

Indiana University

PHILOSOPHY

Alumni Newsletter

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College of Arts and Sciences – Graduate School Alumni Association

Winter 1984-85

Not just the ivory tower

What else do academic philosophers do? Well, our new chair, Ed Martin, who replaced Mike Dunn in that office last July, has had a couple of stints traveling with a circus. One trip was last Spring and the second last August. The result has been a number of photographs of life under and around the big top. These and other of his photographs have been exhibited in various shows by Ed, who has won prizes for his work in regional competitions. Most recently, an exhibit of his photographs was held in the Matrix gallery on campus through October of this year.

Second year graduate student James Rytting, who is the current President of GASP (i.e., Graduate Association of Students of Philosophy) has been active this Fall as a member of the Bloomington Peace Coalition. This is a small group dedicated to the elimination of the arms race.

But to round out his intellectual and political existence, James is one of what must be a very select group of philosophers. He is certified by the USPTA as a teaching tennis professional. He exploits this talent by running George Makhnikian around the courts; --just retribution for facing the

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Departmental review

or, 'Thanks, We Needed That'

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education has required that Indiana University review every department, school and program within it. Last year was our turn.

In the course of gathering information on the department and its programs, we turned to you, our alums, requesting your retrospective impressions of your days at IU as a Philosophy major. We sent out some 127 letters to you covering as best as our records allowed those persons who passed through the program in the last ten years. We received 61 responses, a surprisingly high rate of return, we thought. The responses were most helpful, often thoughtful and on the whole, gratifyingly

positive in how the contributor's experience here was recalled. We very much appreciate the time, effort, thought and care many of you generously offered. "Thank you, we needed that."

Here are some highlights of the review, culled from nearly six hundred pages of text, figures and data that we accumulated in the review process.

A "Conference Board of Associated Research Councils," ranked seventy-seven graduate programs in Philosophy of which our own was one. In terms of "faculty reputation" and "effectiveness of its graduate program," the Philosophy Department here was

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Alumni news

Last year's newsletter brought a welcome response from a number of you. Here's a brief digest of what we received.

Robert B. Alexander (AB 1965) is an Assistant Principal of an Elementary School with particular interest in Second Language Acquisition.

Douglas Carmichael (Ph.D. 1954) has stepped down as chair at St. Lawrence University, where he has completed over 25 years as professor of philosophy. He is working on a translation of Picodella Mirandola's commentary on a Song of Platonic Love.

S. Cromwell Crawford (MAT 1960) is a Professor of Religion at the University of Hawaii with special interests in bio-ethical issues.

Clarence Davis (Ph.D. 1962) is a Professor and former Dean at Keene State College working on issues in medical and business ethics.

Ann Deitchman (BA 1975) works at the Research Center for Language and Semiotic Studies here at IU helping to edit *Semiotica*. She is married to Mike Smith, who was a graduate student in Philosophy here.

George Dykhuizen (AB 1921), born in Lafayette, IN, in 1899, is a Professor Emeritus from the University of Vermont where he served from 1926 until retirement in 1964, and part-time, as professor Emeritus, for another

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Alumni news

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five years. He has received a number of singular honors: an honorary Doctor of Letters, from the University of Vermont in 1976; the John Dewey Humanist Award in 1978; and in 1980 he was elected an honorary Fellow of the Vermont Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Patrick Dynes (MA 1975) received his doctorate in Public Administration from Ohio State in 1979 and is currently an Analyst with the US General Accounting Office.

Keith Frye (BA 1965) is Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oil, Gas, Shale and Coal Liquids of the U.S. Department of Energy.

John Gray (AB 1984) received a departmental award as an outstanding Philosophy major last Spring and is currently pursuing a law degree at Harvard University.

Ruth B. Heizer (Ph.D. 1971), Professor at Georgetown College and Chair of its Philosophy Department, was Visiting Professor at Baylor University last spring, and studied at Oxford University in 1980-81. She has been active in several summer institutes and finds them a good way "to keep in touch with others in our profession."

Richard T. Hull (Ph.D. 1971), Associate Professor of Philosophy and Assistant Professor of Medicine at SUNY, Buffalo, is now taking leave to become Headmaster of a school for gifted children, ages 3 to 17. His research interests are in Philosophy of Medicine and Professional Health Care Ethics.

R. Scott Lyons (AB 1971), former director of corporate relations at Purdue University, is now associate director of development for major gifts at Skidmore College.

Mike McKinsey (Ph.D. 1976) is a tenured Associate Professor at Wayne State University. Mike spent 1982-83 on sabbatical leave in Finland under the auspices

of an ACLS grant. He is currently at work on a book, Reference and Intentionality.

Sandra McNabb (Ph.D. 1977) is a member of the Technical Staff of the AT&T Bell Labs.

Louise Oncley (MA candidate 1967) is currently Special Assistant to the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, and finds Philosophy a good foundation for government management. "Plato was not far wrong."

Malcolm L. Peel (AB 1957) Professor of Religion, Coe College, has had a career marked by contact with a number of distinguished institutions and honored by a number of prestigious awards: a Guggenheim, an NEH, a Fulbright and a Mellon-University House Fellowship.

William Rapaport (Ph.D. after receiving tenure and a teaching award at Fredonia, has moved to SUNY, Buffalo in the Computer Science Department, where he is doing work in Artificial Intelligence.

George Reeves (Ph.D. 1935), who retired in 1971 after thirty years of service as an international economist, remains a member of The Washington Philosophy Club.

John Weike (AB 1981) is in the law school at Georgetown University.

Ivory tower

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papers of 145 students in George's course, for which James is the grader.

Milton Fisk, who like James Rytting, is an active member of the Bloomington Peace Coalition, took part in a public debate here in Bloomington (9/19/84) concerned with the nuclear freeze movement. Fisk is also a member and central figure of the AFT on campus. Currently serving on its executive committee, he is a former President of the local chapter. (Bo Clark is similarly a member of the exec-

utive committee of the counterpart organization, the AAUP. The AFT and AAUP are the professor's "unions.")

Did you know that our eminent logician, Oscar Ewing Professor Raymond Smullyan, was (a year or so ago) a guest on the Johnny Carson show? And is the subject of articles about him and his books of puzzles and conundrums in such publications as Harpers and The Smithsonian? Raymond is also a magician of professional level abilities. He shares with his wife, Blanche, a love of music and appreciation of IU's music school. Like her, he is an accomplished pianist.

Goeff Hellman, who has a passion for hiking and has tracked the Himalayas, has yearly given piano concerts both here in the halls of the School of Music and elsewhere, recently at Woods Hole, Mass.

Mike Morgan, who is currently on sabbatical, serves the Jewish community in Bloomington, throughout the state, and beyond its borders.

The list goes on. The ivory tower (or Hume's "philosopher's closet") is narrower than the interests, attainments, and involvements of members of the department.

"The Marketplace"

We have five graduate students who are working on their doctoral dissertations and now beginning to make application for academic positions beginning next Fall. They are: Tim Day, who is working on "vicious infinite regresses" with Clark; Kate Gill, who is working on the concept of events with Castañeda; Darshi Jetli, who is working with Castañeda on "The Problem of Relations in the Ontology and the Philosophy of Mathematics of Realism"; Greg Landini, who is working on the formal characterization of semantical concepts of fictional things with Cocchiarella; and Bob Morris, who has just completed his final oral defense of a dissertation dealing with theories of certain intentional notions, with Castañeda as his director.

OK, but what have you done lately?

In this year since our last newsletter (which was our first newsletter), there have been some changes to record and some activities which might interest you.

Reinhardt Grossmann, who was on sabbatical, hopped the Pacific, stopping for an extended period in Manley, across the bay from Sidney, Australia, where he met with philosopher David Armstrong, and lectured. Despite stops including Tahiti and Hong Kong, travel to Germany, and a conference on Gestalt Theory, Reinhardt's knowledge of the (abstract nature of the) world is really embodied in his The Categorical Structure of the World which appeared this past year, as also has his Phenomenology and Existentialism.

Mike Dunn, who relinquished the departmental chair last summer, is now on sabbatical leave. He is one of just 65 scholars from nearly all fields of arts and sciences to receive a Fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies in a nationwide competition. He is currently at IU's Institute for Advanced Study and is doing research for a book, Algebraic Methods in Philosophical Logic, to be co-authored with Gary Hardegree of the University of Massachusetts.

Hector-Neri Castañeda received an honorary doctor of humanities degree from the University of Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Goeff Hellman represented IU at an interuniversity course in the philosophy of science in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, this past April. He was a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford, and has been invited to lecture at Cambridge this coming Spring.

Karen Hanson is a member of the Executive Council of the North American Society for Social Philosophy and an Associate Editor of the Journal of Social Philosophy. Her book manuscript, tentatively titled

The Self Imagined, goes to Routledge & Kegan Paul this Spring.

Nino Cocchiarella's book Predication Theory and the Problem of Universals remains locked in the jaws of the press and we all await its appearance.

George Nakhnikian will offer this Spring an interdisciplinary course dealing with theories of human nature and their relevance for ethical norms, a course which he developed this past summer under an Instructional Development Fellowship.

Paul Eisenberg is one of two members of the Program Committee for the next Western Division meetings of the North American Society for Social Philosophy.

Paul Spade continues on the editorial board of the journal for History and Philosophy of Logic.

Steve Daniel, a senior Philosophy major, completed a major research paper on Husserl's Transcendental Idealism this summer under the direction of Paul Spade and with the support of an NEH Fellowship. Steve also received in the Spring a Vice-Presidential Scholarship, a prestigious internal award recently created in the Academic Vice President's office at I.U.

Dep't. review

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ranked 15th overall, 5th in the U.S. for public institutions, and 2nd in the Big Ten. (Michigan, ranked 9th overall, was 1st in the Big Ten. As you've probably guessed, the Ivy League and large West coast schools tended to dominate the top of this list.)

We discovered in preparing the review that our enrollments were up about fifty per cent for the ten year period, 1973-74 to 1982-83, although our graduate enrollment declined slightly over the period. During this period, twenty-eight of our students

received the doctorate. If our records can be trusted, twenty-three of these now have college-level teaching positions. On average, our graduate students need 3.8 years to reach "candidacy", the point at which they undertake their doctoral dissertation. Following that, on average, doctoral students spend another 2.4 years completing the dissertation. That's a lot of time, commitment, and penurious living, for the sake of "seeking Truth".

In that same ten-year period, our faculty published 262 journal articles (not including reviews and the like) and published 28 books.

"Demographics"? We're a department of about thirty undergraduate majors, about thirty graduate majors, a faculty of fifteen, and an office staff of two aided by a full-time student. With the addition of Graciela DePierris last year, our faculty now has two women members and two Latinos. Henry Veatch, an eminent philosopher whose distinguished career included time at IU going back to the 60's, has retired to Bloomington with his wife. He is once again with the department, now in retirement as an "adjunct" member.

The striking demographic fact that the review starkly presented to us, despite our feelings of youth and vigor, is this: we are an aging and a heavily tenured faculty. All but two of our faculty now have tenure. And in about five years we may well lost our four most senior faculty members to retirement. Castañeda, Clark, Nakhnikian, and Smullyan will all then soon be at or beyond 65 years of age. (Thank goodness, John McTaggart Ellis McTaggart proved that time is unreal!)

A number of prestigious awards, and some quite singular forms of professional recognition, have come to members of our faculty during this ten-year period. Here are some that come readily to mind:

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Dep't. review

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Mike Dunn was named an editor of the prestigious Journal of Symbolic Logic. This is an important post and singular indication of respect for Mike and his work.

Raymond Smullyan, whose work and puzzles have often been cited in the columns of the Scientific American, was selected as one of those mathematicians included in Biographies of Twenty-five Famous Mathematicians, edited by D. Albers.

Hector-Neri Castañeda, who was President of the Western Division of the American Philosophical Association in 1979-80, was the subject of a festschrift edited by James Tomberlin. Both he and Milton Fisk have had special colloquia devoted to their work at meetings of our national organizations.

In addition to these forms of professional recognition, nearly every member of our faculty has, in the ten year period, been the recipient of one or more major Fellowships: 6 NEH (National Endowment of the Humanities), 3 Fulbrights, 2 NSF (National Science Foundation), 1 American Council of Learned Societies, 1 Lilly Open Fellowship, are among the awards and fellowships that have come to the department.

The Department of Philosophy Alumni Newsletter is published annually for alumni of IU's Department of Philosophy by the Indiana University Alumni Association in cooperation with the Department of Philosophy and the College of Arts and Sciences-Graduate School Alumni Association to encourage interest in and support of Indiana University.

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Indiana University's philosophy department is interested to learn about alumni and their activities. Please send us news that you think might be of interest to the department and its alumni. You can use the form below if you like. Mail to Philosophy Newsletter, c/o Alumni Publications, IMU M-17, Bloomington, IN 47405.

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