

Professor David Gordon was an exceptional man and an inspirational advisor. It was an honor and a pleasure to have known him. He didn't say much, but what he did say was significant. Here are some sentences he often uttered as advisor to my dissertation.

"Jump!" (Between paragraphs)

"Where's the thread?"

"Oh, now, this sentence is your entire dissertation, right here!"

"Why not check out Ricoeur, he might be relevant here." (Knowing full well he was.)

"Maybe you can find something to support this claim in the library." (Knowing full well that there was.)

"Why don't you make a diagram of what you mean here and pull it all together?"

David didn't tell you what he knew. He made you go look for it yourself and then was delighted when you "discovered it". A true educator.

His pithy advice still resounds in my head and has accompanied me in my writing and teaching.

I miss him.