



Loeb Retires

Following four decades of service to the Institute of Government and North Carolina citizens, Professor of Public Law and Government Ben F. Loeb Jr. retired March 31, 2004.

Specializing in the law of motor vehicles, fire protection, alcoholic beverage control, animal control, eminent domain, and wildlife protection, Loeb was a legendary teacher and respected author and adviser.

Loeb received his undergraduate and law degrees from Vanderbilt University and joined the Institute in 1964. He began his Institute career teaching motor vehicle law. In the 1980s he added wildlife protection law and training for magistrates in criminal law.

For more than twenty years, Loeb served as the legal staff for legislative study committees and commissions that rewrote the North Carolina alcoholic beverage control and motor vehicle laws. Loeb also drafted North Carolina's first seat-belt bill.

"Ben Loeb is one of the state's largely hidden treasures," said Willis Whichard, dean of Campbell University's law school and former chair of the legislative study commission that rewrote the state's motor vehicle law in the 1970s. "He has worked quietly but very effectively for more than three decades to improve the

law and public policy of the state, especially in the areas of motor vehicle law and highway safety. The people of North Carolina will benefit from his efforts long after his retirement."

George Miller Jr., a Durham attorney who worked extensively with Loeb while in the state legislature, said, "Ben Loeb provided valuable service to the legislature. Many items of legislation and many study commission reports are replete with his handprints.

"He knew and observed the line between being a careful draftsman of legislation and making policy decisions. Also, he had a keen awareness of the legislative process and the personality of each session.

"He was particularly helpful to me in serving as counsel to my Committee on Highway Safety and in drafting the child-safety-seat legislation, which took more than six years to be enacted into law. He knew not only the law but the history behind it, and he knew well the political process through which ideas become law."

In addition to logging thousands of hours advising and teaching, Loeb published extensively, including widely used books on the effectiveness of child-passenger restraint systems, traffic law and highway safety, wildlife protection law, arson in North Carolina, and dental practice law.

"Ben was the quintessential faculty member, who always could be counted on to do whatever needed to be done, and always with good cheer," said Dean

Michael R. Smith. "His outstanding contributions and his enormous value to the School of Government are deeply appreciated, and we wish him all the best in his retirement."

MPA Program Rises to Top Ten in News Magazine Ranking

In the 2005 edition of *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Graduate Schools," the School's Master of Public Administration Program rose two places to tie for tenth. In a subcategory the program's city management training tied for sixth place. Congratulations!

Ammons Elected to ASPA Council

Professor David Ammons has been elected to the National Council of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA). He will serve a three-year term, representing public administration professionals in nine southern states.

Ammons specializes in productivity improvement, performance measurement, and benchmarking in local government. Before joining the School faculty, he taught in the public administration programs of the University of Georgia and the University of North Texas. He currently serves as the director of the School's Master of Public Administration Program.

ASPA is the largest and most prominent professional association in public administration. Its mission is to advance excellence in public service.

Stenberg Reelected Chair of National Academy

Professor Carl W. Stenberg has been reelected chair of the National Academy of Public Administration. Congress chartered the independent, nonpartisan organization to assist federal, state, and local governments in improving their effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability.

Stenberg joined the School faculty in 2003, with a background in intergovernmental administration, leadership,



regionalism, bureaucratic politics, and strategic planning. Previously he served as dean of the Yale Gordon College of Liberal Arts at the University of Baltimore, director of the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia, executive director of the Council of State Governments, and assistant director of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. He also is a past president of the American Society for Public Administration.

Major Gifts Support MPA Students, Building, and Judicial Education

Stafford Local Government Scholarship Established in MPA Program

Ms. Betsy Ross Howe Stafford of Greensboro has endowed a scholarship fund to support graduate students in the school's Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program. Stafford Scholars are MPA students, preferably women, who have distinguished themselves academically and aspire to careers in local government.



Michael R. Smith (left), dean of the School of Government, and Bill Farthing, managing partner of Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein

Guests at the ribbon-cutting celebration of the classroom named for Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein

Stafford's interest in practical training for local government leadership began with local volunteer service before retirement from her position as the federal area director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in North Carolina and in Louisiana. Stafford's personal work at the local level and her contact with local officials through her HUD position impressed on her the importance of professional education in public administration for local city and county officials.

The Stafford Scholars selected for 2004–05 are second-year MPA students Heather Drennan and Erin Schwie Langston. Each will receive a scholarship of \$3,000.

Classroom Named for Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein

The law firm of Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein L.L.P. has pledged \$40,000 to the Knapp-Sanders Building capital campaign. The School will recognize this gift by naming a classroom in honor of the firm.

"In public finance and similar areas covered by the firm, we frequently hear praise of the Institute's faculty and training programs and see the results of this work in our dealings with officials at many levels," said managing partner William Farthing.

"Private financial support such as this gift is important to the School," said Dean Michael R. Smith. "We also highly appreciate the message it conveys—that businesses dealing regularly with public officials view the education provided by the School and Institute of Government

as an effective service that enhances and improves the professionalism of local government."

Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein L.L.P. employs 160 lawyers in the Carolinas, in offices based in Charlotte, Raleigh, Charleston, Columbia, and Spartanburg. The firm has expertise in a complete range of legal services, including antitrust and business torts; banking and finance; bankruptcy, reorganization, and creditors' rights; commercial litigation; corporate and commercial law; employee benefits; employment; environmental, international, real estate, and commercial development; securities; taxes; torts; and insurance.

Tharrington Smith Supports Statewide Judicial Education

The law firm of Tharrington Smith has donated \$12,500 to the School's Judicial Education Endowment Fund, in support of its professional education program to improve North Carolina's judicial processes.

Under the program, faculty members provide nonpartisan continuing education for judges, magistrates, clerks of court, district attorneys, public defenders, and other court officials. The highly regarded program received the American Bar Association's prestigious Judicial Education Award in 1998.

"The firm's support of this fund is based on our belief that the Institute's training programs for North Carolina court officials benefit every citizen of the state by improving the knowledge and professionalism of those who serve in our judicial system," said Michael Crowell, a partner in Tharrington Smith. "The courts deal with complex issues, and the faculty of the Institute serve an important function by providing court officials with education, advice, and research that help them do their jobs better."

Established in 1964, Tharrington Smith is based in Raleigh. It employs 28 lawyers, whose primary areas of practice include criminal defense, education law, family law, civil litigation, local government law, business organization, and appeals. The lawyers practice in state and federal courts, at both trial and appellate levels. Several are certified mediators.

—Heather Drennan



PHOTOS BY KEVIN TAYLOR