

books on European Community decision making (1994), on political representation (1999), and on the influence of political leaders on election outcomes (2002), as well as the article on “thwarted voters” in the U.S., France, and Russia (2003).

The gradual convergence between American and comparative politics in the profession was advanced by Pierce’s work and is illustrated by his career. As a young scholar, Pierce’s first order of business was to gain a profound knowledge of the language and culture of the French society whose politics was the subject of his doctoral dissertation. He knew the value of trained observation and description. Since his subject was the relatively unfamiliar politics of France, that was a particularly important aspect of his enterprise. Furthermore, Pierce became convinced of the connection between theory and empirical research, regarding theory in its broadest sense as political philosophy, contemporary political thought, as well as epistemology. He found in theory a source of research questions, methods for answer-

ing them, and a guide to the interpretation of research observations. He never let methodological considerations in the sense of research techniques guide his substantive interests, but in the course of his career he became a sensitive methodologist. Finally, he was unusually imaginative in dealing with problems of cross-national equivalence, recognizing that identity in the names of things does not assure the equivalence of the concepts they connote. That is undoubtedly the most challenging aspect of engaging in multiple levels of analysis without which comparative research is impossible.

Pierce was a quintessential scholar, undistracted by the non-scholarly temptations of the academy. His work exemplifies tough standards for sound comparative research: politics must be understood in the context of the civilization that produced it, research must proceed from deep observation and description, the interpretation of empirical data requires knowledge of theory broadly conceived, and conceptual equivalence cannot be taken for granted when systems themselves are variables. The broad range of

scholarly skills that Pierce developed was always rare and is ever less likely to be found in single scholars in the future. Major comparative research increasingly requires broader collaboration and a more complicated research infrastructure than existed when Pierce entered the profession. That is why Pierce’s accomplishments deserve such special attention. For it was his own remarkable versatility and his own persistent dedication to the craft of comparative research that made it possible for him to make an absolutely distinctive contribution to the reintegration of comparative politics within political science. He made that contribution in the most admirable and most durable manner, not by prescription but by singular example.

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Jack C. Plano

Jack C. Plano, professor emeritus of political science at Western Michigan University, the best known academic political lexicographer in the United States, died on November 21, 2002 from complications of Parkinson’s disease. He was born in Merrill, Wisconsin on November 25, 1921 and died four days short of his 81st birthday.

Plano received business training at Merrill Commercial College in 1940, and worked at the Rock Island Arsenal in 1941–1942, assigning and shipping armaments to U.S. forces in different zones. He joined the U.S. army in 1942 and was assigned to the Corps of

Engineers. During the war, he served in the European Theater of Operations and participated in the Normandy and Northern France campaigns. Following his discharge, he attended Ripon College, where he was granted a B.A. in 1949, and the University of Wisconsin, where he received an M.A. in 1950 and a Ph.D. in 1954, majoring in international relations.

He came to Western Michigan University in 1952, where he served with distinction for 35 years in a variety of positions. He was chair of the political science department from 1979 to 1984. He taught international relations, international organization, and American foreign policy courses at the undergraduate

and graduate levels. He was also deeply involved in the American government area of the department. In that connection, in 1962 he designed a new type of encyclopedia-dictionary, *The American Political Dictionary*, which was widely adopted as a supplemental text for basic courses in American government. Entries in the dictionary were organized in topical chapters similar to texts, beginning with a tightly constructed definition paragraph and followed by a paragraph, labeled “significance,” that laid out the importance of the term. At Plano’s passing in 2002, this book was in its 11th edition and still the basic supplemental text in American government.

As a consequence of the success of his first dictionary, written with a co-author, Plano launched a series of political dictionaries with colleagues. In 1980, he was chosen as series editor for the ABC-Clio Dictionaries in Political Science. This series was published in 23 volumes, six of which Plano wrote with co-authors. His volumes included topics on international relations, political science, political analysis, Latin America, and Soviet and East European government and politics.

A specialist in international relations and organization, Plano published a number of monographs in this field, including *The United Nations and the India-Pakistan Dispute*, 1966, and with co-authors, *Forging World Order: The Politics of International Organization*, 2nd ed., 1971, and *The United Nations: International Organization and World Politics*, 3rd ed., 2000, a standard text in the field. In 1974, he founded the New Issues Press of Western Michigan University, and served as its editor until he retired. In this role, he edited and supervised the publication of 15 books and monographs, which included studies in the fields of politics, economics, public policy, and black history.

His writing was always marked by clarity and exactness. As author, editor, and teacher, he encouraged others to follow the principle that governed his writing and editing: "Precision in the use of language is the primary scientific tool of every intellectual discipline." He was generous with his time and talent, mentoring students, helping younger faculty break into the publishing world, and collaborating with colleagues in publishing professional books.

In 1971–1972, he was invited to the University of Sussex, England, to lecture and do research. He presented papers on sea pollution and seabed problems at the Institute for the Study of International Organisation and at other sites. He also helped organize and participated in conferences on NATO, and the Final Preparatory Conference for the U. N. Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, Sweden. He received a number of awards over his career, including Phi Beta Kappa at Ripon College, and shared with a co-author the Hubert Herring Award for Best Reference Book on Latin America in 1981. In 1997, Western Michigan University chose him as the first recipient of the Outstanding Emeritus Scholar Award.

In retirement, Plano published a three-volume set of memoirs: *Fishhooks*,

Apples, and Outhouses (growing up in Wisconsin and military experiences); *Life in the Educational Trenches* (memories of college and university days), and *Pulling the Weeds and Watering the Flowers* (professional life and retirement). Believing that people from all walks of life had interesting lives, he gave talks and instructions to inspire other retired persons to write their memoirs.

Jack Plano was a lover of music and the outdoors; he was an avid tennis player and won tournaments for his age group until Parkinson's disease curtailed his eyesight and coordination. He had a keen sense of humor and was addicted to story telling, and his friends appreciated his wit, jokes, and satiric observations.

He is survived by his wife, Ellen, his companion for almost 50 years, and three children. At Western Michigan University, the Jack C. Plano Common Room was named in his honor, and a bench and plaque memorial has been established on campus near a pond which he loved. Jack Plano lived a full life, as scholar, educator, author, editor, and family man. His death saddened his family, friends, and colleagues, all who looked to him for professional leadership and convivial companionship.

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David Bicknell Truman

David B. Truman, a notable student of politics and past president of the American Political Science Association (1964–1965), died on August 28, 2003, some three months after his 90th birthday, at his retirement home in Sarasota, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Elinor, and by his son, Edwin M., an economist whose career up to now has been mainly at the Federal Reserve and the Treasury.

David Truman, an Amherst alumnus with a Chicago doctorate, first taught at Bennington College and briefly at Cornell shortly before World War II, taking leave for war service in Washington, initially as a civilian, then as a Naval officer assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After the war, he taught successively at Harvard and at Williams before settling down at Columbia University in New York. At almost the same time, he published his most important book, *The Governmental Process* (1951), which alone would have sufficed to make him significant

in political science. During the following 19 years in New York, he accomplished three other achievements to bolster his importance in and to the field. First, he taught both undergraduates and graduate students with signal success. Secondly, he helped immensely in building the Department of Public Law and Government (now Political Science). In those years, the department became a leader in the discipline, and also a most congenial place to work, almost uniquely so, due in good part to David's own judiciousness and steadiness. And third, through assiduous, wholly unpublicized work on key committees of the Social Science Research Council, Truman contributed a great deal toward the progress of the discipline in public opinion and congressional studies. From that he took great satisfaction. His last book, *The Congressional Party* (1959) was an offshoot of those efforts.

David also contributed to the University around him. Along with his professorship, he served successively as chair of the department, dean of Columbia College and vice president and provost of the University at large. During those years, David thought long and hard about the future of Columbia, and he was within a year of succeeding to its presidency, putting his plans to work, when the events of 1968 overtook the place. Student radicals seized buildings and refused to leave without a total amnesty for everything, not least substantial damage. Twice the police had to be called to evict them. Angers erupted. The faculty split. Truman, as provost, had to make most of the hard decisions and to execute them all. In the aftermath, the University's trustees concluded that they could not make him president. So he shortly left Columbia and the next year assumed the presidency of Mt. Holyoke College. There for almost a decade he showed his talent as an academic administrator and fundraiser.

During Truman's years at Mt. Holyoke, the college accomplished affirmative action, greatly increasing its proportion of minority students, and also made the crucial choice to remain a women's college, a decision which has stood it in good stead. At the close of his term, it returned to having a woman president, after three men, and Truman, to his satisfaction, was the last male head of the college until now.

At Columbia, where I taught for a decade, David and I became the best of friends. He and his wife, Ellie, helped us find the ideal place to live, on Riverside Drive, one floor above them.