



## TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Secretary of the Faculties

RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF  
JOHN GRAHAM WOOTTON  
ADOPTED BY THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES OF  
TUFTS UNIVERSITY  
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In his latest book, published last January, Graham Wootton characteristically attacked a problem of great socio-political significance with verve and effectiveness. INTEREST GROUPS: POLICY AND POLITICS IN AMERICA addresses the question of whether the dominance of organized interest groups in American policy-making is compatible (and if so, on what terms) with electoral democracy. It is a work of the first order: vastly informative, theoretically elegant, clearly and wittily written. It builds upon the foundation laid in his 1970 book, INTEREST GROUPS. Of that book, Robert Dahl of Yale University (and a former President of the American Political Science Association), said:

"Perhaps more than any other book in the Foundation Series, this goes beyond conveying the current state of the art and actually advances it. To my mind this is, bar none, the best general work on interest groups."

First, then, I should like us to mark the loss of a very distinguished scholar from among our ranks. Graham Wootton's seven monographs, two edited books, and numerous other professional activities and publications gained him an international reputation. He was an active member of the American Political Science Association and the International Political Science Association.

Second, we should note that Graham's commitment to, and effectiveness in, teaching was remarkable. In a University committed to teaching, and in a Department gifted with a number of superb teachers, Graham was one of the best, as judged both by his course evaluations and by his colleagues.

Third, Graham's academic professionalism went beyond scholarship and teaching to embrace University service on a number of key committees over the years. Since he became a full-time faculty member in 1969, these included the Presidential Search Committee, Academic Standing Committee, Educational Policy Committee, the AAUP Committee at Tufts, Curriculum Committee, Overseas Program Committee and the Tufts-in-London Committee, among others. He also served as Department Chairman.

What is it that marks a few among us as possessing the capacity, drive, and endurance to make contributions of this order to our chosen profession and our chosen academic home? I believe it is what Max Weber referred to as a "calling." To have a true calling requires three preeminent qualities: passion, in the matter-of-fact sense of devotion to a cause, a feeling of responsibility to this cause as the guiding star of action, and to succeed in this, a sense of proportion. Graham had all these qualities and displayed them with great consistency and integrity.

In marking the loss of this great colleague and friend, may we all pause a moment to celebrate these virtues reflected in this life, given to the cause of scholarship, teaching, and service.

Respectfully submitted,

John Powell, Chairman  
Department of Political Science

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Elizabeth Canny  
Secretary of the Faculty