

Indiana University
P . H . I . L . O . S . O . P . H . Y
Alumni Newsletter

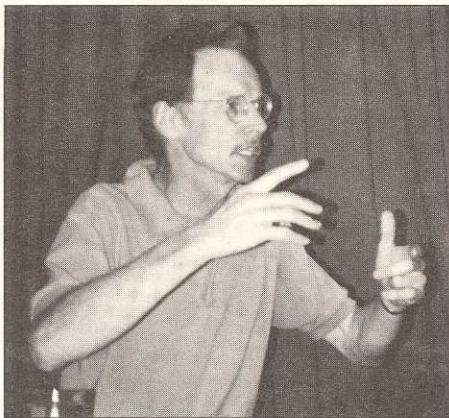
Volume XII

College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

Summer 1997

Milton Fisk retires

Professor Milton Fisk came to IU in 1966, after finishing his PhD at Yale and teaching at Notre Dame and then Yale. He has been inspiring our young philosophers ever since. But after 40 years of teaching and research, Milton has retired. He will now have more time to spend with his wife, Maritza, and his stepdaughter, Maurenis, who have both recently immigrated from Cuba. He will also visit more with his three grown children and five grandchildren.



Milton Fisk

Milton's early interests were in metaphysics, philosophy of logic, and philosophy of science. His first book, written in 1964, was *A Modern Formal Logic* (Prentice Hall), and his second was *Nature and Necessity: An Essay in Physical Ontology*, published in 1974 (IU Press). He still regards the latter book as one of his most creative works.

In the late '60s, Milton's outlook and interests changed. While on sabbatical in England in 1969, he met some early radical academics. At that time, the anti-war movement was taking hold there and in this country. Shortly after this experience, Milton became, in his words, an "active socialist."

Karen Hanson is first woman to chair Department of Philosophy

Professor Karen Hanson began a four-year term as chair of the philosophy department on July 1. She replaces J. Michael Dunn, who just completed a three-year stint in the office.

Karen has been with the department since 1976, when she joined us as a lecturer. After completing her PhD at Harvard in 1980, she became an assistant professor. She has been a full professor since 1991. She also has adjunct appointments in women's studies, American studies, and comparative literature.

Her research interests are in aesthetics, moral philosophy, American philosophy, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of language. She has written two books and many articles and is much in demand as a speaker and panelist.

Karen has taught many courses over the years, but perhaps she is most "famous" for her many semesters of P140 Elementary Ethics. The class is always a popular one, and Karen has won several teaching awards, including the Amoco

All-University Teaching Award, FACET, and the coveted Brown Derby Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Karen is not entirely new to the administrative side of things, having served on many committees in the department, in the College of Arts and Sciences, and universitywide. Most recently, she has been director of graduate studies for the department.

Mike Dunn, who is finishing his second term as chair, will be on sabbatical next year. He plans to spend the spring semester at Stanford in the Center for the Study of Language and Information. He also plans to finish a book, titled *Algebraic Methods in Philosophical Logic*, and begin another on relevant predication. After the sabbatical, he will return to full-time teaching and research.

While the department has enjoyed the excellent leadership of Mike Dunn, we look forward to Karen Hanson's taking over the reins as chair.

Active may be the key word in that description. Milton has been long committed to causes dear to many socialists, particularly those involving organized labor. Over the years, he has worked with a number of groups: the New University Conference, the International Socialist, and Solidarity. All were committed to organizing workers. Milton also was active in the American Federation of Teachers, a faculty union, on this campus and has served as an unofficial advisor to Communications Workers of America, Local 4730, the group that represents support staff at IUB.

Milton's research began to change too.

He began to study Marx carefully, in particular the roots of Marx's own theory in the works of Hegel. More recently, Milton has broadened his studies to include the other aspects of the continental tradition in philosophy by concerning himself with 20th-century postmodernist philosophers. Some of his later books are *Ethics and Society: A Marxist Interpretation of Value* (NYU Press, 1980) and *The State and Justice: An Essay in Political Theory* (Cambridge UP, 1989). Milton is now combining his activist work on health-care reform with his interest in practical political morality

(continued on page 2)

Sycamore news

Friedman elected to AAAS

Professor Michael L. Friedman has been elected to the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He holds the Ruth N. Halls Chair and has appointments in both philosophy and history and philosophy of science. Michael becomes the third member of HPS to be elected to the academy and is currently the only member of the philosophy department to be so honored.

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences was established by John Adams and other leaders of the young republic in 1780. AAAS members include leaders in education, government, business, and the arts.

Michael specializes in the relationship between the history of physics and mathematics and the history of philosophy from the Enlightenment Period (18th century) through the 20th century. His interests are in the path that science and philosophy have followed since the teachings of Sir Isaac Newton and German philosopher Immanuel Kant. He is the author of two books based on the ideas of Newton and Kant.

Fisk retires

(continued from page 1)

to write a book titled *Health Care As a Public Good*.

While Milton is perhaps best known for teaching Elementary Ethics, he has also taught many upper-level and graduate-level courses in social and political theory and Continental thought. He achieved a high level of popularity and, in 1989, won the Student Choice Award for Outstanding Teaching on this campus.

Over the years, Milton has been invited to speak and teach at many universities around the world, including Queens University of Belfast, Glasgow University, University College London, Oxford, Moscow State University, the National Autonomous University of Mexico, the Universidad del Valle of Colombia, and the University of Havana.

And these journeys won't stop with retirement. Milton has already arranged a one-month working visit to Hungary for this fall. In fact, one would expect someone as active and committed as Milton to keep writing and organizing for many years to come.

He delivered one paper at the Third International Conference of the United Kingdom Kant Society and another, on the "Sociology of Scientific Knowledge" at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, last September. He was also a distinguished lecturer at Harvard in March, when he delivered the Whitehead Lectures.

Michael is also president of the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association and president of the Philosophy of Science Association.

Chair in women's studies honors Peggy Zeglin Brand

Indiana University Foundation President Curt Simic announced in November 1996 that a \$1 million gift from Dale Ellen and Norman Mills Leff of New York City will establish the Peg Zeglin Brand Chair in Women's Studies. Peg is an assistant professor in both philosophy and women's studies.

In making the gift, the Leffs said, "We name our chair for Peg Zeglin Brand as she is a living example of a woman who is committed to the study of gender analysis and why it is important to understand its influence in every aspect of our private and public lives."

The catalyst for the endowed chair was the annual Colloquium for Women of Indiana University, which Peg helped shape and still co-chairs. The colloquium provides an opportunity for interaction

among outstanding alumnae and friends of IU who are leaders in volunteer service and philanthropy for the university.

"I am enormously grateful to the Leffs," Peg says, "for allowing my name to grace a gift that shows such a deep trust in the future of women's studies at IU and a deep commitment to educate future generations to 'think critically' about gender as it informs and affects not only who they are in the world, but also how they get along with others in the world."

Peg's interest in gender issues carries over into her philosophical work. She recently taught a College topics course titled *Who Am I? Gender, Race, and Persons*, and has proposed a new course for philosophy called *Feminism and Value*. She is also co-editor, with Carolyn Korsmeyer, of *Feminism and Tradition in Aesthetics* (Penn State UP, 1995).

Conferences, speakers highlight '96-'97 year

The first annual philosophy colloquium was held in October 1996. The three-day conference, called "Mind and Action," featured participants from our department and elsewhere. Invited guests included Robert Brandon, Calvin Normore, Lynn Rudder Baker, Beth Preston, Wilbur Hart, and William Ramsey. Department members Timothy van Gelder, Brian Smith, Dennis Senchuk, and Myles Brand also gave talks or commentaries.

Plans for this year's colloquium are already under way. To be on the topic "Kant and German Idealism," it will be held in late September.

Another special event — Fisk Fest — honoring retiring professor Milton Fisk, was held on March 7. Sandra Bartky spoke on "Femininity: Its Pleasures and Pitfalls" and Frank Cunningham spoke on "Group Hatreds and Democracy." Mike Dunn served as moderator and Milton gave comments.

Many other speakers visited during the past academic year, including Henry Allison, Storrs McCall, David Lewis, Robert Pasnau, and Daniel Breazzeale. Topics ranged from Fichte to quantum mechanics.

Cora Diamond gave this year's Julia Jean Nelson Rudd Lecture on Animal Rights. The title was "Injustice and Animals." Diamond discussed various philosophical theories of justice and related them to man's treatment of animals.

The entire department extends its thanks to all the alumni who contribute funding to make these lectures and colloquia possible.

PHILOSOPHY

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Philosophy Department

Chair Karen Hanson
News Editor Linda Harl

College of Arts & Sciences

Dean Morton Lowengrub
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IU Alumni Association

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THE
COLLEGE

Eisenberg wins service award

The Bloomington Faculty Council annually gives its Distinguished Service Award to faculty or librarians for distinguished service to the university, a profession or discipline, or the public. One of this year's two winners was philosophy's own Professor Paul Eisenberg. The award was presented by Vice President and Chancellor Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis at a special program on April 22. The award includes a one-time cash prize.

It would be difficult to find another person with so much service to the university. Paul Eisenberg served as president of the Bloomington Faculty Council for two years and as co-secretary of the University Faculty Council. This followed committee work for both groups. He has also been a member of the Jewish Studies Program Committee since its inception in the 1970s. Paul has been on the executive committee of Phi Beta Kappa and has served on numerous campus committees. He has been twice recognized by the Commission on Multicultural Understanding for his work in that area.

Paul has also been chair of our department three times and has served in many other capacities on the departmental level. Professionally, he has been active in the Indiana Philosophical Association and



J. Michael Dunn congratulates Paul Eisenberg, winner of the Bloomington Faculty Council's Distinguished Service Award.

has refereed for many journals and served on APA committees.

And he continues to teach and publish in the areas of history of ethics and the philosophies of Spinoza, Hegel, and Nietzsche.

Nor is Paul's service limited to IU. He

recently served as chair of a task force for the local school system, studying the reintroduction of foreign-language study in middle schools. Once he even served as chair of the jury for a murder trial!

Congratulations, Paul, on a well-deserved honor!

Departmental history available

The department is pleased to announce that Professor Emeritus Henry Veatch has written a book: *Towards a History of the Indiana University Philosophy Department in Bloomington: The Years 1929-65 (A Personal Memoir)*. Henry Veatch began as an instructor in the department in 1937, just eight years after it was established as an independent unit (formerly it was the Department of Philosophy and Psychology). Before leaving in 1965, Henry rose to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor. When he retired from Georgetown in 1982, we were fortunate that he and his wife, Janie, returned to Bloomington, where he has taken up an emeritus appointment.

The book starts in the ironic, modest style that, for many of us, characterizes Henry and asks the question, "Why a history of IU's Department of Philosophy in Bloomington?" As he says: "...it should perhaps be conceded that, at least during those earlier years, 1929-65, of

the IU department's existence, it scarcely attained to any particular distinction as a department." You will have to buy the book to hear Henry's answer.

It is available for \$45, which represents the cost of producing the book plus a \$10 donation to the Dona Roberts Biddle Scholarship Fund, which the Veatches helped establish. To order, send a check (payable to the Indiana University Foundation) to Margie Clark, Department of Philosophy, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

Endowment campaign helps IU and philosophy department

The Bloomington campus of Indiana University has begun a major endowment campaign to prepare the university for the 21st century. The goal seeks to raise a total of \$350 million during the period from July 1994 to July 2001, with \$150 million to be used for creating endowments for chairs, professorships,

scholarships, and fellowships. The philosophy department's priorities for the endowment campaign include support for undergraduate and graduate students and an endowed professorship or chair.

The philosophy department has been fortunate to benefit from major gifts in the past. These include the Mahlon Powell Fund (which supports visitors and speakers), the Oscar Ewing Endowment (which supports the Oscar Ewing Professor, undergraduate and graduate essay prizes, and various departmental activities), the James B. Nelson Endowment (which supports faculty and graduate student research and a dissertation fellowship), and the Dona Roberts Biddle Undergraduate Scholarship.

We are also pleased to announce that we have in the context of the current endowment campaign already obtained two major planned gifts (one for a graduate fellowship and the other for supporting students who work closely with faculty), as well as smaller donations.

Student news

A variety of awards were presented at our annual reception in May. The Oscar R. Ewing Essay winners were **Robert Scanlon** (undergraduate) and **Andrew Janiak** (graduate). The Dona Roberts Biddle Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Heidi Henson**. Academic Excellence awards went to **Russell Di Silvestro** and **Andre Fry** (undergraduates) and **Yiwei Zheng** (graduate).

Greg Bassett was named Outstanding Associate Instructor and **Ingo Farin** is next year's James B. Nelson Fellow.

The Graduate Association of Students in Philosophy (popularly known as GASP) presented a conference on April 6 in conjunction with the department's Red Carpet Weekend for potential graduate students. Current students **Ingo Farin**, **Lisa Keele**, and **Yiwei Zheng** spoke on topics in their individual areas of study.

Jack Musselman presented papers at APA Central and Pacific Division meetings. **Rondo Keele** and **Jim Hardy** also spoke at the Pacific meeting, while **Yiweh Zheng** and **Hanseung Kim** read papers at the New Mexico and West Texas Philosophical Society meeting. Zheng won the Larry Taylor Essay Prize at that meeting also. **Jim Edwards** and **Charles Bolyard** spoke at the Mid-South Philosophical Conference.

Yiwei Zheng has papers published in the *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *The Philosopher's Journal of the Philosophical Society of England*, and *Southwest Philo-*

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Virgil T. DeVault Alumni Center
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sophical Studies. **Adam Kovach** has published a paper in the *Southern Journal of Philosophy* and has another soon to appear in *Mind*. Adam also has a research fellowship for next year, while **Jim Edwards** has won an Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Fellowship.

The university has given travel grants to **Anthony Chemero**, **Adam Kovach**, and **Charles Bolyard** for attending conferences abroad. **Jeffrey DiLeo** has a job at Georgia Tech. **David Pook** will be teaching at the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass.

Congratulations to all! Once again, the department is proud of this outstanding group of teachers and scholars.

Alumni news

After more than 24 years as a teacher and administrator at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, **David C. Payne**, BA'61, MS'62, EdD'65, founding chair of the Department of Family Studies, has retired. Payne taught from 1965 to 1971 at the University of Connecticut.

Dennis Sweet, BA'81, an assistant professor of philosophy at Fordham University, New York, is the author of *Heraclitus: Translation and Analysis*, published in 1994 by the University Press of America.

Say hello to your Philosophy classmates...

Use this form to join or renew your membership in the IUAA, or to send us a class note. *Please fill in as much of the following information as you wish. (Its purpose is to keep IU's alumni records accurate and up to date.)* Send this form, along with your attached class note, to Indiana University Alumni Association, Alumni Publications, 1000 E. 17th Street, Bloomington, IN 47408. You do not have to be a member to send in a class note.

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