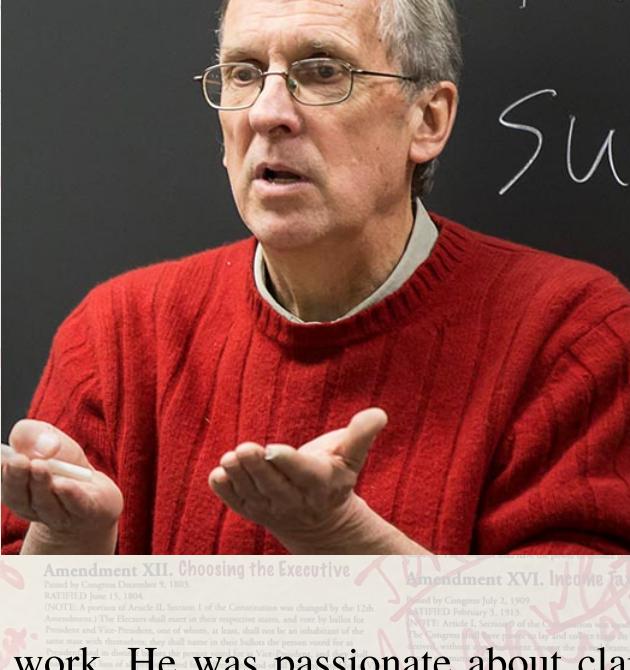


# In remembrance of

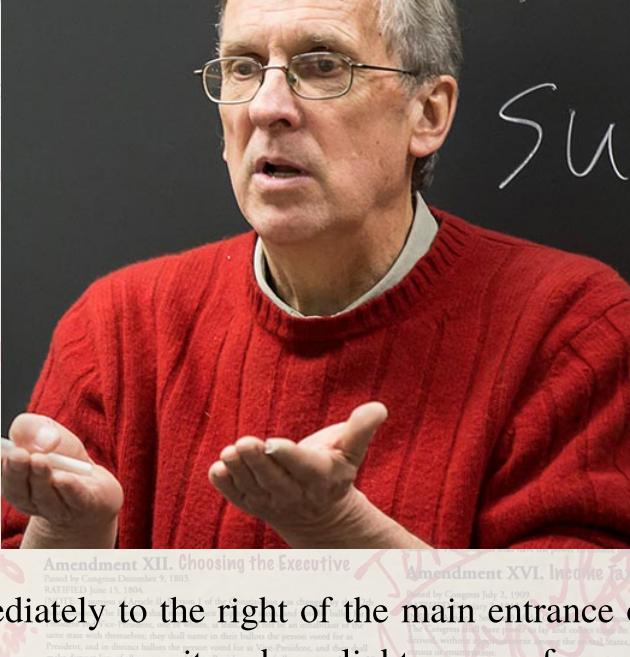
# Dr. John V. Reynolds



John's heart was in the work. He was passionate about clarity of argument and the unpacking of ideas. He was not a perfectionist, absolutist, or finalist—there was no complete or last answer—only the rigor of the ongoing process to critically evaluate possibilities. I should say “vigor” in place of rigor here, because to see John in action—arguing, questioning, challenging, uncovering otherwise missed points, all the while becoming animated—was a vigorous experience. (I miss our arguments; I never won one.) Unfamiliar observers could mistake his rising voice as anger or a means to intimidate the opposition (whether another person, a public policy, an apparent political maneuver, or some silly, ill-conceived rule), but I always assumed it was his form of joy—a glimpse of the possible, a bridge to the better—a good, the good, or just greater understanding. Bringing others along for the discursive ride, especially his students, was also his joy. I can think of no better way to honor his memory and his love of teaching—two of the blessings he left us—than tackling the social and political scourges of scarcity, poverty, and inequality, the topics of this InFocus Symposium, with vigor. I regret he is not here to argue with us, with me—I’m quite sure he would correct some or much of what I’ve offered here.

Dana S. Dunn

# In remembrance of Dr. John V. Reynolds



Occupying the office immediately to the right of the main entrance of Comenius Hall, John was often the only member of our community whose light was on from early morning until evening, including weekends. The light emanating from his office was both literal and metaphorical. He served Moravian College from the late seventies to the present as a beloved and admired teacher of American politics and an advisor to generations of students. In a time when haste had become the norm and most communication had moved online, he was profoundly and generously available in person to his students. From my office across the hall, I often saw him in conversation with a student in the late afternoon. His students are grateful to him not only for an education in American politics but also for humanly wise perspectives on life delivered in all sincerity. He was an outstanding mentor who saved many a college career by taking the time to relate to his students. As I remember John, his personal presence, patience, and openness are most precious to me. His collegiality and his commitment to the college as an ongoing project of governance also took shape in supportive conversations with fellow faculty, staff members and administrators as well as in long and detailed memos documenting important arguments and decisions. He was our institutional memory. Teaching American politics was not consigned to the classroom. Democratic participation was both his expertise and his habitus. Participation takes time and has uncertain outcomes. John was generous and committed to the process in all its uncertainties. I am deeply grateful for seventeen years of John being right there, across the hall.

Khristina H. Haddad

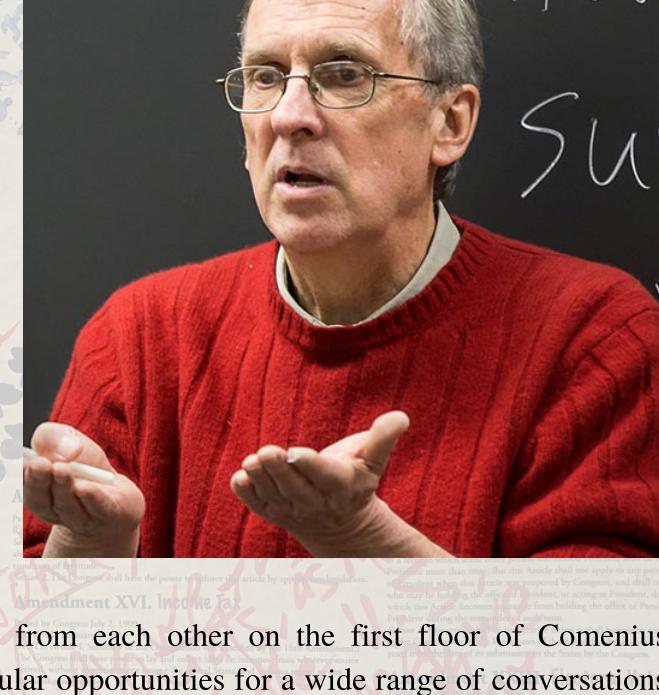
# Dr. John V. Reynolds

while he was a Moravian student, Garth especially remembers Dr. Reynolds for instilling in him an insatiable curiosity and love for environmental public policy. The description of John as "a lion of the faculty" (Jason Radine's words) captures him best. The many ways John's undying commitment to justice and democracy intertwined seamlessly with his dedication and love for the liberal arts and teaching made an enormous impact on me over many years. I will always treasure the memory of two final conversations I was privileged to have with him in the last weeks he was on campus, when I witnessed John facing the meaning of his life with grace, openness and searching.

Kelly Denton-Borhaug

was such a good teacher. He had the rare ability to express his opinion with clarity, conviction, care, oftentimes humor and, always, honesty. He loved his students and the door to his office was always open to them. They loved him too; they knew they could go to him for help and advice at any time and they trusted his opinion and judgment. John was also a very private man and he often stayed away from social events, but when it came to his students, he was completely devoted to them, to their well-being and to their success at Moravian College and beyond. A wonderful professor, a great colleague and a true human being. He will be missed.

uphold dimensions of higher education that are currently very vulnerable. Faculty governance and democratic decision-making: John knew that who gets to participate in deciding things matters. He was a fierce advocate of democratizing decision-making in the hopes that diverse voices would be heard and collective values would prevail. Obligation and dedication to our local community: Higher education has been, and in important ways remains, a gateway into the middle class. It is also a path to intellectual engagement, self-discovery and public service. John worked hard to make Moravian accessible to disenfranchised communities in the Lehigh Valley. Civic engagement: Representative democracy takes work and commitment. We and our students need to feel the urgency of getting and remaining involved in the political process. And the faculty needs to cultivate this awareness in our students in John's absence. I am very sad to lose John. I had much more to learn from him, and I don't feel ready. But I will do my part to uphold these shared and cherished values.



died and attempted to  
vote of both Houses of Congress.