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In Memoriam

A. Stephen Boyan, Jr.

A Stephen Boyan, Jr., Associate Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), died on November 7, 2010 in Burlington, Vermont, following a long illness. Steve was a much valued member of the UMBC Political Science Department for thirty-one of the forty-four years it has been in existence. Steve's area of political science was constitutional law, with a particular focus on civil liberties and First Amendment issues. Much more than most contemporary political scientists, Steve applied his political science training and expertise beyond the reach of the university and the discipline to the wider world of public affairs and political engagement.

Of Armenian ancestry, Steve was born to Ara and Deil Boyan in Tenafly, New Jersey and was raised in Rutherford, New Jersey. In 1965, he married Catherine ("Kitty") Stein, who had her own career as an elementary school teacher, and together they raised their son Justin, now a computer scientist and a Vice President of ITA Software. Steve received his AB in political science from Brown University in 1959, an MA from Tufts University in 1961, and his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1966. Upon completion of his doctorate, Steve received numerous job offers (those were the days) and accepted a position at Pennsylvania State University. However, he was not able to teach his preferred courses in that very large department and, after several years at Penn State, he applied for and was offered a position at the new UMBC campus (which had enrolled its first students the same year that Steve arrived at Penn State). Its four-member political science faculty included three of his former graduate student colleagues from the University of Chicago. Steve accepted this position and he arrived at UMBC along with three other more junior hires in September 1971, thereby doubling the size of the UMBC political science faculty. The house that he and Kitty had bought in Columbia, Maryland, was not ready by the beginning of the semester, so Steve spent the first month of his UMBC career camping in a local state park.

Steve taught introductory and specialized courses in constitutional law and judicial process. His particular forte was a course on First Amendment Freedoms. In the later part of his career, he also taught courses on ethics and public policy and environmental ethics, and he occasionally taught introductory American government as well. Steve was an assertive liberal and was not reluctant to make his political views known in the classroom. This often provoked the expression of contrary opinions by some of his students, whom he always treated respectfully and fairly — he found this to be an excellent way to engage students in his courses. Lisa Vetter, a UMBC political science alumna who is now a member of our faculty, took a class with Steve. She recalls that on first day "Steve strode down the middle of the classroom, stopped, thrust his finger in the air and proclaimed by way of introducing himself, 'I'm a card-carrying member of the ACLU!' I was very intimidated by him at first because he seemed to know absolutely everything and his passion for politics was utterly daunting. However, as time passed, I found Steve to be a generous person and respectful disputant who simply wanted all

of his students to love politics as much as he did." Despite a well-deserved reputation for being one of the toughest graders in the department, his courses were typically over-enrolled and he regularly earned some of the highest student evaluations in the department. On a number of occasions he won the Teacher of the Year citation awarded by the Political Science Council of Majors.

Steve was an active and feisty participant in department affairs. He expressed his sometimes contrarian views as assertively in department meetings as elsewhere, and he often constituted a minority of one on issues that came before the department. In such circumstances, he customarily voted "abstain," but Steve could abstain more emphatically than the rest of us would vote "yes" or "no." He served as a Pre-Law advisor throughout his career and often as faculty advisor to the Pre-Law Club as well. Though he did not seek the position, Steve willingly served as department chair for two years when others were reluctant to take on the task.

Steve served as department representative to the UMBC Faculty Senate for much of his career, and he often served as its parliamentarian. He was elected vice president of the Senate in 1988 and, following normal procedure, became president the following year. Because of special circumstances, he then served an unprecedented second term as President. During his presidency the issue of establishing procedures for dealing with charges of sexual harassment came before the Senate. Steve believed that the procedures originally recommended by a campus committee failed to provide adequate protections of the rights of those who might be charged with harassment. This was a controversial stand, especially in a body that usually works by consensus and is strongly inclined to accept recommendations that come from its committees. Steve faced considerable pressure to withdraw his objections but he stood his ground and the procedures were in due course revised before being approved by the Senate.

While still at Penn State, Steve published a *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* article on "Defining Religion in Operational and Institutional Terms," which has been cited in many subsequent law review articles and in at least one Supreme Court opinion. Shortly after arriving at UMBC, Steve published an essay on "The Ability to Communicate: A First Amendment Right" that appeared in a volume on *The Mass Media and Modern Democracy* edited by Harry Clor. At the same time, the Watergate scandal was breaking open, which intensely engaged both Steve's academic expertise and his political passions. Over a period of a decade (1976–1986) he assembled and edited a six-volume collection on *Constitutional Aspects of Watergate: Documents and Materials* released by Oceana Publications. The first volume focused on constitutional grounds for impeachment, the second and third on constitutional controversies concerning "executive privilege," the fourth on the national security powers of the President, the fifth on constitutional developments after President Nixon's resignation, and the sixth on Watergate lessons not learned. All volumes included Steve's own commentary on the documents and the issues they raised.

In the latter part of his academic career, Steve's interests moved beyond constitutional law and civil liberties to environmental issues. He published an article on "Political Obstacles to a Clean Environment" in *New Political Science* in 1994. Steve had been particularly

impressed by William Ophuls' 1977 book on *Ecology and the Politics of Scarcity: Prologue to a Political Theory of the Steady State* and wanted to use it in his new environmental politics course, but he was concerned that much of the data and some of the arguments in the book were already dated. He contacted Ophuls and inquired whether he had any plans for an updated edition. The answer was no but Ophuls offered Steve the opportunity to revise the book himself and to be listed as coauthor of the revised edition. Steve took up this opportunity and devoted several years to the project. The result was the coauthored book *Ecology and the Politics of Scarcity Revisited: The Unraveling of the American Dream*, published in 1992 by W. H. Freeman. A chapter on "The American Political Economy: The Politics of Laissez Faire" was later reprinted in *Debating the Earth: The Environmental Politics Reader* edited by John Dryzek and David Schlosberg.

Steve was active in politics throughout his career. In addition to giving regular talks to local community and political groups, Steve was an activist himself. He participated in the March on Washington in August 1963 and heard Martin Luther King deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech. He also participated in the First Earth Day rally in 1970. Steve was active in local Democratic clubs and organizations and participated in many Democratic campaigns at all levels of government. Steve was active in Legicum, a Unitarian-sponsored clean-government group in Maryland. He was a member of the Maryland State Board of the ACLU throughout his career at UMBC and served as its vice president for five years. He also served on the ACLU National Board for four years.

Steve was a leader in the Ethical Culture Movement and, while at UMBC, an active member of the Washington Ethical Society, where he organized its Earth Ethics project and its Whistle-Blowers Support Group. He served as editor of its *Public Affairs* newsletter and frequently delivered Sunday Platform Addresses. As an Ethical Society leader, he was licensed to perform marriages and in 2002 he officiated at the wedding of his son Justin to Amy Greenwald in a ceremony that incorporated elements of both Judaism and humanistic philosophy.

Steve was an energetic outdoorsman and a lifelong member of the Sierra Club. He hiked mountain trails up and down the East Coast and many in the West as well. At about the time he retired from UMBC, he and Justin undertook a long trek through the Himalayan foothills in Nepal. Steve was also a passionate skier, both downhill and cross-country, and he skied in many locales in the U.S. and Canada. When he was not off skiing or hiking, he was often playing tennis or squash.

In his fifties, on the basis of both health and environmental concerns, Steve became a committed vegetarian and lectured widely about the adverse consequences of factory-farmed meat. One of his last talks was a presentation on "How Our Food Choices Can Save the Environment" given to the Vegetarian Society of Hawaii in 2006, which can still be found on YouTube.

A memorial service was held November 28, 2010, at the Unitarian Universalist Society in Burlington. Steve was a terrific colleague and we all missed him very much after he moved to Burlington, and we miss him all the more now.

—Nicholas R. Miller, University of Maryland Baltimore County

Ada W. Finifter

Ada W. Finifter passed away on October 29, 2011 in Lansing, Michigan after a two-year battle with multiple myeloma. Ada was my colleague from September 1967, when we joined the Political Science Department at Michigan State University as Assistant Professors, until her retirement in July 2008. After she retired, she moved to New York City to take advantage of the cultural attractions of Manhattan, especially the theater. But she kept her condo on Lake Lansing, a popular recreational site near East Lansing, and returned to the Lansing area every summer. She moved to her condo in the summer of 2011, but became too ill to return to New York.

Ada was born in Brooklyn, New York, on June 6, 1938, and graduated from Brooklyn College Cum Laude with Honors in Political Science in 1959. She attended the University of Michigan, earning her MA in political science in 1962. She then served in the Peace Corps as a Professor in the School of Social Science, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, Caracas, Venezuela in 1963–64. On returning to the United States, she began the PhD program in political science at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, earning her PhD in 1967 under the guidance of future American Political Science Association president Austin Ranney. Ada was promoted to Associate Professor at Michigan State University in 1972 and to Professor in 1981.

Ada edited several influential books, the most important of which were *Political Science: The State of the Discipline* (1983) and *Political Science: The State of the Discipline II* (1993). In *Alienation and the Social System* (1972), she analyzes controversies about the meaning of alienation and also presents some of the best Marxist and non-Marxist writings about this concept. Even though she lacked any special training in computer science, Ada wrote one of the first texts about using personal computers, *Using the IBM Personal Computer: EasyWriter* (1984).

Ada published four articles in the *American Political Science Review*: "Dimensions of Political Alienation" (June 1970); "The Friendship Group as a Protective Environment for Political Deviants" (June 1974); "Redefining the Political System of the USSR: Mass Support for Political Change" (with Ellen Mickiewicz) (December 1992); and "Attitudes toward Individual Responsibility and Political Reform in the Former Soviet Union" (March 1996).

Her article on political alienation, based on a factor analysis of *The Civic Culture* survey conducted by Gabriel A. Almond and Sidney Verba in the United States in March 1960, applied empirical data to the study of alienation—at a time when factor analysis was conducted by hand! Her article on "the friendship" group analyzed autoworkers in the Detroit area in early 1961 shortly after the Kennedy-Nixon election. It is a pioneering study using contextual analysis.

Ada's study with Ellen was the first collaborative US-Soviet national survey of the Soviet Union, and they worked closely with the great Soviet sociologist Boris Grushin (1929–2007) of Moscow. They discuss how the attitudinal patterns they found in late 1989 may have contributed to the breakup of the Soviet Union and how they may contribute to the problems to be confronted by its successor states. Ada's final APSR article responds to criticisms of her article with Ellen, presents additional findings from their study, and provides analyses of the 1990–91 World Values Survey. She discusses several methodological reasons that surveys may yield different results, but most importantly argues that political scientists must be sensitive