

## Thomas Anton

Thomas Anton passed away on June 6, 2006, following a battle with cancer. Professor Anton was the A. Alfred Taubman Professor of Public Policy and American Institutions, professor of Political Science, and founding director of the Taubman Center for Public Policy at Brown University. He served as director of the Taubman Center from 1984 to 2000.

Anton was born September 28, 1934, in Worcester, Massachusetts. He graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree from Clark University in 1956 and earned his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1961. He served as a doctoral fellow and lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania from 1959 to 1961. He was an assistant professor of government and public affairs at the University of Illinois from 1961 to 1967. From 1967 to 1983, he was an associate and full professor of political science at the University of Michigan. During his time at Michigan, he was acting director of the Institute of Public Policy Studies from 1973 to 1974 and director of the Intergovernmental Fiscal Analysis Project from 1978 to 1983.

Anton was an internationally renowned political scientist whose path-breaking studies of federalism and public policy won many prestigious awards. He was the author or co-author of 14 books and monographs and over 50 articles in scholarly journals. Among his most important books were *The Politics of State Expenditures in Illinois* (University of Illinois Press, 1975), *Governing Greater Stockholm* (University of California Press, 1975), *Federal Aid to Detroit* (Brookings Institution Press, 1983), and *American Federalism and Public Policy: How the System Works* (Random House, 1989). He was a past editor of the journal *Policy Sciences*.

His book, *American Federalism and Public Policy*, won the 1989 Gladys M. Kammerer Award presented by the American Political Science Association "for the best political science publication in the field of U.S. national policy." The book presented a "real-politic" approach to American federalism and described how leaders use "benefit coalitions" to build support in fragmented political systems.

Anton was the recipient of many grants and fellowships. Among his grant sponsors were the Ford Foundation, the Bydale Foundation, and the National Sci-

ence Foundation. Furthermore, he was the recipient of the John F. Kennedy Fellowship from the government of Sweden, the American Philosophical Society Fellowship, the Rackham Research Fellowship, a Fulbright Fellowship, and a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship.

In 2000, he was selected to receive the Distinguished Federalism Scholar award by the American Political Science Association. The award honored Anton as a scholar who made significant contributions to the field of federalism. He was an early leader in the compilation of large data systems to track the flow of funds among national, state, and local governments and was one of the earliest scholars to utilize geographic displays of such data to reveal patterns of federal policy.

While at Brown University, Anton was active in a wide range of public and community service. He served as chair of the Board of Commissioners of the Providence Housing Authority and as founder-director of The Providence Plan, a non-profit organization dedicated to community revitalization. In 1992, he received an individual recognition award for his contributions to housing policy. He served the University as dean of the Faculty in 1990–1991. In 1991, he was elected a trustee at Clark University, and in 1995, he became vice-chair of the Clark University Board of Trustees.

Thomas Anton is survived by his wife Barbara of Orleans, Massachusetts, and three children: Lynn Allen and Thomas R. Anton of Michigan and Leslie Anton of Brewster, Massachusetts. He had four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Contributions to honor his memory can be made to the Thomas J. Anton Fund at the Taubman Center for Public Policy, 67 George Street, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912-1977.

Darrell West  
Terence Hopmann  
Brown University

## Gottfried Dietze

On Tuesday, June 20th, the department of political science learned of the death of Professor Gottfried Dietze, a member of the faculty at Johns Hopkins University since 1954. Dietze was born in 1922 in Homburg, Germany, and studied under Carl Friedrich at Harvard University and Alpheus Mason at

Princeton University. His most widely read publication was *The Federalist*, originally published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 1960. Dietze died at his home in Washington, D.C.

Jane Bennett  
Johns Hopkins University

## Leon D. Epstein

Leon D. Epstein died on Tuesday, August 1, 2006, as the result of injuries suffered in a fall at home two days earlier. He was a scholar of international repute in the realm of political parties, a central figure in the postwar re-creation of the department of political science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, as well as a former president of the American Political Science Association and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Leon was born on May 29, 1919, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, though he grew up in Beaver Dam, a town where, as he wryly noted, the great enemy of the locals in his youth was not the rising fascist or communist states of the wider world but the Wisconsin DNR, the Department of Natural Resources, known locally as "damned near Russian." He came to Madison, to the University of Wisconsin, in 1936 to begin his undergraduate career, a career that would be closely entwined with that university ever after. He received a B.A. from UW-Madison in economics in 1940, an M.A. in economics in 1941, and then left for military service.

Stationed in Britain for two of those years, Leon used any spare time to immerse himself in the details of British politics, managing to cap his war-time service with a term at Oxford. Returning to the U.S., he enrolled for a Ph.D. in political science at the University of Chicago, obtained in 1948. After Chicago, he accepted a one-year teaching post at the University of Oregon for 1947–1948, returning to the department of political science at the University of Wisconsin at Madison the following year. He would remain on the Madison faculty until his retirement in 1988. While still at Chicago, he met and married Shirley (Galewitz) Epstein, to whose care he was devoted in his later years and who preceded him in death in 2001.

The official history of the department of political science at UW-Madison (2006) notes that "the resurrection of

comparative politics really began in 1948, with the recruitment of Leon Epstein and Henry Hart.” Oddly, in that context, his dissertation was a judicial biography of William O. Douglas—on grounds that this was the quickest route to a Ph.D.!—and he actually presented the sub-fields of political theory, public administration, and public law at his prelims. But the department of political science at UW was flexible in its wishes and needs; Leon had acquired a substantial acquaintance with British politics; and Frederic Ogg, who had long taught the politics of both Britain and the Continent, was retiring. So comparative politics was where Leon began.

The department of political science was in the process of reorienting itself to feature research and publication as central to promotion, and Leon produced articles on British Politics for the *American Political Science Review*, *Political Science Quarterly*, and *Public Administration Review*. A year back in Britain on a grant from the Ford Foundation then generated his first book, *Britain—Uneasy Ally* (University of Chicago Press, 1954). Though it was already clear that, in Leon’s own words, “as a comparativist, I was an Americanist,” he was one of those scholars who found the sub-field distinction between American Politics and Comparative Politics to be not just artificial, but intellectually harmful.

As if to underline this perception, Leon’s next book was *Politics in Wisconsin* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1958). Besides testifying to the breadth of his interests, it reaffirmed his general approach: close observation in person, striving toward theoretical generalization. He followed that by bouncing back across the Atlantic with *British Politics in the Suez Crisis* (University of Illinois Press, 1964), which confirmed his status as a leading American student of British politics.

Yet the notion of “comparativist as Americanist” was best affirmed in his hugely influential *Political Parties in Western Democracies* (Praeger, 1967). In this landmark in the comparative study of parties, Leon inserted the United States directly into the comparison with the major states of Europe, an approach for which he had always argued. In the process, he addressed the central themes of a leading alternative, Maurice Duverger’s *Political Parties* (Armand Colin, 1951), either modifying or dissenting from nearly all of it. For Leon, the world had become a different place from the one in which Duverger’s arguments arose, so that American political parties were less like backward outliers, more like modern incarnations of an evolving institution that was more attuned to con-

temporary society than the Duverger model could ever be.

By then, Leon had long since become associate professor (1951), then full professor (1958), then chair of the department (1960–1963). By the time *Political Parties in Western Democracies* appeared, he was actually dean of the College of Letters and Sciences, one of the largest such enterprises in the country. Leon held that position during times of great turmoil on the Madison campus: 1965–1969. He is remembered as bringing the same personal qualities to that post as he had brought to the department of political science and to his own work, namely, an unfailing thoughtfulness, a determination to treat everyone evenhandedly, a willingness to listen, and, above all, a desire to see the university—and hence scholarly life—prosper.

By all accounts, Leon handled a difficult job with great skill, making him a logical candidate for provost or chancellor in the longer run. Yet as Bernard Cohen, a departmental colleague who later followed that route into the provostship, notes, Leon did his duty but found that he did not really enjoy it—“He had more than a few meetings drowned out by shouting protesters on the Hill”—and returned instead to the department of political science. Characteristically, given his way of working and thinking, his next book was *Governing the University: The Campus and the Public Interest* (Jossey-Bass, 1974).

In the years after his return to the department, Leon became president first of the Midwest Political Science Association, 1971–1972, then of the American Political Science Association, 1978–1979. His presidential address of that year, “What Happened to the British Party Model?” (*American Political Science Review* 74 [1980]: 9–22) returned to the British-American comparison, this time in the context of scholarly perspectives on it, and offered a gentle scolding to professional colleagues for their attachment to models that either appealed because they suited the prejudices of their proponents or that were already outdated in the face of the social change around them.

His final book, and the other one to have a lasting impact on the discipline, arrived in 1986 and continued his evolution toward thinking about American politics within the comparative framework. This was *Political Parties in the American Mold* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1986), and this time it sought a self-consciously American model with which other party systems could potentially be compared. Arguing that American politics, and especially the party system at its core, could not be under-

stood either by way of some abstracted European model or in terms of a model derived from its own distant history, Leon developed the metaphor of political parties as “public utilities” to elucidate the American case. In this, a distinctive political culture, a distinctive constitutional structure, and, most particularly, the central place of primary elections as the key intermediary institution, came together to create an American resolution.

Leon retired in 1988, but his presence remained a major thread of continuity in the department of political science. He continued to read—and argue—widely. He attended department and campus events, listened patiently, and always had a question, often one attempting to take the speaker back to basics. Most importantly, he continued that style of personal collegiality and positive intellectual tone that was so important in giving the department its reputation as an eclectic but supportive environment. Accordingly, writing about Leon’s passing is difficult in a diagnostic way: everyone has his or her own favorite “Leon story.” All, however, feature the same man: ever courteous and always thoughtful; committed to the application of intelligence to social life, whether it be British politics, university administration, American politics, or career advice; reliably concerned that the central mission—of the department of political science or the University of Wisconsin—remain front and center, guiding policy decisions.

Leon was in robust good health at the time of his death. He quit playing tennis competitively only three years ago, having decided (again characteristically) that his game no longer measured up to his standards. Nevertheless, he had thought carefully about his own eventual demise, leaving instructions that there be no funeral and no memorial event. He himself recognized the support of graduate students in his will, however, and his colleagues have decided that creation of a Leon D. Epstein Graduate Fellowship would have struck him as an acceptable memorial. Anyone who wishes to contribute to that memorial can send a check made out to the “University of Wisconsin Foundation” and marked “In Memoriam Leon Epstein” to Professor Graham Wilson, Chairman, Department of Political Science, 110 North Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706-1389.

Byron E. Shafer  
*University of Wisconsin, Madison*  
drawing on Bernard Cohen,  
Charles O. Jones, Frank Sorauf,  
John Witte, and Crawford Young