

## Indiana University Alumni Newsletter

# P \* H \* I \* L \* O \* S \* O \* P \* H \* Y

Volume XXII

College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association

Fall 2007

### Mike Dunn Retires

Jon Michael Dunn, a fixture in the department and in the university for nearly 40 years, retired June 30. Mike joined the philosophy department in 1969 after a brief period at Wayne State University. He followed the WSU chair, George Nakhnikian (now professor emeritus), to IU and has been here ever since.

Mike's interest in logic began at Oberlin College, where he received his BA in 1963; he continued as a student of Nuel Belnap at the University of Pittsburgh, where he received a PhD in philosophy in 1966. He has always been involved in multidisciplinary activities, because logic is one of those areas that cannot be neatly pigeonholed into the usual academic departments.

Mike was made full professor in 1976; in 1989, he was named the Oscar Ewing Professor of Philosophy, as well as a professor of computer science. He was also a founding faculty member in the Cognitive Science Program.

Mike has combined research, teaching, and service throughout his career. His research is reflected in more than 80 publications, including 4 books and over 130 talks at conferences and universities. He has received fellowship awards from Fulbright, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies, and research support from the National Science Foundation. He was twice chair of the Department of Philosophy, and served as the first executive associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He was the founding dean of the School of Informatics, which in 2001 became the first completely new school at IU in a quarter of a century. He has chaired 17 doctoral dissertations, most in philosophy, but also in cognitive science, computer science, and mathematics.

He has been a visitor at the Australian National University, University of Melbourne, and Oxford, among others. In Australia, he met another logician who has risen in academic administration, Michael McRobbie, and was an examiner on his PhD dissertation.



Mike Dunn

In addition to his official administrative service, Mike has led or served on more than 70 faculty committees at all levels and has been on practically every committee having to do with computing at IU, including chairing the Information Technology (IT) Committee, which put together the University's strategic plan for IT in 1999.

Mike admits to close friends that he is an avid multitasker, and could not combine his research and administrative careers in particular without the ability to be in a meeting seeming to take scrupulous notes,

when in fact he is trying to prove a new theorem.

Occasionally, campus conversations become confused at the mention of "Dean Dunn," a confusion that arises because Mike's wife, Sally, was Dean of the University Division. Sally also retired June 30. Their son, Jon William Dunn, is associate director for technology of the Digital Library Program. Jon's wife, Erin, works for UITS. Their daughter, Jennifer Knight Dunn, has an MS from SPEA and her husband, John Knight, is a graduate student in chemistry at IUPUI. However, the family has no known connection with Dunn Meadow.

Mike was honored with a symposium, a reception, and a dinner on April 19. Michael McRobbie, who was then provost and president-elect, started the festivities with a talk entitled *From Intensional Logics to Gaggle Theory: A Philosopher's Journey through the Academy*. He then presented Mike with the Provost's Medal; it was only the second time this has been awarded. At the reception which followed, Mike was presented with a memorial booklet from the Logic Group and a graphic genealogy from former student Paul Syverson

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### Hanson Named Provost

Philosophy's very own Karen Hanson has been named executive vice president and provost of the IU Bloomington campus. President Michael McRobbie announced the appointment on July 5.

Karen is the first permanent provost to be appointed on the Bloomington campus. In this position, she will report directly to President McRobbie and serve as the chief academic officer of the Bloomington campus. She will oversee academic and budgetary policy and priorities, and facilitate the attainment of the highest quality faculty and student body by providing leadership in matters related to academic programs and policies, promotion and tenure, faculty recognition, research, university outreach, and student recruitment and retention.

Karen joined our department in 1976. She served as department chair from 1997–2002, and was named Rudy Professor in 2001. She also is an adjunct professor of gender studies, American studies, and comparative literature. She has been dean of the Honors College since 2002. Karen says, "I'm honored to have been chosen as provost, and I'm grateful to President McRobbie for giving me the opportunity to serve, in this capacity, the campus and university that I love."

# Alumni news

**Eric C. Barnes**, MA'89, PhD'90, is an associate professor of philosophy at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. His book *The Paradox of Predictivism* is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. "Thanks to all the Indiana philosophers who taught me," he writes.

**Kyle S. Barnett**, BA'92, of Louisville, Ky., is in a tenure-track position in the Department of Communications at Bellarmine University in Louisville.

In May 2006, **Aaron B. Carpenter**, BA'04, wrote, "I'm moving off to Poland after the new year." At the time, he was living in Northampton, Mass.

**Brian P. Clifford**, Cert/BA'03, JD'06, is an associate at the law firm of Baker & Daniels. He practices in construction, environment, and real-property litigation in Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Jay A. Diskey**, BA'81, MA'88, is executive director of the school division of the Association of American Publishers, headquartered in Washington, D.C. Previously, he ran Diskey & Associates, his own public

relations and public affairs consultancy, specializing in education and workforce development.

**Christine Arnold Keck**, BA'89, has been selected as a member of the 2006-07 class of the Sen. Richard G. Lugar (LLD'91) Excellence in Public Service Series for women living in Indiana. She is senior vice president and co-manager of the Evansville Commercial Banking Group. Keck serves on the board of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana and as a commissioner on Evansville's Historic Preservation Commission.

**Michael Krausz**, MA'67, is the Milton C. Nahm Professor in the Department of Philosophy at Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pa. In 2003, a festschrift on his work was edited by Andreea Ritivoi and published by Rodopi Publishers, *Interpreta-*

*tion and Its Objects: Studies in the Philosophy of Michael Krausz*. He lives in St. Lewes, Del.

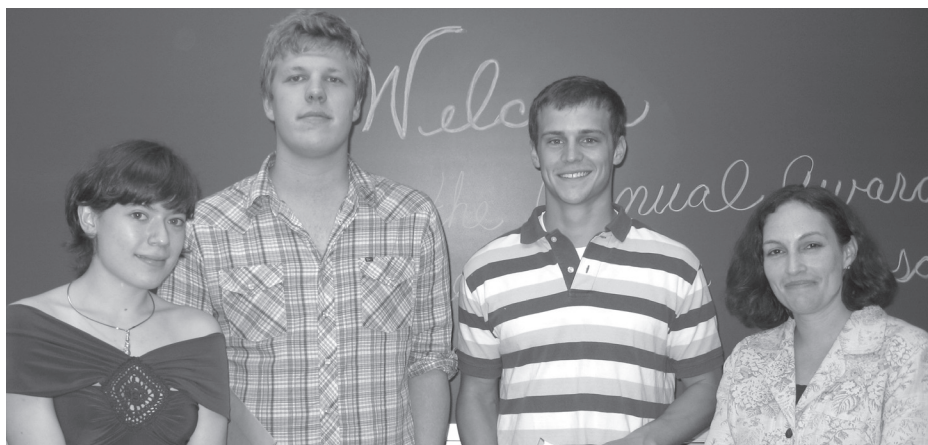
**Jack Green Musselman**, PhD'00, is director of the Center for Teaching Excellence at St. Edward's University, a liberal arts college in Austin, Texas. He and his wife, Elizabeth Green Musselman, MA'95, PhD'99, who now has tenure at Southwestern University, have a son, Liam.

**Summer Johnson**, BA'03, is an assistant professor of medical ethics at the Alden March Bioethics Institute of Albany Medical College in Albany, N.Y. She serves as director of graduate studies and as director of a program studying ethical issues in innovative health technologies. Johnson received her doctorate in bioethics and health policy from Johns Hopkins University in fall 2006.

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Spring 2007 Graduate Award winners, left to right, Andrew McAnninch, John Churchill, Director of Graduate Studies Fred Schmitt, Allen Gehring, Jaeho Lee, Ellie Wang



Undergraduate Award winners, left to right, Isabel Estevez, Alex Boeglin, and M. Tyler King, with Director of Undergraduate Studies Sandy Shapshay

## PHILOSOPHY

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of Philosophy and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to [ualumni@indiana.edu](mailto:ualumni@indiana.edu).

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**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
Bloomington

## Edwin Mares (PhD'90)

I started at Indiana University in 1984, after being an undergraduate near Toronto. I came with an interest in intentionality and fictional objects, but during Nino Cocchiarella's course on Montague grammar, I decided that I had to become a logician. At about the same time as I was in Nino's course, Mike Dunn suggested that I look into the logic of fiction. This sealed my fate—I wrote a dissertation on that topic.



I can't say that I (or anyone else) loved that thesis, but it did get me started as a logician. The appendix, which gives a semantics for identity in relevant logic, was published in *Studia Logica*. What was most important about the thesis process was my apprenticeship as a philosopher and logician. Mike Dunn was the perfect mentor. He was always there when I needed advice, but he wasn't pushy. And he showed me how to write a logic paper. I have always tried to emulate him when I supervise my own students.

I loved my time in Bloomington. I had always been good at hanging out, but even being modest about it, I must say that at grad school I reached a level where I could have competed internationally. I remember with extraordinary fondness having coffee with Tim Day in the evenings (at the Runcible Spoon), watching stupid videos with him and Adriano Palma, and hanging out in the coffee room in Sycamore Hall with Paul Spade and the gang. I also recall Raymond Smullyan presenting us with the two envelope problem. That stopped us from doing anything else except talking about it for at least a semester. (And it went on from there. I took it to Dalhousie University, where it caused similar damage and at least one article was written about it.)

I was a flatmate for two years with Paul and Jennifer Syverson. They were great flatmates. (I just can't bring myself to use the American "roommate"—it sounds like we shared a room. We were good friends, but not that good.) I was a terrible influence on them. They were foody and didn't have a television. I had a TV and was addicted to ordering in. It seems to me that we spent an awful lot of time eating takeaway Chinese food and watching Miami Vice or Dallas (ah, the '80s). Later, a colleague of mine was to accuse me of ruining his career by teaching him computer games. I don't

feel guilty about luring people into lives of sloth—it's just what I do.

After leaving Indiana, I took up a Canadian government postdoctoral fellowship at The Australian National University. My choice of location was directly influenced by Mike. At the ANU I met Bob Meyer, with whom I maintain a close friendship and close working relationship (we have written four papers together). My two years in Australia were absolute bliss. I recommend a postdoc highly (nice work if you can get it). And having one's boss 14,000 miles away is a real bonus. I had a wonderful time doing relevance logic and wandering around Australia. Between looking at kangaroos, koalas, wonderful colorful fish on wonderful colorful coral reefs, very scary snakes and spiders and dozens of other things that can kill you in extremely painful ways, and waiting patiently and futilely by rivers for platypuses, I wrote a few papers about logic.

When my postdoc ended, I returned to Canada via a three-month trip through Asia and Europe. I stayed for a while with another former Hoosier, Eros Corazza, at the University of Geneva. I did the European conference circuit that summer (1991). I can recommend this as well. European conferences have a wonderful relaxed atmosphere. You can meet people and talk philosophy while looking at beautiful art or architecture, or eating the most amazing food. I try at every opportunity to return to Europe.

When I got back to Canada, I taught for a year on the east coast—at Dalhousie University—and then a year on the west coast—at the University of Victoria. I would have been happy to stay in either of

these universities, but the job market being what it was (and I imagine still is), I took up the first tenure track position offer that I was given, which was at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand.

So, in 1993 I headed back down under. My department was then the home of Hughes and Cresswell of modal logic fame. Unfortunately, George Hughes died within a year of my arrival, but it remained an excellent place to do logic and philosophy in general. Max Cresswell and I became good friends almost immediately. Although I was desperate at the time to work on something other than relevance logic (which I had to call "relevant logic" because I was down under), Max eventually convinced me to write about its philosophical interpretation. Max kept attacking relevant logic (in conversation), and I just had to reply. Eventually this resulted in my book, *Relevant Logic: A Philosophical Interpretation* (Cambridge University Press, 2004).

I have been in Wellington ever since. Professionally and personally, life is good. Rob Goldblatt, Neil Leslie, and I started a Centre for Logic, Language, and Computation in 2001. Rob and I currently have a research grant to write a book on quantified modal and substructural logic. With my colleague Stuart Brock, I just published a book on the realist-antirealist debate in metaphysics (*Realism versus Antirealism*, Acumen, 2007). I live with my lovely wife, Sue, and have two extremely nice stepdaughters, Lee and Jane. And we have two excellent dogs—Zermela and Lola (I know, I know, I should have named the other one Frankel, but I didn't get to choose her name). Plus, I have a breathtaking view from my balcony.

### Fisk Receives Honorary degree in Hungary

Milton Fisk has been retired for 10 years now, but that hasn't kept him from writing, lecturing, and traveling. In June, he went to Hungary, where he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Debrecen.

This university is the second largest in Hungary and has its roots in a Calvinist college that was established in the 1500s. Milton gave lectures there on political philosophy in 1997 and 2002, and got to know several faculty members, including Istvan Bujalos, who is now dean of the university's college of liberal arts. "We have a lot of connections, and several of the people at Debrecen have been at IU," said Milton.

In addition to receiving the honorary degree, which recognized Milton's work on health care reform and the public good, he presented a paper at Debrecen on the philosophy of ethics.

Milton is the author of *Toward a Healthy Society: The Morality and Politics of American Health Care Reform*, published in 2000, and is currently working on a book about why we have ethics. "It's the kind of problem you get in a freshman philosophy course, but nobody's ever answered it," he said.

## In Memoriam

Professor Emeritus Romane L. “Bo” Clark died on August 17, at the age of 81. Bo was on the faculty here from 1970–1991, where his research was in philosophy of mind and perception. During his tenure in the department, he served as chair and as both undergraduate advisor and director of graduate studies. Bo was also well known for his ardent support of Hoosier basketball.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Marilyn, four children, and three grandchildren.

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Virgil T. DeVault Alumni Center  
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## Dunn Retires

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(PhD’93). Then several other deans and university officials joined forces to announce the establishment of the J. Michael Dunn Student Award, a scholarship in Mike’s name, for a student with interdisciplinary interests. There was also a continuous loop video presentation of Mike’s old pictures and a tribute tape made by informatics and computer science faculty and staff. Access grid telecommunications from many of Mike’s former students and distant colleagues were also available.

At the dinner that evening, McRobbie, acting on behalf of Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, presented Mike with the Sagamore of the Wabash, the highest award the state can give one of its citizens, usually to honor community and professional contributions. “Dunn has distinguished himself by his humanity in living, his loyalty in friendship, his wisdom in council, and his inspiration in leadership,” McRobbie said, reading from a prepared statement written by Daniels.

The University won’t be the same without Mike, but if anyone deserves a happy, restful retirement, it is him—though that doesn’t seem to be his plan. He attended both the Microsoft and NSF conventions in July, and intends to stay active with his research and consulting. The Philosophy Department joins with everyone else with whom he has worked over the years in wishing him the very best.

## Philosophy Alumni: What’s new with you?

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Last name while at IU \_\_\_\_\_

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