robert Merriam. Joe's principal and undying devotion was to the law. He earned a J.D. in 1934 from the Chicago/Kent School of Law and maintained his membership on the bar until his death...dutifully pursuing the requisite annual continuing education.

While in law school Joe began his career as a consultant, first with Chicago's J. L. Jacobs & Co. and then the Public Administration Service, under the direction of Donald C. Stone. In 1938 Stone brought Joe into the Roosevelt Administration. His first assignment was heading up the administrative studies section of the U.S.

Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance, now the Social Security Administration. Joe led the effort to automate the bureau's record-keeping system. From 1939 to 1942 he served with Stone in the U.S. Bureau of the Budget, where he headed up the section responsible for the federal reorganization efforts. One of the individuals impressed with Joe's work was the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral Russell Wasche, who recruited him in 1942 to serve as his top assistant. Joe left the service on Wasche's death in 1946 with rank of Captain.

Returning to Chicago, Joe resumed his consulting briefly with J. L. Jacobs until recruited in 1947 by the president of Signode Corporation, a steel strapping manufacturer, where he served ultimately as vice president of finance and board director until 1961. At Signode Joe took a leave of absence when recruited by Governor Adlai Stevenson to serve as his Director of Finance from 1951 to 1953. While in Chicago he served in a number of civic roles, most notably as member and president of the Chicago School Board, Immigration Service League and Chicago Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council.

Joe left Chicago, again at the behest of old friend Don Stone, to help the latter establish the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh. Joe served as chair of the public administration department from 1961 to 1971 and associate dean from 1973 to 1975. He was named professor emeritus in 1976 and continued to teach into his eighties.

In Pittsburgh, Joe continued to devote a large share of energies to public service as volunteer with a variety of local organizations, including board memberships on the Pittsburgh School Board, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, World Federalist Association and the Zionist Organization of America. He also served as consultant to the U.S. Departments of State and Defense, U.S. Senate, USAID, and USGAO.

Joe's academic interests were in public law, finance and accountability. His *Watchdog on the Potomac* is a definitive study of the U.S. General Accounting Office. He brought to the classroom his rich experience as well as a legendary intellectual rigor. His courses were considered among the toughest yet most rewarding in the school, and his lectures were a particular treat—for their content as well as their humor and urbane delivery.

He was fond of telling about a Ph.D. student of his who, facing a "do or die" deadline on his dissertation and

the circumstance of Joe's being ship-bound on a round-the-world voyage, saw to it that Joe was greeted at each port-of-call with serial chapters. The dissertation was completed in time and the grateful student joined a legion of others who continue to think of him as providing their most significant academic experience in their graduate programs.

Joe's wife Rose passed away in 1981. He is survived by his two sons, Robert Pois, a professor of history at the University of Colorado, and Marc Pois of Pittsburgh, as well as many nieces, nephews and grandchildren. Joe also leaves his close friend and companion, Eleanor Schoenberg of Pittsburgh, who as executrix of his estate, arranged for his two-thousand-volume library to be sent to the new American University of Bulgaria. The gift was inspired by Joe's Jewish heritage and interest in Judaica and the pride he had in Bulgaria's efforts during the holocaust of saving its Jewish citizens from Nazi death camps. Equally apposite, Joe's collection of the *American Political Science Review*, dating from 1927, was offered as a gift to any institution interested in having them. The two that responded were associated with Ukraine, his mother's birthplace, and Turkey, his father's. The collection now resides with Ukraine.

Ed Kiely

Frank L. Wilson

On November 2, 2001, Frank L. ("Lee") Wilson lost his long and valiant battle with heart disease. The hoped-for new lease on life from a heart transplant was not to be. His departure is not only a great loss to the Department of Political Science, but also to the School of Liberal Arts, the university, and, in a very real way, to the academic community. Lee was a dedicated teacher, an outstanding scholar, a first-rate administrator, and the kind of model citizen without which no good university can ultimately function. For me personally, his passing means not only the loss of a colleague and coauthor whom I greatly respected and admired, but, above all, the loss of a close friend.

Lee completed his Ph.D. degree at UCLA in 1969. He was appointed lecturer at UCLA and visiting assistant professor at California State College, Long Beach, in 1969–70. Our paths first crossed at Iowa State University, where Lee accepted an appointment as assistant professor in 1970. A year later,

both of us joined the faculty at Purdue University. In 1983 Lee was promoted to full professor and from 1988 to 2000 he served as department head. Other academic appointments included a visiting associate professorship and two visiting professorships at UCLA (summers 1981, 1984, 1986), Brigham Young University (winter–spring 1986), and Université Robert Schuman, Strasbourg (1996). During the spring of 1993, he was a visiting scholar at the Center for European Studies, Harvard University.

Lee Wilson's contributions to scholarship were recognized both within and outside Purdue University. He was the recipient of a number of intramural grants, including five research and international travel grants, a fellowship from the Center for Humanistic Studies, and a Purdue University Global Studies Grant. Extramural grants included a Fulbright-Hays Teaching Fellowship in France, an American Philosophical Society Fellowship, and a Spencer Foundation Grant. While serving as department head, Lee also received a three-year award for staff expansion from the Japan Foundation Institutional Support Program and a curriculum development grant from the European Studies Association.

Although Lee's primary scholarly interest was French politics, the range of his scholarship also included European and general comparative politics. He was equally at home in writing for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty colleagues. Active in the profession, he served in a number of capacities in APSA, the Educational Testing Service, and the College Board Test Development and Curriculum Committee for Advanced Placement in Government and Politics. His record includes numerous teaching publications and many years of service as a faculty fellow, a schoolwide excellence in teaching award, and the Frederick L. Hovde Award as Outstanding Faculty Fellow. However, Lee Wilson was also a very productive scholar: the author, coauthor, or editor of a dozen books, 18 book chapters, and 25 articles in some of the best journals of our discipline. Even when he was department head and already seriously ill, Lee never ceased to be a scholar. An article on "Failure to Reform: The French Communist Party" was scheduled to be published in November 2001 in *German Policy Studies*, and a few days after his death a copy of the second edition of his book *Concepts and Issues in Comparative Politics* arrived in the departmental mail. Clearly, Lee's contribution to scholarship, teaching and service in the academic community was not only outstanding in terms of its quantity, but

also because of its multifaceted nature and unusual balance. His commitment to increasing the diversity of the students, faculty, and administrators at Purdue University was second to none. It was under his leadership that our department won the President's Affirmative Action Award in 1991.

Last, but not least, Lee Wilson was an admirable human being—humane, tolerant, remarkably patient even at times of great stress, a person of integrity. Ever intellectually curious, he subjected himself to a rare degree of

discipline and organization. Nevertheless, he also had a keen appreciation of the finer things in life. He loved theater, music, the arts, and good food. If he was very demanding and had extremely high standards, he never subjected anyone to standards he himself was not prepared to meet or exceed. When I think of Lee, I think of someone who was highly dedicated to his profession, but at the same time unselfish and eminently fair in dealing with students and his colleagues. He was the kind of person and friend to whom I would have

entrusted my family and earthly belongings without hesitation. In 1860 Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "In failing circumstances no man can be relied on to keep his integrity." Supported by a loving wife and family, and sustained by his deep personal faith, Lee Wilson proved Emerson wrong. His life and his determined struggle to overcome the odds he faced serve as a lasting inspiration to all who knew him.

Rolf H.W. Theen
Purdue University