A wonderful collection of the writings of two of our most distinguished colleagues in political science.

Kenneth A Shepsle, Harvard University

A systematic insight into the foundations and development of the conceptual and methodological underpinnings a Nobel Prize-winning body of knowledge. It does full justice to two people who devoted their entire life to advance the study and understanding of sustained democratic governance without state – and perhaps even, without nation.

Theo Toonen, Delft University of Technology

The Ostroms’ ‘polycentric’ view of public choice theory is expounded here by skilful juxtaposition of empirical and conceptual papers on the subject... Elinor and Vincent’s vision is breathtaking in its scope, and the powerful expressions of it collected in this volume will inspire new generations of institutional analysts for many years to come.

Michael D McGinnis, The Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis