

retiring in December 2003 from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service.

Throughout his career, Paul was a tireless fighter for civil and human rights, helping lead the integration of the beaches in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and serving as a leader in the voting rights movement in Tuskegee, Alabama. In 1970, he and his family single-handedly integrated the Killearn Estates neighborhood of Tallahassee. Paul was a long-term member of the APSA; published widely in the areas of political science, civil rights, and minority health; and was a passionate and dynamic presence in the classroom, where he taught African American studies, political science, and government.

He is survived by his wife, Leah Wilson Puryear of Charlottesville; two sons, Paul Lionel (and Brenda) Puryear, Jr., of Fairfield, Connecticut, and Eugene Wilson Puryear of Charlottesville, VA; one daughter, Paula Puryear (and Eric) Martin of Los Angeles, California; one stepdaughter, Alysha Corbin of Lorton, Virginia; two nephews, Thomas Puryear and David Puryear; and three grandchildren. He leaves behind a host of other family members and friends.

Paula Puryear Martin

When I arrived at the University of Virginia, Paul was a colleague in the department of political science, but also a colleague of my husband, Paul Jacobson, in the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. He was so kind and gracious to the both of us, which was especially touching given his prominence in political science and the race and politics field. Many people will remember him for his service as Dean of African American Affairs at UVA and before that as vice chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, positions that he pioneered and in which he contributed immensely to both institutions. I will also remember him for his scholarship. In 1982, he and his co-authors Michael B. Preston and Lenneal J. Henderson, Jr., published a groundbreaking book, *The New Black Politics: The Search for Political Power*. This book contributed immensely to our knowledge of the emerging field of black politics, now more widely referred to as race and politics.

The book had four basic themes: (1) black politics is still the “politics of uncertainty,” (2) political organization and resources are key variables for successful black political outcomes, (3) black politi-

cal behavior does not necessarily represent a monolithic quality, and (4) more work is needed in order to develop a more robust theoretical approach to black politics. Paul was one of the scholars that contributed to the foundational work in the field of black politics/race and politics, and he was prescient in his vision of what was needed for the successful incorporation of blacks into the American political system. His second tenet—political organization and resources are key for successful black political outcomes—is exactly what we saw in the 2008 presidential campaign, when President Barack Obama was able to do exactly what Paul said needed to be done.

The discipline of political science has lost a scholarly giant, a gracious individual, and a very good friend.

Paula D. McClain
Duke University

I met Paul and Leah Puryear in 1985. I moved here from Atlanta, Georgia, and became the community relations coordinator for the Charlottesville Public Schools. The late Armstead Robinson told me that Paul was a brilliant, intriguing man who was married to an equally brilliant, warm, and loving wife. Little did I know at the time the crucial role that Leah and Paul Puryear would play in the cataclysmic change awaiting me in Charlottesville. As our friendship evolved, they were indispensable sources of information and advice about how to work with the community in addressing changes and developments in the Charlottesville School District. It was not long before I felt as if I had known them for a lifetime. Leah, Paul, and Alysha, along with Mary and James Reese, were my instant “family.” The birth of Eugene, who was what my grandmother used to call “a big, fine baby,” gave us all a sense of renewal and hope.

Paul loved politics—especially the study of black politics. I was a “political news junkie” of sorts but never considered making a career of my “hobby.” Paul whetted my appetite for the study of politics during the many conversations we had about the on-going struggle of blacks for socio-economic and political equality. When I decided to enter the graduate program in public administration at the University of Virginia, Paul and Leah cheered me on. After I completed my Ph.D. at Emory and began my academic career at the University of Washington, Paul was always avail-

able as an intellectual and professional sounding board.

Professor McClain references Paul’s tremendous contributions to the field of political science. However, I don’t know if many of you realize that Paul Puryear is also referenced in what is still required reading for all political scientists, the seminal work *Black Power*, by Kwame Ture and Charles Hamilton. Paul served as an adviser, formal and informal, to many Ph.D. students during his career, and those of us who were fortunate enough to be in that circle are all the better for it. As Ron Walters, professor of government and political science at the University of Maryland, said,

Paul was a somewhat older generation of scholars when I came into the discipline who became a long distance mentor. I greatly appreciated this because I was not “washed in the tradition” of someone who had earned a Ph.D. in political science. Still, he discussed with me issues of methodology and other things in the discipline, and I reciprocated with thoughts about what was on the front burner of activism in the black community. We were always respectful and friendly to one another and I always enjoyed his company. I am sorry that he is not with us, but cherish his having been in my life.

Paul did not suffer fools gladly—nor was he a fan of mollycoddling. He was authentic and one-of-a-kind. I’ll bet when Paul arrived at the Pearly Gates, St. Peter said, “Well, Paul, you got to see a black man elected president. Aren’t you pleased?” Paul would say, “Brother, sit down and let me explain to you the nature of systemic and institutional racism in the United States.”

Andrea Simpson
University of Richmond

RUSSELL M. ROSS

Russell M. Ross died suddenly in Iowa City, Iowa, on April 27, 2010, at the age of 88. He was active until his final days. Following his retirement in 1991, he continued to teach students throughout the state in the University of Iowa’s distance learning program. He taught in it until the day before he died.

Professor Ross was born on June 2, 1921, in Washington, Iowa, 35 miles from Iowa City. After graduation from high school, he entered the University of Iowa, from which he received a B.S. degree in 1942.

He enlisted in the navy during World War II and served on the USS Manila Bay. In 1944, he married Shirley Jackson of Blairstown, Iowa, who died in 1974. In 1982, he married Jo Ellen Rude of Hornick, Iowa.

Returning to the University after the war, he received his Ph.D. degree from Iowa in 1948. He was appointed as an assistant professor in the department at a time when the faculty was recruited primarily from its own graduates.

Russ was a uniquely important member of the Iowa department. He was its tie to the state through the courses he taught, the subjects of his books and publications, and the number of his students who pursued careers in Iowa government. For much of his career, he was the department's public face, frequently providing campaign and election analysis for several area television stations and the *Des Moines Register*. His devotion to the state in which he was born and bred, and to its university, was manifest in everything he did.

Russ served twice as the department's chair, volunteering for that unpopular duty both times when the department urgently needed him. To this day, he holds the record for years of service in that position, after the department abandoned permanent headships in 1959. He was also the department's historian and it is thanks to him that the department has a chronicle of its development during its first century and a quarter. His acquaintance with the department's graduates was a mine of information that he had on tap, ready to provide to department administrators whenever they needed it.

Over the 62 years during which Russ taught in the department, it changed fundamentally. He took these changes in stride. When he was first appointed, all but two of his colleagues held Iowa degrees, as he did. By the time he retired, 19 years ago, he was the only Iowa Ph.D. in the department. All of his colleagues were from elsewhere. He welcomed them all. Among his Ph.D. students of whom he was most proud was Jewel Prestage, who came to do graduate work at the University of Iowa in 1951 when no southern university would accept an African American student. She went on to positions of leadership in the discipline of political science. She said often that she owed her career to Russell Ross.

Russ exemplified many of the best characteristics of Iowans: he was outward looking, open minded, while also deeply loyal to the state. He was a modest person, ready

always to facilitate the work of others before his own. He took people at face value, without preconceptions. That was one of his many virtues. He held his views with integrity and was a model of respect for those with whom he disagreed, a rare and valuable trait in academic departments.

Russ served the Iowa community in many capacities. He held the position of executive assistant to the governor from 1960 to 1962, gaining valuable firsthand experience in state government. He was also mayor of a village within Iowa City for a decade and a leading member of many state and community boards and organizations. Wherever he was needed, he jumped in. He served as president of the Iowa Historical Society and contributed frequently to the society's publications.

The Society published his monograph on the history of the department, *Political Science at Iowa, 1859–1986*. In 1957, he published a widely used textbook, *The Government and Administration of Iowa*, and his subsequent publications included articles on the Iowa court system, county government in Iowa, and the line item veto.

Russ was an innovative teacher throughout his career. In the 1970s, he was the first to teach in a new graduate program leading to a Master of Arts in public affairs. The program answered the department's long-felt need to have a program designed specifically to serve the state. Feeling the need was one thing. Doing something about it was Russ's way. Graduates of the program have subsequently had distinguished careers in state and municipal government, serving communities across the country. Many of them attribute their choice of career and their success in municipal administration to his inspirational teaching.

Professor Ross had a generous attitude toward others and a rare institutional loyalty. His role in the department is irreplaceable. He is survived by his wife, Jo Ellen Rude Ross of Iowa City; his daughters Sherry (Thomas) Rembe of Seymour, Iowa, and Julie Ross Blum of Waukee, Iowa; four grandchildren and their spouses; and three great grandsons.

Gerhard Loewenberg
University of Iowa

GIACOMO SANI

Our dear friend and respected colleague Giacomo Sani died on Sunday, June 20,

2010, in Milan, Italy, at the age of 78. He is survived by his wife, Marina Dotti, his children, Giulia and Laura, and two grandchildren.

Giacomo was educated in both Italy (Universities of Padua and Bologna) and the United States (University of California at Berkeley). He began his academic career at the University of Florence (1963–69) and in the department of political science at the Ohio State University in autumn of 1967 as a visiting associate professor. He returned to Ohio State a year later as a full professor and was a valued member of the department until his departure for the University of Pavia in the autumn of 1991.

Giacomo's specialization lay in comparative mass political behavior, with an emphasis on the social factors conditioning people's voting choices. He brought a uniquely cosmopolitan combination of European political sociology and American political behavior research to his studies. When he joined the department, it was already building itself toward national and world prominence in the field of voting behavior, and Giacomo's contributions in this area helped immeasurably in moving the department forward. His chapter, "Polarization, Fragmentation, and Competition in Western Democracies," co-authored with Giovanni Sartori, continues to be a touchstone for research on the dynamics of party systems. He published widely on European political phenomena in a variety of leading American and European political science journals. He was co-principal investigator, along with his junior colleagues at the time, Dick Gunther and Goldie Shabad, of one of the first systematic studies of the creation of Spain's party system in the post-Franco era. The NSF-funded project culminated in *Spain after Franco: The Making of a Competitive Party System* (University of California Press, 1986), as well as numerous journal articles.

Although in his own research, Giacomo's approach to the study of comparative politics reflected the triumph in the 1970s of behavioralism and quantitative analysis in American political science, he was far from an ideologue intellectually or methodologically. Rather, in his own work, one sees both sensitivity to normative issues and a deep appreciation of the cultural and historical context of the phenomena he studied. Indeed, Giacomo was an effective and always collegial voice in the