## **FALL 2006**

# KANSAS Philosophy

NEWSLETTER OF THE KU DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY VOL. 5 NO. 1

## Message from the Chair— Tom Tuozzo

Greetings, alumni of the KU Philosophy Department! After a couple of years' hiatus, we're starting up our department newsletter again; we'll try to keep to an annual timetable this time around. As you'll note from the name above and the picture on this page (I'm the tall one), Tony Genova, after many years of service as Chair, has stepped down to return to full-time teaching, and I became Chair in July 2004. For virtually everyone receiving this letter, Tony has been the only Chair of the KU Philosophy Department they have known. They also know what big shoes those are to fill.

Other changes have taken place too: Sarah Sawyer left KU first for the University of Nebraska and then for Suffolk University in her native Britain, while Christian Lotz and Kevin Davies took new positions at Michigan State and the University of Chicago. In their stead we welcomed on board two new assistant professors this year, of whom we expect great things. Kevan Edwards joins us from Rutgers, where he recently defended, in August, the dissertation he wrote under the supervision of Jerry Fodor. He works in philosophy of mind and philosophy of language, and, with an interest in cognitive science, he will be helping us build bridges with the psychology and linguistics departments. Ingra Schellenberg is a newly minted Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she worked with Jesse Prinz. Ingra works in bioethics, moral psychology, and philosophy of medicine. She'll be our bridgebuilder to the life sciences.

We are very proud of our success in hiring these two young philosophers. We hope to succeed again this year as we search for an assistant professor who specializes in 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century continental philosophy. We also expect to be doing more hiring further down the road, both to bring ourselves back up to our working strength of 15-18 faculty members, and to replace some of the senior faculty as they start to retire. Rex Martin has started on "phased retirement" this year, and Richard De George will begin phased retirement next year. They're not leaving right away; they'll both continue half-time for a few years. They'll help us through the beginning of what should be an exciting time of department-building. We've already made a great start with Ingra and Kevan.

In the rest of this newsletter you'll see some of the things we've accomplished over the last couple of years. We've had some great Lindley Lectures, as well as other visitors to the Department; recent BA's have gone on to exciting post-graduate careers; and recent Ph.D.'s have had considerable success in finding philosophy positions. We'll also be filling you in on the activities of your fellow alums, and of upcoming events in the Department this year. Make sure you let us know what you're up to, for future (and more timely!) issues of this Newsletter.



Kara Tan Bhala, MA, with Tom Tuozzo at the Master's Hooding Ceremony, May 2006

### AFTER THE LAST NEWSLETTER, WE HEARD FROM.....

John H. McClendon III, Ph.D. 1999, is Associate Professor of African American Studies and American Cultural Studies at Bates College and serves as the Chair of African American Studies. McClendon is the author of C. L. R. James's Notes on Dialectics: Left Hegelianism or Marxism-Leninism, (Lexington Books 2005). He is the Editor of the American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Philosophy and the Black Experience and is a member of the Committee on Blacks in Philosophy of the American Philosophical Association. McClendon is on the Editorial Advisory Board of the journal Cultural Logic and was recently (2006) a faculty member for the SchomburgMellon Humanities Summer Institute. In 2006, McClendon was the Charles Phelps Taft lecturer for the 35th anniversary of the African-American Studies Department at the University of Cincinnati and was also invited in 2005 to give a paper on the African philosopher Anton Wilhelm Amo at The Conference on Africans in Europe Before the 20th Century, University of Toulouse in Toulouse, France

**Ted Vaggalis, Ph.D. 2001**, received the Drury University's Faculty Award for Liberal Learning on August 25, 2005. The award recognizes a Drury faculty member who is committed to fostering the critical thinking and imaginative capacities that characterize liberal learning. Ted has been at Drury since 1995 as Director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Center. (September 2, 2005)

**Richard Fleming, PhD, 1982**, is now the John Howard Distinguished Professor at Bucknell and has published several books including his most recent: *First Word Philosophy: Writings on Ordinary Language Philosophy* (Bucknell, 2004). (June 10, 2005).

**Craig Tiernan, BA 1999**, was promoted to Vice President of Quality Assurance for National In-Store (NIS), (June 2005).

**Dennis Lowden, MA, 1989**, is now teaching at Blue River Metropolitan Community College. He was also seen on a local television station regarding an exhibit of photographs at the Campus Center of the Blue River Community College that Dennis had taken while he was working on Wake Island in the mid 1970s.

**Matt Haug**, **BA 2000**, (presently a graduate student at Cornell University) gave a paper on natural selection and causation at the APA meeting in Chicago in 2006 as a Graduate Student Stipend winner.

**Mike Cormack, PhD 1999**, has a book scheduled for publication this upcoming fall (December 2006) by Thoemmes Continuum. The title is *Plato's Stepping Stones*.

**Robert Hull, PhD 1991**, published his essay "All About Eve: A Report on Environmental Virtue Ethics Today" in *Ethics and the Environment*, Volume 10, Number 1, Spring 2005.

**Amy Coplan, BA 1996**, is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Cal State Fullerton. She has had articles published in the *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, Film and Philosophy; Film Studies: An International Review*, plus many presentations.

Ken Megill, BA 1961, has recently published two books *Thinking for a Living: The Coming Age of Knowledge Work*, 2004 and *Corporate Memory: Records and Information Management* in the Knowledge Age, 2nd Edition, 2005. He remembers being taught by Peter Caws, Richard De George and Charles Landsman, "three young Yale graduates who arrived on the campus when I (Megill) was an undergraduate."

#### WINDOWS UPDATE

As reported in the last newsletter, the stained glass windows representing Socrates and Plato had been found. On November 5, 2003 the windows were installed and now grace the east entrance of Wescoe Hall outside the department offices, 3090 Wescoe. An article about the windows was included in the Kansas Alumni, No. 2, 2004. Special thanks to Profs. De George and Genova for their hard work and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences for financial support of this beautiful addition to Wescoe.

# A FINAL GOODBYE TO AN OLD FRIEND

Right before Thanksgiving, 2004, we received word that Arthur Skidmore had passed away on November 20<sup>th</sup>. He had been ill for several months. After he retired, Art had moved back east to be closer to his family. He had been active in choral groups in the New York area. His presence is still felt in the department because his text, "Another Introduction to Symbolic Logic" is used in the Phil. 310, Introduction to Symbolic Logic course.

#### 2004-2006 Doctoral Dissertations

Eric B. Berg, 'A Philosophical Introduction to Norman Maclean by way of Kierkegaard's Distinction between Fear and Anxiety.' Dissertation Advisor: James Woelfel, May 2005

Samuel Evans Kreider, 'John Stuart Mill: Utility, Liberty, and *Eudaimonia*.' Dissertation Chair: Ben Eggleston, May 2005

Yancy Hughes Dominick, '*En Eikosi Skopein*, Studying in Images: Plato's *Phaedo* and the Role of Images in Philosophy.' Dissertation Advisor: Thomas M. Tuozzo, May 2005

Stephen Ferguson, 'Racial Contract Theory: A Critical Introduction.' Advisor: Ann Cudd, August 2004

Curran F. Douglass, 'On Freedom and Rationality.' Dissertation Chair: John Bricke, August 2004

Christopher Caldwell, 'Motivating Ethical Pluralism.' Advisor: Richard De George, May 2004

Delilah R. Caldwell, 'Language and the Objectivity of Value.' Advisor: John Bricke, May 2004

Jorge A. Munoz, 'International Distributive Justice.' Advisor: Richard T. De George, August 2003

Larry Waggle, 'Just Friends: Justice and Friendship in the Social Theories of Aristotle and Epicurus.' Advisor: Tom Tuozzo, August 2003

# CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENT Activities

Roksana Alavi received the 2004 Graduate Student Distinguished Service Award and has a full-time teaching position at South Texas College in McAllen, Texas. She was also part of the 2004-2005 KU Women of Distinction Calendar.

Monica Gerrek had a paper accepted for the Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals for presentation at the Central APA meeting in April of 2004.

Dawn Gale has a full time teaching appointment at Johnson County Community College.

Aaron Dopf received a KU Graduate Direct Exchange Scholarship for study in Mainz, Germany for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Tamela Ice accepted a full-time teaching position at Kansas City Kansas Community College teaching philosophy starting Fall 2006.

# **PLACEMENT NEWS**

**Eric Berg, PhD 2005** received a tenure track position at McMurray College. He was also named a 2005 Kierkegaard Library Summer Fellow and presented part of his dissertation at the 2004 Conference on Religion and the Arts at the University of Iowa.

Chris Caldwell, PhD 2004, has a tenure track appointment in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas. Delilah Caldwell, PhD 2004, is also teaching as an adjunct there.

**Yancy Dominick, PhD 2006,** started teaching at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinios during Fall 2006.

**Stephen Ferguson, PhD 2004**, has been appointed to a tenure track position at North Carolina A & T State University in the University Studies program. He'll be teaching introductory level philosophy courses and African-American Philosophy.

**Martin Henn, PhD 1999,** had a visiting teaching position during Spring 2006 at the University of Wisconsin at White Water. He will be teaching full time at Auburn University starting Fall 2006.

**Evan Kreider, PhD, 2005**, is now at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley teaching in the Philosophy Department.



John Bricke, Ingra Schellenberg and Kevan Edwards

# **New FACULTY HIRES**

This fall 2006, the department welcomed two new faculty members to its ranks. They are **Kevan Edwards** and **Ingra Schellenberg.** 

Kevan received his PhD from Rutgers University and his areas of specialization are Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language and Cognitive Science. The title of his dissertation is *Referentialism without Compromise* and his supervisor is Jerry Fodor.

Ingra received her PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The title of her dissertation is *Everday Psychopathology* and her supervisor is Jesse Prinz. Her areas of specialization are Ethics, Bioethics, and Philosophy of Medicine.

## **FACULTY NOTES**

Ann Cudd was selected as the 2005 Outstanding Educator by the KU Torch Chapter of the Mortar Board Senior Honor Society. She was one of five educators selected for this award. Presentation of the award occurred at the KU-Idaho State basketball game on November 18, 2005. Ann's photo was included on the 2005-2006 KU Women of Distinction calendar.

While lecturing in Milan, **Richard De George** was featured in a story on computer ethics in *Sole 24 Ore*, the Italian financial newspaper. This may be the first time (in print, at least) that Richard has been styled "il guru."

**Don Marquis** participated in the Ira W. DeCamp Bioethics Seminar at the Princeton University Center for Human Value's along with Peter Singer on March 29, 2006. The topic was "Abortion and Infanticide. A Critique of Peter Singer's Views."

#### **FACULTY UPDATES**

John Bricke spent the Spring 2006 semester on sabbatical to complete the research for and writing of *Interpretation and Evaluation: A Davidsonian Investigation.* His essay "Liberty and Necessity" is forthcoming in the *Routledge Companion to* Hume. He continues to chair the selection committee for the Philip Whitcomb Essay Competition. Kirk Ludwig (University of Florida) came as a guest lecturer for his class Phil. 654, Philosophy of Mind, in Spring 2005, and Ernie Lepore (Rutgers University) gave a presentation and public lecture in connection with his seminar Phil. 855, Davidson, in Fall 2005

Ann Cudd continues dual duty as Director of Women's Studies and Professor of Philosophy. For Fall 2005, she developed a new course on Sports Ethics which enrolled forty-four students. Also in that same year Ann received the Mortarboard Outstanding Educator Award. In April 2006, her book *Analyzing Oppression*, Oxford University Press was released.

**Richard De George** spent a month as a Resident Research Scholar at the Rockefeller Foundation Study and Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy in June, 2004, where he worked on a new book, *Ethics for a Digital Age*. The center houses sixteen scholars at a time and the Residents are from countries throughout the world. In June 2004, and in May 2005 and 2006, he co-directed and taught a Faculty Development Seminar on "Teaching International Business Ethics" for professors of business from across the country.

In July of 2004 he delivered a keynote address on "Globalization, Ethics and Information Technology" at the Fourth World Congress of Business, economics and Ethics in Melbourne, Australia. His other lectures during that year included a keynote address on "Post 9/11: Computers, Ethics and War," at the Fifth International Conference on Computer Ethics (published in Ethics and Information Technology); an invited lecture on "Intellectual Property and Pharmaceutical Drugs: An Ethical Analysis," at a Conference on Intellectual Property and International Public Health at Georgetown University (published in the Business Ethics Quarterly, October 2005); a lecture at "Ethics, Accountability and Globalization" at the University of North Florida; and the Berry Lecture at Vanderbilt University on "Ethics and the Pharmaceutical Industry." He gave an invited papers in 2005 on the "A History of the Society for Business Ethics," in Honolulu at the Society's Twenty-fifth Annual meeting , and in 2006 on "Two Cheers for the Pharmaceutical Industry," for a Conference on Ethics and the Business of Biomedicine, at The University of Tennessee. In June, 2006, he delivered two lectures in Milan, Italy.

De George's *Business Ethics* (5<sup>th</sup> edition) has recently been translated into Russian, Chinese and Serbian. The sixth edition appeared in 2005. Since 2004 he has published 16 articles including "Business Ethics," *The Oxford Companion to Philosophy*, OUP, 2005, and a piece on academic freedom, "Purely Academic: Even Professors Misinterpret This Freedom," in the *Washington Post* (Outlook section, May 15, 2005 which generated a sizeable number of email comments from Post readers both praising and attacking it. His article "Ethics, Academic Freedom and Academic Tenure," appeared in the initial issue of *Journal of Academic Ethics*, and his "Business Ethics, Globalization and the Information age," [in Chinese translation] appeared in *Developing Business Ethics in China*. He



KU Philosophy Faculty, May 2006 Front Row: Teresa Robertson, Ann Cudd, Rex Martin Middle Row: Ben Eggleston, Jim Woelfel, Tony Genova Back Row: Tom Tuozzo, Richard De George and Don Marquis (Not pictured: John Bricke)

has continued his activity in various organizations, and was on the program of all three meetings of the American Philosophical Association in 2005-6. His bio was included in the new *Dictionary* of Modern American Philosophers.

**Ben Eggleston** had two papers published in 2005, one on the utilitarianism of G.E. Moore and the other on the consequentialism of the contemporary philosopher Peter Railton. This past April, he went to London to present a paper at a conference focusing on the work of John Stuart Mill, and also gave two invited lectures in Virginia, at the College of William and Mary and at Old Dominion University. This past spring he also taught a new graduate seminar, on the ethics of genetic technology; he plans to attend a conference on that topic this August, at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. This fall, he will teach Rational Choice Theory and begin his third year as the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies.

**Tony Genova** has retired as chair and resumed teaching full time. He has taught Modern Philosophy, Analytic Philosophy, Theory of Knowledge and recently finished up a seminar on Wittgenstein. His paper "Transcendentally Speaking" is forthcoming in *Kant-Studien*. Another paper which is currently under review is "Internalism and Token-Identity" and another called "Minimalist Existence" is in progress. He is also doing research on contemporary work on two-dimensional semantics.

**Don Marquis** has had several essays published over the past couple of years. These include "What's Wrong with Adultery?", "Brill's Objections to the Future of Value Argument", "Savulescu's Objections to the Future of Value Argument", "How Not to Argue that Embryos Lack Full Moral Status", "Abortion and the Beginning and End of Human Life", "Abortion Revisited", and "Singer on Abortion and Infanticide." He continues to teach Contemporary Ethical Theory, Medical Ethics, History of Ethics and also offered a Seminar on Applied Ethics: Abortion. Don is also the leader of the KUMC Ethics Club which meets monthly to discuss essays in medical ethics.

**Teresa Robertson** has been the Director of Graduate Studies for the past two years. Her forthcoming articles will include "Essential and Accidental Properties" in *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* and "Does the New Route Reach Its Destination?" with Graeme Forbes in *Mind*. She has recently taught courses in Philosophy of Language, Graduate Tutorial and Topics in Recent Philosophy: Kripke.

**Tom Tuozzo** became Chair of the Philosophy Department, July 2004. He also organized the February 2005 meeting of the Kansas Philosophical Society meeting at KU. Recently he presented "A Reductionist Account of Aristotelian Powers to Cause Change" to the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association Meeting in Chicago. He continues to work on Aristotle's ethics and physics and on early Platonic dialectic.

In 2005-2006, **James Woelfel** presented three papers: 1) A"ris Murdoch and the Existentialists," in the Hall Center Philosophy & Literature Seminar, 2) "The Humanities Core and the Troubling Persistence of the 'Two Cultures,'" at the 2005 annual conference of the Association of Core Texts and Courses in Vancouver, and 3) "Galileo in Kansas: The Strange Timeliness of the *Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina*," at the 2006 annual conference of ACTC in Chicago. His book *The Existentialist Legacy and Other Essays on Philosophy and Religion* was published in April, 2006 by University Press of America. He will be an invited participant in a session of the Oxford Round Table at Harrison Manchester College, Oxford University, July 9-14, 2006, presenting a paper on ""Two Cultures," One Human World: A Framework for Common Understanding."He continues as the Director of the Humanities and Western Civilization Program while teaching a course in Philosophy most semesters.

## **DONOR SUPPORT**

**Thanks to donor support**, the Department was able to present the following awards to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students:

- **2005 Warner Morse Undergraduate Scholarships**: Kyle Franis Timmermeyer and Veronica Pastore,
- 2005 Arthur Skidmore Awards: Mark Lippelmann and Joseph Morgan
- **2005 J. M. Young Awards:** Eric Alexander Holte and Jennifer Donnally
- 2005 Warner Morse Prize: Metaphysics/Epistemology: Henry Epp
- 2005 Warner Morse Prize: Ethics: Ian Ostrander

2005 Warner Morse Prize: History of Philosophy: Ryan Stringer 2005 Summer Templin Fellowships: Mario Garitta and Pelle Danabo 2005 Robinson Essay Prize: Matthew Waldshlagel

2006 Brownstein-Young Awards: Polina Demina and Manal Kara 2006 Art Skidmore Awards: Adam Lockridge and Lauren Marino 2006 Warner Morse Scholarship: Alan Brockman 2006 Warner Morse Prize: Metaphysics/Epistemology: Val Milleson 2006 Warner Morse Prize: Ethics: Eric Holte 2006 Warner Morse Prize: History of Philosophy: Miles Garrett 2006 Summer Templin Fellowship: Pelle Danabo 2006 Robinson Essay Prize: Nick Korzeniowski 2006 Department GTA Award: Ryan McCabe

Warner Morse Undergraduate Scholarships are given to outstanding juniors majoring in philosophy. The Arthur Skidmore Awards are given to one or two of the top senior majors in philosophy The J. M. Young Awards are presented to one or two of the top senior majors in philosophy. The Warner Morse Prizes in the various areas of Metaphysics/Epistemology, Ethics, and History of Philosophy are given to a student who has done outstanding work in each of the areas. Templin fellowships are awarded to graduate students for academic excellence and special circumstances. The Robinson Essay Contest is held every spring and both undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit a paper for a cash prize.

We especially want to thank the following individuals and businesses that made these awards and other department activities possible. They are:

> Mr. and Mrs. Linden Appel Karen Bell Larry Blackman Donald Brownstein Connie H. Burk Gregory Busby Heather Bussing Kenneth Clark Dr. and Mrs. James Cook Lee Crawford Dr. and Mrs. Richard De George Helen S. Dewey Ben Eggleston Dr. and Mrs. Robert Enberg Mr. and Mrs. Brian Filinger The Garvey Foundation Grant Hayden Dr. and Mrs. David Mannering Mr. and Mrs. Mark McFarland The Microsoft Corporation Dr. Jon Mikkelsen The Motorola Foundation **Richard Newton** The Paley Properties Michael Payne Larry Poague The Raytheon Company Mr. and Mrs. William Roberts Dr. and Mrs. Terry Sader Science Applications International Corp. Dr. and Mrs. David Schmidt Robyn N. Stowell Dr. and Mrs. James Swindler Kara W. Tan Bhala Christopher Tankersley Dr. and Mrs. William Tankersley Christian Wiswell

#### Note from the Editor

Hopefully you enjoyed this overdue issue of the newsletter. Please check the department's web page (http://www.philosophy.ku.edu/) for upcoming lectures and department information. We do enjoy hearing from past students and colleagues, so please send any information so that it can be included in upcoming newsletters. Also, if you are ever in Lawrence, stop by the department and say hello! Cindi Hodges, chodges@ku.edu

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