

happened and what changes might be recommended.

“Students also benefited from Herb’s efforts; countless numbers are now carrying on his research and analysis. In 2002, the University of Southern California awarded him its Distinguished Emeritus Award for his 20-year tenure at the university and ‘his seminal scholarship, dedication to teaching and leadership in the academic community.’

“And he did all that without a computer. Herb liked the old joke about campaign finance reporting. He claimed he would do a sequel to Erica Jong’s book, *Fear of Flying*, but would call it ‘Fear of Filing.’ Perhaps he should have called it ‘Fear of the Computer.’

“Actually Gloria Cornette, the assistant director of the Citizens’ Research Foundation, was his computer. He thanked her in every book, since she was the only one who could organize his work and get him to a deadline on time. How she did it I don’t know. Even this weekend she is seeing to every detail and final arrangement.

“Herbert E. Alexander was my mentor and my friend. I will miss him very much and I think others in the field will long remember his contributions to our society and its democratic process. To his sons and their families, and Bobbie, our prayers are with you.”

“Herb stayed interested in political money his entire life. Two months ago we were talking about the 2008 presidential race. He was current on each morning’s news and breaking stories. I keep expecting a call from him, asking for a copy of Clinton’s tax returns or Obama’s Rezkó donations or McCain’s bank loan papers. He never stopped trying to piece together the puzzle of money in politics.”

Many of us would second Kent Cooper’s remarks.

Michael J. Malbin
*University at Albany, SUNY
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Merle Kling

Merle Kling, whose entire academic career was spent in association with Washington University in St. Louis, died on April 8, 2008, at the age of 89. Born in Poland, Merle came to St. Louis at the age of two, attended public schools there, majored in political science at Washington University and, following military service during World War II, returned to complete his doctorate and join the faculty. He quickly acquired a reputation as an outstanding teacher and a person of wise judgment on academic matters. In 1966 he became dean of the

faculty and was later named provost, the University’s chief academic officer. He retired in 1983.

Merle set a very high intellectual standard for himself. Although he wrote a good deal on comparative politics, mainly on Soviet and Latin American matters, he published relatively little of it: two books and a few articles, of modest professional impact. Nonetheless, he gained considerable reputation among political scientists who came to know him for his wide-ranging intelligence and critical capacity. In 1965, Merle was named editor of the *Midwest Journal of Political Science*, but resigned when he became dean of the Washington University Faculty of Arts and Sciences. He was elected president of the Midwest Political Science Association in 1968.

As a classroom teacher, Merle had few equals. He believed strongly that political scientists should ground their arguments in empirical data and he would fill blackboards with information so structured that students were virtually compelled, for themselves, to reach the conclusions he thought appropriate. After he became dean, he was known on occasion to lead the faculty with similar pedagogical brilliance. Indeed, few scholars could match Merle’s skill in designing analyses so that students not only learned the substantive material of his courses, but came to appreciate the process of close analysis.

Merle’s lengthy career at Washington University coincided with the university’s rise from an institution of reasonably good quality with a strong medical school, but a mainly local or regional reputation, to one of major national stature with high rankings in many fields. His presence in the department of political science was an important factor in the rapid growth of its reputation during the 1960s, and in his several administrative capacities Merle’s initiatives led to major programmatic developments throughout the university. Notable among these developments was the Writers Program, centered on the English department, which brought distinguished poets and novelists to the faculty and greatly enhanced the university as a place intellectual vigor and breadth. During the period of campus unrest associated with the war in Vietnam, Merle’s good sense and firm convictions helped greatly to bring the university through with a minimum of scars or lasting bitterness.

Merle was a person of exceptional intellectual range. He was enormously well read, especially in modern fiction, and it was thus highly appropriate that upon his retirement, the university established the Merle Kling Professorship in

Modern Letters. He loved to talk about books and writers, often finding instructive connections between the world of the novel and the concerns of political scientists. In the late 1950s, when the writings of C.P. Snow were much in vogue, Merle was particularly enthusiastic about them and published a lengthy essay in the *Yale Law Journal* analyzing Snow’s *The Masters*, a novel about academic politics.

Merle sometimes seemed almost reclusive, a bit reluctant to let himself go, to expose his thoughts to critical review or venture into uncharted territory. In many ways he was exceptionally local in his experience. Much of what he accomplished he did behind the scenes, screened from the scrutiny of all but a few colleagues or associates. At the same time, however, he was a person with wide acquaintance in the St. Louis civic community where, as among academics, he enjoyed a deserved reputation for wisdom and good judgment. Merle had a lighter side as well. He played a shrewd game of poker, delighted in the theater, enjoyed the Cardinals and an occasional visit to the race track, and could often be seen in the city’s better restaurants.

After retirement, Merle enlarged upon these activities, traveling extensively, especially to take in plays in New York and London. He became involved in local politics to some extent and served two years in the appointive position of St. Louis city register. He even left the St. Louis area briefly to serve as interim president of Merce College in Dobbs Ferry, New York.

William H. Danforth, chancellor of Washington University from 1971 to 1995, with whom Merle worked as provost, expressed the essence of Merle’s achievement exceptionally well: “In every role, his insights, his clarity of mind, and his wisdom guided his colleagues and students. His balance and good sense protected both academic freedom and academic quality through the late 1960s to the early ’70s, and kept Washington University a humane and decent place. More than any other person, he taught me what a university is and how we could all join in making it better.”

Robert Blackburn, John Kautsky,
Victor T. Le Vine, and Robert Salisbury
*Professors Emeriti
Washington University in St. Louis*

Eleanor Main

The faculty and students of Emory University mourn the passing of Eleanor Catherine Main, who served the university as a teacher and administrator for

39 years. She died in her Atlanta home on February 8, 2008, after a short illness.

Eleanor received a BA from Hunter College in 1963 and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1966. After a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Texas, Austin, she accepted her first tenure-track position at the University of Connecticut. Just two years later she joined the political science department at Emory University.

Eleanor specialized in American politics, with particular interests in urban politics and public policy. Her work always focused on the ways in which government could better assist people. During the 1970s, for example, she did pioneering research evaluating the effectiveness of the federal Model Cities Program, examining the delivery of social services to needy homemakers, and exploring the attitudes of county welfare administrators. Later, she published work on the treatment of women by legislatures and courts. During the 1980s, Eleanor was the associate editor of the *Journal of Politics*. Throughout her life she remained fascinated with the way in which politics works at the local level with a special focus on the politics of education administration.

When Eleanor came to Emory in 1969, she very quickly became the glue that held a small and very young group of faculty together, particularly after one of our only two senior faculty members left. Like a mother hen she reassured the nine untenured males that we were following the right procedures, publishing in the right journals, telling the students what they needed to do and know, and that we were making the right decisions about our careers and the department. Nearly everyone went to her for advice and guidance, not only about professional, but also about personal matters. It seemed that she was always in the office and always available to talk.

And it was not only faculty who beat a path to her door. Graduate students, undergraduates, staff, and custodians were constant visitors. Eleanor was never too busy to listen to a complaint or a worry. And, she quietly helped those who needed help. Several of the janitorial staff came to her regularly for assistance when they could not make ends meet or faced family emergencies. Students in crisis could always count on Eleanor to come to their aid. Such charitable acts were always done privately with no expectation of fanfare or even repayment.

Eleanor's love for people extended to her devotion to her university. She delighted in finding solutions to institutional problems and implementing them.

Immediately after arriving at Emory, she established the first internship program in the college and was influential in creating the State of Georgia Legislative Internship Program, which she headed for 13 years. She originated a track for especially talented undergraduates that allowed them to earn a bachelors and a masters degree in four years. She was instrumental in conceiving and inaugurating an innovative initiative to train graduate students from all disciplines in how to be effective undergraduate teachers.

Eleanor's talents were soon recognized by Emory's administrators who repeatedly lured her away from her teaching and research activities to assume leadership positions. She first served as chair of the political science department and then went on to an uninterrupted string of administrative assignments: associate dean of Emory College, acting dean of Emory College, associate dean of the graduate school, interim dean of the graduate school, and associate provost for graduate studies. In 2001 the university, taking advantage of her expertise in education policy, persuaded Eleanor to lead the Division of Educational Studies, a post she held until her untimely death. Throughout her years at Emory Eleanor served on nearly every important university committee and task force. There was almost no campus initiative that did not bear her fingerprints. In effect, Eleanor became the university's first option when difficult or emergency administrative problems arose. She never shied away from a challenge and she never disappointed. In recognition of her contributions, in 2003 Emory bestowed upon her the Thomas Jefferson Award, its highest tribute for distinguished service and leadership.

Eleanor's administrative prowess was recognized well beyond the boundaries of Emory's campus. Three Georgia governors appointed her to various state departments and commissions. These included such diverse agencies as the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Professional Standards Evaluation Panel, the Committee to Evaluate the State Formula for Education Funding, the Governor's Commission on Effectiveness and Economy in Government, and the Governor's Task Force on Teacher Pay for Performance. These service contributions reflected once again Eleanor's commitment to the goal of making government more responsive to the needs of people.

Eleanor's accomplishments led to several employment offers, including high-ranking state administrative offices and leadership positions at other colleges and universities. While flattered by these opportunities, Eleanor had little interest in

higher positions that would involve more bureaucracy and less contact with people. Because of her love for Emory University, she remained a member of the faculty for the rest of her career. In typical Eleanor Main fashion, she spent her final years devoted to Emory's Challenges and Champions program, an initiative to provide special training for junior high school students in academics, health, and physical fitness.

Eleanor was never one to pull her punches. She told students, colleagues, and administrators what they needed to hear, not what they wanted to hear. Her refreshing honesty and straight talk ensured that her counsel was widely sought and often followed. Her premature death is a great loss for Emory and all of those who treasured her. In her honor, The Eleanor Main Endowment at Emory is being established to support graduate student research and the Challenges and Champions program.

Harvey E. Klehr
Emory University
Thomas G. Walker
Emory University

Calvin Miller

Gary Baker's Tribute

On Tuesday, December 4, 2007, Dr. Calvin Miller passed. Dr. Calvin M. Miller, a political scientist and practitioner of politics for most of his life, helped shape his students' understanding of civil rights, grassroots politics, government, and elections as a professor and former chairman of Virginia State University's political science department. It was because of his commitment to teaching, community activism, and nurturing of students that he gained the respect of students, colleagues, and administrators.

Among the students that he greatly influenced was Roger L. Gregory. Just Roger L. Gregory is the only African American to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. This appointment is historic. The Fourth Circuit, which hears appeals from trial courts in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia, has the largest African-American population of any circuit in this country, yet it had never had an African-American appellate judge.

Dr. Miller was also teacher and mentor to the current United States ambassador to Ghana, Ambassador Pamela Bridgewater. Prior to her ambassadorship in Ghana, Ambassador Bridgewater was