

Introduction

President James (Jim) L. Doti's announcement that he was stepping down from his position – in combination with the retirement of his wife, longtime Professor Lynne P. Doti – was a momentous event in the recent history of Chapman University. Lynne joined Chapman in 1971 and a few years later, in 1974, Jim joined the university as a young assistant professor. Interestingly, it was a search committee composed of Lynne and Professor Don Booth that recruited Jim Doti from Chicago. Only a few years later, in 1977, Jim and Lynne were married. This academic love story would be interesting by itself, but the rapid ascent of Jim to Dean of the Argyros School of Business and Economics and later to President of Chapman, transformed this academic couple into the powerful team that, in different ways, enriched the university for years to come.

Jim, the Donald Bren Distinguished Chair in Business and Economics was Dean of the Argyros School from 1985 to 1988, when, after the long and successful presidency of Dr. G.T. Smith, he was selected as Interim President. The university, in keeping with traditional best practices, entered into a national search that led to the appointment of Dr. Allen Koenig as the 11th President of Chapman University. Two years later, the Board called again on Jim, and he became the new President, a position he has now held for 25 years, and will hold until September 1st, 2016. This is not the place for a description of his many accomplishments, but it should suffice to say that these have been transformational years for Chapman University, which moved – as an example – from 61st to 7th in the U.S. News and World Report rankings during that period.

Lynne, on the other hand, established herself quickly as a major presence in the Argyros School. She received tenure in 1980, was promoted to full professorship in 1990, was appointed the David and Sandra Stone Professor of Economics, and served as the director of the Leatherby Center for Entrepreneurship and Ethics. A prolific author with a specific expertise in the history of economic institutions, she was also one of Chapman's most appreciated teachers, both tough with and supportive of her students. Together, Jim and Lynne came to represent the university so that for many, Chapman University really is Jim and Lynne.

These circumstances did not make it easy for us to plan a tribute to these extraordinary individuals. We did not want to collect a 'book of letters', but rather, in the best academic tradition, we wanted to have a collection of papers that would reflect, with their scholarly inclination, the various roles that Jim and Lynne have played over the years. We were looking for contributors willing not simply to express their affection and regard for Jim and Lynne, but to demonstrate this affection and regard through an intellectual contribution.

We were impressed at how quickly the colleagues we contacted responded. This was an indication of the respect that the Dotis command in the academic community. We were also impressed at the variety of contributions that we received. We decided therefore to arrange the contributions according to three themes.

The first five papers were written with the perspective of what it means to run a large organization such as a university: what are the characteristics of a successful leader and how do they translate into action. Three Trustees from the Chapman

University Board contributed papers (Chuck Martin, Mark Chapin Johnson, and the current Chairman of the Board, David Janes), together with Chapman's Executive Vice President for Advancement, Sheryl Bourgeois (whose doctoral dissertation focuses on this same topic), and economic historians Jason Taylor and Richard Vedder.

A second group of papers, more theoretical, focuses on banking and entrepreneurship, with articles that pay homage to the research legacy of Lynne Doti. The contributors include Chapman's own Cristina Giannantonio and Amy Hurley-Hanson (colleagues of Lynne in the Argyros School), as well as longtime friends and associates of Lynne, Michael Gou, Daniel Giedeman, and Janice Traflet.

The final group of papers hearkens back to economics, and include an article by 2002 Nobel Laureate Vernon Smith, whose hire in 2007 represented a critical success in the strategy to grow the academic imprint of the university, an article by Daniele Struppa, Chancellor (and Presidential successor of Jim) whose article is coauthored with Anja Kruslin, an undergraduate student at Chapman, in keeping with Chapman's emphasis on engaging its students in research, and finally an article by a former coauthor of Jim, Dwight R. Lee.

All-in-all, we are proud to present a special issue of the *Journal of Business and Management* that reflects the multiple and intertwined interests of Jim and Lynne. We hope that this tribute will be a pleasure for them to read, and will contribute to the growth of the disciplines it represents.

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Chapman University • Orange, CA • July 2016