

Ira M. Glazier (1925-2011)

It is with great regret that we record the death of Professor Ira M. Glazier, one of the longest-serving members of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of European Economic History*. He was, in fact, among the original members of the Board (listed in the first volume of 1972) – the Praetorian Guard of the *Journal* – whose membership began with its birth in the spring of 1972. This was celebrated at the great occasion of the launch in Rome on 20 April, under the television arc-lights of the national media and in the presence of a galaxy of academic and business leaders. No other academic journal, in my experience, first saw the light with such public acclaim, and under such eminent patronage.

Although the Editorial Board never met collectively, its members were always individually available to the Editor, for advice and suggestions. In this no one was more active than Ira Glazier, who was, until the end, a principal support for Luigi de Rosa – the *fidus Achates* to his *Aeneas*.

At all commemorative assemblies for the *Journal*, (and at the retrospective seminar in Luigi's honour and, in his memory, *post mortem*), Ira Glazier was always present, contributing in full measure. He became a close personal friend to Luigi and his family, offering help and advice, warmly received by both children, and much support for Ermelinde de Rosa. He was a stalwart, always quiet, modest, reticent as a person, never pushing himself forward but always ready to help.

Ira Glazier's friendship with Luigi de Rosa, which brought him to the *Journal*, sprang from his career-long commitment to Italian economic history. Earlier at Temple University, subsequently at New York University, Ira Glazier concentrated his research upon Italian emigrants to the United States in the nineteenth century. He was an early pioneer in the quantitative analysis of passenger lists, directing students in large-scale studies in the field. These included 'famine immigrants' from Ireland, family history, genealogical studies, pursued with great rigour and resulting in multi-volume collections. Under his direction Temple

University, and then New York University, became an internationally known centre of this area of research and expertise. The *Journal* has lost an important colleague.

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