Part III
The Publications of Douglas Milllar Johnston

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Introduction

Douglas M. Johnston was a creative and insightful internationally-renowned scholar. Writing to convey innovative concepts, ideas and to persuade a reader of new approaches to topics was his passion. Words, their choice and placement, were his craft. Where conventional words failed to convey precise meaning or sufficient nuance, new words or borrowed words (i.e., words imported from different disciplines) were required.

Douglas wrote with a pen in long-hand. He often wrote in libraries undisturbed by students and other activities around him. He invariably prepared only a single draft, with minimal cross-outs – had this typed – and on perusal of the typed-version perhaps corrected a comma or two beyond typist misspellings. In some cases footnotes were prepared simultaneously with the text; more often, a text was finished and then the footnotes were discovered and added. His work on footnotes was painstaking, sparing no effort in glossing each point as appropriate.

Before putting pen to paper, there was research, reading and mulling. Mulling involved contemplation, but also lots of conversation with a large number of colleagues from a wide variety of disciplines, depending on the topic. Much of the mulling process involved reflection upon and engagement with the interdisciplinary approach and policy orientation of Douglas’ most influential teacher, Professor Myres S. McDougal at Yale University.

From this, as demonstrated below, came an impressive record of writing and scholarly inquiry of a large breadth of subject matters.

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