

In memoriam

Elinor Ostrom

On June 12, 2012 Elinor Ostrom died. She was Distinguished Professor, Arthur F. Bentley Professor of Political Science, and founder of the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis at Indiana University (now renamed in honor of her and her husband Vincent, who also passed away this year). Lin served as the President of the American Political Science Association and the Public Choice Society and was the first woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Economics (2009). She was an enthusiastic contributor to APLS Annual Meetings—she organized panels, served as a plenary speaker at our 2006 meeting on the IU campus, and gave the keynote address at the 2010 meeting in Bloomington.

I knew Lin for over 30 years, first as my PhD mentor, then as a friend and colleague. She represented everything that is good about academia. She was relentlessly absorbed with creating and advancing knowledge, especially about the governance of the commons. She could count vast numbers of friends and collaborators in that enterprise in nearly every corner of the globe. She adhered to the most exemplary standards of professional conduct and demanded respectful and sympathetic treatment of everyone around her. She made quality time for each and every student and staff member while also responding to the demands of star-studded academics and even heads of state who sought her time, wisdom, and collaboration.

The quality and quantity of Lin's prodigious scholarship and generosity of spirit will live on, as will



the memory of how superbly she lived her life. Her charismatic presence on this Earth will be deeply missed.

– David Goetze
Utah State University

doi: 10.2900/31_1-2_107