

# OU PHILOSOPHY NEWSLETTER

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## GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Once again, it is my pleasure to greet you following another exciting and eventful academic year. Perhaps the most important of our activities was the national search to fill the Kingfisher Chair in Philosophy of Religion and Ethics, following Tom Boyd's retirement after the spring 1997 semester. (By the way, from all reports and not unexpectedly, Tom and Barbara are flourishing in the mountains of Colorado.) The applicant response to our opening was overwhelming, and the three finalists for the position were superb. I am thrilled to announce that Professor Linda Zagzebski, chair of the Department of Philosophy at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, will be joining our department in the fall of 1999 as the third tenant of the Kingfisher Chair. I should add, with some pride, that Linda is the first woman to hold an endowed chair in the history of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oklahoma. Congratulations and welcome, Professor Zagzebski!

Other notable events during the academic year 1997-98 include an active colloquium series featuring invited lecturers from other schools (Professors Robert Batterman, of Ohio State University, and Lynne Rudder Baker, of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, among others) and our brownbag series. During the year, our newly established Undergraduate Advisory Council sponsored a couple of interdisciplinary brownbag discussions that brought together majors from the Philosophy, Computer Science, and Psychology departments. The Philosophy department also hosted its third Annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, which attracted participants from Baylor, Oklahoma Baptist, New Mexico State, and Oklahoma universities. Professor Marilyn Friedman, of Washington University, St. Louis, was the keynote speaker. Preparations are already under way for the fourth conference, which will be held during spring 1999 and will feature Professor Gareth Matthews (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) as the keynote speaker. Please consider joining us for this exciting event. I should add that by the time you receive this, Professor Jaegwon Kim (William Herbert Perry Faunce Professor at Brown University) will have delivered the fifth David Ross Boyd Lectures in fall 1998.

Our faculty continue to be active in all phases of the profession. Among the notable achievements are the following: Neera Badhwar has been invited to be the Distinguished NEH Visiting Professor for the fall of 1999 at SUNY-Potsdam. She will deliver various public lectures, teach classes, and encourage faculty development during her stay there. Reinaldo Elugardo was elected vice president of the Central States Philosophical Association. As vice president, Ray was responsible for putting together the program for the annual meeting of the association in Clive, Iowa, on October 16 and 17. Next year, Ray will become the president of the association. During his term as president, the annual meeting will be held in Norman. The department Web page, maintained by Wayne Riggs, recently won a "second-class" award from *The Philosophers' Web Magazine*. The page contains information about the department and degree programs, as well as individual and course web pages. Ed Sankowski was co-principal investigator on a grant of about \$850,000 awarded by the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency. Chris Swoyer's paper "Complex Predicates and Conversion Principles" was included in *The Philosopher's Annual* as one of the 10 best philosophy papers published in 1997. We were fortunate to retain the exceptional services of Mark Thomas (Ph.D., Rice University) and Jeff Purinton (Ph.D., Princeton University) for another year. I have been chosen as Faculty Senate chair-elect for the academic year 1998-99 and will be Faculty Senate chair in 1999-2000. Our students have been active, as well. Fourteen of our undergraduate majors (Philosophy and Ethics & Religion) earned bachelor's degrees. Among our graduate population, six earned master's degrees, and five earned doctoral degrees. The OU Philosophical Society appears to be active again, and several students (graduate and undergraduate) made professional presentations.

The past academic year was excellent, and the one ahead promises to be even better.

I would like to thank all our alumni who have responded to previous newsletters and to various questionnaires. A special thank you goes to those of you who have been able to contribute financially to the well-being of the department. It is important to us to hear from **all** of you, as we try continually to improve our program. Let us know how you are doing!

Hugh H. Benson, Chair

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## GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN

I am pleased to provide a few words of greeting to the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the Department of Philosophy. This is a great time to be at the University of Oklahoma. The quality of our students, the levels of both state and private funding and of grants and contracts, and the number of faculty have reached record-high levels and are continuing to increase. We are being successful in recruiting many talented young faculty members and retaining our successful senior faculty. New endowed chairs and professorships are being added at a rapid pace, and support for the teaching and research activities of faculty and students is continuing to grow. We are adopting new technologies to enhance the teaching/learning environment--not as a substitute for human interactions but as a means to enhance and facilitate student-teacher interactions. And we are investing not just in hardware and software, but in people, by providing faculty with opportunities to improve their own skills. As we approach the end of the millennium, the University of Oklahoma and the College of Arts and Sciences are poised to achieve President Boren's goal of becoming national role models for public higher education. The goal is achievable, but only with the financial support of our alumni and friends and a dedicated focus on achieving and maintaining the highest standards of scholarship by our faculty and students. It is up to all of us in the OU community to work together to accomplish our goal. I invite all of the supporters of OU's talented and successful Department of Philosophy to join us in the quest.

Paul B. Bell Jr., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

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## NEW ARRIVALS

Since the fall 1997 *Newsletter*, four brand new, very small persons have joined the Philosophy department family. We are delighted to welcome them and to offer congratulations to their parents. The newcomers are listed below, in order of their appearance on earth.

**Colin Squires Durand** (8 lbs., 8 ozs., 20 and one-half inches long) was born to Jessica and Kevin Durand on November 24, 1997.

**Samuel Brinton Montgomery** (9 lbs., 14 ozs., 23 inches long) was born to Emily and Brint Montgomery on January 15, 1998.

**Alyssa Briana Denson** (7 lbs., 18 inches long) was born to Dolly and Dustin Denson on March 12, 1998.

**Alexander Haden Konieczny** (6 lbs., 7 ozs., 20 and one-half inches long) was born to Shelley and Robert Konieczny on May 28, 1998.

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### THE THIRD UNDERGRADUATE PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE

The third annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference was held on April 4, 1998, sponsored by the OU Department of Philosophy, the OU Philosophical Society, the University of Oklahoma Student Association, and the OU Speakers Bureau. The program comprised five papers, with commentary, together with the keynote address.

**Marcos Stocco** (University of Oklahoma), "Emergentism." Commentator: Randy Ridenour (University of Oklahoma).

**Drew Mosley** (Oklahoma State University), "True Knowledge vs. Workable Notions: The Teaching of Virtue in Plato's *Meno* and *Protagoras*." Commentator: Kevin Durand (University of Oklahoma).

**Stephen Harris** (University of Oklahoma), "Victimization and Authenticity: A Consideration of the Existential Dilemma." Commentator: Alan Lutz (University of Oklahoma).

**Daniel Hieber** (Southwest Missouri State University), "Aristotle's Ethical Paradigm." Commentator: Jeffrey McBride (University of Oklahoma).

**Heidi Nunn** (Ouachita Baptist University), "Popular Criticisms of John Rawls' *A Theory of Justice*." Commentator: Jordan Flaschner (University of Oklahoma).

**Marilyn Friedman** (Washington University, St. Louis) delivered the keynote address--"Battered Women, Autonomy, and Intervention."

Thanks and congratulations are due to everyone who worked on the conference, and especially to **Kathleen Poorman-Dougherty** and **Maria Paleologou**.

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### THE 1997-98 J. CLAYTON FEAVER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

**Jeffrey Harrison** is the recipient of the 1997-98 J. Clayton Feaver Award. Jeffrey is a philosophy major, with minors in German and Latin. He is an OU Regents Scholar, a member of the OU Philosophy Society, a tutor to middle-school students, and a trained hospice volunteer. He plans to attend law school after graduating in May 2000. The Feaver scholarship was established to honor the late J. Clayton Feaver, who was the first and (to date) the longest-serving tenant of the Kingfisher Chair in Philosophy of Religion and Ethics. Recipients (undergraduates majoring in philosophy or in ethics and religion) are chosen primarily, though not exclusively, on their academic record. It is fitting that the first Kingfisher College Fellow at the University of Oklahoma--**Ms. Audrey Ellsworth Maehl**--should initiate the award. And it is her continuing generosity that enables the Philosophy department to award the scholarship each year to some deserving student. We are grateful.

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### THE 1997-98 KENNETH R. MERRILL GRADUATE TEACHING AWARD

**Bill Ferraiolo** was chosen to receive the Kenneth R. Merrill Graduate Teaching Award for 1997-98. Because of his teaching duties in California, Bill was unable to attend the presentation in person. He joins Lee Basham (a two-time recipient) and Barry Vaughan as winners of this award.

The Graduate Studies Committee of the Philosophy Department chooses the recipient of the award from nominations received from several sources. Dr. Mark Conkling, a Philosophy department alumnus (Ph.D., 1974), underwrites the generous stipend attached to the award--for which we say thanks.

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### SPEAKERS

The department was pleased to have the following speakers during the academic year 1997-98: **Edward Minar** (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville), "The Existential Significance of Other Minds Skepticism: Cavell on Living One's Skepticism"; **Robert Batterman** (Ohio State University), "Universality, Unification, and Understanding"; **Brian Leftow** (Fordham University), "Evil, Good, and God"; **Lynne Rudder Baker** (University of Massachusetts/Amherst), "Unity without Identity: A New Look at Material Constitution"; **Linda Zagzebski** (Loyola Marymount University), "Virtues of God and the Foundations of Ethics"; **Jonathan Kvanvig** (Texas A&M), "Hell: Its Nature and Necessity"; and **Marilyn Friedman** (Washington University), "Romantic Love and Personal Autonomy." Professor Friedman also presented the keynote address of the Third Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (noted elsewhere in this *Newsletter*).

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### NEWS ABOUT OUR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The following philosophy majors earned bachelor's degrees during the academic year 1997-98: **Farzad Rezai** (*with distinction*), **Derek Franklin Hartsfield**, **Aaron D. Beame**, **Stacey Brooke Byars**, **Lyndell D'armond Byrd**, **Timothy Charles Edwards**, **Joseph S. Lee** (*summa cum laude*), **Seth Lewis Lynch** (*cum laude*), **John Warren Porter** (*magna cum laude*), **Justin Wayne Raeburn**, **David Ian Utle**y, **Jayd Doran Neely**, **Marcus David Stocco**.

Earning bachelor's degrees in ethics and religion were **Chad Keith Burrow** and **Dara Fogel** (*magna cum laude*).

**Angela Taylor**, a philosophy major and Judaic Studies minor from Norman, was one of 10 OU students selected to receive a \$1,000 award from the Dorot Foundation to support their travel to Israel for study during the summer.

**Chris Kneifl**, **Joseph Lee**, **Seth Lynch**, **John Porter**, and **Farzad Rezai** were elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa, a national honorary society founded in 1776.

Undergraduate majors participated in our brownbag series during 1997-98. "Philosophy of the Mind: The Debate Over Artificial Intelligence" was the topic of discussion between the departments of Philosophy and Computer Science. A discussion on Self & Identity was co-sponsored by the OU Philosophical Society and the OU Psi Chi/Psychology Club.

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## NEWS ABOUT OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS

**Chris Springer**, **Dustin Denson**, **Jeffrey McBride**, **Jordan Flaschner**, **Kevin Durand**, and **Eric Scott Jones** earned master's degrees during the past academic year.

The following students have completed doctoral degrees since the last newsletter (the dissertation director is given in parentheses): **Lee Basham** (Elugardo), **Harry Moore** (Sankowski), **Rafael Rondón** (Merrill), and **Karen Mizell** (Sankowski). **Jack Safarik** (Merrill) defended his dissertation in August, but the degree will be formally awarded in December 1998.

The department is pleased to welcome several new students for fall 1998: **Susan Alvarado**, **Timothy Edwards**, **Joseph McKellar**, and **Shahabeddin Yalcin** (who joined us in spring 1998).

**Ed Cox** commented on James Taggart's paper "Physicalism without Token Identity: the Ubiquity of Real Coincidence" at the annual meeting of the Central Division, American Philosophical Association (Chicago, May 1998).

**Kevin Durand** presented a paper, "Mathematicians and the *Philotheomenes*: Considering Mathematics, Dialectic, and the Line," at the Mid-South Philosophy Conference (Memphis, February 1998). At the same meeting he also commented on a paper by Catherine McKeen, "Substantiality and Aristotle's Subject Criterion."

**Chris Herrera** was one of three OU students to receive the Ph.D. Dissertation Prize last year.

**Scott Jones** presented a paper, "The Subjectivity of Consciousness as Accounted for in Whiteheadian Metaphysics," at the Mid-South Philosophy Conference (Memphis, February 1998).

**Kathleen Poorman-Dougherty** received the Harriet Harvey Memorial Scholarship, one of the oldest and most prestigious awards available to OU students. The scholarship is open to both undergraduate and graduate students in any academic field. Kathleen presented "Responsibility for Character and a Rotten Social Background Defense" for the brownbag series.

Several of our newly minted Ph.D.s or current A.B.D.s are teaching in widely scattered schools.

**Lee Basham** is living in Stillwater and is driving to Edmond to teach philosophy courses at the University of Central Oklahoma. He was recently adopted by an orange and black cat (just what one would expect in the home of OSU) with piercing yellow eyes. Lee is married to OU philosophy department alumna Roksana Alavi.

**Rafael Rondón** has completed three years in a tenure-track position in the philosophy department of California State Polytechnic University in Pomona.

**Bill Ferraiolo** has completed his first year at San Joaquin Delta Community College in Stockton, California.

**Lee Hester** was a visiting assistant professor at Oklahoma City University.

**Brint Montgomery** is in his second year of full-time teaching at Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, Oklahoma. He began teaching there with an adjunct appointment in 1995.

**Robert Thompson** traveled to Larnaca, Cyprus, this summer to teach Introduction to Philosophy to students from Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. Because some of the students knew no English at all, Rob was obliged to teach through an interpreter.

**Stephen Wagner** has been named bibliographer and associate editor of *Isis* by the History of Science Society. Beginning January 1, 1999, Steve will be responsible for compiling and editing the annual *Current Bibliography of the History of Science*, which comprises about 4,500 citations each year and is about 325 pages long. (A substantial number of the entries have to do with the history of philosophy and the philosophy of science.) He will also be responsible for assembling the data to be included in the **History of Science and Technology** database. As the History of Science bibliographer, Steve will hold a staff position in the Department of Philosophy, for which he will teach one course per semester.

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## NEWS ABOUT THE FACULTY

Each newsletter will cover faculty activities for one academic year (i.e., roughly, from one August to the next). Publications that appeared during the last year are listed elsewhere in this *Newsletter*.

**Neera Badhwar** presented her paper "Well-Being: From Subjectivity to Objectivity" at the Conference on Love, Friendship, and the Emotions, held at Arizona State University in February 1998. Her essay "Moral Agency, Commitment, and Impartiality," published in *The Communitarian Challenge to Liberalism* (1996), has been nominated for the American Philosophical Association's Greg Kavka/University of California at Irvine Prize in Political Philosophy.

**Hugh Benson** delivered "Socratic Self-Knowledge in the *Charmides*" at the Arizona Colloquium on Plato, at The International Plato Society Symposium Platonium, and at Oberlin College. His paper "Natures, Capacities, and Final Causes" is forthcoming in *Internationale Zeitschrift für*

*Philosophie*. His book *Socratic Wisdom: The Model of Knowledge in Plato's Early Dialogues* will be published by Oxford University Press. Hugh is still working on an analysis of Plato's *Charmides* for Project Archelogs, and he will contribute a paper to a collection of new essays devoted to the Socratic *elenchos*.

**Monte Cook** has finished work on the two-envelope paradox and is currently doing research on the problem of knowledge of the existence of the physical world as this problem appears in the 17th century.

**Ray Elugardo** is currently writing a paper, "Logical Form and the Vernacular," with Professor Robert Stainton of Carleton University (Ottawa). Ray was commentator for two papers: "Brute Error with Respect to Content," by William Larkin (American Philosophical Association Pacific Division, Los Angeles); and "Quinean Indeterminism--Back from the Crypt?," by Mark Silcox (Canadian Philosophical Association, Ottawa). Ray organized the program for the annual meeting of the Central States Philosophical Association, which met at Clive, Iowa, in mid-October. Ray will be president of the CSPA next year.

**James Hawthorne's** paper "The *Preface*, the *Lottery*, and the Logic of Belief" (written jointly with Luc Bovens) is forthcoming in *Mind*. He presented "The Logic of Bayesian Inference" to the History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium, at the University of Colorado, Boulder, March 1998. Jim continues as director of Graduate Studies for the department.

**Kenneth Merrill** attended the annual meeting of the Hume Society in Stirling, Scotland, where he commented on a paper by Patrick Corrigan, "'Of Miracles': A Link Between the Two *Enquiries*." In the fall of 1997, he taught a class once a week at the University Center in Tulsa--the first member of the OU Philosophy department to do so. He is editor of this *Newsletter*.

**Jeffrey Purinton** has been re-appointed as visiting assistant professor. He has recently completed a paper entitled "Epicurus on the Swerve and Free Volition." He is currently working on a book tentatively entitled *Epicurus on the Nature of the Gods*.

**Wayne Riggs** was one of six OU faculty members chosen to participate in the Big 12 Faculty Fellowship Program. The fellowship enabled him to spend two weeks working with Jonathan Kvanvig, of Texas A&M University. Wayne is chiefly responsible for maintaining the department Web page, which recently won a "second-class" award from *The Philosophers' Web Magazine*.

**Edward Sankowski** has three papers forthcoming: "Autonomy, Education, and Politics," *Philosophy of Education*; "Film and the Politics of Culture," *Journal of Aesthetic Education*; and "South African Democracy, Multi-Culturalism, Rights, and Community," in *Problems of Democracy*. He presented several papers at professional meetings and elsewhere: "Comparing Democracy in South Africa and the USA," at the annual meeting of the Mid-America Alliance for African Studies, University of Oklahoma; "Multiculturalism, Anthropology, and Democracy," at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.; "Beyond Free Will: Blame for Action and Blame for Psychology," presented to the Philosophy Department, University of Capetown, South Africa; "Autonomy, Authority, Education, and Normative Judgment," at the Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy, Boston; "Community, Identity, and Political Theory," at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. Ed was funded by the University of Oklahoma to attend a conference on Teaching Research in Ethics (in the biomedical and behavioral sciences) at the Poynter Center, Indiana University. He is continuing his work as co-principal investigator on a three-year \$850,000 multidisciplinary grant awarded by the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency. The project was developed through the OU Science and Public Policy Program, and is about environmental problems and watershed management. He is also continuing his work as an administrative Fellow in the Provost's Office, where his main duty is to coordinate the Norman campus program-review process.

**Chris Swoyer** has several pieces forthcoming: "Metaphysical Explanation" will appear in Volume 22 of *Midwest Studies in Philosophy*. A review of *Benacerraf and His Critics* is forthcoming in *International Philosophical Quarterly*. He will have two substantial entries in the *Stanford On-line Encyclopedia of Philosophy*: "Properties" and "Relativism." Chris is currently developing a Web-based Critical Reasoning course, the manual of which is now entirely on the Web. The course will exploit certain features of the Web, most notably the possibility of interaction between student and machine, and immediate feedback. The course includes a chapter on evaluating sources of information, an important skill in view of the lack of quality control over the staggering amount of information available on the Internet.

**Zev Trachtenberg** continued to serve as coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Environment (IPE) program. In the spring 1998 term, he jointly taught the IPE senior "practicum," in which students completing the IPE minor take on a practical environmental project. The project for that term was to conduct an environmental audit of the OU campus in order to determine the environmental impact of the university's operations. The class report is available on the IPE website: [www.ou.edu/cas/ipe](http://www.ou.edu/cas/ipe)

## PUBLICATIONS

**Neera Badhwar**. "Friendship," in *Encyclopaedia of Philosophy*. Routledge, 1998.

**Hugh Benson**. "A Framework for a Socratic Dynamic Theory." *Apeiron*, v. 30 (1997).

**Ray Elugardo**. "Mixed Quotation," in *Philosophy and Linguistics*, edited by R. Stainton and K. Murasugi (Westview, 1998).

**James Hawthorne**. "On the Logic of Nonmonotonic Conditionals and Conditional Probabilities: Predicate Logic." *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, v. 27, No. 1 (1998).

**Wayne Riggs**. "What Are the 'Chances' of Being Justified?" *The Monist*, v. 81, No. 3 (July, 1998).

**Edward Sankowski**. "Democracy and Education: Some Deweyan Issues." *Philosophy of Education* (1997).

**Chris Swoyer.** "Complex Predicates and Theories of Properties and Relations." *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, v. 27 (1998).

Zev Trachtenberg. "How Can Property Be Political?" and "The Environment: Private or Common Property?" *Oklahoma Law Review*, v. 50 (1998). "Rousseau," in *The Encyclopedia of Aesthetics* (Oxford University Press, 1998).

## AWARDS

We congratulate the faculty members listed below for their fine accomplishments--grants, honors, appointments, etc.--during the past year.

**Neera Badhwar** has accepted an invitation to be Distinguished NEH Visiting Professor for the fall of 1999 at State University of New York at Potsdam. In that capacity, she will deliver public lectures, teach classes, and encourage faculty development.

**Hugh Benson** has been chosen as chair-elect of the OU Faculty Senate. Next year he will be chair of the Senate.

**Ray Elugardo** was honored as the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, Department of History and Philosophy, Eastern Michigan University. Ray also received an internal NEH 1998 Summer Stipend Award of \$1,000.

**Edward Sankowski** was chosen as president-elect of the Mid-America Alliance for African Studies. He received several University of Oklahoma research grants during 1997-98 to present papers at conferences.

**Chris Swoyer's** "Complex Predicates and Conversion Principles" was selected as one of the 10 best philosophy papers written in the English language in 1997 and will be reprinted in *The Philosopher's Annual*. Also being honored in this volume are such distinguished philosophers as Robert Adams, the late Jean Hampton, David Lewis, and Derek Parfit. Chris' essay appeared originally in *Philosophical Studies*, v. 87 (1997).

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## NEWS ABOUT THE STAFF

**Susan Nostrand**, administrative secretary in the philosophy department, was honored in April 1998 for 25 years of service to the University of Oklahoma. Everyone associated with the department owes Susan a great debt of gratitude for doing consistently excellent work, and doing it with good humor and dignity (but definitely **not** stuffiness). Thanks, Susan. Here's to the next 25 years!

**Shelley Konieczny** took a leave of absence over most of the summer to ensure that Alexander Haden--heir to the Konieczny fortune--got a favorable initial impression of the world. She returned to work about the beginning of the fall semester. Welcome back, Shelley.

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## THANK YOU, DONORS!

The philosophy department is grateful for the generous financial support of many persons over the years. Their contributions have made it possible for us to do a number of good things that we would not otherwise have been able to do. Heartfelt thanks to all of them.

We single out for special mention the following donors:

**Mark Conkling**, who funds the Kenneth R. Merrill Graduate Teaching Award.

**Audrey Ellsworth Maehl**, who initiated and underwrites the J. Clayton Feaver Scholarship.

**Carlton W. Berenda** (1911-1980), who taught in the philosophy department for more than 30 years, bequeathed his home and his car to the philosophy department upon his death in July 1980. The department sold both items and deposited the money with the OU Foundation, where it has earned thousands of dollars in the years since. Carl's generous gifts have paid for a lot more than he would have dreamed of. He would be pleased.

**Mueller Fund Contributors:** Michelle Bushore, Paul J. Hang Jr., Mrs. John G. King, Dr. William C. Paske, Thomas J. Singleton Jr., Stephen K. Smith.

**J. Clayton Feaver Scholarship Fund Contributors:** Dr. John D. Burgeson, Audrey Maehl.

**Kingfisher College Trust Fund Contributor:** O.K. Detrick Foundation.

**Kenneth R. Merrill Graduate Teaching Award Contributor:** Mark L. Conkling.

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## NEWS FROM ALUMNI

We are pleased to pass along information we have received from several former philosophy department habitués. We have included e-mail addresses whenever we had them.

**Roksana Alavi** (B.A., 1996/ Jhoojeh@aol.com) is doing graduate work in philosophy at Oklahoma State University, which has awarded her two scholarships. As part of an internship program sponsored by OSU and Tulsa Community College, she is teaching Introduction to Philosophy at TCC. Roksana is married to OU philosophy department alumnus Lee Basham.

**Gregory (Greg) Bassham** (M.A., 1985/ ghbassa@rs01.kings.edu) went from OU to Notre Dame, from which he received a doctoral degree in 1992. Since that time, he has been teaching at King's College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, where he lives with his wife and 3-year-old son. Greg's book *Original Intent and the Constitution: A Philosophical Study* was published by Rowan & Littlefield in 1992. His article-length publications include a review of Robert Lowry Clinton's *God and Man in the Law: The Foundations of Anglo-American Constitutionalism*, in *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* (1998); "Freedom's Politics: A Review Essay of Ronald Dworkin's *Freedom's Law: The Moral Reading of the American Constitution*," in *Notre Dame Law Review* (1997); and "Using the Film *JFK* to Teach Critical Thinking [written jointly with Henry Nardone]," in *College Teaching* (1997).

**Anne Edwards** (Ph.D., 1993/ edwardsa@apsu01.apsu.edu) teaches at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee. She has a book--*Writing to Learn: A Student's Guide to Writing Philosophical Essays*--under contract to McGraw-Hill (with an advance on royalties yet!). The book should be out next summer or fall. Anne continues to teach Medical Ethics, and has developed new courses in Religious Ethics, Educational Ethics, etc.

**Curtis Hancock** (M.A., 1974/ hancock@vax1.rockhurst.edu) received a doctoral degree from Loyola University of Chicago after leaving OU. He is currently the tenant of the Joseph M. Freeman Chair in Philosophy at Rockhurst College, Kansas City, Missouri, where he has taught since 1985. Last year (1997), he received both the Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching (for the state of Missouri) and the Teacher of the Year Award at Rockhurst College (an award that he also received in 1987). In addition to many articles, reviews, and presentations, Curtis has written two books: *Truth and Religious Belief* (written jointly with Brendan Sweetman), M.E. Sharpe Publishing Co., 1998; and *How Should I Live? Philosophical Conversations about Moral Life* (written jointly with Randolph M. Feezell), Paragon House, 1991.

**Charles W. Hudlin** (Ph.D., 1985/ hudlincw.dfpfa@usafa.af.mil) is a lieutenant colonel in the U. S. Air Force and teaches at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, where he holds the rank of professor. He was on the executive committee of the National Conference on Ethics in America, which met yearly in Long Beach, California. Charles presented a paper each year from 1991 through 1997, the last one being "Community and a Common Morality." He received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to attend a six-week summer seminar in 1992. He presented his paper "Professionally Speaking" at the Mountain Division of the American Aesthetics Conference, Santa Fe, New Mexico, summer 1998. At the Air Force Academy he teaches Ethics, Medical Ethics, Critical Thinking, Philosophy of Law; and War, Morality, and the Military Profession.

**Peter Hutcheson** (Ph.D., 1979/ ph02@swt.edu) has been teaching for a number of years at Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas. Peter lives in Austin with his wife, Anne-Marie, and their four children: Vanessa (11), Jessica (9), Alyssa (7), and Wesley (3). He has recently had two articles accepted for publication: "Introducing the Problem of Evil," forthcoming in *Teaching Philosophy*; and "An Implication of Omnipotence," forthcoming in *Southwest Philosophical Studies*. He has completed a review of Isaac Levi's *The Covenant of Reason for Philosophy in Review*, and is currently working on two invited reviews that will appear in *Philo*, a new journal in the philosophy of religion named after the character in Hume's *Dialogues*.

**Royce P. Jones** (Ph.D., 1972/ jones@hilltop.ic.edu) continues to teach philosophy at Illinois College, Jacksonville, Illinois. He will be on sabbatical leave during the spring 1999 term to work on the manuscript for a text in critical thinking and a manuscript for a supplementary text in symbolic logic. Royce looks forward to having time for research and writing and to enjoying a respite from his duties as Illinois College faculty secretary, a position he has held since 1978.

**John Link** (B.A., 1965; MFA in Painting, 1968/ link@wmich.edu) is professor of art, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan. He was head of the Western Michigan Department of Art on two occasions, which were separated by a brief stint as professor and head of the Department of Art, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia. He had earlier spent nine years teaching at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. Although John uses his knowledge of philosophy when he thinks about art, he has written only one article that is, in his words, "directly philosophical": "The Hardness of Art," which appeared in *Arts*--a now-defunct journal that is still listed in the *Art Index*. John says that he still turns out very large paintings.

**Judith Little** (Ph.D., 1994/ littlej@potsdam.edu) continues to teach in the Philosophy Department at the State University of New York in Potsdam. She recently received the Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Award for the spring 1999 semester. The award comprises a semester off with full pay and some additional money for travel and books (plus, of course, the recognition for excellent work). Judith is currently working on the manuscript for a book, *Feminist Utopias and Dystopias: Experiments in Moral and Political Theory*. She is also serving as vice chair of the Faculty Assembly.

**Walter Mutsumi Nabakwe** (M.A., 1972) completed a doctoral degree at the University of Ottawa (Canada) in 1983. Since 1984, he has been a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, University of Nairobi, Kenya, Africa. He has served on the Board of Examiners for masters' students in philosophy, religious studies, literature, and history. He is currently director or co-director of several masters' theses.

**Arthur Prince** (Ph.D., 1996) teaches part-time at three different schools in the Memphis, Tennessee area: Dyersburg State's Tipton County Center (in Covington), Christian Brothers University (Memphis), and Mid-South Community College (West Memphis, Arkansas). A student at Mid-South presented an original piece of her own art work to Arthur in appreciation of his dedication to his students. In August 1998, Arthur read a paper in the Human Rights Section of the Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy, Boston.

**Albert B. Randall** (Ph.D., 1972/ randalla@apsu01.apsu.edu) has taught at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee the past 27 years. Bert's book *Theologies of War and Peace Among the Jews, Christians, and Muslims* (Edwin Mellen Press) was recently published. Bert made three trips to the Middle East under three different grants while working on the book. More exciting than any of that, however, is the imminent arrival of Bert's first grandchild (already known to be a granddaughter).

**Doren Recker** (Ph.D., 1983/ drecker@okway.okstate.edu) teaches in the Philosophy Department of Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. For the past eight summers, he has been director of Paleontology Academies for High School Students. In the Philosophy Department, he teaches courses in various areas of the philosophy of science, plus epistemology, Descartes, etc. He has begun playing the guitar professionally again (after a 26-year hiatus) in local clubs. He is also writing music and looking for a publisher. Doren's wife, Nancy (*née* Johnson), was a member of the OU philosophy department staff ca. 15 years ago; and his daughter, Laurel, can now legally drive an automobile without an adult tagging along (*caveat viator*).

**Rafael Rondón** (Ph.D., 1998/ rfrondon@csupomona.edu) was commentator for Murray Clarke's paper, "Meliorative and Nonmeliorative Projects," at the annual meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, Los Angeles, March 1998. In February, he presented "The Value of Biodiversity" (written jointly with David Adams) at the Yucatan Conference "Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Biodiversity and Regional Development," at La Universidad Autónoma de Yucatan. At home (i.e., in CalState/Pomona), he gave a paper--"Appearance and Reality: Can Physics Bridge the Gap?"--to the Physics Department.

**Michael Silberstein** (Ph.D., 1995/ silbermd@etown.edu) teaches in the Philosophy Department of Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. He will be on a junior research leave in spring 1999 to work on a couple of book-length projects.

**Michael W. Speck** (M.A., 1997/ michaels@siu.edu) is a third-year student in the Southern Illinois University School of Law. He is currently working as an extern in the Jackson County Public Defender's Office. He also serves as production editor of the law journal of SIU. As if that were not enough, he is president of the Graduate and Professional Student Council at SIU. He plans to move to Massachusetts next May and sit for the bar examination in July.

**Earl W. Spurgin** (M.A., 1988/ espurgin@jcvaxa.jcu.edu) earned a doctoral degree at the University of North Carolina/ Chapel Hill after leaving OU. He teaches at John Carroll University, University Heights, Ohio (a suburb of Cleveland). Earl's essay "Hume, Broken Promises, and the Reactions of Promisees" appeared in the *Southwest Philosophy Review* (vol. 12, No. 1); and his "What's So Special about a Special Ethics for Business?" is forthcoming in the *Journal of Business Ethics*. He has received two summer research grants and a course-development grant since joining the Philosophy Department at John Carroll.

**Donald W. Viney** (Ph.D., 1982/ dviney@pittstate.edu) is (still) the only philosopher at Pittsburg [**no h**] State University, Pittsburg, Kansas. He recently published a translation of some of the works of the 19th-century French philosopher Jules Léquyer, or Lequier (Edwin Mellen Press). Don's entry on Charles Hartshorne is forthcoming in the second edition of *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*. His article "The Varieties of Theism and the Openness of God: Hartshorne and Free Will Theism" is to appear in the next issue of *Personalist Forum*. He presented this paper at the celebration of Hartshorne's 100th birthday, in Austin, October 1997.

**Spencer K. Wertz** (Ph.D., 1970/ s.wertz@tcu.edu) is professor of philosophy at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, where he has taught the past 30 years. His book *Talking a Good Game: Inquiries into the Principles of Sport* was published by SMU Press in 1991. He has published scores of articles and discussions; has presented more than 70 papers at conferences and meetings of philosophy societies; has served as president of four philosophy societies; and has lectured widely in the United States as well as in Japan, England, Germany, Canada, and Mexico.

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## OVERVIEW

The University of Oklahoma is a doctoral degree-granting research university serving the educational, cultural and economic needs of the state, region and nation. Created by the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature in 1890, the university has 18 colleges offering 134 bachelor's degrees, 82 master's degrees, 51 doctoral degrees, four graduate certificates, and one professional degree. OU enrolls almost 27,000 students on campuses in Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa and has approximately 1,830 full-time faculty members. The university's annual operating budget is approximately \$657 million. The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution.