

# Jack Paynter Endowed Lecture

## James Madison College

We invite you to join us in recognizing the legacy of Professor Jack Paynter (1938 – 2005) by supporting the Jack Paynter Endowed Lecture. This memorial, established by Jack's students, friends, family, and colleagues, has raised funds to renovate and name a new seminar room at James Madison College and is now working to endow a lectureship in Jack's name. The new Jack Paynter Seminar Room and Paynter Lecture will be permanent reminders of Jack's teaching excellence, leadership, and many contributions to the College. Please read below and consider making your most generous gift to advance the legacy of Jack Paynter at James Madison College.

Dr. John E. (Jack) Paynter served on the Madison and MSU faculties from 1969 until 1982. He then went on to a successful career at the University of Dallas, becoming not only a revered professor but provost as well. Jack played a crucial role in the early history of James Madison College: he was instrumental in the founding of the College as a whole, an architect of the Justice Morality and Constitutional Democracy field (JMCD, now called PTCO); and a leader in creating the Ethnic and Intergroup Relations field (now called Social Relations or SR). Jack also was Acting Dean in 1979-80, providing the leadership needed to defeat an effort by the MSU Administration to close the College as a cost-saving step. In many ways, all that we have accomplished as a College since that time, including Madison's national reputation as a center of excellence in the study of public affairs, we owe to Jack Paynter's leadership in this time of crisis.

Jack was a superb teacher, scholar, and colleague, who had a profound impact on the lives of his students. He was an active and insightful scholar, publishing on John Adams and the American revolutionary and founding periods. But it is as a teacher that Jack had his greatest impact while at Madison. He taught courses on a wide range of subjects, including classical liberalism, Adam Smith, Rousseau, Plato, and American constitutional law. These courses remain intellectual highlights for his many students. In 1980-81, he was the first Madison faculty member to receive MSU's Distinguished Faculty Award. He was married to Madison alumnus Margaret (Peggy) Bailey (Ethnic, '71).

Since Jack's death, the College has received e-mails and letters from former students sharing their memories of Jack as a great teacher and outstanding human being. Jack set a standard in his classroom and in his life that was demanding and inspiring. We could think of no more fitting tribute to Jack's legacy in the College than to name the new seminar room and a lectureship after him. Every future Madison student will have the opportunity to take a class in the Paynter Seminar Room or hear a Paynter Lecture and thus to be reminded and inspired in some way by Jack's continuing influence on the College.

Please send your most generous gift to the Jack Paynter Endowed Lecture. You may choose to make a multi-year pledge to maximize your gift in memory of Jack. Pledges can be made for up to 5-years. If you have any questions, including questions about gifts of stock, bequests or planned giving, please contact Rocky Beckett, JMC Director of Development, at the address below. You can also mail your contribution and pledge form to the office below. Thank you for your consideration and commitment to Jack's legacy.

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