



2008–2009 philosophy.osu.edu

Words from the Chair

This past year, we have said farewell to two of our longtime, valued Columbus campus colleagues: Steve Boer and George Pappas. Steve joined the department as an assistant professor in 1968 and George came to the department in 1969 as an associate professor. Their presence in the department

will be missed by all of us. And James Bode retired from the Lima campus after more than 34 years of service there. James, too, will be missed.

We welcome Dawn Starr, who has just joined us on the Lima campus. Dawn is completing her PhD in the philosophy of language at UCLA. She received her BA from Kenyon College and an MA in philosophy from Tufts University. Dawn’s current research interests are on topics related to the semantics and pragmatics of natural languages.

We also welcome eight new graduate students, coming from a variety of institutions around the country and having diverse philosophical interests including: metaphysics, ethics, moral psychology, epistemology, logic, and the history of philosophy. Six of the eight new graduate students have completed MAs in philosophy at

other institutions prior to coming to Ohio State. This is a large incoming class, and one that continues a tradition of excellence.

It is impractical to try to briefly list faculty accomplishments in a short overview piece like this. (We have a fuller, but still nothing approaching complete, listing of such accomplishments on pages 12–13.) But I would be remiss were I not to mention some very noteworthy accomplishments. For example, Sigrún Svavarsdóttir was awarded a fellowship from the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she spent last spring quarter doing research. Sigrún also turned down a very prestigious Faculty Fellowship in Ethics at Harvard during the current academic year in order to accept an equally prestigious Laurence S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow at the University Center

for Human Values at Princeton University. Lisa Downing is currently working on her book *Empiricism and Newtonianism: Locke, Berkeley, and the Decline of Strict Mechanism*, with the assistance of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Sukjae Lee was invited to be a visiting assistant professor at Cornell University for the autumn semester.

There is also much that could be said about the accomplishments of our graduate students—much more than we include in our column devoted to this (see page 15). Many of our students are very highly involved in professional activities—publishing papers and giving talks at professional conferences. Deserving special mention here, though, is Salvatore Florio whose outstanding record and exciting dissertation project were recognized by a Presidential Fellowship. This award, which is highly competitive across the university, allows just a handful of students who show extraordinary promise to devote their attention fully to their research work.

When the last issue of *Logos*



DON HUBIN, CHAIR

went to press, the department was undergoing its first program review in 20 years. This review brought three distinguished philosophers—Don Garrett (New York University), Louis Loeb (Michigan), and Geoff Sayre McCord (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)—to campus to review the department closely. We knew that this was a terrific team of evaluators when

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Don't Buy the Lies: High School Students Get Philosophical, Too

Summer 2008 marked the Department of Philosophy's first foray into K-12 education. "Don't Buy the Lies: Straight Thinking about Crooked Talk," a critical reasoning course, was taught as a pilot course for five weeks this summer at Metro High School.

Metro is a Columbus charter school, located just off campus, which is run by Ohio State, Battelle Research Foundation, and a consortium of central Ohio school districts. The course emphasized both introductory logical reasoning and political argumentation.

This course was made possible through a generous donation from Louise Vigoda, a Denver real estate investor with a degree from Ohio State, and her husband Phil. Worried that Americans too often lack critical reasoning skills, Louise hoped that her donation might be used to extend the philosophy department's reach. She asked the department to seek creative ways to challenge students,

"It is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to high school students, many of whom have a natural interest in philosophy but little opportunity to explore and develop that interest."

who might not otherwise be so challenged, to develop their critical reasoning skills—the skills she believes she developed as a result of her philosophical education at Ohio State in the 1950s.

"I shared Louise's social concerns," Don Hubin says, "but, as chair of the department, I needed to find ways of using these funds that would also help us carry out the mission of the department. I saw a way to do that if we could develop a summer curriculum for high school students. This would be exactly the sort of outreach that Louise was seeking, and it would help to provide summer support for our graduate students, which is a serious

concern of ours."

Don worked with Marcy Raymond, the principal at Metro High School, to have the course included in Metro's summer curriculum. "Metro High School is the ideal venue for this trial course," Don reports, "because it is used by the various school districts connected with the school as an experimental platform from which to launch programs into other high schools in the area."

Thus was born the concept of the Metro High School course, but the development remained to be done by four terrific graduate students: Sal Florio, Dai Heide, Cathy Muller, and Pat Reeder.

"We really worked hard to make the course appropriate for high school students, while at the same time ensuring that they were challenged," says Pat Reeder. This was no small task: Metro High is a charter school that appeals primarily to highly motivated, self-selecting students. The committee was "warned" about them: even though "Don't Buy the Lies" was a summer course, they could expect the students to be deeply committed. "One of our main goals was to make sure the course was practical," notes Sal Florio. "We wanted to make sure students were able to see just how relevant clear reasoning is to their own lives."

"We were trying to make this class more than just a logic course, and we hit on the idea of political debate," says Cathy Muller. "We chose this both because it was topical and because it seemed likely to provide ample opportunity for discussion of logical fallacies and

Words from the Chair *cont'd*

the university selected them. They worked very hard, reviewing enormous quantities of data and numerous reports and interviewing faculty, students, and staff. Their recommendations have guided the department over the past year in fine-tuning our program and practices. While they had numerous such helpful suggestions, we were gratified by their extremely positive evaluation of our department. As one of their summary comments put it: "The Ohio State philosophy department has an excellent faculty and a graduate program that successfully attracts strong graduate students that it then places impressively. Indeed, the department's outstanding placement record is compelling testimony to the quality of the graduate stu-

dents and the graduate program" (*External Review Team Report*, page 1).

The department continues to cooperate with philosophers in Croatia and Slovenia to host an annual conference in Dubrovnik. This year, Justin D'Arms and Sigrún Svavarsdóttir organized a terrific conference on moral philosophy, and next year Declan Smithies and Wayne Wu are organizing a conference in epistemology and philosophy of mind focusing on the important but underexplored area of attention.

Last spring marked the dedication of the Robert G. Turnbull Reading Room & Lounge. Through the generosity of Marge and Bruce Turnbull, and numerous alumni and friends of the department, and with

"...Indeed, the department's outstanding placement record is compelling testimony to the quality of the graduate students and the graduate program"

(*External Review Team Report*, page 1).

strong assistance from the College of Humanities, we were able to build and begin to furnish and decorate the new lounge. The space is already fulfilling the intended purpose of promoting informal philosophical conversations. We hope to complete the furnishing and decorating of the room, and you can help. Contributions to the Robert G. Turnbull fund—or any of the department's other development funds—can be made very easily by returning the form on page 15 or by going online to philosophy.osu.edu, and clicking on the link for making a contribution.

We want to know what's happening with you. We lose track of many of our former students and other friends of the department, and that's unfortunate. Please take a minute to complete the form on the back page of this newsletter and return it to us (or e-mail me at hubin.1@osu.edu). ■



Don Hubin
Chair

FEATURE

argumentation, as well as a chance for the students to apply their newly acquired skills.”

Because campaigns and their noteworthy moments are unpredictable, the committee built flexibility into the curriculum. “In the second week of the course, we spent an entire day debating the meaning and implications of the *New Yorker’s* controversial cartoon depicting the Obamas as political radicals,” Dai Heide says. Later in the course, teams of students were randomly assigned positions to take on gun control and then, after some significant research, formally debated the issue. “The work they put in was incredible,” Dai reports. “Several of them read significant portions of *D.C. v. Heller*,” a recent Supreme Court Decision striking down Washington, D.C.’s ban on handguns.

In the end, the committee was not let down. Dai notes that the students worked “amazingly hard,” adding, “Some of them routinely asked for extra work—and would do it even without the promise of extra credit. One of my students spent several nights trying to formulate a prisoners’ dilemma for an electoral voting scenario. It was really impressive.” The final week of the course focused on introductory symbolic logic. Dai reports being



METRO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

impressed with the students’ abilities. “A couple of them are better at this stuff now than I was in college,” he says.

Dai is enthusiastic about the experience of teaching this course, saying, “I’d do it again in a heartbeat. It was hard work, but the level of commitment blew me away. What more can you ask for? It was the most fun I’ve ever had teaching.”

Based on student evaluations, this attitude was shared by the students. More importantly, the

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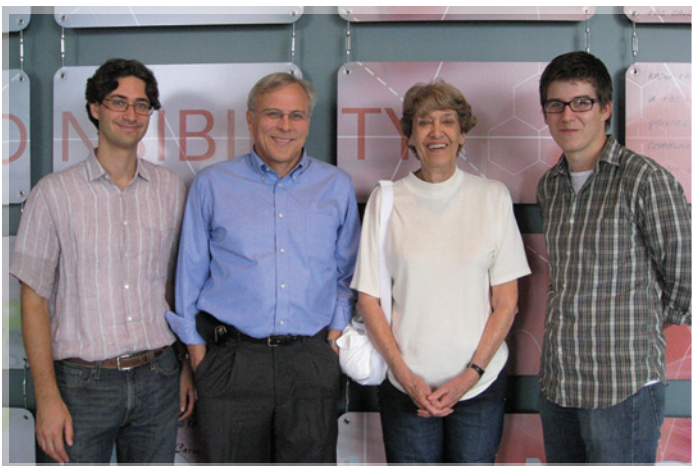
students came out of the course with an improved ability to understand and critically evaluate arguments, especially in the context of political debates and campaigns. On this the students and Dai agree.

All of the students who evaluated the course expressed their gratitude for the generosity of the Vigodas for making the course possible. One concluded the evaluation with these sentiments: “Because of Louise and Philip Vigoda, I was able to take part in this amazing course that will help me for years to come in the future. I would like to thank both of them with the deepest appreciation for their donation that made this possible not only for me but for my fellow classmates. This is something that will help us—no matter where we end up—to make wiser and more logical conclusions.”

In light of the success of this course, it will certainly be reprised

at Metro High School in future summers. But the department has set its sights higher than mere repeat performances at Metro. Don Hubin and Marcy Raymond have agreed to work together to develop grant applications that would allow the course to be rolled out to a wider audience of students at a variety of central Ohio high schools.

“This has the potential to be a very widely employed summer program, with the prospect of helping us to provide summer employment for more of our graduate students in a way that realizes Louise Vigoda’s vision of improving the general level of critical reasoning in our society,” Don says. “It is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to high school students, many of whom have a natural interest in philosophy but little opportunity to explore and develop that interest.” ■



SALVATORE FLORIO, DON HUBIN, LOUISE VIGODA, AND DAI HEIDE AT METRO HIGH SCHOOL

Consilience Project Attracts Academically Diverse Audiences

In autumn quarter 2006, graduate students Mike Ferreira (Philosophy), Ellen Furlong (Psychology), and Danny Pearlberg (Philosophy) collaborated in an attempt to stimulate dialogue between graduate students working in different academic departments. The result was the formation of the Consilience Project (CP), an officially recognized and still active Ohio State student organization. Many thanks are owed, too, to Owen King (Philosophy) for volunteering his time to act in the capacity of web master for the CP web site (consilience.org.ohio-state.edu), as well as to John Opfer (Psychology) for his assistance as the CP faculty advisor.

The avowed mission of CP—to facilitate dialogue across departments—is grounded in at least two assumptions. On the one hand, CP takes it for granted that keeping in periodic touch with high-quality research in areas related to, though distinct from, one's own is a worthy end in itself. Minimally, then, CP functions as an organization committed to satisfying the intellectual curiosity of its members and others in the university community.

It goes without saying that Ohio State is a nearly ideal environment for an organization like CP.

On the other hand, perhaps more substantially, CP assumes that facilitating dialogue between experts and graduate students across disciplines has the potential to yield genuine insights of a sort unattainable when researchers do not collaborate. Of course, the suggestion is intentionally vague, and in practice CP is committed to little more than the sharing of skills and knowledge toward the extension, where possible, of our collective knowledge of the natural world.

So far, the chosen course for implementing CP's mission has been to invite visits and presentations from academics in residence at other institutions whose own interests tend to be broadly interdisciplinary. However, CP has also sponsored presentations from faculty and graduate students in residence at Ohio State. Highlights from the first two years of programming include a stimulating presentation from our own Tim Schroeder and visits from Jesse Prinz (UNC-Chapel Hill) and Susan Carey (Harvard). All three talks were well attended and featured an academically diverse audience.

While sponsoring colloquia has been a CP mainstay since its inception, the organization has recently evolved in a somewhat different direction. The officers now make an effort to work in conjunction with specific faculty members in order to sponsor colloquia directed at enhancing selected graduate student seminars. For instance, in spring quarter 2008, CP and the Department of Philosophy co-sponsored a visit from Edouard Machery (Pittsburgh). Machery was invited to share some recent work relevant to a seminar in the philosophy of science taught by Richard Samuels. This latest CP program, too, attracted a diverse academic audience.

It goes without saying that Ohio State is a nearly ideal environment for an organization like CP. For one thing, the university's SOURCE (Student Organization Resource Center) provides an incredible financial resource to any student organization with an acceptable mission and an adequate level of organization. But, more importantly, both in our home department and in the wider university community, we are rich in high-quality faculty and graduate students. Perhaps the best way to characterize CP is to call it an organization aimed at both exploiting and contributing to those rich intellectual resources. ■



DANNY PEARLBERG AND MIKE FERREIRA—CONSILIENCE PROJECT

Philosophy Student Makes the *Times*

Who says philosophers don't deal with the "real world"? One of our accomplished graduates has had the distinction recently of publishing an op-ed piece in *The New York Times*: "Behind the Woman Behind the Bomb" (August 2, 2008). Lindsey O'Rourke began to pursue her interest in the phenomenon of suicide bombing when she wrote a thesis for graduation, with distinction in honors, under the direction of philosophy professor Neil Tennant. Her interdisciplinary project passed with flying colors in an examination that involved both the Departments of Philosophy and Political Science. Lindsey is now in the political science PhD program at the University of Chicago, where she specializes in international relations. She says her op-ed piece "was aimed to correct common misperceptions

about the motivations of female suicide attackers. My larger work on the subject analyzes the strategic value and the inter-group dynamics involved in employing women attackers." ■



LINDSEY O'ROURKE

Summer Research Opportunity Program

This past summer, three philosophy undergraduate majors from other institutions were at Ohio State for six weeks to participate in the Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP). This program is designed to help minority undergraduates explore opportunities for graduate study and academic careers. SROP participants work with a faculty sponsor on a project of mutual interest, with the intention of developing the kind of student-professor relationship that is crucial to success in graduate school.

Viktoriya Kamara (Northwestern) worked with our colleague Robert Perry of the Department of Physics on a project concerning Kant and quantum mechanics. Marvin Brown did research with Allan Silverman on Plato's "noble lie," a myth that seems to offer support for a stratified social structure. And John Camacho worked on a project on the nature of belief and desire under the direction of Don Hubin.

John took some time to describe his background and what brought him to the SROP program. He relates that he was intimidated by the idea of taking philosophy courses when he entered Georgia Southern University as a freshman. Nevertheless, he enrolled in an Introduction to Philosophy course in his second semester there.

"Looking back," John says, "it was one of the most important decisions in my collegiate life. We read Plato, Descartes, John Locke, Immanuel Kant, and Albert Camus. I particularly enjoyed reading Plato's *Euthyphro*, *Apology*, and *Crito*. I developed a great love for philosophy and found enjoyment in reading, writing, and discussing the ethical and political themes in philosophy. This led me to organize discussion groups with classmates and upperclassmen. At this point, philosophy no longer intimidated me. I dropped the political science major and became a philosophy major."

John didn't know, though, where a philosophy degree would lead him. In his sophomore year, he transferred to Georgia State University. The rigorous philosophy culture there strengthened his desire to pursue a PhD in philosophy. Then a visit to Georgia State by Brian Leiter helped to crystallize John's plans for the future. Professor Leiter spoke about combined JD/PhD programs in philosophy and John realized that there are options available for pursuing philosophy and law in academia.

John began directing his research toward this objective. In summer 2007, John worked with Professor George Rainbolt (Georgia State) on a



BACK (L TO R): ROBERT PERRY (PHYSICS), DON HUBIN, ALLAN SILVERMAN; FRONT (L TO R): VIKTORIYA KAMARA, JOHN CAMACHO, AND MARVIN BROWN

paper titled "Rawls and The Right to Security."

Through the 2007-08 academic year, John wrote an honors thesis called "The Ethics of Electronic Surveillance Laws." It was during this year that he became aware of Don Hubin's research on reasons for acting and the connection between morality and rationality, so he applied to Ohio State's SROP program to work with Don. John worked through the summer reading widely in the area and wrote a paper on the "direction of fit" account of the difference between belief and desire.

This fall, John is off to Salamanca, Spain, to immerse himself in the study of the Spanish language. John plans to graduate from Georgia State in spring 2010 and pursue graduate studies in law and philosophy. Though the SROP program is over, John's relationship with Don is not. Part of the goal of the SROP program is to establish an enduring mentorship between the faculty member and the student. Don will continue to read and comment on John's work, and to help advise him in making decisions about his advanced studies in law and philosophy. ■

This program is designed to help minority undergraduates explore opportunities for graduate study and academic careers.

Surili Sheth

Current Undergraduate

Surili Sheth began questioning early on. As she puts it: “‘But why?’ was probably the phrase my parents heard the most out of my mouth. As a teenager, if I couldn’t go to a sleepover, or I had to be home at a certain time, I would always ask why. Then, when my dad gave me an explanation, I immediately provided a counter-argument, to which he provided a counter-counter-argument. It went on like that until either he had provided me a firm, rigid enough explanation, or I had so completely exhausted and derailed each argument he came up with that he had no choice but to let me go or invoke the ‘because I said so’ argument. If he did the latter, he knew I would be prodding him for justification the entire time I was home.”

This is a familiar story to parents of teenagers, at least those who would tolerate the argumentative dialectic as much as Surili’s father would. But Surili’s fondness for questioning, challenging, and arguing was not simply a means to getting a teenager’s way. In her junior year of high school, she joined the Mock Trial Team as an “attorney” and was thrilled to find out that her arguing skills could actually be put to use. When coming up with lines of questioning for cross examinations, Surili had to think carefully through each and every answer that her witness could give and frame her questions so the witness could give her only the answer that she wanted. This year is Surili’s fourth year as a Mock Trial member.

Surili wants to spend her time researching what causes poverty and then create laws and, most importantly, implement ideas that reduce the plight of poor people.

In 2007, Surili came to Ohio State knowing she would be pre-law, but she had no idea what major to choose from the vast array of choices available. Then, she enrolled in an honors Introduction to Philosophy course with Lisa Shabel, in which she was introduced to Descartes’ *Meditations*. Descartes’ skeptical arguments in the first meditation immediately captured Surili’s imagination.

She notes: “Professor Shabel guided us through the arguments and counter-arguments that Descartes presented. This technique was intriguing to me, because I recognized the way

I try to argue in this format. I was amazed at the level of persuasion that philosophers could reach through logic. Furthermore, many of their texts followed the pattern that I think in. I argue with myself as I work out a problem in my head, and Descartes provides counter-arguments to the arguments he presents in his first meditation, and at some points even counters those. Using this method, Descartes meticulously casts readers into a general doubt about their perceptions and everything around them, and then proceeds to build his foundation that leads to his conclusions. Learning how to construct an argument that is sound (and inversely how to analyze an argument piece by piece) was one of the most attractive qualities of philosophy to me. The seeking-justice-wannabe-lawyer in me was jumping up and down.”

After Surili’s introduction to philosophy in Lisa Shabel’s course, she took a class on macroeconomics and then on the history of economic thought, both taught by Dr. Justin Elardo in the economics department. Surili learned that the standard definition of economics taught in almost every introductory economics class—some variation of “the study of how limited resources are allocated to unlimited wants”—has a bias, because it implicitly assumes that people are unlimitedly selfish. It takes that view of human nature as a given, which many people often do not recognize. If such a basic definition was biased, how many more things, Surili wondered, had she unquestioningly accepted throughout her education?

In her Evolution of Economic Thought course, Surili read the primary texts of many prominent economic thinkers like Aristotle and Adam Smith. Through the process of reading and critically evaluating these writers, the philosophies on which their economic theories were based became more and more apparent. “Philosophy provides a way to seek the foundation and the very basis of everything around me,” Surili says, “and that is one of the reasons it is so appealing to me.”

Surili is now a double major in economics and philosophy and is doing outstanding work in both areas. She still plans to go to law school, possibly eventually to practice international law. Surili wants to spend her time researching what causes poverty and then create laws and, most importantly, implement ideas that reduce the



SURILI SHETH AND LISA SHABEL

plight of poor people. “There should not be huge gaps in basic standards of living between classes of people,” Surili says, “and working to provide relief and opportunities for employment and aid on a small community level would be my first step in rectifying this problem.”

This is not just rhetoric for Surili. This past summer she volunteered at a non-governmental organization in Ahmedabad, India, named Manav Sadhna (translated “Service to Mankind”). There, her main project was to teach 40 5th-9th-grade impoverished children basic English vocabulary. Surili learned that need-based, focused projects aimed at specific problems are much more beneficial and effective than those that begin as large, indirect projects. However, to really help these people, she felt, she needs to understand better how they ended up in their respective situations. She also needs to learn how to communicate effectively with people in such situations as well as those who work in governments, legal offices, and bureaucracies. “To do that, I have to be able to recognize the perspective through which they look at the world,” she explains, “and provide arguments to persuade them to help me change the drastic economic inequalities that exist within it.”

This ambition is a long way from arguing with her father about whether she could go to a sleepover. But the skills that first developed in the pursuit of a teenager’s interests have served Surili well in her philosophical and economic studies and, with the further honing they will receive, will provide the basis for achieving the ambitious goals she has set for herself. ■

STUDENTS PRESENT AND PAST

Mark Lance

Former Undergraduate

Mark Lance came into philosophy by a back door. Though academically gifted and engaged growing up—he came to Ohio State as a National Merit Scholar—his main passion was music. In his first two years of college as a trumpet performance major, he played in Ohio State's Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band, and Wind Ensemble. He also helped form the Midwestern Brass Quintet and played with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

Mark had always had an interest in mathematics, so, much to the puzzlement of his music professors,

he took a string of honors courses in math. As he saw it, this was just something to do in his spare time, between rehearsals, but the rest of the academic world still held little interest for him. This was all to change, due to a fortuitous random course selection.

Mark describes himself as “grudgingly satisfying a humanities distribution requirement,” when he signed up for Robert Kraut's Introduction to Philosophy in spring 1978, a course experience he now describes as “magical.” All his life, Mark reports in retrospect, he had thought philosophically, but without knowing that he was doing so. Like many who are naturally drawn to philosophical questions, he had never really heard of philosophy, and just figured he was odd. “Suddenly,” he says, “there was this whole amazing world of people who argued, thought, and engaged with the most abstract ideas.” Under Robert's mentorship, Mark continued to take more and more philosophy courses, including a graduate course in philosophy of mind with Bill Lycan and logic courses with George Schumm. After a year or so, the change was complete. Mark left music behind and graduated with a major in philosophy and a minor in music. Along the way, he won the Bingham Prize, awarded for the best undergraduate essay in philosophy, for his paper, “Reference without Causation.”

The intellectual community at Ohio State in those days (1977–83) was, Mark says, extraordinary: “Not only were there superb teachers like Robert Kraut, Bill Lycan, George Pappas, Bob Turnbull, Don Hubin, and Dan Farrell, but there was an enormously lively group of undergraduates and graduate students, who would assemble most every

night at Larry's for multi-hour debates over beer, more beer, and even some other things. One could always count on finding faculty and students deep in discussion in the department lounge over lunch. Honestly, I've never seen a faculty so eager to interact with undergrad students outside class, nor such a fun and challenging group of undergrads. It felt very much like our own self-contained community, whether we were engaged in serious intellectual work or frivolous adventures. (I might note that there was a notorious incident involving the kidnapping of G.E. Moose in those days, an incident to which neither I nor any other undergraduate major has ever been definitively linked.)*

After Ohio State, Mark went on to graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh, where he studied with Nuel Belnap, Wilfrid Sellars, and Joe Camp, and wrote his dissertation under the direction of Bob Brandom. Mark had first met Bob when he was still an undergraduate, at an Ohio State philosophy department party at Robert Kraut's house. Mark recalls that Robert, Bob, and he were “still up at that party at 2:30 in the morning, arguing about mathematical ontology, which, as you can imagine, was about the coolest possible thing for a nerdy undergrad.”

Mark's first job was a three-year postdoc at Syracuse University where he taught with, among other future philosophers, John Hawthorne. Later, Mark and John wrote *The Grammar of Meaning* (Cambridge University Press, 1997). Since then, Mark has written dozens of papers in the philosophy of language, epistemology, philosophical

logic, metaphysics, moral philosophy (especially particularism), and applied areas of political philosophy. His second book (written with Rebecca Kukla) is ‘Yo!’ and ‘Lo!’: *The Pragmatic Topography of the Space of Reasons* (forthcoming from Harvard University Press).

One other prominent element of Mark's life also began in his days at Ohio State. In his last year, he was challenged on his political ignorance by a few other undergraduates, especially Ken Rose. “It says a lot about the culture of intellectual seriousness in place at Ohio State,” Mark recalls, “that one just didn't ignore such a challenge.” This led him to begin reading indepth not only in political theory, but on topical political issues. As a result of his readings, Mark decided that it was his duty to be involved in social justice and antiwar activism. And he has been active ever since, in a variety of ways, from engaging in civil disobedience with grassroots activist groups, to serving on the board of national organizations, to founding an interdisciplinary program on justice and peace.

At present Mark is professor of philosophy, professor of justice and peace, and director of the program on justice and peace that he founded at Georgetown University. He is working on a project in the foundations of mathematics with Joe Mourad (who was an Ohio State undergrad with Mark); a followup to the book with Rebecca Kukla, which will look at the nature of social authority; and a book on “constructive anarchism.” He lives in Washington, D.C., with his partner Amy Hubbard and their daughter Emma Lance.

Of his days as an undergraduate philosophy major at Ohio State, Mark says, “They were amazingly exciting and happy times that I will treasure my entire life.” ■



MARK LANCE WITH DAUGHTER, EMMA
JUNE HUBBARD LANCE

*During Mark's tenure here as an undergraduate, the department's rather lifeless but still fascinating mascot, G.E. Moose, was purloined and held ransom. The captors' demands were not for money but for a variety of changes in the behavior of individual faculty. Dan Farrell, for example, would be required to “ask at least one question during a colloquium without apologizing first” and Tamar Rudavsky was to “stop claiming that her pregnancy was a case of immaculate conception.” The crime is, as Mark's comments suggest, still unsolved. However, unlike true kidnappings, there is no statute of limitations for moosenapping. (We defy anyone to show us one statute that sets a limit to the liability of moosenappers to just punishment.) And, as chair, I assure all involved that we are pursuing the perpetrators of this crime as aggressively today as we ever have.

—Don Hubin



G.E. MOOSE—CAPTURED

Salvatore Florio

Current Graduate



SALVATORE FLORIO

In addition to singular quantification over objects (“there is a unicorn in the doorway,” “there is an even prime number”), English allows plural quantification (“there are some unicorns in the doorway,” “there are sets that are not members of themselves”).

After graduating from the Università di Firenze in Italy, Salvatore Florio joined the PhD program at Ohio State in autumn 2003. After having given up his high school dream of becoming a Sartre scholar, he focused on epistemology as an undergraduate, writing a thesis on epistemic externalism. Now, Salvatore’s main interests are in philosophy of language, philosophical logic, and philosophy of mathematics. He has worked on the Church-Fitch paradox of knowability and his paper “The Paradox of Idealisation,” co-written with Julien Murzi (University of Sheffield), is forthcoming in *Analysis*, a very strong philosophy journal.

Salvatore is currently writing a dissertation in semantics under the supervision of Stewart Shapiro and Neil Tennant. His dissertation concerns the notions of quantification and logical consequence in natural language—in particular the issues of plural quantification and plural logic. In addition to singular quantification over objects (“there is a unicorn in the doorway,” “there is an even prime number”), English allows plural quantification (“there are some unicorns in the doorway,” “there are sets that are not members of themselves”). The proper account of this kind of quantification, and its role in logic, metaphysics, and philosophy of mathematics, has been a matter of controversy in philosophy and linguistics. One of the main questions is whether plural quantification is reducible to singular quantification, and so describable in the usual logical framework, or whether it is instead a *sui generis* phenomenon that requires a revision of our logical resources. In his dissertation, Salvatore explores these issues and defends the view that plural quantification is best understood in terms of a specific sort of singular quantification. This undermines many recent proposals to avoid ontological commitments in metaphysics and justify set theory by appealing to certain uses of plural quantification.

Stewart Shapiro points out that there is a lot of work that bears on this, both by philosophers

of language and by linguists, and it is difficult to assimilate all of it. “One of Salvatore’s particular concerns is the extent to which unrestricted quantification runs afoul of the paradoxes, such as that of Russell and Burali-Forti. This brings him to work in mathematical logic and the foundations of mathematics. This is a rather popular topic these days, as witnessed by a volume edited by Oxford University Press. What Salvatore brings to this issue is the relevance of work in linguistics on generality and logical consequence.”

To develop his expertise in philosophy of mathematics, Salvatore has also completed the course work for a master’s degree in mathematics and is working on a thesis with Harvey Friedman. Salvatore’s work in the Department of Mathematics has included core courses in real analysis and algebra, as well as advanced topics in mathematical logic and set theory.

For this academic year, Salvatore holds a Presidential Fellowship. This is an extremely competitive award designed to honor “the outstanding scholarly accomplishments and potential of graduate students entering the final phase of their dissertation research...Recipients of this award embody the highest standards of scholarship in Ohio State graduate programs.” Though this is a very significant honor, those working with Salvatore were not surprised by his success. Neil Tennant says of Salvatore: “He is one of the most acute and tenacious thinkers I’ve had the pleasure of supervising for a PhD. He has the originality, the discipline, the focus, and the dedication to make a real mark in our field.” Salvatore has also been the recipient of the P.K. Chu Memorial Scholarship and graduate student travel awards from the Central and Eastern Divisions of the American Philosophical Association.

When not doing philosophy, he enjoys running and playing soccer (especially with the department team, SoccerTease). ■

STUDENTS PRESENT AND PAST

Sheldon Smith

Former Graduate

A few months after graduating from nearby Pomona College, Sheldon Smith left his home town of Pomona, California, in his red Ford Tempo for the three-and-a-half day drive to Columbus. It was Jim Bogen—at the time a professor at Pitzer College but a previous visitor to Ohio State—who urged him towards the Buckeye state. Sheldon recalls, “Jim knew that I wanted to study philosophy of science, and since Ronald Layman, Robert Batterman, and Mark Wilson were all at Ohio State at the time, he knew that it would be a great place for me.” So, in the late summer of 1991, Sheldon made his first trip to states east of Las Vegas.

While at Ohio State, Sheldon realized that he particularly wanted to specialize in philosophy of physics. Having arrived at the university with little scientific background, he had to learn as much mathematical physics as he could in a short amount of time. Apparently, this endeavor resulted in a noticed absence from the philosophy department, even leading his advisor, Mark Wilson, to put a note in his box asking if he had dropped out of the program. Ultimately, he wrote his dissertation under Wilson’s direction with Robert Batterman and George Pappas as committee members. His thesis was about the way laws of nature and causation are related within the applied mathematics of physical theory, a topic on which he works still.

In 1998, he got his first teaching job at Metropolitan State College of Denver. In some ways, this was an ideal job for him since his wife had become a graduate student at the relatively nearby University of Colorado, Boulder. When his wife finished her graduate program, they moved to Paris, France, for two years, where he continued his causation research with the support of an NSF grant. In 2003, he started as an assistant professor at UCLA where he was promoted to associate professor in 2007. He claims, “My dissertation served me well since it set me on a really fruitful research path that I don’t feel that I have exhausted even now.” Though he has done some historical work on Kant—having developed an interest in Kant from graduate seminars by Wilson, Pappas, and Calvin Normore—his research continues to be mostly in the philosophy of physics.



SHELDON SMITH

Now that he has seen a larger portion of the philosophy world, he appreciates his time at Ohio State even more. He claims, “Ohio State seemed to me a very relaxed department even though people did and do very serious and interesting research there. As a graduate student, it was a very philosophically stimulating environment.” In addition, he recalls fondly the social life of the department and how it was entangled with the department’s intellectual life. He reminisces, “It is something that I miss to this day; parties at Dan Farrell’s or William Taschek’s house after colloquia; drinks at Larry’s with faculty after graduate seminars.” All in all, he thinks of his time at Ohio State as one of the most enjoyable times of his life: “I met my wife at Ohio State. We adopted our now 16-year-old cat there.” Unfortunately, the Ford Tempo isn’t still with him. It died in Columbus. So, next time he comes back to Columbus, he’ll fly. ■

“My dissertation served me well since it set me on a really fruitful research path that I don’t feel that I have exhausted even now.”

It's Never Too Late: Program 60 Provides Opportunities to Keep on Studying

Les Taylor's love for philosophy began when he was a freshman at Ohio State, 45 years ago. He took an Introduction to Philosophy course in which he was inspired by the professor to consider some of the fundamental issues that philosophers have addressed through the ages. He took a few more philosophy courses and even considered majoring in the subject, but his family discouraged him from doing so and he finally chose mathematics. "It wasn't a bad decision," Les says. "I had a good career in computers, starting out as a programmer and retiring as a computer consultant."

When Les retired, he discovered Program 60 at Ohio State. With this program, any Ohio resident aged 60 or over can audit for free almost any course Ohio State offers. Participants in Program 60 do not receive grades or college credit, but that didn't bother Les; he wanted to explore the great issues he had been provoked to ponder all those years ago. Les studied the course catalog and determined his own curriculum of philosophy courses: all of the lower-level history of philosophy courses in addition to selected courses in philosophical topics.

Prior to his participation in Program 60, he thought of philosophy as the study of old ideas. Much to the contrary, there have been many new philosophical ideas developed since he was in school.

Les has been taking one or two courses a quarter for three years now. "Without exception, the department faculty has been very kind and supportive," he reports. "They are always willing to engage in philosophical discussion whether it's in class, during office hours, or in chance encounters in the hallways." Because he is not a paying student, Les follows a personal rule of etiquette: don't get in the way of the paying students. He generally defers most of the class discussion time to them. "But," says Les, "when I think my question, observation, or opinion will help the class, I voice it."

Though not required, Les undertakes the work of a regular student, writing papers and taking exams. "I have even prepared a couple of presentations that were well received," Les reports. Dan Farrell, though, notes that this is a real understatement: "In my Philosophy of Art class, Les volunteered to lead a small-group class presentation and the resulting presentation inspired the other students in the class to do high-quality presentations as well."

Les's career in business doesn't help much with figuring out what Descartes was saying, but his experience can provide a perspective on other areas of philosophy—for example, political philosophy. He took Don Hubin's Political Philosophy course, which focuses on economic justice and includes a discussion of theories of distributive justice that ground various tax policies. "Les raised the level of classroom discussion," Don reports. "Few students have thought much about what tax policies say about our conception of fairness and justice. Les's experience in business, and his life experience in general, provided a valuable perspective in the classroom discussion."

As for philosophy itself, Les says that his biggest surprise was the extent to which philosophy has developed since he was an undergraduate. Prior to his participation in Program 60, he thought of philosophy as the study



LES TAYLOR

of old ideas. Much to the contrary, there have been many new philosophical ideas developed since he was in school. Saul Kripke's work in the philosophy of language and John Rawls' writings in political philosophy are two examples that he has come across in his recent studies.

Les's studies in philosophy through Program 60 have been rewarding. He notes, "What a privilege it is for me to study philosophers old and new with the distinguished faculty at Ohio State! Not only is this study enjoyable, but philosophy's focus on foundational issues deepens my understanding of where we are in this world."

The Ohio State University Office of Continuing Education facilitates Program 60. To ask questions, or to be placed on the mailing list, call (614) 292-8860. For more information, visit the Program 60 web site at ced.osu.edu/CED_pro60.html. ■

Dubrovnik Conference—2008 and 2009

In conjunction with our colleagues in Croatia and Slovenia, Ohio State's philosophy department continues to host outstanding conferences each summer at the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik. The conference series traces its history back to 1989 when George Pappas and Dan Farrell worked together with Nenad Mišević (Maribor/Budapest) and Matjaž Potrč (Ljubljana) to organize the first Ohio State /Maribor/Rijeka conference. It has developed into an annual event that draws the very best philosophers from around the world to an intense, week-long conference on a targeted subject.

The 2008 conference, organized by Justin D'Arms and Sigrún Svavarsdóttir, was in moral philosophy, focusing on the theme of evaluating agents. Participants presented papers on the nature of agents and agency, and on different forms of evaluation and appraisal. External participants included: Boran Berčić (Rijeka), Michael Bratman (Stanford), John Broome (Oxford), David Copp (Florida), Allan Gibbard

(Michigan), Pamela Hieronymi (UCLA), Nadeem Hussain (Stanford), Karen Jones (Melbourne), Friderik Klampfer (Maribor), Maggie Little (Georgetown), Colleen MacNamara (UC Riverside), Nenad Mišević (Maribor/Budapest), Philip Pettit (Princeton), Abe Roth (Ohio State), Nishi Shah (Amherst), John Skorupski (St. Andrews), and Michael Smith (Princeton).

In the 2009 conference, Attention and the Philosophy of Mind, participants will focus on a phenomenon that is often invoked by philosophers yet infrequently given sustained philosophical discussion. Attention has played an important role in discussions of consciousness, perception, the nature of demonstrative thought, action, and reasoning. It is likely to have broader application in debates within moral psychology and epistemology. The goal of the conference is to bring together philosophers from all over the world who have recognized the importance of attention and to provide new impetus for philosophical work on this important topic.

The Ohio State 2009 conference organizers are Declan Smithies and Wayne Wu, in collaboration with Boran Berčić (Rijeka), Nenad Mišević (Maribor), and Matjaž Potrč (Ljubljana). Like previous conferences in Dubrovnik, this one will draw an outstanding group of external participants, including Michael Brady (Glasgow), John Campbell (UC Berkeley), Austen Clark (Connecticut), Imogen Dickie (Toronto), Naomi Eilan (Warwick), Benj Hellie (Toronto), Terry Horgan (Arizona), Hemdat Lerman (Warwick), Fiona MacPherson (Glasgow), Michael Martin (U. College, London), Christopher Mole (Dublin), Johannes Roessler (Warwick), Susanna Siegel (Harvard), Charles Siewert (UC Riverside), and Daniel Stoljar (ANU).

The location is astonishingly beautiful and participants have time in the evenings to relax and socialize, but these conferences have serious objectives: to bring the top philosophers in a given area together to discuss issues of common interest and to do this in a venue where young Eastern European philosophers and their students are able to join in the conversation. ■



Words About the Faculty

Ben Caplan has published "On the Content of Experience," with Tim Schroeder, in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, and "Defending 'Defending Musical Perdurantism,'" with Carl Matheson, in *British Journal of Aesthetics*. He has also reviewed Julian Dodd's *Works of Music: An Essay in Ontology* for *British Journal of Aesthetic* and Trenton Merricks' *Truth and Ontology* for *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. Ben has presented two papers co-written with David Sanson: "The Way Things Were" at Franklin and Marshall, Central Michigan, and Illinois State; and "Locality and Necessity" at Maryland, Carleton, and the APA's Pacific Division Meeting in Pasadena, CA. He also commented on Kris McDaniel's "A Return to the Analogy of Being" at the 11th Annual INPC at the University of Idaho and Washington State in March 2008 and on Arthur Sullivan's "Multiple-Proposition Views in Recent Philosophy of Language: A Preliminary Investigation" at the CPA Annual Congress at UBC in May 2008.

Justin D'Arms published "Sentimental Rules and Moral Disagreement: Comment on Nichols" in *Moral Psychology vol.2: The Cognitive Science of Morality: Intuition and Diversity*, edited by Walter Sinnott-Armstrong and published by MIT Press, and "Envy in the Philosophical Tradition," with Alison Duncan Kerr, in *Envy: Theory and Research*, Richard Smith ed., Oxford University Press. He has a number of articles in press, including, "Regret and Irrational Action," with Daniel Jacobson, in *Practical Reason*, David Sobel and Stephen Wall, eds., Cambridge University Press; "Prinz's Theory of Emotion" in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*; "Demystifying Sensibilities: Sentimental Values and the Instability of Affect," with Daniel Jacobson, in *The Oxford Handbook on Philosophy of Emotion*, Peter Goldie, ed.; and a review of Anthony Appiah's *Experiments in Ethics* in the *Times Literary Supplement*. He has presented his recent research at several national and international conferences, and at

colloquia at various universities in the United States and Canada.

Lisa Downing has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and will be taking the upcoming year to work on her book, *Empiricism and Newtonianism: Locke, Berkeley, and the Decline of Strict Mechanism*. Lisa has recently published "Locke's Ontology" in *The Cambridge Companion to Locke's Essay*, Lex Newman, ed. (Cambridge); and "The 'sensible object' and the 'uncertain philosophical cause'" in *Kant and the Early Moderns*, Daniel Garber and Beatrice Longuenesse, eds. (Princeton). She wrote a review of Michael Ben-Chaim's *Experimental Philosophy and the Birth of Empirical Science: Boyle, Locke, and Newton* (Ashgate) for Isis. Lisa presented "Rationalism, Empiricism, and Mechanism in Locke" at the Central Division APA in Chicago; at the Otago/Sydney Early Modern Seminar in Dunedin, New Zealand; and as the keynote speaker at the Ohio Philosophical Association Meeting in Granville. Her paper "Mauvertuis on Attraction as an Inherent Property of Matter" was presented at the University of Minnesota in April, and also at the 7th Biennial Congress of the International Society for the History of the Philosophy of Science in Vancouver.

Daniel Farrell's "Rationality, Meaning and the Crisis of Faith" was published in *Philosophers Without Gods*, Louise Antony, ed. (Oxford University Press). Dan also presented "The Quest for Esoteric Knowledge in Modernist Visual Art" at The School of Visual Arts in New York for the 21st Annual Conference on the Liberal Arts and the Education of the Artist.

Glenn Hartz was invited to present (along with J.A. Cover) "Leibniz's Three-Tiered Ontology" for a symposium at the Central Division APA meeting in Chicago. Glenn was also invited by Mark Kulstad, for the First Annual Conference of the Leibniz Society of America, to present "Composition, Continuity,

and Compatibilism in Leibniz" at Rice University, and by Dan Garber to respond to a paper by Catherine Wilson about his book at the Second Annual Conference, held at Princeton University in September. Another presentation, "Two New Cartesian Circles" (coauthored with Patrick K. Lewtas), was given at the Central Division APA Meeting in Chicago. Also this year, Glenn received the "Leibniz Award" for service to the Leibniz Society of North America as the founding editor of its journal *The Leibniz Review*, 1991-2008.

Don Hubin was awarded the Rosalene Sedwick Faculty Service Award for 2008. He is also an associate editor for *Ethics*. Don did some international travel this year when he presented "Procreator's Duties" at the Bearing and Raising Children Conference at the University of Cape Town in Cape Town, South Africa. The event was sponsored by the Jean Beer Blumenfeld Center for Ethics, Georgia State University, the Society for Applied Philosophy, and the University of Cape Town. Don also presented "The Limits of Consequentialism" at the XXII World Congress of Philosophy, in Seoul, South Korea.

Robert Kraut published "Aesthetic Theory and Artistic Practice: Danto's Transfiguration of the Artworld" in the *Online Conference in Aesthetics: Arthur Danto's Transfiguration of the Commonplace—25 Years Later* (artmind.typepad.com/onlineconference/). He has an article, "Critical Monism and Critical Pluralism," forthcoming in *Blackwell Companion to Aesthetics, Second Edition* (Blackwell Publishers Ltd.). Robert also presented "Ontology and Artworld Interpretation" at the Philosophy Department Colloquium, Vanderbilt University. Another paper, "Remarks on Artworld Ontology," was given at the American Society for Aesthetics, Eastern Division Meetings, Philadelphia.

Sukjae Lee is visiting assistant professor at Cornell University for the autumn quarter 2008. Sukjae has just finished the entry on "occasionalism"

for the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (plato.stanford.edu/entries/occasionalism/), and he recently published "Passive Natures and No Representations: Malebranche's Two 'Local' Arguments for Occasionalism" in *The Harvard Review of Philosophy*, vol. XV. Also, "Necessary Connections and Continuous Creation: Malebranche's Two Arguments for Occasionalism" was published in the *Journal of the History of Philosophy*. Presentations this past year included a paper, "Substantial Independence: Leibniz's Criticism of Occasionalism as Spinozism," which Sukjae presented at the Dubrovnik Conference and at UNC-Chapel Hill last year. "Must Substances Be Active? An Examination of Leibniz's Critique of Occasionalism in 'De Ipsa Natura'" was given at the Colloquium on *Causalité et liberté dans la philosophie du 17e siècle*, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. And lastly, Sukjae presented "Berkeley on the Activity of Spirits" at the International Berkeley Society, APA Eastern Division Meeting, Baltimore.

Abe Roth has an article, "Shared Agency," forthcoming in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Abe was invited to comment on papers by Michael Bratman and Margaret Gilbert in a symposium on shared intention, "Constructivism and Constitutivism in the theory of Shared Intention," at the Pacific Division Meeting of the APA. In a symposium on group intentions, he delivered "Who or What is the Company Man?" at the Central Division Meeting of the APA. Abe also delivered "Hume on Reasoning: Simple vs. Sophisticated" at the Hume Society meeting at the Pacific Division Meeting of the APA.

Tamar Rudavsky has *Maimonides*, a book-length manuscript in contract, with Blackwell's "Great Minds" series. Her co-edited volume (with Professor Steven Nadler), *The Cambridge History of Jewish Philosophy: From Antiquity to the Seventeenth Century*, is in the final stages of production. Other forthcoming articles include "Time, Space and Cosmology in Medieval Jewish Philosophy," chapter

for *Cambridge History of Jewish Philosophy*, (in press); “Spinoza: Jewish philosophical influences” in *The Encyclopedia of Spinoza and His Times* (in press); and “Creation, Time and Biblical Hermeneutics in Early Modern Jewish Philosophy” in *Interpreting Nature and Scripture*, J. Vandermeer, ed. (in press). Last February, Tamar presented “Astrology and Free Will in 12th Century Jewish Philosophy” at the Warburg Institute in London.

Richard Samuels is working on his book *Descartes’ Challenge: Flexibility and the Architecture of Cognition* (Oxford University Press). Recently published papers include: “Is Innateness a Confused Notion?” in *The Innate Mind: Foundations and the Future* (Oxford University Press); “Varieties of Dual-Process Theory for Probabilistic Reasoning” in *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*; and “Psychology” in *The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Science*. Richard presented several papers in different venues: “The Extended Mind Hypothesis” at CUNY; “On the Modularity of Central Systems” at the University of Arizona; and “Modularity and the Many Problems of Cognitive Relevance” at Workshop on Cognitive Perspectives on Mind and Language, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóficas, U.N.A.M., México.

David Sanson has two articles in the works: “The Way Things Were,” with Ben Caplan, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*; and “The Early Arabic Liar,” with Ahmed Alwishah, *Vivarium*. David presented “Locality and Necessity,” with Ben Caplan, at the APA Pacific Meeting. He was also invited to present “The Essentially Unreal Past” to the APA Central Meeting.

Kevin Scharp is co-editing with Robert Brandom *In the Space of Reasons: Selected Writings of Wilfrid Sellars* (Harvard University Press). Kevin also has three papers forthcoming: “Aletheic Vengeance” in a collection on revenge paradoxes (Oxford University Press); “Locke’s Theory of Reflection” in *The*

British Journal for the History of Philosophy; and “Wilfrid Sellars’ Anti-Descriptivism” in *Categories of Being: Essays on Metaphysics and Logic*.

Timothy Schroeder published “On the Content of Experience,” coauthored with Ben Caplan, in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. A solicited article, “Reason, Reflection, and Free Will,” was published in *Philosophical Explorations*. Tim also presented papers over the past year in Tallahassee; SUNY Albany; Cleveland State University; University of Cincinnati; and at the Moral Psychology Research Group in Minnesota.

Lisa Shabel presented her paper “Representation and Reasoning: Kant on Symbols, Diagrams and Mathematical Demonstration” at two workshops—McGill University in February and the University of Nancy, France, in May. Lisa is currently working on an invited essay on Kant’s “Transcendental Aesthetic,” which has been solicited for the new *Cambridge Companion to Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason* (forthcoming from Cambridge University Press). She is also working on two entries for the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, one on Kant’s *Philosophy of Mathematics* and the other on Descartes’ *Mathematics*. Lisa’s research is currently being supported by an Arts and Humanities Seed Grant.

Stewart Shapiro has had *Vagueness in Context* (Oxford University Press) reissued in paperback. Articles Stewart has had published recently include: “The Objectivity of Mathematics” in *Synthese*; “Where in the (World Wide) Web of Belief is the Law of Non-Contradiction?” (with Jack Arnold) in *Noûs*; “Burali-Forti’s Revenge” in *Revenge of the Liar*, J.C. Beall, ed. (Oxford University Press); “Corcoran the Mathematician” in *Current Topics in Logic and Analytic Philosophy*, Concha Martinez, José L. Falguera, and José M. Sagüillo, eds., Santiago de Compostela, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela; “Philosophy of Mathematics: 5 Questions” in *Philosophy of Mathematics: 5 Questions*,

Vincent F. Hendricks and Hannes Leitgeb, eds., Automatic Press; and “Faith and Reason: The Perpetual War” in *Philosophers Without Gods*, by Louise Antony, ed., Oxford University Press.

Declan Smithies is still away continuing his three-year postdoctoral research fellowship at the Australian National University. Before he left, he was nominated for the Outstanding Teaching Award in the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences. While in Australia, Declan has been busy presenting a number of papers. “The Mental Lives of Zombies” was presented for the Philosophy Society at the Australian National University in November 2007. He also presented “The Normative Role of Knowledge” at Australian National, University of Sydney, and the Free University in Amsterdam. Other papers were presented in Dublin, at Harvard University, and also in Dubrovnik. Declan is also the co-organizer for the Ohio State/Maribor/Rijeka Conference on attention in Dubrovnik next May.

Sigrún Svavarsdóttir was awarded a fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem from March to August of 2008. For 2008-09 she is a Laurence S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow at the University Center for Human Values at Princeton University. Sigrún was also awarded, but declined, a Faculty Fellowship in Ethics at the Safra Foundation Center for Ethics at Harvard. Presentations of her paper, “The Practical Role of Value Judgments” were given at University of Rochester, Tufts University, Oxford University, and Ben-Gurion University. Last June, she presented “Valuing and Judging Valuable” at the Ohio State/Maribor/Rijeka Conference, Dubrovnik, and “Practical Rationality: An Unrealistic Ideal?” at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

William Taschek’s paper “Truth, Assertion, and the Horizontal: Frege on the ‘Essence of Logic’” was published in *Mind*. Another paper, “Making Sense of Others: Donald Davidson on Interpretation,” (originally published

in *The Harvard Philosophical Review*) is to be reprinted in *Papers from the Harvard Review of Philosophy* (Open Court). Forthcoming in the *Cambridge Companion to Frege* is “On Sense and Bedeutung: A Critical Reception.” William presented “Truth, Assertion, and the Horizontal: Frege on the ‘Essence of Logic’” at the Dubrovnik Conference on metaphysics and epistemology.

Neil Tennant presented the following papers: “Rational Belief Revision” at the University of Natal in Durban, South Africa; “The History of the Explanatory Gap” at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg; “Natural Foundations for Synthetic Projective Geometry” for the Midwest Workshop in Philosophy of Mathematics VIII at Notre Dame; and “Core Logic” at the Sixth Quadrennial Fellows Conference of the Center for Philosophy of Science, at Ohio University. Neil’s article “Existence and Identity in Free Logic: A Problem for Inferentialism?” appeared in *Mind*, vol. 116, 2007. Neil edited the special issue *Carnap and Some Contemporaries of the journal Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 16, 2008. The issue carried his editorial introduction and his article “Carnap, Gödel and the Analyticity of Arithmetic.” His paper “Inferentialism, Logicism, Harmony, and a Counterpoint” will be published in *Essays for Crispin Wright: Logic, Language and Mathematics* (Oxford University Press).

Wayne Wu has two papers forthcoming in top journals: “Visual Attention, Conceptual Content and Doing it Right” in *Mind* and “Confronting Many-Many Problems: Attention and Agentive Control” in *Noûs*. Wayne presented “Comments on Barbara Montero’s ‘Highly Skilled Movements and Bodily Awareness’” at the Workshop on Proprioception and Bodily Awareness at Harvard University. Another presentation, “Attention and Its Phenomenology,” was given at the Central Division Meeting, APA. ■

Turnbull Reading Room & Lounge Dedication

Bob Turnbull had a vision for Ohio State's Department of Philosophy. It was a vision that he worked successfully to bring to reality during the course of his 12 years as chair of the department. The vision was of a vibrant, stimulating philosophical community of faculty and graduate students. Early in the 1970s, when Bob helped to design the space for the philosophy department in the newly constructed University Hall, he included common space now known as the Everett Nelson Common Room. This still serves as our venue for colloquia and various other functions. However, because it is often loaned out to other university units for meetings and talks, in recent years it has not served as the sort of informal, impromptu meeting space in which philosophical exchanges would develop over a cup of coffee.

In summer 2007, with help from the College of Humanities and numerous generous donors, the department was able to reconfigure space in the area long occupied by the Gluck Philosophy Library. The library remains, redesigned to be both leaner and more useable. But, with the reconfiguration, we were able to create four new faculty offices and, most importantly, a new faculty and graduate student lounge and reading room.

In an informal ceremony last May, this space was dedicated as the Robert G. Turnbull Reading Room & Lounge. The ceremony was attended by Bob's wife, Marge Turnbull, and by Bob and Marge's son, Bruce Turnbull. Also in attendance were former graduate students such as John Martin and Tony Lisska, who is now the Maria Theresa Barney Professor of Philosophy at Dennison University.

In his narrative *curriculum vitae*, Tony remembers Bob Turnbull fondly and with gratitude:

"My most important graduate school mentor—although we didn't use that term in the late 1960s—was



MARGE TURNBULL AND DON HUBIN AT THE TURNBULL LOUNGE DEDICATION

Robert G. Turnbull, chair of the Department of Philosophy at Ohio State and himself a most distinguished scholar/teacher. It was Bob Turnbull who forced me to re-think the scholastic philosophy from my earlier academic work, with the insights and rigor of contemporary analytic philosophy. That combination indeed made my scholarly life possible."

Tony is just one of many graduate students whose careers and lives were so positively influenced by Bob Turnbull. And Bob had a similarly positive influence on the development of our department. This influence continues through the Turnbull Collection in Greek Philosophy and History of Science. To contribute to this fund, or one of the other philosophy department funds, please see the information on page 15. ■



(L TO R) JOHN MARTIN, ANTHONY LISSKA, DICK GARNER, REIK OLDENQUIST, AND MARGE TURNBULL AT THE TURNBULL LOUNGE DEDICATION

Words About the Students

Placement News: Carol Hay (PhD 2008) is beginning a new tenure track job at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, in January 2009. Julian Cole (PhD 2005) has moved from a tenure track job at the University of Texas, Pan American, to a tenure track job at Buffalo State. And Lee Franklin (PhD 2001) left a tenure track position at SUNY Albany to take a tenure track position at Franklin and Marshall.

Promotions: Congratulations to Sheldon Smith (PhD 1998), who was recently promoted and tenured at UCLA. Mike Almeida (PhD 1988) is now chair of the Department of Classics and Philosophy at the University of Texas, San Antonio. (Mike has just published a new book, *The Metaphysics of Perfect Beings*, Routledge).

Awards: The Fink Award, named in honor of William H. Fink, is awarded annually for the best graduate philosophy paper. The winner of the 2007 Fink Award was Wesley Cray for his paper "Modal Realism Without Overlap (and Without Counterpart

Theory Either)." For more than 80 years, the department has also recognized an outstanding undergraduate philosophy paper with the William Bingham Award. The recipient of the 2007 Bingham prize was John Wasserman for his paper "On Death." Salvatore Florio was awarded a Presidential Fellowship for the current academic year. These fellowships recognize the outstanding scholarly accomplishments and potential of graduate students entering the final phase of their dissertation research or terminal degree project. The fellowships provide financial support so that the student may devote one year of full-time study to the completion of the dissertation or degree project, unimpeded by other duties. Recipients of this award embody the highest standards of scholarship in our graduate programs. Salvatore also won two Travel Awards from the American Philosophical Association in 2007.

Publications and Presentations:

Salvatore Florio's paper "The Paradox of Idealisation," coauthored with Julien Murzi, is forthcoming in *Analysis*.

A number of our current graduate students presented papers at meetings of the American Philosophical Association. Michael Martin presented "Rehabilitating the Ability Hypothesis," at the APA Central Division meetings. Audrey Anton presented "The 'Best' Explanation for the Diversity in Moral Judgments" at the Pacific Division meetings. (That same month, Audrey also presented "Kantian Phenomenology and Moral Worth: Knowing 'What It's Like' to Act from Duty" at the Loyola University of Chicago's Graduate Student Philosophy Conference.) Zac Cogley presented "Comments on Ben Vilhauer" at the Pacific Division meetings. Several of our first-year students presented papers at APA meetings this past year, before joining our program. Gabriel Stern presented "Action Guidance and Virtue Ethics" at the Pacific Division meetings, and Ryan Pflum presented "Testimony and Epistemic Priority" at the Central Division meetings and "Butler's Account of Self-Deception and Some Problems it Poses for Motivationism" at the Pacific Division meetings.

And it wasn't only at APA meetings that our students were active in presenting papers. Ryan Jordan gave

an invited lecture at the Chinese Art Research Institute in Beijing, China, on "Theories of Musical Expression." Dai Heide presented "Kant's 'Rejected' Alternative" at both the North American Kant Society Eastern Division Meeting and the Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Eric Carter presented "Speaker Discursivism: An Explanation and Defense" at the Society for Exact Philosophy in May. Ryan Jordan presented: "Being Sneaky in the Field: The Ethics of Recording Surreptitiously" to the Society for Ethnomusicology National Conference; "Cooke's Musical Vocabulary" to the American Society for Aesthetics-Rocky Mountain Division Annual Meeting; and, "There's More than One Way to Arouse a Cat" to the Musicology Program at Ohio State. James Macpherson presented "Legislative Intentionalism by Proxy" at the University of California, Berkeley, conference on collective intentionality. At the Ohio Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Doug Dunsmoor presented "Consequentialism and Retribution." And, first-year student David Blanks presented "Justification, Truth and Bergmann's Theory of Justification" at the University of Iowa Graduate Philosophical Conference this past March. ■

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