

democratic year 1993-94 at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

## In Memoriam

### Douglas E. Ashford

Douglas E. Ashford, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Comparative Politics, died June 20, 1993 at the age of 64. Professor Ashford received his Ph.D. from Princeton in 1960 and joined the political science department at the University of Pittsburgh in 1982 after having taught previously at Indiana University and Cornell University. Professor Ashford also had an appointment in the department of history at the University of Pittsburgh and had held visiting positions at several British and French universities. Among his numerous academic honors Douglas Ashford was a Rhodes Scholar, a Guggenheim Fellow, Fellow of the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies, Simon Visiting Professor at the University of Manchester, and Fellow of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Bielefeld.

Survivors include his wife, Karen Knudson Ashford; five children, Elizabeth A. Ashford-Stinson of Ithaca, N.Y., Douglas E. Jr., of New York City, David S. of Cambridge, Mass., Michael A. of Washington, D.C., and Matthew K. at home; and four grandchildren.

Douglas Ashford was an extremely prolific scholar with a wide range of interests, although his work was unified through his interest in comparative politics and public policy. His initial scholarly publications were in the politics of North Africa, especially Morocco and Tunisia. He also was actively concerned with local government and its role in contemporary democracies. In addition to his own scholarly contributions in local government, Professor Ashford was active in organizing and editing research in this field. He organized and also contributed two volumes in a major series on the comparative public policy of advanced democracies. Throughout his work he established himself as a major commentator on the politics of France and

the United Kingdom. Most of his research during the last years of his life was concerned with policy history, and particularly the development of the welfare state in Britain, France and Sweden. One major book on the development of the welfare state already has been published and a second will be published soon. Through that research he developed a deep interest in social theory and methodological alternative to those currently employed in the social sciences. He was widely read and always wanted to share his knowledge, and love of knowledge, with colleagues and students.

While at Cornell University, Ashford teamed with Peter J. Katzenstein and T. J. Pempel in teaching a year-long graduate seminar on comparative public policy that led eventually to the Temple University Press series on "Policy and Politics in Industrial Societies." The seminar was particularly popular with graduate students, not only for its broad-ranging contents, but for the diversity of academic and personal approaches of the three professors. Katzenstein's predilection for parsimonious tables regularly confronted Ashford's oddly out-of-place vignette; any temptation by Pempel to discover uniqueness in seemingly bizarre Japanese experiences would invariably find Ashford countering with some readily comparable example from the Netherlands or Vichy France. Moreover, any efforts by the first two to start and finish the seminar on time ran head first into Ashford's unwillingness even to wear a watch.

One of Ashford's greatest academic strengths was his commitment to primary sources. Excessively glib colleagues often found their boldly asserted, but undocumented speculations, unraveling quickly in the face of Ashford's ability to recite chapter and verse of British Parliamentary records from the late nineteenth century or to summarize the "real" motivations of inter-war French policymakers as revealed in their unpublished diaries. Yet his knowledge was never brandished as a tool of his ego; rather, it reflected always his search for academic truth and deeper understanding. As a result of his orientation he was quick to estab-

lish friendships with like-minded scholars across the boundaries of department, age, and nation.

Ashford's diversity was perhaps best demonstrated during 1971-72 when he bought an old upstate New York barn, tore it down, and used the beams and siding to design and build a marvelous contemporary home in the woods outside of Ithaca. He thought nothing of doing all the carpentry, plumbing and wiring himself, and seemed genuinely puzzled when other academics seemed amazed at his disparate talents. The home became a welcome gathering spot for faculty and graduate students from Cornell for the following ten years until he left for Pittsburgh. After moving to Pittsburgh Ashford again displayed his diversity by building a cabin deep in the Pennsylvania mountains. He seemed equally at home on the streets of Paris and in a cabin by a stream in the mountains.

During the last three years of his life Douglas Ashford faced two major surgeries and subsequent treatments with great courage, optimism, and a remarkably positive attitude. He continued to write and to plan his future research projects, including plans for a sabbatical in 1994 and a faculty seminar on nationalism. He was a man of strong opinions who was willing to take unpopular stands if he believed they were right. All this he did with a deep and sincere commitment to free inquiry and the importance of our intellectual pursuits.

T. J. Pempel  
*University of Wisconsin-Madison*

B. Guy Peters  
*University of Pittsburgh*

### Erika S. Fairchild

Erika S. Fairchild died unexpectedly following a brief illness on November 25, 1992 in her home in Raleigh, North Carolina. She was professor of political science and public administration at North Carolina State University (NCSU) and in recent years served as the associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Fairchild was born in New York

City on July 14, 1931. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Hunter College in 1953, where she was a New York State Regents Scholar and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She received an M.A. in political science from Yale University in 1955. From 1955 to 1960 she worked as a financial management analyst in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, before devoting eight years to mothering her three children, David, Laura, and Karen, who survive her. (Her husband died in a fishing accident in 1976.)

In 1968 Fairchild resumed her studies at the University of Washington, completing a Ph.D. in political science in 1974 with a dissertation entitled "Crime and Politics: A Study in Three Prisons." She taught at Meredith College, a small Baptist women's school in Raleigh, from 1972 to 1976 before joining the polit-

ical science faculty at NCSU for the remainder of her career.

At NCSU Fairchild taught courses in American government and criminal justice systems. Her favorite course was an advanced seminar on comparative justice systems, which coincided with her principal research interest. She also served her department successively as director of the Criminal Justice Concentration, director of the Master of Public Affairs Program, and assistant head and director of the Political Science Program, before becoming associate dean in 1991. She was a very active participant in university affairs, in particular on matters of curriculum reform.

Fairchild was nationally recognized for her research on comparative criminal justice systems. She studied the German police system intensively, spending research leaves in 1982 and

1987 in Germany where she sifted through historical documents at libraries in Tuebingen, Freiburg, and Stuttgart and interviewed police officers and administrators at the Police Leadership Academy in Muenster-Hiltrup.

Her research on the German police led to a book entitled *Comparative Criminal Justice Systems* (Brooks/Cole, 1988), for which she received her university's Distinguished Research Award in the Social Sciences in 1988. A text entitled *Comparative Criminal Justice Systems* (Wadsworth, 1993) was published shortly after her death. She also published numerous articles and co-edited a book with Vincent J. Webb entitled *The Politics of Crime and Criminal Justice* (Sage, 1985).

Fairchild was one of the rare individuals in university life who was not only highly accomplished in teaching,

## In Memoriam



AARON WILDAVSKY

1930–1993

*Board Member, Author, Friend*

Institute for Contemporary Studies

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research, and administration, but also universally liked and respected, and indeed loved, by the many colleagues and students who encountered her. Her colleague Abraham Holtzman described her in his eulogy as “a modest person, someone who respected others and was never pompous or presumptuous, a person blessed with a warm personality, a ready laugh and a smile. She was a sharing and giving person. Her house was always open to faculty and students. In the language of my parents—something now part of the English language, Erika was a ‘*mensch*’ in the full sense of the word.”

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences at NCSU is establishing a research symposium series in Fairchild’s memory. Her department is remembering her commitment to student excellence with an award to the student writing the best senior seminar paper each year, with a cash prize supported by a contribution from her children.

Marvin S. Soroos  
North Carolina State University

## J. Gus Liebenow

J. Gus Liebenow was born in Berwyn, Illinois. In a career of more than 40 years, he established a reputation as one of the leading authorities on African societies and politics and was a driving force in the evolution and establishment of the field of African studies in the United States.

Even before completing his Ph.D. at Northwestern University, Gus had begun his understanding of foreign cultures through service in the U.S. Army medical corps in World War II, both in Western Europe and the Philippines between 1943-46, and later in a project for basic education and rural development sponsored by UNESCO and the American Friends Service Committee in Mexico. After World War II he returned to Illinois and graduated with highest honors from the University of Illinois with a bachelor’s degree in 1949 and a master’s in 1950. He was a Goodwin Fellow from 1951-52 at Harvard University and returned to the Midwest

to earn his Ph.D. in political science at Northwestern University in 1955. He taught for two years at the University of Texas, before joining the Department of Government faculty at Indiana University in 1958. He founded the African Studies Program in 1961 and directed the program for its first 11 years.

Gus played a formative role in the careers of generations of graduate students who have subsequently distinguished themselves as teachers, scholars and politicians. His students remain grateful to him for going the extra mile, both intellectually and in his personal support for them. Gus also helped to recruit a distinguished Africanist faculty at IU representing more than a dozen academic disciplines. He served as dean for research and advanced studies from 1970-72 and was vice president and dean for academic affairs on the Bloomington campus from 1972-74. In all of his administrative duties and obligations, Gus exhibited great vision and integrity. Indeed, his colleagues in administration frequently noted that even as vice president and dean he was a great teacher. Many young administrators credit their success to the example he set. After leaving the university administration, Gus served as head of both the I.U. Bloomington Faculty Council and the university system-wide Council in 1976-77. He was also president of the I.U. chapter of the American Association of University Professors in 1979-80.

Gus was a prolific writer on African politics, education, history, agriculture and urbanization since 1952. In 1956 his article concerning Africa in the *American Political Science Review* was only the second concerning Africa to appear in the prestigious journal. From then onwards he was an active contributor to scholarship. As an innovative scholar in the development of political theory related to the continent, Gus made lasting contributions to both political science and African studies with such works as *Liberia: The Evolution of Privilege* (Cornell University Press, 1969); *Colonial Rule and Political Development in Tanzania: The Case of the Makonde* (Northwestern University Press, 1971), which was published on three continents; and two

award-winning books published by Indiana University Press, *African Politics: Crises and Challenges* (1986), and *Liberia: The Quest for Democracy* (1987).

Through his writings, speeches and teaching Gus shaped the way decision makers, academics and world leaders looked at Africa; his influence was far-reaching. Gus lectured throughout the United States for the University Field Staff International. He also testified as an expert on Liberia before several U.S. Senate and House of Representatives committees. In writing about Gus Liebenow in 1982, Amos Sawyer, then dean of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities of the University of Liberia and currently interim president of Liberia, wrote that Gus was always “lucid, interesting, and profound in his analysis.” In 1987 he was named Rudy Professor of Political Science at Indiana University in recognition of his local, national and international contributions.

He was a founding member of the African Studies Association, and served as president during 1977 and 1978. This was a most difficult time in the organization’s history, when it needed the courageous and innovative leadership that he provided. He also served on the African Advisory Committee of the U.S. Department of State and was a member of the executive council of the International African Institute in London.

After his retirement in 1990, Gus was selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Liberian Studies Association. It was the first such award in the 23-year history of the association, which includes several hundred scholars and others from the United States, West Africa, Europe and Asia. Gus dedicated his life to Africa, to scholarship, and to those values that make universities centers of civility and exciting venues for the free exchange of ideas.

Survivors include his wife Beverly (Bellis) Liebenow; two daughters, Diane Liebenow Gray of Chicago, Ill., and Debra Liebenow Daly of Tampa, Fla.; two sons, Jay Stanton Liebenow of Washington, D.C., and John Stuart Liebenow of Columbus, Ind.; two sisters, Miki Montgomery and Gladys Sturnfield, and one