

Frank P. Sherwood

Obituary by Chester A. (Chet) Newland

Frank P. Sherwood became a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration in 1969, and he was an active leader in its early decades of advancing responsibilities. Dr. Sherwood was the founding director of the Federal Executive Institute (FEI), 1968-1973. He was a distinguished scholar and professor in the field of public administration, first with the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, 1951-1968 and again as creator of USC's Washington Public Affairs Center, 1973-1978, working closely with his wife, Susse Sherwood, and executive-level students. Then, following additional faculty service at FEI, he accepted an appointment at Florida State University in Tallahassee in 1981, where he served as Chair of the Department of Public Administration and was later named the first Jerry Collins Eminent Scholar in Public Administration. He served as Management Advisor to Florida's Governor Robert Graham. He retired from FSU in 1995.

Frank Sherwood was born October 11, 1920 in San Diego, California, and he died August 28, 2019, at his retirement residence in Annapolis, Maryland, nearby his son and family. Following graduation from San Diego High School, Frank attended Dartmouth College, graduating in 1943. He then joined the U.S. Army, serving in Europe and, in 1946, receiving a Certificate in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics from Oxford University in England. Upon returning to California, in 1950 he completed USC's Master of Science degree in Public Administration, followed by completion of the PhD degree while serving as a USC faculty member. He became director of USC's studies in Brazil, residing in Rio de Janeiro, and he also served in programs in Pakistan and Iran.

John Macy, as Chairman of the U.S. Civil Service Commission and as Personnel Advisor to President Lyndon B. Johnson, described Frank Sherwood as "perhaps the single most important person in the history of public personnel administration." As FEI's Director, with GS-18 rank and open authority for professional leadership within government, among private and non-profit executive organizations, and among universities and professional organizations, Dr. Sherwood represented cutting-edge thinking and practices in Organization Behavior developments of the time.

Dr. Sherwood served as President of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), 1973-74. Among other accomplishments in that role, he facilitated work by others to advance election of Philip J. Rutledge as ASPA's first African American President, 1974-75, and Nesta Gallas as ASPA's first female President, 1976-77, also helping to open NAPA and other organizations to inclusiveness. Frank served on Boards of Editors of ASPA's *Public Administration Review* and the *International Journal of Public Administration* of the International Institute of Public Administration. He was a prolific author of scholarly and applied research and practice publications, and, in retirement, of books on FEI, USC, Family and Professional Subjects. Frank Sherwood's personal and professional contributions remain broadly and importantly enduring.