

## In Memory: Harry Samuel Broudy 1905-1998

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Volume 12, Number 1, 1998

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1073091ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1073091ar>

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### Publisher(s)

Canadian Philosophy of Education Society

### ISSN

0838-4517 (print)

1916-0348 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

### Cite this article

Jackson, M. (1998). In Memory: Harry Samuel Broudy 1905-1998. *Paideusis*, 12(1), 3–3. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1073091ar>

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# **In Memory**

## **Harry Samuel Broudy**

### **1905-1998**

Scarcely a month before his ninety-third birthday, educational foundations and, in particular, philosophy of education lost one of its great figures of the twentieth century. Harry Broudy was born in Poland in 1905 but moved to the United States in 1912. He combined his university studies (A.B., Boston, 1929; M.A., Ph.D. Harvard, 1933, 1935) with an early career in journalism. He was appointed to the Massachusetts Department of Education (1936-37) and went on to teach at North Adams State Teachers College (1937-1949), Framingham State Teachers College (1949-1957), and the University of Illinois (1957-1974) where, on retirement, he was named emeritus professor.

On retiring, he became the first Visiting Distinguished Professor in the Faculty of Education at Memorial University of Newfoundland (1974) and, in subsequent years, was invited to California State University Los Angeles (1978), Ball State University (1982), Ohio State University (1983), and the University of Arizona (1986).

A noted public speaker and frequent guest lecturer, member of many different boards, recipient of three honorary doctorates, author of numerous articles, and author and editor of a dozen books, his courage, wit, and critical insight made him a force to be reckoned with in any discussion of educational policy. One thinks of his demolition of competency-based approaches to teacher education and his comments on the re-orientation of our own field towards policy studies. But it was his support of younger scholars and readiness to listen to what others wanted to say that endeared him to later generations long after his own position—classical realism—and the insights and approach to philosophy it represented had ceased to be fashionable. Our field—indeed, the entire domain of education—has lost the wisdom and guidance of a thoughtful gentleman and a kindly scholar.

*Michael Jackson*