In Memoriam

April 3rd, 2020

Jacksonville, Florida
IN MEMORIAM
The Institute for the Gulf Affairs sadly reports the passing of our founding board member Dr. Majeed H. Alsikafi Ph.D. whose life ended on Friday January 18, 2019 Richmond, Virginia.

Alsikafi was a Professor Emeritus at the University of Alabama Department of Political Science. He holds the M.A. Oklahoma State University and Ph.D. Louisiana State University. Professor Alsikafi has also held Visiting Professor at Dokkyo University in Saitama, Japan in 1989. Areas of teaching included Political Psychology, Political Sociology, Organizational Theory and Sociopolitical System of Japan. Among recent publications are “The Subjectivity of Attribution”, in Education and Society, 1992; “A New Japanese Business Paradigm” Dokkyo International Review, 1996; The Politics of Trade Conflict Between Japan and the United States” Dokkyo International Review, 1997.

We share our condolences with his family and the academic community as well. We have lost a man of great knowledge and dedication. He will be greatly missed. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.
Dr. Calhoun received his PhD from the University of Kentucky in 1988 before serving in numerous academic appointments at Ohio University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and lastly as a professor of sociology and Interim Associate Dean at Jackson State University. Dr. Calhoun was a prolific scholar, well known for his work on deviance, juvenile delinquency, racial and ethnic relations, and qualitative methods. Dr. Calhoun authored, co-authored, or edited 14 books pertaining to deviance and juvenile delinquency, 13 book chapters, and nearly 30 scholarly articles, many of which were reprinted in larger collections. In addition to this large body of research, Dr. Calhoun was also commonly recognized for his excellence in teaching, collecting multiple awards at the University of Nebraska and Ohio University. Dr. Calhoun was awarded the A Wade Smith Award for Teaching, Mentorship, and Service from the Association of Black Sociologists in 2005 and the Aida Tomeh Distinguished Service Award from the North Central Sociological Association in 2006. Dr. Calhoun served in numerous leadership capacities for a range of organizations, including president of the Association of Black Sociologists (2013), the Mid-South Sociological Association (2005), the North Central Sociological Association (2002), and the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists (2000). Despite his vast contributions to the field of sociology and criminology, the stories I have collected from colleagues indicate his legacy extends far beyond those scholarly contributions. In between all the writing, research, teaching, and service, Dr. Calhoun made a tremendous impact on his colleagues and other individuals he interacted with, serving as mentor, confidant, motivator, and perhaps most importantly—friend. Comments submitted by Andrew Tatch.
Glenna Colclough of Huntsville, AL passed away on October 1, 2019. She met her death in Africa with strength and courage, which is how she lived her life. Born in Dallas, Texas in 1951 she moved with her family to South Euclid, Ohio where she made lifelong friends. She graduated from Brush High School and attended Kent State University to obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees. She completed a Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Georgia, where she also met her future husband Rick. She worked at Emory University in Atlanta until she took a position with the University of Alabama in Huntsville in 1984. After a distinguished career at UAH doing what she loved she retired in 2009. Her true passion was horseback riding where she competed for several years in 3-day event riding competitions in cities in the Southeast. She began riding growing up in Cleveland and the zest and passion for riding and taking care of horses carried throughout her life. Coupled with this, she loved the out-of-doors and adventure and traveled as much as she could to be part of that. She volunteered with the Huntsville Humane Society and supported various local and national Democratic and women's causes. She always tried to help those in need and to brighten the lives of others. Glenna is survived by her husband, Rick Christenson, and sister, Barbara (Ronnie) Hardouin of Gainesville, FL, nephew Brett Hardouin and many friends.
Charles (Jack) Dudley, Jr.
1940-2019

Charles Jackson (Jack) Dudley died on March 25, 2019, quickly and peacefully at home after a long illness. Jack was born May 28, 1940. Jack, often described as "a pistol" even in his early years, graduated from Oglethorpe County High School, Georgia; the University of Georgia with a BA in Political Science and Sociology in 1963; and the University of Oregon with a Ph.D. in Sociology in 1969. While a student at the University of Georgia, he and a fraternity brother enlisted in the Platoon Leaders Class of the United States Marine Corps, which he completed in 1965. Jack got more out of Georgia than just upbringing and education as he also met the love of his life, Larkin, and married her there. After earning a Ph.D., Jack accepted an assistant professorship at the University of Georgia. Five years, and two children later, he and his family moved to Blacksburg, Va. where Jack served on the faculty of Virginia Tech in sociology from 1974-1990. He won several teaching. He also published numerous articles and book chapters. In 1990, Jack became the Director of the Virginia Tech Honors Program. Jack's ultimate honor was teaching, inspiring, and supporting those around him to surpass limitations to use their talents for the greater good. Except for the loss of his son, whose death he deeply grieved, Jack felt he had lived a very blessed life, always devoted to adventurous learning, teaching, and hearty chuckles.
Dr. Melvyn Fein was born on Aug. 22, 1941 in Brooklyn, New York and died Aug. 26, 2019 at home in Canton, Georgia. He is survived by his wife, Linda Treiber, his sister Carol Schwartz, (Howard) brother Joel Fein (Lisa). Dr. Fein was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He got his undergraduate degree in philosophy at Brooklyn College in 1963. He got a PhD in Sociology at CUNY in 1983. For many years, Dr. Fein worked as a Clinical Sociologist. This entailed working for the New York City Department of Welfare, New York State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Rochester Psychiatric Center, DePaul Clinic in Rochester, and private practice. Dr. Fein also went through a period of finding himself. He worked as a cab driver in NYC, a reporter at The Hudson Dispatch, a market researcher and clerk for the Off-Track Betting Corp. For the last 30 years he was a professor of sociology at Kennesaw State University. Dr. Fein retired in 2018. He specialized in personal change, social change, race, mental illness and social class. Dr. Fein was on the board of the Sociological Practice Association, was the President of the Georgia Sociological Association and also served on their executive board. He started and was Editor of The Journal of Public and Professional Sociology. He also wrote 24 books including, Too Lazy to Chew: A Memoir of Discovery, Post-Liberalism: The Death of a Dream, and Social Individualism: A Bold Blueprint for Our Future.
R. Scott Frey, professor of sociology and co-director of UT’s Center for the Study of Social Justice, passed away December 24 due to complications from a stroke. Frey came to UT as the sociology department head in 2004 from the University of North Florida. Frey’s academic specialty was in environmental sociology, focused on Asia.

Frey received degrees from Northwest Missouri State University, Drake University, and Colorado State University.

He began teaching in 1980 at George Washington University in Washington, DC. He continued his teaching career at several schools including Kansas State University, University of North Florida, and UT. He developed 35 courses in his career as a professor, as well as serving on 58 degree committees.

He was a prolific writer and researcher, publishing four books and 59 journal articles, book chapters, and movie reviews. He presented numerous papers at professional meetings and other venues. Frey traveled extensively in pursuit of continuing his academic endeavors, including trips to China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Russian Federation, and Cuba.
Murray Milner Jr. passed away on Monday, November 23, 2019. Murray was born July 21, 1935, in Dallas, Texas. Murray enrolled in Texas A&M University in 1953. During the summers, he worked for the U.S. agricultural statistical service, based in Austin, and participated in the first random sample surveys estimating crop production. On September 8, 1957, Murray married his longtime sweetheart Sylvia Shelton. Three days later they flew to New York City where they both enrolled in Union Theological Seminary. In 1963 he enrolled in the master's degree program in sociology at the University of Texas in Austin. In 1965 the Milners returned to New York where Murray entered the PhD program in sociology at Columbia University. In September 1972, he became an associate professor of Sociology UVA. In 1976 he received a Fulbright Fellowship to India, taught in The Graduate Department of Sociology of Patna University, traveled widely in India, and began to study the Indian caste system. In the early 1980s he became active in the movement to prevent nuclear war. He served as co-chair of the Interfaith Peace Coalition, which eventually became the Charlottesville Center for Peace and Justice. He helped organize a conference at the University of Virginia to discuss and debate these issues which included William Colby, former director of the CIA, as a keynote speaker. Of the conference grew a television documentary, "Living Double Lives," broadcast nationally July 7, 1985. In 1992, his book Status and Sacredness received the American Sociological Association's distinguished publication award as the best book in sociology published in the preceding two years. In 2004 his book Freaks, Geeks, and Cool Kids was widely adopted for college courses. In 2004, he retired from full-time teaching and became a senior fellow at The Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, which had been founded by his longtime colleague James Hunter. He is survived by the love of his life, Sylvia, his wife of 62 years; his grandchildren, Shelton Brown and Ashely Milner; his daughters, Helene Milner (Boyd Brown) and Catherine Milner; and by his sister, Shy Hicks and a close niece, Stacey Hicks Jones.
James David Wright (“Jim”) was born November 6, 1947 in Logansport, Indiana; he passed away on April 29, 2019 at home in St. Pete Beach, Florida, surrounded by his family and pets. He will be remembered for his intelligence, wit, kindness and generosity; as an educator, author, scholar, researcher and mentor; as a husband, brother, father, grandfather, cousin and friend; and for his fabulous cooking. Jim graduated from Logansport High School in 1965, earned a B. A. in Philosophy (with honors) from Purdue University in 1969, and both an M.S. and Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin in 1970 and 1973 respectively. Dr. Wright was a distinguished professor of Sociology with a long career. He worked as a Professor of Sociology 1973–1988 at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (where he also directed the Social and Demographic Research Institute), 1988–2001 at Tulane University as the Charles A. and Leo M. Favrot Professor of Human Relations (where he was also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology), and 2001–2018 as the Provost Distinguished Research Professor at the University of Central Florida (where he also directed the Institute for Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Survey Research Laboratory). From 2013–2018 he was designated as a Pegasus Professor, UCF’s highest faculty honor.
Kenneth Ray Wilson
1947-2019

For the majority of his professional life Ken was employed at East Carolina University where he spent 44 years as a Professor of Sociology. He worked tirelessly to improve the well-being of the department, the university and surrounding communities. Active on many fronts, he was a teacher, mentor, advisor, researcher, director of the Sociology Graduate Program, director of several Research Labs, President of the NC Sociological Association, Chair of the Faculty, Faculty Senate representative, and a representative to the UNC Faculty Assembly. His accomplishments include extensive publications and a consistent record of procuring grants. He involved undergraduate and graduate students in his research projects and publication whenever he could. His enthusiasm for teaching research skills to his students was unsurpassed. Ken Wilson, the family man, shared a happy fifty-two year long relationship with his wife, Dr. Christa Reiser. He was exceptionally proud of their son, Devin Reiser Wilson who he inspired to become a photographer. One of the favorite family activities was traveling and Devin was introduced at a very young age when he accompanied his parents to an out-of-state Sociology meeting at the age of three months! He loved music events of many types (especially The Grateful Dead), cooking for friends and family, walking, eating out and debating deep issues. Memories of Ken’s positivity and kind demeanor, his integrity, his willingness to help others, his fairmindedness, his enthusiasm for life, his wide smile and booming laugh and his bear hugs will live on in the hearts and minds of family and friends and many others. As a tribute to Ken’s commitment to a healthy environment, donations to ReLeaf Greenville would be much appreciated.