

Theory and Research on the Causes of War (1969, with Dean Pruitt).

His early Princeton monograph, *Decision-Making as an Approach to the Study of International Politics* (1954, with H.W. Bruck and B.M. Sapin), was reprinted and expanded with criticisms in *Foreign Policy Decision-Making* (1962). It stands as a classic and pioneering example of analytical creativity relevant across a wide spectrum of disciplinary concerns. For Snyder, the heart of politics is the making of human decisions that are embedded in cultural, social, and organizational settings. The hope of humanity lies in improving decision processes. He practiced his own theories of effective decision-making in both personal and professional roles.

Although a leader in the postwar "revolution" to strengthen the scientific foundations of political science, he did not conceive the goal of professional training to be to prepare "value-free" political scientists. In his view, "values can serve as searchlights to spot problems that others without such values cannot see." His own values favored maximum individual autonomy within the context of shared and reciprocal interpersonal responsibilities. He almost always preferred persuasion to coercion.

Dick was a master teacher, supportively evoking creativity in students at every level, welcoming them in first-name relationships and treating them as "junior colleagues." Prolonged conversations often tapped hidden reservoirs of talents and energies. These resulted in lifelong collegiality marked by mutual respect and affection. Yet he did not form a "school," and in fact directed few doctoral dissertations. His goal was not to create disciples but to educate individuals for independent innovation. He labored long over letters of recommendation to make them uniquely descriptive of the special talents of the person introduced. He remained equally dedicated to providing detailed, written comments on the ideas and draft work of friends and colleagues, always with emphasis on the means for further positive development.

He affirmed disciplinary and interdisciplinary cooperation. The jour-

nals with which he was intermittently associated—*Public Opinion Quarterly*, *World Politics*, and *Conflict Resolution*—championed such cooperation. No scholar is omniscient and everyone need not be a genius. We can advance by "standing on each others' shoulders" and by mutual support of different interests toward overlapping goals. His ability, after silent note-taking in collegial discussions, to identify integrative common concerns that other participants may have overlooked was a rare constructive gift that fellow conferees came to expect at the end of every conference.

Believing that the difficult problems confronting political science require openness to all relevant insights, he pioneered at Northwestern in creating joint appointments with anthropology, psychology, sociology, and law, and recognized the need for one in economics. He came to envision an entire university as a cooperative intellectual enterprise, which he modeled by typically publishing papers and books with coauthors. He sought especially to improve relationships between the social sciences and professional schools, such as education. He had a long-standing interest in improvement of precollegiate political science or civic education.

While supportive of diversity and almost totally devoid of provincial cultural, class, or interest biases, he constantly sought to identify core foundations of shared knowledge that could facilitate community and subsequent specialized innovations. This led, at Northwestern, to an introductory four-course graduate curriculum followed by field specialization, mastery of at least one research method, and a required seminar outside political science. At the University of California, Irvine, it led to pursuit of a common core curriculum in organizational decision-making that could undergird specialized study in the fields of business, education, and public administration. At Ohio State, Mershon, it led to the innovative National Program in Educational Leadership, the rare Program on Civic Education, the vision of cities as major international actors, the collection and use of systematic social science data, and the

diffusion of Harold Lasswell's idea of the decision seminar.

Thereafter, from his home in Scottsdale, he reached out across the frontiers of knowledge as an independent scholar, continuing his extraordinary interdisciplinary readings and extensive note-keeping in the natural sciences, biological sciences, social sciences, religion, humanities, and professions. He continued to serve as creative consultant to private and public projects for the common good, especially in the field of education. Through correspondence (often in long hand), extended telephone conversations, and personal visits, he maintained exchanges of inspiration and ideas with colleagues and former students reaching back over half a century. He remained a persuasive proponent of other people's work to various funding agencies and a generous and confiding friend to colleagues and their families. In every contribution to others during fifty-five years, he benefitted from the partnership of his devoted wife, Marjorie.

Dick Snyder is gone but his legacy of commitment to science, collegiality, and service will endure. For as the Trustees of Ohio State affirmed in their memorial resolution, "Those who considered him their mentor until his death are legion."

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Ronald M. Stout

Ronald M. Stout, professor emeritus of political science at the State University of New York, Albany, died on February 1, 1998

Born in Indiana, Pennsylvania, he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph. D. degrees from Syracuse University, served in the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Corps from 1941 to 1946, and remained in the Army Reserve, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1979.

He served as an instructor at Syracuse University from 1946 to 1948 when he was appointed an assistant professor at Colgate University. He became a professor at Colgate in

1959. He also served as the coordinator of the New York State Public Administration Program from 1956 to 1958, research associate of the New York State Commission to Revise the Social Welfare Law, and research associate of the State Joint Legislative Committee on Metropolitan Areas in 1959–60.

In 1962, he became a professor of political science in the Graduate School of Public Affairs of the State University of New York and subsequently was elected chairman of the faculty. The Graduate School, organized on the basis of faculty membership in two of three program areas, subsequently was merged with the State University of New York, Albany. He became the first chairman of the newly organized depart-

ment of political science following the merger. Retiring in 1984, Stout continued to offer a seminar on administrative law until the early 1990s and served on Ph. D. dissertation advisory committees at the time of his death. His colleagues honored him by designating the premier graduate award the Ronald M Stout Fellowship.

A specialist in public law and state and local government, he published *The New York Farm Labor Camps: 1940-1946* in 1953, *The Broome County Airport Cases* in 1961, *Local Government In-Service Training* in 1968, and *Administrative Law in Ireland* in 1985. The latter is the standard reference work on the subject.

A dedicated teacher, Stout was admired by both undergraduate and

graduate students. He carefully critiqued their papers, essays, and dissertations by writing detailed, constructive comments to improve the methodology, organization, and substantive content of the writings. Upon request, he always was willing to review and offer constructive comments on the drafts written by colleagues. He treated everyone—students, faculty, colleagues, staff with kindness, dignity, and respect. Ronald M. Stout epitomized the values associated with being a scholar and a gentleman. His passing leaves a great void in the Graduate School of Public Affairs.

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