Norman Glickman



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Retired Rutgers professor, activist, mentor and author whose 'work benefited everyone he knew and millions he never knew'

Norman Glickman, a pioneer in the field of urban studies, passed away on Wednesday, May 8, 2019. He was 76.

A retired professor of Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Glickman used his research and teaching as a way to improve the lives of urban residents.

He directed the Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research for more than a decade until the year 2000. According to colleagues, his work benefited everyone he knew and millions he never knew.

Prior to coming to Rutgers, from 1983 to 1989, Dr. Glickman was a professor of Urban Policy and Economics at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin where he taught courses in political economy, urban and regional economics, and urban poverty.

At the age of 27, he was named a professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of Pennsylvania, where he founded and directed the Urban Studies Program. At Penn, he was awarded the Lindback Prize for Distinguished Teaching.

He put in place the guiding principles that shaped Urban Studies at Penn in the late 1960s and early 1970s when he took on a group of idealistic and committed undergraduates interested in studying cities. It was the first undergraduate urban studies program in the country and one of the first interdisciplinary majors. The essence of the program: a commitment to connecting theory and practice.

Dr. Glickman became a legend early in his career thanks to his renowned Ph.D work. Out of the work of his advisor, Nobel Prize winner Lawrence Klein, he created the first regional macroeconomic systems forecasting and simulation models. The focus was Philadelphia.

Throughout his career, Dr. Glickman served as an advisor to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on national urban policy, was a member of New Jersey Governor James J. Florio's Council on Job Opportunities and served as chair of the Economic Development Commission for the City of Austin.

From 1985 to 1989, he served on the Vice President's Task Force on Youth Employment.

Dr. Glickman worked with community development organizations throughout the country on issues of economic development and poverty and was a certified mediator of public policy disputes. He also was board member of WBGO (1997-2006), the Newark, N.J., public radio station dedicated to jazz.

He was the author of numerous books, monographs, and reports, including The New Competitors: How Foreign Investors Are Changing the U.S. Economy (New York: Basic Books, 1989) with Douglas P. Woodward, which was translated into Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish; Choices for American Industry (Washington, D.C.: Labor Policy Institute, 1987) with Ray Marshall. After his retirement in 2015, he edited and contributed to LBJ's Neglected Legacy: How Lyndon Johnson Reshaped Domestic Policy and Government. Dr. Glickman earned his Ph.D. and master's of arts in economics, as well as a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania. Son of Beatrice and stepfather, Harry Glickman, and father Abraham Pesso, he is survived by his wife of 37 years, Elyse M. Pivnick; two daughters, Katy Rose Glickman (Joshua Ellis) and Madeline Claire Glickman (Shomik Sarkar), and sister, Marj Brown.

His legacy will be that of an institution builder, an intellectual leader, an activist, a mentor to countless students, and loving husband, father and friend. Memorial contributions may be made to Norman Glickman Fund for Urban Studies https://www.sas.upenn.edu/urban/news-events/news/memoriam-norm-glickman or The Pennsylvania Innocence Project https://innocenceprojectpa.org/donate-2/.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, May 19, at 2 p.m. at Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church, 2688 Lawrenceville Rd., Lawrenceville, N.J. Published in Star-Ledger on May 17, 2019