

# Indiana University PHILOSOPHY

Vol. VII

Alumni Newsletter

Summer 1992

College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

## Nelson endowment received, lecture series begins

Decades ago, James B. Nelson made a provision in his will for the IU Department of Philosophy to receive a large endowment after the death of his daughter and only heir, Julia. With her death this past year, the money (approximately \$1.5 million) has been deposited in a trust account, and the department will be able to spend the interest on it each year.

Nelson (alumni may remember his portrait hanging in the reading room) had no direct connection with IU or the philosophy department. He was born in Greencastle and attended DePauw and the University of Michigan, where he earned a law degree. He managed some farm lands in Pike County and then went into the banking business at Greencastle, where he became president of the Citizens Bank & Trust Co. In 1917, he gave up his banking career and, along with an uncle, founded Fame Laundries in Indianapolis. He built that business into a five-state organization and chaired its board until his retirement in 1960. It is believed that his interest in IU developed along with his friendship with IU Chancellor Herman B Wells. Nelson also left money to his alma mater, the University of Michigan.

It was Nelson's wish that the money be used primarily for the teaching of philosophy. With that in mind, the faculty has decided to use a large portion of the funds to hire visiting faculty to teach courses while regular departmental professors take "mini-sabbaticals." This, in effect, gives faculty a reduced teaching load for a semester, thereby freeing their time for research. The Nelson money will also be used to provide various forms



*Presenting the first Julia-Jean Nelson Rudd lecture, Tom Regan speaks on the topic of animal rights.*

of assistance to graduate students.

Julia-Jean Nelson was also born in Greencastle. She attended Sweet Briar, DePauw, a girls' school in Berlin, and the Belcourt Seminary in Washington. Her life-long interest was the prevention

of cruelty to animals, and she was active in this field. She added a stipulation to the endowment saying that the department must sponsor a lecture each year about animal rights.

Consequently, the first annual Julia-Jean Nelson Rudd lecture was given on March 27 by Tom Regan, professor of philosophy at North Carolina State University.

Regan has given hundreds of invited lectures in public and academic settings throughout the United States and abroad addressing major moral issues. As a speaker on animal rights, he has appeared on television programs such as "Today." He has testified before the United Nations and the U.S. Congress. He has published 21 books, including *The Case for Animal Rights* (1983) and *Bloomsbury's Prophet*, which were nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and an American Book Award.

He gave a dynamic and interesting talk, with all agreeing that this was a splendid beginning to the lecture series.

## *Castañeda succumbs to brain cancer*

Hector-Neri Castañeda, 66, The Mahlon Powell Professor of Philosophy, died of brain cancer on Sept. 7, 1991.

Born on Dec. 13, 1924, in San Vicente, Zacapa, Guatemala, Castañeda rose from poverty to great heights in the world of academia. His career would climax years later in a great celebration of the philosopher/author/lecturer conducted by his native country. In mid-August 1991, Castañeda traveled to Guatemala City, where he received some of the highest

honors granted by his country: He received the Presidential Medal; a park and a school were named in his honor; and a stamp and a coin bearing his likeness are to be issued. It was also announced that his books would be published as a set in Spanish.

Castañeda came to the United States in 1949 to study philosophy and mathematics at the University of Minnesota, where he received bachelor's and master's

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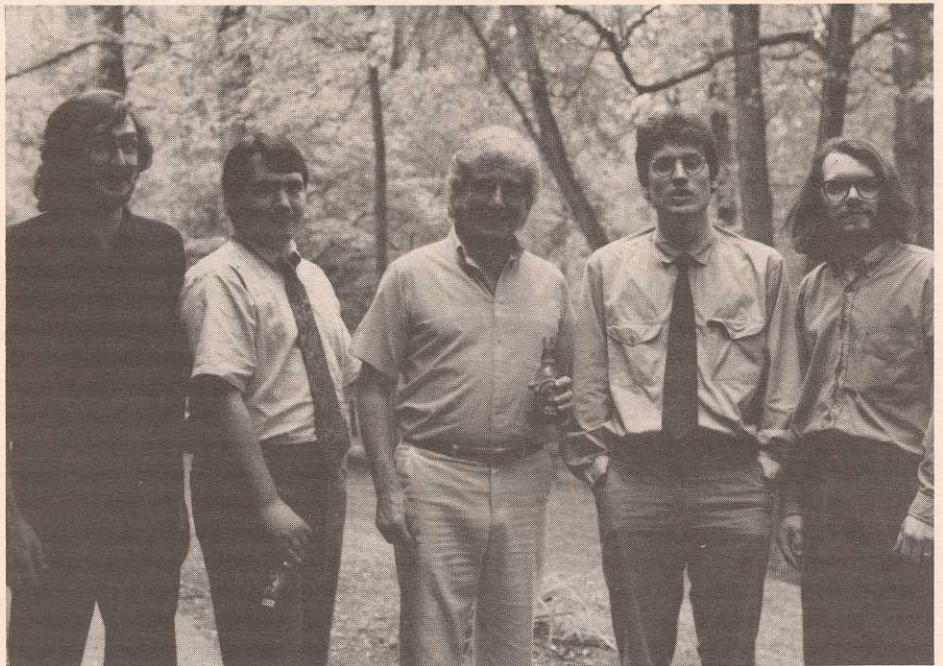


# Graduate students hold first philosophy conference

On May 12, the Department of Philosophy held a Graduate Student Conference on "Early Analytic Philosophy." During spring semester, Professor Nino Cocchiarella taught a course in this area (P531). Encouraged by the enthusiasm of the students in the class, he suggested that they hold a "mini-conference," to give them experience in organizing a conference and in reading papers.

Four students volunteered to write and read papers at the conference: Kurt Bergmann, "On the Logical Status of Error Theories; Craig DeLancey, "Is Wittgenstein Committed to a Logically Perfect Language in the *Tractatus*; Adam Kovach, "The Development of Russell's Views on Propositions and Propositional Attitudes; and Tim Maletic, "Actualism and Possibilism in Russell's Two Theories of Denoting." Kurt is an undergraduate, while Adam, Craig, and Tim are all second-year graduate students. Another second-year student, Eric Dalton, was drafted as chair, and did a fine job.

This is the first conference in the philosophy department organized and given by graduate students. There has been some discussion that we should make the event an annual one.



*Conference Participants Party at Cocchiarella's—From left, Adam Kovach, Eric Dalton, Nino Cocchiarella, Craig DeLancey, and Tim Maletic.*

The conference was well attended, and there was substantial participation from the audience. Among the professors who took a part in the questions and discussion were Paul Eisenberg, Anil Gupta,

Reinhardt Grossmann, Jim Hart, and, of course, Nino Cocchiarella. The conference was followed by a lively party at the Cocchiarellas', and "a good time was had by all."

## Castañeda

*(continued from page 1)*

degrees and a doctorate. He held teaching positions at several American and foreign universities before joining the faculty at IU in 1969. A few years later, he became the Mahlon Powell Professor of Philosophy. He also served as dean of Latino Affairs from 1978 to 1981. Throughout his professional career, Castañeda maintained his position as editor of *Noûs*, and was a member of various philosophical societies and associations, including the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Castañeda authored several books, including *The Language of Morality* and *Thinking and Doing*. Among the many honors he received during his lifetime were two honorary doctor of humanities degrees. Two colloquia on his work were held recently.

Funeral services took place in Bloomington with a memorial service on campus a few weeks later. Burial will be in Guatemala.

Departmental alumni may well remem-

ber the piles of materials stacked everywhere in Castañeda's office. What happened to it all? Well, shortly before his death, *Noûs* was sold to Blackwell Pub-



*Goodbye Old Friend—Professor Emeritus George Nakhnikian, long-time friend of Hector Castañeda, speaks at Castañeda's memorial service in Bloomington.*

lishers, and James Tomberlin, William Lycan, and Geoffrey Sayre-McCord were named as new editors. Boxes and boxes of records and old issues were shipped to the new publisher and editors. Then, after his death, Castañeda's family took what books and papers they wanted. Next, the main library and the Lilly Library together took about 70 cartons of material. All the books in Spanish (about 10 more cartons) were shipped to the Universidad de San Carlos in Guatemala. Finally, everything that was left was offered at "bargain basement" prices to graduate students and faculty of the department. More than \$1,700 was made at this sale, and this money also will be sent to the university in Guatemala.

Though we all miss Hector and were saddened by his early death, we feel that many, many people in two countries will benefit by the material he left behind. He would surely approve.

Contributions can be made to the Hector Neri Castañeda Memorial Fund at the IU Foundation. This money will be used to help Guatemalan students get a college education.



## Faculty news

**Jon Barwise** received an honorary degree from the University of Pennsylvania on May 18, for his work relating cognitive science to philosophy, logic, and computer science.

**Fred Beiser** has been selected as an Honors Division faculty member and will teach his first honors course for undergraduates next fall. His second book, *The Cambridge Companion to Hegel*, will be published later this year.

**Nino Cocchiarella** has written four articles for the *Handbook of Metaphysics and Ontology* and has written reviews for *Studia Logica* and *Mathematical Reviews*. He has also written a chapter for the *Routledge History of Philosophy* on "Formally-Oriented Work in the Philosophy of Language" and is currently writing a book on modal logic with former student Max Freund.

**Paul Eisenberg** wrote an article included in *Spinoza: Issues and Directions*, edited by Curley and Moreau and published by Brill. He has been elected to the board of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers and is vice president of both the Indiana Philosophical Association and the IU Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. He serves as a member of the IU Faculty Council. He has also given several talks. The most unusual one was "A Philosopher Among the Lawyers," sponsored by the Poynter Center and the IU Center for the Study of Law and Society. It was based on Eisenberg's week-long experience as foreman of the jury in a local murder trial. He also reports that he is now a grandfather; his stepdaughter gave birth to a boy last October.

**Milton Fisk** has published essays on punishment, the nature of rights, the Russian economy, and, in Spanish, the role of intellectuals. He also spent some time as a visiting scholar at the University of Maine and was part of a conference sponsored by the section on worker control of the faculty of economics at Moscow State University. Fisk keeps in shape by taking mountain climbing trips with his daughter, who lives in Colorado. He has three grandsons, so he is hoping the grandchild to be born this fall will be a girl.

**Reinhardt Grossmann** reports that since he is getting older, the time is right to point out the mistakes other philosophers are making. So he has written several short reviews this year that have been published in *The Review of Metaphysics*, *Noûs*, and elsewhere. His latest book, *The Existence of the World: An In-*

*troduction to Ontology*, was published by Routledge on June 25. Work on his "monumental final book," called *Facts*, continues with six chapters already finished.

**Anil Gupta** has joined **Mike Dunn** as editor of the *Journal of Philosophical Logic*.

**Michael Morgan** edited *Classics of Moral and Political Theory*, published by Hackett, and his *Dilemmas in Modern Jewish Thought* will be published in November by the IU Press. While on sabbatical this past year, Morgan completed a third book, *To Seize Memory: Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought in Its Historical Context*. He published several other articles and reviews and gave talks in Boston, Dallas, Houston, and elsewhere. His daughter, Debbie, having graduated from IU in 1990, is working on two master's degrees in Baltimore and her sister, Sara, has just completed her first year at IU.

**George Nakhnikian** is keeping busy even after retirement. He had an article, "Kant's Theory of Hypothetical Imperatives," published in *Kant-Studien* in April. His second grandchild, Hannah, was born last January.

**Dennis Senchuk** has published *Against Instinct: from Biology to Philosophical Psychology* (Temple University Press, 1991), in which, he discusses instinct and whether or not such a thing exists in human behavior. Saying that "there is no good evidence in support of the idea of instinct," Senchuk believes instinct is just a label for what we don't yet understand. He has also served as director of undergraduate studies this past year.

Claiming he's being punished for his

past sins, **Paul Spade** served as acting director of graduate studies this past year. He returns to normal life this summer to begin work on a monograph on late medieval logic and semantic theory. Spade has published several articles this year and had a chapter on "Late Medieval Logic" accepted for the forthcoming *Routledge History of Philosophy: The Middle Ages*. In a less professional vein, he wrote an article on musical aesthetics for *The Ryder* a local magazine of culture and the arts. He has produced a tape of piano performances of (mostly) original jazz compositions titled *Pythagoras and Other "Numbers."* It is available only to those he chooses. (In other words, don't ask.)

**Alice ter Meulen** was one of four IU people to attend and present lectures at the third Workshop on Situation Theory and Its Applications in Oiso, Japan. The others were Jon Barwise, Jerry Seligman (a post-doc), and graduate student Karen Brown. Ter Meulen also presented a special session at the joint meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic and the Linguistic Society of America at UC Santa Cruz.

**Tim van Gelder** was one of the organizers of an international workshop/conference, held in Bloomington last November, titled "Dynamic Representation in Cognition." It was envisioned as the first in a series of biennial symposia on the role of dynamical models in the study of human cognition and behavior. The conference was supported by the U.S. Office of Naval Research and various campus departments and programs.



*All Kinds of "Oscars"—Two Oscar R. Ewing Professors pose at this year's awards ceremony with winners of the Oscar R. Ewing Graduate Essay Contest. From left, David Chalmers, co-winner, J. Michael Dunn, the current Ewing professor, Raymond Smullyan, professor emeritus, Chrysafis Hartonis, co-winner, and Eric Dalton, runner-up.*



## Alumni news

**M. Gordon Beavers**, PhD'91, won the University's 1991 campus-wide Esther L. Kinsley PhD Dissertation Award.

**Bobby R. Dixon**, PhD'90, has been named a Minority Faculty Fellow for this summer and is back teaching P140 in the second summer session.

**Max Freund**, PhD'89, is an associate professor of philosophy at the National University of Costa Rica and a part-time assistant professor of cognitive sciences at the University of Costa Rica. He has received grants to work on Searle's Chinese Room Argument and to co-write a modal logic textbook with Professor Cocchiarella. He has published several articles and given invited talks in Spanish.

**Tomis Kapitan**, PhD'78, gave this year's Distinguished Alumni Lecture,

titled "Exports and Imports." He is now at Northern Illinois University.

**Michael McKinsey**, PhD'76, who has been promoted to full professor at Wayne State University, Detroit, is spending 1991-92 in the former Soviet Union as a Fulbright Fellow, teaching graduate seminars at Moscow State University.

**Adriano Palma**, PhD'89, has been awarded a one year research grant from the Ministry of Scientific Research in Switzerland.

The Department has received news of the deaths of two of our alumni. **Michael Bayles**, PhD'67, died in Tallahassee on Aug. 6, 1990. He had been professor of philosophy at Florida State since fall 1987. **Steve Hornibrook**, MA'85, died on Feb. 1, 1992, in London. He had been working with severely handicapped people and people with AIDS before his own health began deteriorating.

## Student awards

• The 1992 Ewing Award Reception was held on April 29. Winners **David Chalmers** and **Chrysafis Hartonis** tied in the graduate essay category and **Eric Hammer** got honorable mention; **Bruce Gerstman** won the undergraduate essay award; **Atsushi Shimojima** was the outstanding graduate student; **Mike Song**, outstanding undergraduate; **H. Peter Steeves**, outstanding associate instructor.

• **Jeffrey Fry** is going to Germany next year with two grants: the Horstmann Fellowship and a travel supplement from the University Committee on West European Exchanges.

• **Martin Schonfeld** has won a dissertation-year fellowship from the Research and University Graduate School. He was also invited to give comments on a paper at the APA/Pacific Division meeting in Portland, Ore. Martin has written a small book on environmental ethics that was published by IU's Center on Global Change and World Peace. He also has an article that will be published in *American Philosophical Quarterly*.

• **H. Peter Steeves** was invited to give two papers this year. The first was for the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, which met in Memphis. The second was presented to the International Association for Philosophy and Literature at Berkeley.

• **Christopher Vaughan** has won a Mellon Fellowship to use while writing his dissertation next year. He will write on Sartre, with Paul Spade.

### Tell us about yourself...

Pass along the latest about yourself to the Philosophy alumni newsletter, Indiana University Alumni Association, P.O. Box 4822, Bloomington, IN 47402-4822. Use this form for address correction.

Your news \_\_\_\_\_

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## PHILOSOPHY

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