

PHILONEWS

March 2007

From the Chair

I am delighted to announce that John Hacker-Wright will be joining our department as a tenure-track faculty member in ethics. Dr. Hacker-Wright received his PhD from SUNY Stony Brook in 2000 and has taught at the University of Miami (Ohio) and William Jewell College (Missouri). He specializes in virtue ethics and has broad interests in ethics, applied ethics, social and political philosophy, Wittgenstein, American Pragmatism and 20th-century European philosophy. Dr. Hacker-Wright will begin in July 2007.

Professor John Russon has been selected to receive a Presidential Distinguished Professor Award for his outstanding contributions to teaching and research. This award is richly deserved. Congratulations Professor Russon! - *Andrew Wayne*

PhD Program News

Guelph's Senate has approved our proposal for a stand-alone PhD program. This is the end of a long process involving numerous com-

mittees and revisions. The final version of the proposal is available on the web:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/senate/download/meetings/senate/docs/Stan-alone%20PhD%20program%20Vol.1.FINAL.pdf>

March 2, 3:00-4:30

Department Meeting, MacKinnon 234

March 2, 4:30-6:30

Dr. Richard Lee, DePaul University: "From Concept to Existence: Duns Scotus' Proof for the Existence of an Infinite Being", MacKinnon 234

March 7, 2:30

Dr. Nicolas J. Bullot, University of Toronto: "Do we track intentional agents in the same way that we track physical objects?", MacKinnon 230

March 14, all day

PGSA philosophy book sale in MacKinnon Lobby

March 16, 3:30-5:30

Carolyn Korsmeyer, University of Buffalo: "Aesthetic Deception", MacKinnon 235

March 30, 3:30-5:00

Department Meeting, MacKinnon 227

The proposal now goes to OCGS for approval, a process which could take 6-18 months. We are now free to advertise and solicit applications for our stand-alone program, in anticipation of approval by

We expect that with this more autonomous and less time-consuming administrative structure we will be better able to serve our MA and PhD students and to respond to their needs, and those of the faculty, as they arise. -Mark McCullagh and Andrew Wayne

Editor's Note: The department thanks Mark McCullagh and Andrew Wayne for their tireless efforts at putting together such a strong proposal.

PGSA Report

The PGSA is having a book sale on March 14th (in MacKinnon Lobby) and we are looking for donations of new and slightly used books. The proceeds of these sales will go to travel bursaries and departmental events. Anyone with books can drop them in my mailbox or send me an email and I will come and pick them up. -Aaron Masseur

Philosophy Club Report

We will be holding a Pub Night on March 15th, a social event at the Graduate Student Lounge, where undergrads, grads, and faculty (we try to encourage professors to show up) come, mingle, and generally unwind before re-stressing for the end of semester.

We also have a tentative plan for a philosophy "games night", where we hope to hear Prof. Lampert speak on the philosophy of games. We will then invite everyone to tuck into whatever game they have brought with them or wish to try. We encourage people to have "deep" conversations while gaming. We're also hoping to coordinate some collaborative events/happenings with the PGSA—though that's still at the brainstorming stage. - Kelly Thomas, *Philosophy Club President*

Events Report

The Philosophy department worked alongside the graduate and undergraduate philosophy associations, on an event called, "What to do with your Philosophy Degree". The event provided students with an opportunity to expose themselves to various career choices they might pursue with a philosophy degree. Speakers were wide-ranging and included people from business, law, bioethics, publishing, a professional academic and a currently enrolled graduate student in the PhD program. A majority of the speakers were graduates of the University of Guelph and were able to relay to the students their first-hand accounts of what they experienced after graduation. The event had a very strong turnout and received positive reviews from the students who attended.

We would like to thank the following speakers for participating in this event: Dr. Michael Walsh, Prof. Karen Houle, Ms. Morgan

Cowie, Mr. Aaron Masseur, Ms. Anthea Millikin, Mr. Steve Abdool and his daughter, Ms. Rosalind Abdool. If anyone is interested in getting in touch with the speakers, please contact Prof. Jay Lampert and he would be more than happy to help.

Also, on the heels of the very successful "Philosophy of Music" event that was held last semester, the department is currently working on a "Philosophy of Food" event which should take place sometime in March. We hope to see you there! - Sheeman Barakzai, *Undergraduate Coordinator Assistant*

Irreconcilable Differences

On Saturday, March 3rd 2007 the third annual "Irreconcilable Differences? Fostering Dialogue Between Philosophy and Theology" conference will be held from 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m. at the University of Guelph in the Thornbrough Building, classroom 1200. FREE TO ALL

There will be a total of four talks, each between twenty and thirty minutes in length. Individual talks will be followed by twenty to thirty minutes of Q & A. Speakers will confine their talks to the current dynamic between philosophy and theology (e.g., the dialogue or lack thereof), but they have been given unlimited discretion as to how they approach this area.

For more information please visit: www.irrdiff.ca.