

FALL 2010

KANSAS Philosophy Φ

www.philosophy.ku.edu

NEWSLETTER OF THE KU DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY VOL. 9 NO. 1

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR



This past year for the KU Philosophy department was typical in many ways, in terms of the usual activities of faculty members and students. But the year was marked by a tragic event: the death of longtime faculty member Tony Genova, on March 20. Tony was still teaching full time and was in his office daily—cheerful and irreverent, thoughtful and savvy,

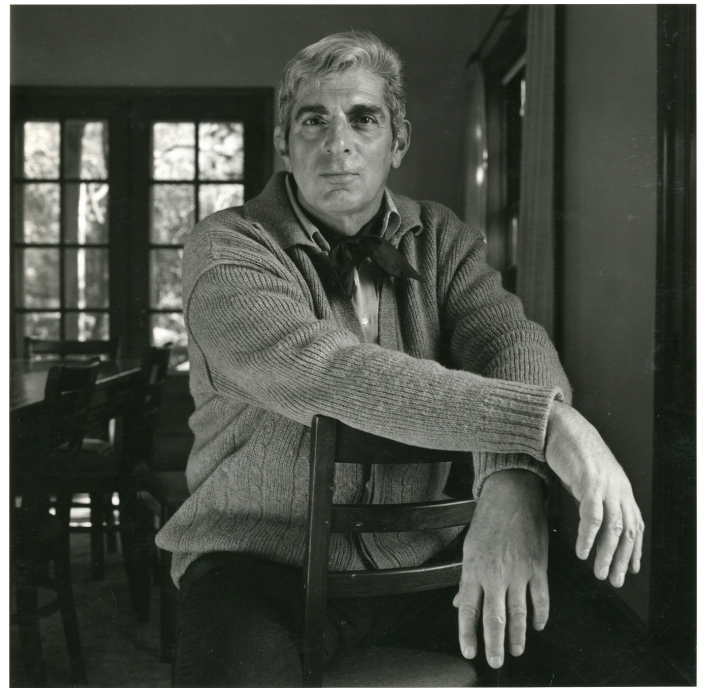
always ready for a conversation. His passing was a shock, and deeply saddened his colleagues, friends, and countless former students. For me, one unanticipated benefit of being chair during this difficult time was to have the consolation of hearing from so many people who wanted to share their recollections of Tony and the difference he made to their lives during their times at KU. The accounts from former students were especially meaningful, offering a reminder of the difference that truly great teachers can make in the lives of students. Tony embodied many ideals we continually strive to live up to here at KU.

One of the ideals Tony embodied was administrative service, and this ideal is equally evident in the career of Jim Woelfel, who retired this past summer as director of the Humanities and Western Civilization program. He had been director for twenty-five years, and his outstanding service was celebrated at a heavily attended reception held this past May. The various remarks made there attested to his collegial, steady, and ultimately transformative leadership of HWC. Jim, on phased retirement now, will continue to teach one course per year in HWC as well as one course per year in Philosophy. The biggest change for us is that he now has an office in the Philosophy department, and his presence and good humor are a welcome addition to the daily conversations and atmosphere of our corner of Wescoe.

Other members of the faculty, and graduate students, too, continue to bring distinction to the depart-

ment with their excellent teaching, research, and service. I hope you'll enjoy reading about their accomplishments, as well as updates from alumni and other friends of the department, on the pages that follow.

ANTHONY GENOVA 1929–2010



We lost a good friend and colleague on March 20, 2010 with the passing of Anthony "Tony" Genova. Tony was a Professor of Philosophy at KU from 1972 to 2010. He was chair of the department from 1978 to 2004.

A memorial service was held on April 12, 2010 at the Adams Alumni Center and many, many friends, colleagues and current and past students attended.

The family has set up a scholarship fund for graduate students in honor of Tony's memory, entitled "The Genova Fund for Graduate Students in Philosophy" (Fund #39832). The fund is sponsored by the KU Endowment Association.

Remembrances from former students and colleagues that were sent to the Department follow.

REMEMBRANCES OF TONY

I was saddened to hear of the death of Tony Genova this last week. He was a warm and engaging man with a wide breadth of knowledge. His modern philosophy course, along with courses taught by Professors Marquis, Sawyer, Robertson, and Tuozzo, have had a profound effect on my life and career.

—J. Neil Otte, *John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY)*

Tony was one of my first teachers at KU in an epistemology tutorial. I'll always remember the good conversations we had ... he was always so available and welcoming. His long tenure as department chair and his ongoing service is a testimony to his commitment above all to the well-being of the Philosophy program. I'll remember him very fondly as a teacher and friend.

—David Duquette, *Professor of Philosophy and Associate Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts, St. Norbert College*

I was saddened to hear about Tony Genova's recent passing. Tony took such wonderful care of me at KU, and made my year there so memorable; I had always hoped that someday I'd be able to visit Lawrence again and share some laughs with him outside Wescoe. I can't image the philosophy department without Tony, though I have no doubt that many good things lie in the department's future, even though they will not occur under Tony's watchful eye.

—Kevin Davey, *Assistant Professor of Philosophy at KU, 2004–05*

I took philosophy classes at KU during the 1990's as part of my continuing education regimen while I was professor of theology and ethics at the Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City. Tony was the first professor with whom I studied, and I found him absolutely delightful as a teacher and as a person.

As I dwelt in a strange sort of nether world between student and colleague, I found myself evaluated and encouraged by Tony as a student, and drawn into lively and personal conversations about religious experience with him in my status as a peer with a special expertise.

Some of those latter conversations were both poignant and laugh-out-loud funny, but I shall have to keep them to myself.

—Dr. David L. Wheeler, *Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon*

Tony was a Chicago area guy just like myself so Tony and I both had that little bit of edge and bite to us that

carries over them the Chicago attitude. He was one of the rare professors and friends who we as grad students could always just shoot the breeze with before and after class and outside in Lawrence. Even though I'm hundreds of miles away just about to finish my thesis, I truly will miss Dr. Genova and the influence, both academic and social, he had on my life.

—Dusan D. Galic, *current Ph.D. student*

I was saddened to receive the letter with news of Tony Genova's death. I was an undergraduate and graduate student in the Department early in Tony's tenure at KU and have good memories of Tony. He was a greater department leader and a fine teacher. I particularly recall an excellent Wittgenstein seminar with Tony. Tony was also on the examining committee for my Master's thesis. While I was a teaching assistant I recall his daughter Pamela being one of my students in an introductory logic course I taught. Many will miss Tony and remember him well.

—Jim Collins, *B.A. 1979 and M.A. 1981*

I am very saddened to hear of Tony's passing. A very big part of the department has been lost.

—Joe Van Zandt, *Ph.D. 1993*

It saddened me to learn of Tony's passing. He leaves some big shoes to fill, not only as a philosophy professor but also as a friend.

—Richard Newton, *M.A. 2004*

He always made me think and laugh; never met somebody who could consistently do both.

—Ryan McCabe, *current Ph.D. student*

TONY'S CLASS SYLLABI AND HANDOUTS

For those of you who fondly remember the handouts from Tony's classes, Jack Bricke went through all of the class material from Tony's office and has prepared sets from the following classes:

PHIL 384: Ancient Philosophy

PHIL 386: Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant

PHIL 388: Analytic Philosophy: Frege to Quine

PHIL 648: Theory of Knowledge

PHIL 848: Wittgenstein seminar

We are also going to assemble packets of materials from the Kant and Quine seminars in the very near future.

If you are interested in electronic files or would rather have hard copies please contact chodges@ku.edu.

AUSLEGUNG

The journal is in the process of entering into non-exclusive agreements with EBSCO Host and the Center for Digital Scholarship here at the University of Kansas. Both initiatives are expected to increase the distribution and reach of the journal.

We are currently inviting articles submissions for our Spring 2010 issue, as well as seeking book reviewers. If you would like information pertaining to article submissions or book reviews, please contact Russell Waltz at rwwaltz@ku.edu or (785) 864-4135.



Justin Clarke and Teresa Bruno-Niño in the Philosophy Conference/Library Room

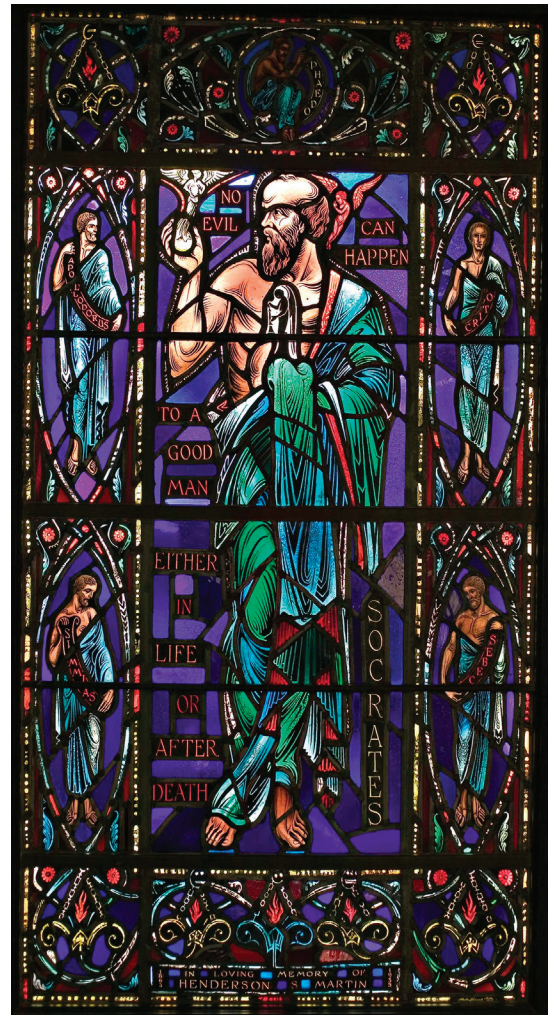
VISITING SCHOLAR



We had a visiting scholar from Nankai University, Tianjin, P.R. China during the 2009-10 academic year. Prof. Zuoli Wang audited classes, made his British English more 'Kansan' and learned about American culture and higher education during his time with us.

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks goes to Phyllis Wolfe who donated thirteen boxes of books from the collection of her late husband, John Wolfe. The books were added to the department's collection in what is known as the conference/library room and are greatly appreciated. John Wolfe was a Lecturer in Philosophy and an Assistant Dean for Continuing Education starting in the 1960's until his retirement.



2010-11 PHILOSOPHY LECTURE SERIES

Don Baxter, University of Connecticut, "Assent, Reason, and Hume's Pyrrhonian Empiricism," September 9, 2010

Philosophy and Race Roundtable: "Dialogues on Race, Leadership and Solidarity and on Race, Empire, and Human Rights" **Thomas McCarthy**, Northwestern University; **Robert Gooding-Williams**, University of Chicago; **Tommie Shelby**, Harvard University; and **Derrick Darby**, University of Kansas. October 29, 2010

Shaun Nichols, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Arizona, is tentatively scheduled to give a talk on February 17, 2011. Please check the department web page for updates on this lecture.



Stained glass window details.



2010 E. H. LINDLEY LECTURE

James Griffin presented the 2010 Lindley Lecture on October 5, 2010 in the Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union. The title of the lecture was "Does 'ought' imply 'can'? Motivation and Action." Prof. Griffin is the White's Professor of Moral Philosophy, Emeritus, Oxford University.

THERE REALLY WAS AN E. H. LINDLEY

A neighbor of Doug Fishel found this photograph of E. H. Lindley taken in 1921. The namesake of the Philosophy Department annual lecture was the Chancellor of the University of Kansas from 1920 to 1939.

DONOR SUPPORT

We wish to thank the individuals and organizations who contributed to the Philosophy Department Endowment funds between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010. These contributions help fund the awards that are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Your continued support is crucial and deeply appreciated and allows the department to acknowledge outstanding students and to continue our lecture series to enrich the learning and teaching environment.

Thanks go to the following:

Linden Appel and Rosemary Crock

Larry Blackman

Don Brownstein

Delilah and Chris Caldwell

Chris Campolo

Ryan and Lyndsey Chamberlain

Richard and Marjorie Cole

Lee and Margaret Crawford

Helen Scamell Dewey

Garvey Kansas Foundation

Pamela Genova

Roni Genova

Graduate Association of Student Philosophers

Joseph and Colleen Herman

Dan Johnson

Cheryl Lester and Philip Barnard

Betty Torrans Long

Ryan Long and Hester Baer

Theresa Marks

Rex and Donna Martin

Jeanna Moyer

Richard Newton

Michael Payne

William and Sue Oatman Roberts

Fred Rush and Leslie Callahan

Terry and Angela Sader

Gabriel Serrano

Nancy Simco

Robyn Nordin Stowell

Jim and Lauren Swindler

Christopher Tankersley

Shizuka Tatsuzawa

Breck Turkington

Grady Wray



Award Winners: Blaise Cannon, Jim Krieger, Nick Mott, and Matthew Steinle



2010 BA/BGS Graduates: Joel Burnett, Michael Metcalf, and Jaran Moten

2010 UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

On May 5, 2010 the following undergraduate students received the following awards during the department's annual banquet in the Malott Room of the Kansas Union:

Blaise Cannon and **Jim Krieger** were each awarded a Brownstein-Skidmore Award. **Nick Mott** and **Matthew Steinle** each received a Brownstein-Young Award. A Nelson Scholarship went to **Chloe Goodgame**. Warner Morse Prizes went to **Joel Burnett** for his work in ethics, **Sam Littler** for his work in history of philosophy and **Lamar Hunt** for work in metaphysics and epistemology.

The Brownstein-Young Award and Brownstein-Skidmore Award are in honor of former faculty members, J. Michael Young and Arthur Skidmore and are supported through the generosity of Don Brownstein. The Warner Morse prizes are in honor of Warner Morse, former faculty member.



Nathan Colaner, 2010 Department GTA Award

2010 BA/BGS DEGREES AND MA DEGREES

BA/BGS

Joel Burnett
Kristen Dayton
Michael Herbert
Alexander King
Michael Metcalf
Jaran Moten

Christopher Pavlacka
J. J. Siler
Richard Theobald
Trenton Tillitson
Zachri Volgarino
Jamie Webb

MA

Ashley Acosta
Micah Bailey
Joe Braun

Huei-Rong Li
Meredith Trexler



Ashley Acosta, Meredith Trexler, and Micah Bailey received MA degrees in 2010.

2009-10 PhD's

Clark Sexton, *Arguments for an Alternative Account of Analyticity*, 2010. Advisor: Teresa Robertson.

Mario Garitta, *Illuminating the Meaning of 'Being' in the Later Heidegger Through Aspects of the Theologies of Pseudo-Dionysius and Meister Eckhart*, 2010. Advisor: James Woelfel

CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Doug Fishel presented papers to the Southeastern Philosophy Congress and the Intermountain West Philosophy Conference last spring on "Aristotle and Embodied Emotions." He has also accepted a full-time position at Maple Woods Community College (Kansas City area) starting this fall semester.

Nick Simmons was a recipient of a Research and Graduate Studies Summer Research Fellowship. Nick examined the bearing that recent empirical findings in contemporary neuroscience have on the often ignored philosophical position known as 'the identity theory', the idea that qualitative mental properties are to be identified with brain states.

Nathan Colaner will be a visiting assistant professor in the Philosophy Department at the University of Missouri, Kansas City starting this current academic year. Nathan also was awarded Department GTA Award during the 2010 Honors Banquet for excellence in teaching.

Also during the 2010 Honors Banquet, Templin Fellowships were awarded to **Micah Baize**, **Teresa Bruno-Niño**, **Jennifer Kittlaus** and **Meredith Trexler**.



*Jeremy DeLong, Robinson Essay Contest Winner,
and Sean Meseroll and Matt Waldschlagel,
Honorable Mention each.*

Jeremy DeLong was the winner of the Robinson Essay Contest this year for his essay "Van Cleve and the Neglected Alternative." **Sean Meseroll** and **Matt Waldschlagel** each received honorable mentions.

In January 2010, **Meredith Trexler** presented "Sacrifice and the Imagination: The Symbolic Relationship between Aesthetic Experience and Morality in Kant's Third Critique" at the Annual International Arts and Humanities Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Matt Waldschlagel presented the paper "The Language of Apology and Forgiveness: A Philosophical Analysis" to the Hall Center's Philosophy and Literature Faculty Seminar and also at the 36th Conference on Value Inquiry at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Later this year, one of his papers, "Arrow's Theorem and the Defense of Democracy" will be published in the *Southwest Philosophy Review*. At the Eastern Division Meeting the APA in December 2010, he will be presenting a paper on the ethics of immigration for the North American Society for Social Philosophy.

Last April **Russell Waltz** delivered a paper entitled "A Broad-Context Perspective: Uncovering the Philosophical and Psychological Foundations of the Distortion of Information via News Presentation" at the Society for Student Philosophers Annual Conference at the University of Texas at Austin.

Deborah Williams, in addition to currently pursuing a philosophy degree, received a College Scholars Award at Johnson County Community College. The College Scholars Program recognizes and showcases the research and scholarship of four faculty each academic year at JCCC. She received a \$2000 stipend for which she will present two public lectures at the JCCC campus in October on the Endangered Species Act and endangered species protection. The titles of her papers are "Rekindling a Dying Fire: Legal and Ecological Issues Shaping Wolf Recovery in the United States" and "The Devil Is in the Details: Preserving *Cyprinodon diabolis*, The Devil's Hole Pupfish."

In addition to being elected as Vice President of the Faculty Association and a lead negotiator representing faculty in employment contract negotiations with the Board of Trustees at Johnson County Community College, Deborah developed a new course on Environmental Policy and Law which she will be teaching for the first time this fall.

FACULTY NOTES

Jack Bricke continues his explorations of Davidson's work on language, mind, and evaluation. His review of David Fate Norton and Jacqueline Taylor (eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Hume* (2nd edition), is forthcoming in *Hume Studies*. He's supervising dissertations on a variety of topics within his range of interests: Hume on substance; Pride, shame, and morality; Values and practical reasoning; Qualia and type-identity physicalism; and Davidson, language, and objectivity. Professor Donald Baxter of the University of Connecticut, author of *Hume's Difficulty: Time and Identity in the Treatise* (2008), participated in Professor Bricke's Hume seminar in September, leading a discussion of Hume on the difficult subject of space and time. He also gave a public lecture addressing Hume's skepticism with regard to reason. For both fall and spring semesters, Professor Bricke is teaching a lecture class required for Philosophy majors, Analytic Philosophy: Frege to Quine (actually Kripke).

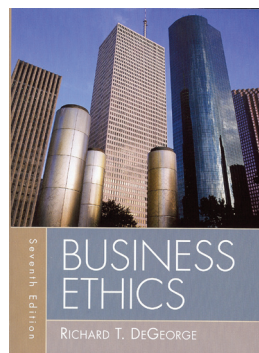
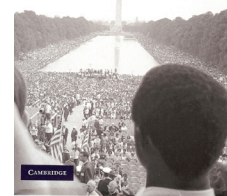
Ann Cudd's forthcoming book: *Capitalism For and Against: A Feminist Debate* (co-authored with Nancy Holmstrom), Cambridge University Press, will be released January 2011. She has the following articles (either published or forthcoming) on "A Feminist Defense of Capitalism," Si-Xiang 15, trans. Pinfei Lu (Taipei, Taiwan: Linking Books, 2010): 1-19 and "When to Intervene: Atrocity, Inequality, and Oppression" in *Evil, Political Violence and Forgiveness: Essays in Honor of Claudia Card*, edited by Andrea Veltman and Katherine Norlock, Rowman and Littlefield, 2009: 97-114. While continuing as Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Professor of Philosophy, she has presented the following papers: "Choice, Commitment and Explanation: Amartya Sen's Philosophy of Social Science," workshop on Sen's Philosophy, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, July 1, 2010; "A Feminist Defense of Capitalism," Pacific APA invited paper, March 31, 2010, San Francisco, CA; "Analytical Feminism: The Founding Issue(s)," Feminist Legacies, Feminist Futures Conference, Seattle, Washington, October 23, 2009; "Truly Humanitarian Intervention," XXIVth World Congress of Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy, Beijing, China, September 18, 2009; "A Feminist Defense of Capitalism," Institute for Philosophy, National Tsing Hua University, Hsin Chu, Taiwan, September 24, 2009 and "Feminist Contributions to Political Philosophy," Political Science Department, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China, September 22, 2009.

Derrick Darby continues research and writing on his Spencer Foundation supported project on philosophy and the racial achievement gap. The main thrust of this work is to examine the nature and scope of a liberal democratic state's obligation to diminish racial inequalities in education. During this past year he has been invited to present some of this work in progress at venues in the U.S. and abroad including Texas A&M, Duke University, University of California at Riverside, Stanford University, the Spencer Foundation in Chicago, University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg and the University of Cape Town. He is grateful to philosophy undergraduate major Nick Mott for fantastic research

support during the spring term. Darby's work on rights (and Professor Emeritus Rex Martin's work on rights) was the subject of a conference on rights and recognition held at Cardiff University in November 2009. They were invited to present and reply to their critics. Darby's recently published book, *Rights, Race, and Recognition* (Cambridge 2009), has been reviewed in *Ethics* and will be featured in an author meets critic session at the Eastern Division Annual Meeting of the APA in Boston in December and at a meeting of the Association for Political Theory in Portland in October. He continues to serve the University on important committees including the CLAS Dean search, the School of Law Dean Search, and the Chancellor's Research Engagement Task Force. And he remains engaged with faculty from across the University whose research deals with some aspect of the problem of social inequality.

Rights, Race, and Recognition

DERRICK DARBY



With this fall semester **Richard De George** is beginning the fourth year of his phased retirement. He was off in the spring semester, 2010, and will not be teaching in the fall of 2010. He will return to teaching in the spring semester. He continues to be active in his "off" time. The 7th edition of his *Business Ethics* (Prentice Hall) appeared at the beginning of the year. It was delayed because of the

difficulty of writing the chapter on finance, given the volatility of financial institutions following the meltdown of 2008-2009. In January he was one of ten invited participants (five academics and five CEOs of insurance companies) in the Tenth Annual James A. and Linda R. Mitchell Forum on Ethical Leadership in Financial Service, which took place in Venice, Florida. A transcript of the day-long discussion will be published later this year. In February he was one of a three person External Review Committee for NYU's Business and Society Program. He was especially pleased that one of the other reviewers was Tom Donaldson, who received his Ph.D. from KU and is now a distinguished professor at the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business. In August he chaired a session of the Society for Business Ethics in Montreal. In mid-summer he was surprised and pleased to learn that he had been selected as this year's University of Kansas Chancellor's Club Teaching Award recipient. He will be presented the award at the Chancellor's Club black-tie banquet on October 22, and will be recognized prior to the homecoming KU-Texas A&M football game on October 23, and again on the field during the game. He has two articles forthcoming later this year.

Last year, **Dale Dorsey** took up the position of Director of Graduate Studies, and concentrated on finishing his long-gestating book manuscript, "The Basic Minimum: A Welfarist Approach". He also attended conferences in Colorado, England, New York, and San Francisco.

Ben Eggleston completed his first year as chair of the department and enjoyed encountering the various aspects of the job that arise at various times of the year. In research, he has been busy working on a collection of papers on John Stuart Mill and Mill's notion of the Art of Life that he is co-editing with two other scholars. This book should be published in the next year or so by Oxford University Press. Ben also had a paper accepted by *Mind*, wrote three short encyclopedia articles on utilitarianism and related topics, and wrote a review of an introductory textbook on rational choice theory. In teaching, Ben developed a new course on the Ethics of Scientific Research, a growing field of instruction. This year Ben will teach that course again, along with Contemporary Ethical Theory and Rational Choice Theory.

Scott Jenkins recently returned from Europe where he spent two weeks conducting research in Weimar and Sils-Maria courtesy of a grant from International Programs. Scott also took part in a conference on Nietzsche's philosophy of science, held at the Technische Universität in Berlin, where he presented a paper on Nietzsche's theory of introspection. Another paper, "Self-Consciousness, System, Dialectic", appeared as chapter one of the *Routledge Companion to Nineteenth Century Philosophy*, and "Hegel on Space: A Critique of Kant's Transcendental Philosophy" appeared in *Inquiry*. Scott's review of Michael Ure's book, *Nietzsche's Therapy*, appeared in the *Journal of Nietzsche Studies*. Scott continues to think and write about Nietzsche's philosophical development, with the ultimate goal of producing a book on the topic. The opportunity to work through some new material in an undergraduate course on Nietzsche in Fall 2010 should get him a little closer to this goal.

Having served as director of undergraduate studies for the last two years, Scott now has a much better understanding of the issues facing our undergraduates. He has also learned that is not permitted to leave lasagna off the menu when planning the awards banquet in the spring. Guiding undergraduates through the philosophy major is of course the most rewarding aspect of serving as director of undergraduate studies, and Scott looks forward to another year in the position.

Don Marquis's essay "Mental Essentialism and the Definition of Death" appeared in the fall 2009 *APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Medicine*. This essay is the paper Marquis read at the April 2009 Pacific Division APA meeting in Vancouver as part of a panel on the definition of death. The thesis of the essay is that a definition of death based on the view that we are essentially mental individuals is subject to insurmountable difficulties.

His essay "Are DCD Donors Dead?" appeared in the May/June 2010 issue of *Hastings Center Report*. This essay deals with the donation after cardiac death protocol. According to that protocol patients are declared dead in virtue of so-called "cardiac death" so that their organs can be transplanted into patients in need of transplants. Marquis showed that patients declared dead on the basis of that protocol are not known to be dead.

The killing and abortion book is proceeding slowly but surely. Marquis hopes to have it finished by the end of 2010.

Marquis will begin phased retirement in 2010-2011.

Teresa Robertson has been pursuing possibilities for her and her partner, Nathan Salmon, to be employed at the same university. Due to the unavailability of a position for Salmon at KU, Teresa delivered job-related talks this fall at the University of Texas at Austin and at the University of California at Santa Barbara. She will also present this material at a conference in Mexico. The talks will focus on a puzzle about natural kinds that occurred to her while thinking about recent work on the relationship between the semantic theory of direct reference and essentialism about natural kinds. She is inclined to see the puzzle as giving good reason to reject the claim (suggested thirty years ago by Nathan Salmon and endorsed recently by Scott Soames) that two kinds are the same just in case it is not possible for them to differ in their instances. She delivered precursors to this work in Chicago, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, and Curitiba (Brazil) as well as at a KU faculty colloquium. Some of this early work was published in *Philosophical Books* (July 2009) as "Essentialism and Reference to Kinds".

Keeping a promise from last year's newsletter (and maybe the year before), **Tom Tuozzo** has a book on Plato's *Charmides* forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. In April Tom gave a keynote address at the 2010 meeting of the Ancient Philosophy Society, with a paper entitled: "How Dynamic is Aristotle's Efficient Cause?" This paper represents the initial results of his work on Aristotelian causation, which he will be continuing during his sabbatical in fall 2010. The sabbatical is, as they say, sweet.



Last August **Jim Woelfel** presented a paper in the Hall Center Philosophy and Literature Seminar on "The Beautiful Necessity: Emerson and the Stoic Tradition." Subsequently the paper was revised into a study of Emerson on science, "Idealism and Science in Emerson's 'Fate,'" which Jim presented at the 16th annual conference of the Association for Core

Texts & Courses in April. His paper, "Culture and Patriarchy: The Egalitarian Vision of Woolf's *Three Guineas*," was published this past spring in an edited volume of selected ACTC conference papers. At this point three other papers that have been accepted for inclusion in succeeding volumes are forthcoming: "Galileo in Kansas: The Strange Timeliness of the *Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina*," "Descartes and the Existentialists: The Continuing Fruitfulness of the *Cogito*," and "The Humanities Core and the Troubling Persistence of the 'Two Cultures.'" For a second year he taught a class in KU's Mini College in June, this time on "Science and Religion: Conflict, Independence, Dialogue, or Synthesis?"

On July 1 Jim retired as director of the Humanities & Western Civilization Program. He will go onto half-time phased retirement in August, teaching a Philosophy and an HWC course each spring semester.

AFTER THE LAST NEWSLETTER, WE HEARD FROM ...

Eric Berg (PhD, 2005) published “Planeloux’s Turn: An Analysis of the Sermons of The Plague” in the July 2010 issue of the *Journal of The Albert Camus Society: United Kingdom*. Eric is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois.

Christina Burton (MA, 1991), wrote the following:

It was great to read the Newsletter and to see who is still there and who is finally finishing their Ph.D.’s (Larry Waggle and Keith Coleman Congrats!) While I am still an a.b.d in Philosophy, I have many fond memories of Lawrence and give much credit to my study of Philosophy for preparing me to work in school reform. I’ve been a charter school founder (three schools) and Principal for the past 12 years, and am currently the CAO of an International Chinese Immersion Charter school in Denver, Colorado. I recently wrote and was awarded a \$1.4 million FLAP grant through the U.S. Dept of Education and a \$300,000 grant through NSA STARTALK for K-12 critical language initiatives. My work has taken me to China, and we are in the process of establishing partnership schools in Fuzhou and the greater Fujian Province. I still have many fond memories of learning and teaching at KU—including organizing the GTA’s with David Reidy. I still have fleeting notions of chucking the work world, and returning to the “life of the mind.” While this will most likely never happen—I’m destined to be an “all but”—I greatly appreciate all the professors at KU and will never forget the lessons learned. (I think I served on four search committees because I was one of the few females in the dept!).

Stacy Elmer, a current graduate student on a leave of absence, returned to campus on May 5, 2010 as a featured speaker at Pizza and Politics: Inside the Department of Health and Human Services at the Adams Alumni Center. Stacy earned her MA in philosophy in 2009 before accepting a job as the special assistant to the assistant secretary of bioterrorism preparedness and emergency response in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this capacity, Stacy responds to emergencies like the H1N1 outbreak and the natural disaster relief efforts. Most recently, Stacy returned from a mission to Haiti where she worked on the Disaster Mortuary team with the objective of identifying and returning the remains of U.S. citizens who died in the Haiti earthquake.

After receiving the last philosophy newsletter, **Stephen M. Griffin** was encouraged to send an item in about himself. Steve received a BGS in Philosophy and English in 1979. He is currently Interim Dean and Rutledge C.

Clement, Jr. Professor in Constitutional Law at Tulane Law School in New Orleans, LA. He has been a faculty member at Tulane since 1989. Steve still remembers great philosophy classes with Richard De George, Rex Martin, Warner Morse, John Bricke and many other professors from the department’s “golden age.” Currently he is working on a book on presidential power in foreign affairs and looking forward to getting back to Kansas in the near future, perhaps to give a lecture at the law school.

In addition to trash hauling, ditch digging, and recovering from green chile stew addiction, **Jack Horner** (MA, 1977) published 11 papers on topics including the forensics of “mad-cow” disease, quantum logic, set theory, influenza resistance to drugs, the rise of birds in the Middle Triassic, network theory, cybergenetics, and a “world-dynamics” simulator. He continued to serve on the advisory board of the Kansas University Biodiversity Institute. He also served on the editorial boards of two bioinformatics journals and wrote a monthly practical science column for a weekly newspaper. As to what, other than the transcendental unity of a laundry list, these activities share, he has no idea.

David Reidy (PhD, 1997) has been named Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Head of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Tennessee, where he is Professor of Philosophy and Adjunct Professor of Political Science. Reidy lives in Knoxville with his wife and two children.

Barbara Rybolt Ezell wrote the following:

While wandering around the internet today, I found the University of Kansas Philosophy Department’s website and took some time to read the four fall newsletters. I was pleased to see two of the most memorable instructors during my brief tenure at the university had prizes and awards bearing their names ... Warner Morse and Arthur Skidmore.

Discussions in Dr. Morse’s seminars on Wittgenstein and logical positivism, as well as the ad-hoc philosophy club’s gatherings, remain some of my most vivid and pleasant memories of my time at KU.

I still tell tales of Dr. Skidmore’s symbolic logic classes which relied for a text upon mimeographed pages of his yet-to-be-published, still being revised, book. Yes, I passed that course the first time around and learned a few very valuable lessons – extreme studying does pay off and fear of failing can be a great motivator.

I attended the University of Kansas as a graduate student in the Philosophy Department in 1969–1970. No, I didn’t graduate with an advanced degree, life intervened and I moved to the east coast with my then-husband. (I was registered under the name Barbara Lee

Rybolt Fetterolf, at that time.) Still, my stories about KU and philosophy as a field of inquiry and study may have influenced my children: one son graduated with an undergraduate degree in philosophy from Rutgers U. and the other considers reading original philosophical texts his “pleasure” reading; or it could just be in the genes as their father, Edward Ezell, is a PhD physicist and dabbles in philosophy.

I “grew up” to be a newspaper reporter, then editor and managing editor. When asked where I learned my “trade,” I credit the University of Kansas and University of Denver Philosophy departments – whose teachers taught me to think clearly, ask questions and write.

And the following report is excerpted and adapted from an article published this past February in the Cleveland *Sun Star Courier*:

Monica Gerrek (PhD, 2008), developed a distance-learning course to give middle- and high school-aged students the opportunity to learn about and discuss some of the most current, thought-provoking issues in bioethics.

Monica is a fellow with the Cleveland Fellowship in Advanced Bioethics. She learned about the fellowship while she was searching for a teaching job. She jumped at the opportunity because it placed her in a hospital setting, where many of the issues she talks about with students were taking place.

The distance-learning video-course was a community engagement project that was part of the fellowship requirements. When developing the project, Monica had two main goals: To create something that would last after she left the fellowship and to create an experience that would engage the participants in critical thinking about the issues.

The students discuss animal ethics, world hunger, stem cells, cloning, reproductive ethics and euthanasia. The topics are presented in an unbiased fashion as Monica works to get both sides of controversial issues represented and presented for discussion. Monica feels that if students are challenged, then they will step up to the plate, and she wants them to think about the issues in a philosophical manner.

The course started last October with ten schools taking part. Monica has been impressed with the students and their participation; the students had so many good questions that the first classes went over the allotted time. The series ended in the spring with the students working on final projects as individuals or as parts of teams. The projects involved creating a poster that explores a particular ethical issue. The posters were judged and the winning design was presented at Bioethics Research Day.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This is probably the hardest note I’ve ever had to include in the newsletter. It was such a shock when I received the call from Pamela about her father that morning. While we all have memories of Tony, one of my favorites is the way he used to throw a quarter in the jar for coffee. When I heard that clink, I knew that the day was officially started. I miss that reassuring clink and the stop by my office to say hello that usually followed.

As always, it is good to hear from all of the alumni, so please continue to update us on the good things you are doing since you left Wescoe. Remember my email is chodges@ku.edu and check the Philosophy web page (www.philosophy.ku.edu) for updates on department activities.

Thanks to Pam LeRow and the College’s office of Digital Media Services for putting the newsletter together in its present form.

Cindi Hodges

The University of Kansas
Department of Philosophy
1445 Jayhawk Blvd.
3090 Wescoe Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045