

Oswald Fraser

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TO: John Jay College Community

FROM: Oswald E. Fraser, Interim AVP for Administration

DATE: September 15, 2021

RE: Passing of James Levine, Retired Dean of Graduate Studies and Research

We regret the passing of James Levine, retired Dean of Graduate Studies and Research and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Political Science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, the City University of New York on Monday, August 30, 2021.

Professor Levine retired in 2011 after serving as Dean of Graduate Studies and Research for 17 years. Prior to coming to John Jay Professor Levine served on the faculties of Michigan State University, the University of Oregon, and Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.

Professor Levine was the author of four books and the editor of three books, and published dozens of articles in professional journals and popular magazines. His books include two textbooks on criminal justice (co-authored with Michael Musheno and Dennis Palumbo): Criminal Justice: A Public Policy Approach (New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1980) and Criminal Justice in America: Law in Action (New York: John Wiley, 1986). He was the co-author, with David Abbott, of Wrong Winner: The Coming Debacle in the Electoral College (New York: Praeger, 1991) and the author of Juries and Politics (Pacific Grove, CA: Wadsworth, 1992). His most recent book, co-edited with Chitra Raghavan, is Self-Determination and Women's Rights in Muslim Societies (Brandeis University Press, 2012). Professor Levine published numerous articles on criminal justice institutions, criminal justice policy, and research methodology; his research focused on jury behavior. His work appeared in such journals as Judicature, Criminal Law Bulletin, Criminal Justice Ethics, Journal of Criminal Justice, Legal Studies Forum, Law and Social Inquiry, Crime and Delinquency, Social Science Quarterly, Criminology, Public Policy, Law and Society Review, and Polity.

Professor Levine received his doctorate in political science from Northwestern University, winning the Edward S. Corwin Award given by the American Political Science Association for the best dissertation in the field of public law completed in 1968.

He was an avid biker, baseball fan, and loved classical music. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Della; his daughter, Amy and two sons, Steven and Eric; and his granddaughter Nyah. He leaves behind countless friends, colleagues, and former students whose lives he touched in ways large and small. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in his honor to the Osborne Association.

His passing is painful and has deeply affected our community. We have lost an outstanding individual who contributed so much to John Jay, to his students, and colleagues. During this difficult time, we send our thoughts and heartfelt condolences to Professor James Levine's family and friends on their loss.

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