

Indiana University

PHILOSOPHY

Alumni Newsletter

Vol. I, No. 1

College of Arts and Sciences – Graduate School Alumni Association Winter 1983-84

Alumni news

Dan Cohen defended his Ph.D. thesis on the logic of conditional assertions this summer; the thesis was written under the joint direction of Nuel Belnap and Mike Dunn. Dan has accepted a position at his undergraduate alma mater Colby College in the woods of Waterville, Maine.

Udo Etuk has returned to Nigeria after completing his degree last year. His thesis, directed by Milton Fisk, was concerned with ethical problems concerned with African development. He is now at the University of Port Harcourt. Ricardo Gomez has taken a position at the California State College at Los Angeles. He completed his degree last year with a thesis on Kant under the guidance of Hector Castaneda.

After completing an undergraduate honors thesis concerned with Whorf and language Jim Moore worked last year on the Peirce project in Indianapolis. He is now pursuing a graduate degree at the University of Pittsburgh. John Gray, an undergraduate major, has been nominated by the Department for the Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships. The competition for these is of course very intense. Last year's award for best undergraduate senior was won by Stephen Gensits who is now pursuing graduate work in Colorado. Max Hathaway, an undergraduate major of ours, went on to graduate study in Germany for two years, and is now a student in the IU Law School.

(Continued on page 2)

Message from the chairperson

Dear Alumni, Students, Friends,

It is with pleasure that I write to all of you, but especially our alumni, both undergraduate and graduate, in this first of what I hope will be many newsletters. By these newsletters we hope to achieve several goals.

First, we want to inform you of interesting developments in our department and in our field. We will do this largely by keeping you informed about the faculty. Who are they? What are they doing? What honors and awards have they won? In this premier issue we have tried to give you basic information about each faculty member, and some extra information about new faculty.

Second, and equally important, we

want to keep informed about you, and to help you keep informed about each other. We want to know where you are, what you are doing (and since we are philosophers, even why). In this issue we have included a little news regarding alumni, but we very much wish to expand this section in later issues. We can do this only with your help. So please write to us (you can fill out the handy coupon in this newsletter), and tell us what you are doing.

I hope you will enjoy the newsletter. Please write us with any suggestions you might have about how to improve it.

Best regards from all of us in Philosophy at I.U.,

Michael Dunn, Chair

Current faculty

Because some of our alumni graduated many years ago, there may be a degree of unfamiliarity with the present faculty. Accordingly, we would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. The following, then, is a list of current faculty members of the Department together with a short description of their interests.

Hector Castaneda (Ph.D., University of Minnesota) has been for several years the Mahlon Powell Professor of Philosophy. The author of a half dozen books and over a hundred journal essays, he has won several prestigious fellowships--including a Guggenheim--and is the founding editor of Nous. His interests include a wide range of historical and topical problems with some emphasis on practical reasoning and morality. He joined the Department in 1969.

Romaine (Bo) Clark (Ph. D., University of Iowa) came to I.U. in 1971 after many years at Duke. He has been an N.E.H. and Fulbright Fellow and concentrates his research in metaphysics and philosophical logic.

Nino Cocchiarella (Ph.D., U.C.L.A.) joined the Department in 1968. He has received fellowships from N.E.H. and N.S.F. for work in philosophical logic and formal ontology. The publication of his book on Predication Theory and the Problem of Universals is imminent.

(Continued on page 2)

Alumni

(Continued from previous page)

Ann Roth has just returned from a year of study at Kent University in Canterbury. And **Jane Fleener**, an undergraduate with us a couple of years ago, recently completed an MA in philosophy at UNC, Chapel Hill.

Harold Kincaid is now at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. After completing a thesis with Paul Eisenberg on Hegel he had taught in Indianapolis. **Hyo Kim** returned to Seoul, Korea, last year where he now teaches at Hanyang University. His thesis work was with Ed Martin and concerned Hume's views of causation. **Russ Wahl** is teaching at Wabash College. His thesis, written with Bo Clark, concerned Russell's early work on propositions and facts.

Steve Laycock is presently at the University of Hawaii. After writing a thesis under Paul Eisenberg on "Intersubjectivity and the Divine Environment" he decided to try some of the divine environment first hand. **Glenn Lesses** is now at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. His thesis, on Plato, was also done with Paul Eisenberg. Paul also directed the thesis of **Jim MacDonald**. Jim now teaches at I.U.P.U.I., Indianapolis. **Michael Pendlebury** has returned to South Africa where he now is a faculty member of the University of Natal Pietermaritzburg. His thesis work on believing was completed in 1980 with Bo Clark. **Rick Schoenig**, after several years at San Antonio College in Texas, completed his degree with a study of primary and secondary qualities. **Greg Weber** is a planning analyst with Schreiber Foods of Green Bay. His thesis research was on purposive behavior and value judgments. And since finishing his thesis on Brentano **Larry Wilt** has been working for the University of Maryland in Baltimore County managing the collection of the Kuhn Library and Gallery.

Faculty

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Graciela De Pierris (Ph. D., University of California) will join us in the spring of 1984. She was a visiting faculty member at Purdue last Fall and has recently received her degree at Berkeley. Her research interests include Kant and modern philosophy as well as problems in epistemology and philosophy of language.

Michael Dunn (Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh) is this year closing out a four year term as Departmental Chair. He has received major fellowships and has been a research visitor at both Oxford and the Australian National University. His interests in the algebraic treatment of logics has recently branched out to include computers. He has been at I.U. since 1969.

Paul Eisenberg (Ph.D., Harvard) has major interests in ethics and political theory and a number of historical figures. He is especially concerned with nineteenth century German philosophy. He came to Bloomington in 1966.

Milton Fisk (Ph.D., Yale) also came to I.U. in 1966. He has long-standing interests in metaphysics of physical nature, but more recently has been concerned with political thought, and especially Marxist philosophy.

Reinhardt Grossmann (Ph.D., University of Iowa) has been at I.U. since 1962. He has published a half dozen books concerned with matters of ontology and metaphysics.

Karen Hanson (Ph.D., Harvard) joined the Department in 1976. Her courses cover a wide range of interests, including esthetics, pragmatism, philosophy of mind, and language.

Geoffrey Hellman (Ph.D., Harvard) has received grants from N.E.H. and N.S.F. His special interests range from musical esthetics and symbol systems to problems in quantum mechanics. He came to I.U. in 1972.

Edwin Martin (Ph.D., M.I.T.) has been at I.U. since 1968. He has held fellowships from N.E.H. and the Lilly Endowment. A long-standing interest in philosophy of language and, particularly, Frege has recently given way to concern with esthetic problems related to photography.

Michael Morgan (Ph.D., Toronto) is also a member of the Jewish Studies Program. Besides problems in Jewish thought his major interests lie in Greek philosophy. He has been a member of the Department since 1975.

George Nakhnikian (Ph.D., Harvard) came to I.U. in 1968 from Wayne State. His interests are in major historical figures, and normative ethics and their relation to the human condition.

Raymond Smullyan (Ph.D., Princeton) visited I.U. for a couple of years and has since last year been the Oscar Ewing Professor of Philosophy. His interests in logic and recursion theory are complemented by work with mathematical games, puzzles, and paradoxes. He is the author of several books and writes a bimonthly column for The Sciences.

Paul Spade (Ph.D., Toronto) came to I.U. in 1972. His special interests are in medieval philosophy, logic, and semantic theory, and he has written several books in those areas.

Faculty news

The members of the Department have been busy during the last year, and the plans of several have included travel. **Karen Hanson** visited Austria this summer, for instance. She attended the Wittgenstein conference in Kirchberg (near Vienna) where she delivered a paper on esthetics. A number of faculty have gone to Australia recently. **Bo Clark** spent a year in Canberra not long ago, as did **Mike Dunn**. Mike also spent part of last summer in Australia. While his base was the University of Melbourne (where he was a Distinguished Visitor), he lectured at seven other universities and two professional meetings. And

(Continued on page 3)

Faculty news

(Continued from previous page)

Reinhardt Grossmann will be spending next spring on sabbatical at the University of Sydney. Reinhardt's latest book, The Categorical Structure of the World, should now be out from I.U. Press. Paul Eisenberg delivered a paper on world hunger in Montreal during August at the meetings of the International Social Philosophy Conference.

Hector Castaneda spent the 1981-82 year at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford. A Festschrift in his honor was published last April (Agent, Language, and the Structure of the World, James Tomberlin (Ed.), Hackett). This past summer he once again ran his very successful NEH summer seminar; it has already been scheduled for an encore next summer. Mike Morgan, who was promoted to Associate Professor this year, also hosted his annual summer institute on philosophy for high school students. This too has become a regular part of our yearly schedule. Mike also represented IU at the Lilly Endowment Workshop on the Liberal Arts held this summer in Colorado Springs. Ed Martin combined a sabbatical leave last year with a grant from the Lilly Endowment to pursue problems in photographic esthetics. Part of his project involved "hands on" training in the medium.

Our departmental secretary of many years standing, Betty Neal, retired at the conclusion of the 1982 year. She had recently remarried, and her husband and she have built a house in Vermont. He is a native New Englander and some of Betty's family is in Maine. Her position is now held by Mary Beth Morrow, a very capable pianist as well as a very capable administrative secretary. Also we have another new secretary in the Department, Nancy Spencer, who fortunately for us decided to move back to the Bloomington area after serving in high-level secretarial positions in Indianapolis.

New faculty

The Department has been fortunate to recently attract two outstanding additions to its faculty as well as a distinguished international visitor. Graciela De Fierris is a recent Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. A native of Argentina, she received her undergraduate and preliminary graduate training at the Universidad Nacional de La Plata. She was a visiting professor at Purdue last fall and she will be in Bloomington beginning this spring. Her doctoral thesis was written with Barry Stroud and concerns Kant's conception of the a priori. In addition to Kant and modern philosophy her interests include a wide range of problems in epistemology and philosophy of language.

Our other new addition is that of Raymond Smullyan. Raymond comes to us after many years of experience in the New York City area, first at Yeshiva University, and then at the City University of New York. He was in Bloomington one semester for each of two years as the Visiting Oscar Ewing Professor, and has now been persuaded to occupy that chair permanently. His research interests are principally in logic, recursive function theory and the foundations of mathematics, but he brings interests and knowledge in far wider areas than that. For example, he helped support

himself in school by performing as a magician--Five Ace Merrill--and he still pulls plums out of ears after dinner or in class. He has also written a number of books concerned with mathematical and logical puzzles, mysteries and fantasies (his latest is 5000 B.C. and other philosophical fantasies, St. Martin's Press). These specialties make him much in demand, and his many appearances range from the Living Learning Center to the Johnny Carson Show. In the classroom puzzles and paradoxes serve Raymond as a vehicle for interesting students in what turns out to be serious stuff. Often his students don't realize they have learned "hard" material until after the fact. Raymond is also a serious pianist and his wife, Blanche, both teaches piano and performs. Naturally, they were both attracted to I.U.'s schedule of music.

Jacek Halowka of the University of Warsaw has been visiting our Department both last year and this as part of an exchange program between I.U. and his home university. Besides teaching in our Department, he is also acting as Associate Director of the Polish Studies Center. His interests include medical ethics, metaethics, and decision theory. He is accompanied by his wife, Theresa (also a philosopher at Warsaw), and their two children.

Computerized philosophy

Over the last couple of years the Department (with the help of Research and Graduate Development) has obtained several computer terminals, printers, and an IBM PC micro-computer. You might ask why philosophers need computer equipment. There is an old joke about philosophy being one of the least expensive fields to fund, because all that is needed is paper, a pen, and a wastebasket--and in a crunch one can always do without the wastebasket.

Word processing is of course one of the things our computers are used for.

Many people find that writing is greatly facilitated when done on a computer, and several faculty members are so convinced of this that they have even bought their own personal computers (one of these was used to draft this newsletter).

Graduate students are increasingly using the Department's terminals to access the University's central computer for the purpose of writing papers and theses. Along with this, there has been an increasing trend for philosophy graduate students to take

(Continued on page 4)

Computer

(Continued from previous page)
 courses in computer science, and they find the terminals convenient for class assignments.

Less obvious uses have to do with the relation of computers to actual research and teaching (as opposed to writing). Here things are just beginning, but already our equipment has been used in logic research and experimentally in teaching; and one can anticipate that in the not too distant future textual analysis programs will be of use in historical research, that artificial intelligence programs will play a significant role in the philosophy of mind, and so on. What shall we say when we get a printout that says, "Cogito, ergo sum?"

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 College of Arts and Sciences - Graduate School Alumni Association to encourage interest in and support of Indiana University.

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What's news with you?

I.U.'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 Alumni News, Department of Philosophy, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

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