From the Chair

Greetings from EPB!

We decided that it might be a nice idea to do a newsletter this year -- to send out updates about departmental goings-on, and also just to make sure to touch base with our alumni.

There are a number of exciting things that we are happy to report. As always, we are here at EPB arguing about all sorts of philosophical issues, but that of course is not news. In the summer of 2013 our graduate students started the Iowa Lyceum -- a weeklong summer philosophy institute for local high school students. The program has been growing every year, and in 2015 we had over twenty participants. Student feedback has been extremely positive, with participants indicating that the weeklong course has been one of the most engaging educational experiences that they have ever had. The program is offered free of charge. (See the write-up below for more information.)

We are also happy to report that our undergraduate Philosophy Club is going strong and meeting regularly throughout the school year. This year we decided to change the structure a bit and give students the option of enrolling in a 1-semester-hour course that we are informally calling, "Philosophy and Current Events." We have read newspaper articles and short philosophical pieces with an eye to pressing societal issues and the ways in which philosophical thinking can shed light on them. Topics have included: the treatment of refugees; the metaphysical and ethical issues surrounding concussions and football; animal rights; and others. We will continue to offer sections of the small-group course to all prospective majors and minors.

In spring 2016 we are starting an outreach program with the Johnson County Senior Center: a member of the philosophy faculty will work with undergraduate and graduate students to offer a four-week power-course every semester on a topic of pressing importance. The topic for the first course will be - free will and the authority that we have to shape our own trajectories. I met recently with members of the Senior Center to decide on the topic, and they (cont. on page 2)

The Iowa Lyceum

The Iowa Lyceum promotes philosophy and critical thinking by offering a free week-long summer camp to high school students. The program introduces participants to philosophy interactively by integrating activities, discussion, games, and lecture, presenting philosophical concepts often neglected in standard K-12 education. The Lyceum’s organizers believe philosophy is essential to a well-rounded education and that the intellectual habits cultivated by philosophical education are paramount to a civil society.

This year, the Lyceum engaged students in discussion centered around philosophical problems of science and technology. Participants examined a range of philosophical issues, from problems concerning the foundations of science to issues pressing in our day like whether or not it is morally permissible to clone humans. June 2016 will be the fourth year of the Iowa Lyceum.
are extremely excited to do a concentrated discussion-based course that covers the central views and arguments. The faculty member will bring two graduate students to the course, and also participants of the Philosophy Club. The members of the Senior Center were thrilled at the prospect of increased community interaction – especially with college students, who might have a very different perspective on the issue of individual freedom and authority.

Senior Center class: Freedom and Authority

This four-week course will explore a number of questions surrounding the topic of free will and our ability to shape and craft our own trajectory in life. One category of question is about the extent to which the outside world or other limitations get in the way of our ability to execute our decisions and plans. The first two meetings will cover this question; the reading will be provided. A second category of question is about free will and the control that we have over our decisions themselves. The third and fourth meetings will cover this question; we will read two chapters from the very accessible book by the philosopher John Searle, Minds, Brains and Science. The class will be largely discussion-based.

We are offering a small stipend to the graduate students for participating, and we plan to fund a UI Foundation undergraduate scholarship account to encourage students to do career-related outreach work with the Senior Center and other community organizations.

Student interest has also led to the formation of another club, the Bertrand Russell Society Iowa Chapter. Graduate Student (and club founder) Landon Elkind writes, "Eight dedicated undergraduates meet weekly to discuss Russell's The Problems of Philosophy. We will continue with Problems this spring, followed by Russell's The Philosophy of Logical Atomism. A graduate reading group of Problems is planned for the spring."

The department has also participated in a series of campus events in the last year. In fall 2014 and fall 2015, we hosted a table at the new CLAS Open House event, which welcomes incoming students to the university. We had hundreds of students visit our table – curious about the philosophy major and about the problem-solving and critical thinking skills that we advertise – and we gave away all five hundred of our "UI Philosophy – Live the Examined Life" frisbee fliers. (We have ordered more of these, however; please let me know, and I would be very excited to send you one.)

We also participate in the "U @ UI" event for prospective undergraduate students that now takes place every October. Both this year and last, we hosted two workshops – one on technology and humanity; and the other on the philosophy major for pre-law, pre-med, and pre-business. As a result of our efforts at these and other events, our student enrollment increased by 3000 hours for the period spring-summer-fall 2015, the largest annual increase in the history of the college. We are very excited to reach students who have strong philosophical dispositions and interests but who in many cases have not been exposed to philosophical training. We are now getting a lot of students who take an initial course and then become so excited that they take additional courses to complete the minor or major or double-major. We make sure to encourage our students to secure internships and other related experience with an eye to their eventual career. We have information on our bulletin board about the many different careers at which philosophers are successful; our students work hard to tackle the big questions of philosophy while acquiring valuable analytical, writing, and problem-solving skills along the way.

In addition to these activities, we will also be screening a philosophical movie at FilmScene in spring 2016, and we plan to do a panel discussion at the end of the year on a philosophical topic of general interest. Please let me know if you would like information about these.

Our graduate program has also been thriving. Last year, three of our students secured tenure-track jobs – Brett Coppenger (Tuskegee University), Chris Lammer-Heindel (Loras College), and Kristopher Phillips (Southern Utah University) – and this year two more of our students got tenure-track jobs – Brian Collins (Cal Lutheran University) and Pete Legrant (Bakersfield College). Another three of our graduates secured Visiting Assistant Professor positions – Samuel Taylor at Auburn, Abe Graber at Western Illinois, and Seth Jones at the University of Alaska. The academic job market has been difficult, and we are extremely proud of all of the hard work that our students do to attend conferences, submit papers for publication, and network within the profession. Some of our recent graduate students have also found great success in non-academic (or now, alt-ac) careers. We have been taking steps in the department to make sure that graduate students who seek a position in academia are highly prepared, and to make sure that those who choose to implement their philosophical skills in non-academic lines of work are supplied with the tools that they need as well.

Finally, our faculty have been extremely productive. In the last year, two received major fellowship awards, and we also produced six books and numerous articles. Our faculty have also done important service work – for example, two were Faculty Senate Officers, one was on the Educational Policy Committee, one served on the Executive Committee, and one is on Graduate Council. We try to make sure that there is a philosopher in the room at any meeting of consequence.

Thanks so much for reading. Please be in touch!

David - david-cunning@uiowa.edu / 319 270-1102 (cell)
Asha Bhandary

Publications
- "A Millian Concept of Care," Social Theory and Practice (in press)

Talks and Presentations
- "The Arrow of Care," University Theme Lecturer at Western Illinois University, April 2015. Professor Bhandary presented her work on the arrow of care for an invited colloquium at Illinois State University (May 2015) and also for a panel on feminist liberalism at the Hypatia Conference at Villanova.

Professor Bhandary is part of a multi-year collaboration with Matthew Rizzo, M.D., and UI alumnus Abraham Graber, on ethical questions related to accountable care organizations (ACOs) - in consultation with the American Academy of Neurology's Ethics, Law and Humanities Committee. They co-authored a paper and are now beginning a second stage of the project working with healthcare managers in the private sector.

Prof. Bhandary is on the Lectures & Arrangements Committee and the Graduate Professionalization Committee. She also served on the Feminist Ethics and Social Thought conference program committee in 2015.

David Cunning

Publications
- Cavendish, forthcoming in the series The Arguments of the Philosophers, Routledge
- Everyday Examples: An Introduction to Philosophy, Bloomsbury Academic (2015)

Talks and Presentations
- "Cavendish, Fancy, and Alternative Possible Worlds," at the Margaret Cavendish Symposium, Eastern APA meeting, January 2016.

Prof. Cunning is Department Chair. He was recently Secretary of the Faculty Senate, and in May 2015 he served as marshal for CLAS commencement. He is also on numerous university committees, including the Task Force on Graduate Education.

Jovana Davidovic

Publications
- "Just War, ISIS and the War on Terror," at www.thecritique.com

Talks and Presentations
- "Law and Morality of Fighting in War and Expressive Theories of Law," Future of Just War Conference, US Naval Academy, Monterey, CA, October 2015
ALUMNI NEWS and UPDATES!

Teresa Albright (BA, 2014) has been living in Tokyo since March, where she got a job as a translator and editor at a Japanese publishing company. The focus of her work is helping client companies to publish books that record their own corporate history.

Glenn Baker (BA, 2013) is in his third year in the psychology Ph.D. program at the University of Missouri at Columbia. His current research on social/personality psychology overlaps with issues in judgment and decision-making, and social cognition. Glenn adds, "I still hold my philosophy roots close, and one of my goals is to teach a course, later in my graduate years, about the history of psychology and how the studies of philosophy and psychology overlap."

Chelsey Beddow (BA, 2007) graduated with majors in Political Science and Philosophy. She went to Washington state and volunteered for two years of service with AmeriCorps, tutoring middle school youth and working in programs (e.g. AVID) that help the students prepare for college, most of them first generation. She is now married and living in Colorado Springs. She works as the office manager for a company that makes robots for hospitals and labs.

John Bernau (BA, 2013) is currently midway through a sociology Ph.D. program at Emory University. His main research deals with how individuals and societies construct meaningful narratives in the face of suffering and death. He adds that in addition to his sociological research, he has been reading lots of Heidegger and Sartre.

Peter Bezanson (Ph.D., 2005) worked for a number of years as a philosophy teacher and administrator at Great Hearts Academies, and is currently CEO of BASIS, Inc., which operates 24 public and private PK-12 schools across the world. BASIS currently has over 1500 employees and 15,000 students, and has a goal of operating 40 schools within the next five years and 100 by 2022. Peter adds, "I spend most of my time as a businessman, but I try to be a philosophically-minded CEO."

David Bissinger (BA, 1990) has practiced commercial trial law in Houston, Texas for more than two decades. He graduated from Vanderbilt University Law School in 1993. He writes, "I still remain in contact with fellow philosophy majors David Kuntz ('88) and Paul Oetken ('88). We are all grateful for the many excellent professors in the department during our time there, such as Laird Addis, Panayot Butchvarov, Phillip Cummins, Evan Fales, Richard Fumerton, Scott MacDonald, and David Stern. The influence of the department shines through in all sorts of ways, but most publicly in Judge Oetken's judicial opinions. For an example, in Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System v. Deloitte & Touche LLP, 919 F. Supp. 2d 321, 329, 335 (S.D.N.Y. 2013), Judge Oetken writes: "Therefore, a fortiori, any statements D&T made in reference to the soundness of WGTC's financial statements were necessarily misrepresentations born of a reckless auditing deficiency, and later, Plaintiff's suggestion that the SEC investigation necessarily reveals D&T's mindset rests on a post hoc ergo propter hoc approach to the complex issue of scienter."

Jim Brudvig (Ph.D., 1986) was hired as an administrator by Bard College in 1991, and today he is its Vice President for Finance and Administration and CFO. He still teaches one course a year. In spring 2015 he taught Introduction to Logic in a maximum security prison as part of degree program sponsored by Bard.

Jordan Cohen (BA, 2013) is attending law school at Vanderbilt University, where he is currently in his third year.
Brett Coppenger (Ph.D., 2012) is tenure-track Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Tuskegee University. He has co-edited a book with Michael Bergmann, Intellectual Assurance, which is due out in February with Oxford UP. He adds, "On a more personal note, Megan and I welcomed our third daughter into the world last February. I now have kids from Iowa, Minnesota, and Alabama! We really enjoy living in Auburn; it reminds us a lot of Iowa City."

Brandon Creel (BS, 2004) graduated with a B.S. in Political Science, and minors in Philosophy and Business; he also earned the Philosophy Department's PEOPLE certificate. He attended law school at Chapman University in Orange, CA and graduated with his J.D. in 2007. He spent the last seven years working in private practice in Irvine, CA (with another Iowa alum!), but took a new job this year with State Compensation Insurance Fund working as an in-house attorney in their L.A. office.

Mike Currie (BA, 2010) graduated with his philosophy degree in May 2010 and then interned for Senator Grassley in Washington, D.C. He then went to the University of Iowa College of Law, receiving his J.D. in 2014. He is now a practicing attorney for Iowa's largest law firm, Nyemaster Goode, P.C., in Des Moines. Mike writes "I attribute much of my success in law school to many of the analytical skills I developed while studying philosophy in undergrad. It's the one major of my three (the other two being political science and history) that I recommend to others that ask me what they should major in if they are considering going to law school."

Lindsay Custer (BA, 1989) went on to earn her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Michigan. She is now in Japan winding down a one-year term as a Fulbright scholar. She studies Japanese culture and teaches courses on race and gender at Cascadia College in WA.

Leah DeGrazia (BA, 2014) earned a philosophy minor and recently took a job at Willowwind School as an Assistant Teacher in the Montessori preschool. She also volunteers with the Crisis Center. She plans eventually to pursue a graduate degree in either Social Work or Public Health.

Matt Drabek (Ph.D., 2012) currently works at ACT in Iowa City, IA, as a Content Specialist in the test development division of the company. He works on the design and development of assessments in the workforce and for graduate school. He also works on research for postsecondary and critical thinking assessment.

Kelly Drake (BA, 2004) lives in Seattle, where she is now in her ninth year working at Amazon.com, specifically with the Amazon Fresh and Prime Now launches that are taking place across North America. She is also on the Western Washington Iowa Club board of directors. She adds, "Go Hawks!"

Daniel Flage (Ph.D., 1977) has been teaching at James Madison University for twenty-five years. His most recent book, Berkeley, was published by Polity Press in 2014.

Heidi Furlong (BA, 1988) graduated and then went to law school at the University of Virginia in 2001. She started working at Foley & Lardner LLP in Milwaukee after receiving her J.D., and she is now a partner in the finance group. She writes, "I believe the logical side of the study of philosophy served me well on the LSAT and in law school, and continues to apply in my practice today. I have very fond memories of my time in EPB."

Jonathan Heggen (BA, 2006; JD, 2011) took a new job last fall with the Iowa Legislature's Legislative Services Agency, in the Legal Services Division. He drafts bills and amendments, and does legal research for the legislature.

James Hikins (BA, 1975) graduated and went to complete his Ph.D. in Communication at the University of Texas, Austin. He has held teaching positions at Tulane, Ohio State, University of North Dakota, The College of Wooster in Ohio, and The University of Central Arkansas, from which he retired last year. He adds, "During my years at Iowa I took courses from, or audited courses with Panayot Butchvarov (logic), Gustav Bergmann (phil. science), Laird Addis, and others. It was a great time in my life and, while I was not a particularly outstanding undergraduate student, my philosophy degree provided me with the foundations I needed to flourish as a Masters student at Iowa in rhetoric and later as a PhD student. ... As a young man born and raised in New York City, I still make it a point to tell friends and colleagues that my days at Iowa were, unquestionably, the best days of my life. Philosophy played a big part in those days, as did my membership on the Iowa debate team, where I learned to appreciate both the advantages and limitations of formal and informal logic!"

Rich Hileman (MA 1978; JD, 1980) practiced trial law in Cedar Rapids for many years. He is still licensed but is now retired.

Ryan Holley (BA, 2013) is a Ph.D. student in the Literary Studies program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His primary area of study is English literature, but he is considering completing a Ph.D. minor in Philosophy. He is currently working on a project that compares threads of thought in Milton's "Paradise Lost" and Sartre's existentialism, specifically the two authors' conceptions of free will and bad faith.

Robert Keith (BA, 1971; JD, 1974) is the Chief Counsel for Children and Family in the human services program at the US Dept of Health and Human Services. He adds, "My philosophy degree was great pre-law training."

Andrew Kelley (Ph.D., 1993) is currently Chair of the Philosophy Department at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. His translation of Jankélévitch's The Bad Conscience came out in 2014 with Chicago UP.

Stephen Klemm (BA, 2008) is a Ph.D. candidate in German Studies at Cornell University, working on a dissertation centered on the literary and philosophical writings of the romantic poet Friedrich Hoelderlin.
Katie Kuntz (BA, 2014) minored in Philosophy and majored in Journalism and Economics. She is now an investigative and policy reporter in Denver, Colorado, working for Rocky Mountain PBS. Her reporting on marijuana legalization, political spending and voting trends have appeared in USA Today, PBS NewsHour, and NPR's Marketplace. She adds, "My courses in Philosophy have been critical in allowing me to be a better journalist. I have to look at issues in a critical manner, but from many sides, and I never really believe that anything I think to be true actually is true, at least until I complete the investigation - and even then, there are multiple perspectives that can come from any story. Courses like Philosophy and the Just Society, with Dr. Fumerton and The Nature of Evil with Dr. Jeske are a couple that definitely inspired me in my ability to look more critically at the world, and definitely generate story ideas. I loved my time in the Philosophy department."

Nick Leytem (BA, 2013) graduated with a B.S. in Computer Science and minors in Philosophy and Spanish. He currently lives in the Twin Cities working as a Software Engineer for SPS Commerce, Inc.

Huo-Wang Lin (Ph.D., 1998) has taught philosophy at National Taiwan University since 1988.

Will Mattessich (BA, 2012) lives in New York City, where he is a third-year law student at Columbia Law School. His study and work experience have centered on the criminal and civil laws surrounding white collar crime. He has interned at two federal prosecutor's offices: the U.S. Attorney's Office in the District of Minnesota, and in the Southern District of New York. In 2015 he worked at a nonprofit firm that does litigation and advocacy work addressing financial regulation. He has also worked as a summer associate at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP in New York City, where he plans to start as an associate after graduation.

Diane K. Miller (BA, 1977) completed her bachelor's degree in philosophy and went on to get her Masters in Social Work. She worked for 29 years in elderly services as varied as a certified home health agency, elderly housing, adult day health and assisted living for people living with Alzheimer's Disease. After living in Boston for the past 26 years, she retired and returned to Iowa City.

Jennifer Wilson Mulnix (Ph.D., 2006) is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. She is co-author of Happy Lives, Good Lives: A Philosophical Examination, and co-editor of Theories of Happiness: An Anthology, both through Broadview Press. She was selected as a participant for the NEH Summer Institute on "Buddhist Asia: Traditions, Transmissions, & Transformations," at the University of Hawaii in Summer 2015. She serves on the APA committee on teaching and is an at-large board member of the American Associate of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT). Learn Hand and Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Paul conducts trials and issues opinions in a wide range of civil and criminal cases. Among the matters he has recently handled are: an insider trading case brought by the SEC; a criminal case against the longtime assistant of the artist Jasper Johns who admitted to stealing Johns’ artworks and selling them; a lawsuit against the United Nations for negligently causing the cholera epidemic in Haiti; a billion-dollar class action against an investment bank brought by investors in mortgage-backed securities; and a defamation case involving the First Amendment implications of hyperlinks in publications on the internet. Paul adds, "When I visited the Philosophy Department in 2013, I spoke about how valuable my philosophy education was to my career as a lawyer and a judge. I can't think of anything that could have prepared me for law school and for my career as well as studying philosophy. Every day I use those skills -- the analytical ability, the precision and clarity in thinking and writing -- that I learned from philosophy."

Gina Porto (BA, 2003) is currently employed a Talent Development Manager for a staffing company Act1/AppleOne. She has lived in Virginia for the past nine years. She writes, "Interestingly enough, it is my philosophy background that has enabled me to find success in my career."

John Rudisill (Ph.D., 2001) is Chair of the Philosophy Department at The College of Wooster, where he has been a faculty member since 2005. For several years he has also served as the chair of the Pre-law program, helping to coach Wooster’s undergraduate moot court team. Wooster’s moot court program is one of the top two or three undergraduate moot court programs in the nation, and a number of our students win national championships for oral argument, individual orator, and brief writing. In 2012 the American Association of Philosophy Teachers awarded him the Lenssen Prize for his paper.
"The Transition from Studying Philosophy to Doing Philosophy," John adds, "On a personal note, my wife and I became parents last summer. Our daughter, Szabina, who we adopted at birth, is now just over a year old. She is a smiley, happy, healthy, beautiful little girl and has enriched our lives immeasurably. ...I could not imagine having had a better graduate education than I got at Iowa and certainly think that the department there was especially helpful in preparing me to be an effective teacher. I am deeply grateful for the years I had there and think back on them frequently with nostalgia."

Dan Schoeni (MA, 2003; JD, 2003) clerked for Justice Jerry Larson of the Iowa Supreme Court (2003-04) and has since been a Judge Advocate with the Air Force. While in this position, he has taught philosophy courses as an adjunct, in Nebraska and California. He has also completed masters of law degrees in government procurement from the University of Nottingham (LL.M. 2011) and George Washington University (LL.M. 2014) and he recently started as a part-time Ph.D. student at the University of Nottingham. He adds, "I hope to land an academic job after I retire from the Air Force. I've had some wonderful experiences in the course of my 11 years in the Air Force, and I can't say enough about training in philosophy prepared me for law school and beyond. ...I could go on, but I will only say that my philosophy training was enormously helpful during my three years at the Appellate Defense Division. As I sometimes say, paraphrasing a B movie starring Richard Gere (who said, 'journalism is literature in a hurry'), the law is philosophy in a hurry. Knowing how to 'slow down' and think like a philosopher is a critical skill that many appellate lawyers are lacking."

Erik Schuessler (BA, 2009) graduated and went to work as a project manager/implementation consultant at a software company that makes electronic medical records. He now works for a small Healthcare IT consulting firm. His current title is director, where he oversees the part of our business that is involved in helping health systems implement, upgrade, and optimize their electronic health records.

Steven Shredl (BA, 2013) is in his third year of law school at the University of Illinois. This summer he worked as an associate for the firm Thompson Coburn in St. Louis.

Kyle Sieck (BA, 2008) minored in philosophy and started his own business, localburrito.com in Iowa City. It is a triple bottom line catering business and food truck. He adds, "My career path is a result of my philosophy training and pursuits. Become more mindful > study environmentalism > learn to grow/cook food > create healthy, equitable and just food/jobs. It's amazing where one will end up when one simply asks, 'What is the meaning of life and how do I live well within it?'"

Tom Stoppleworth (BA, 2014) is an optics technician at Rockwell.

Jennifer Terry (BA, 2010; JD, 2013) graduated from the UI College of Law in May, 2013 and passed the Iowa Bar Exam the following July. After a short stint at a law firm in Cedar Rapids, she secured a job in policy in Des Moines working for the Iowa Environmental Council, a nonprofit coalition in its 20th year. She also lobbied this past session, which (she reports) was quite an eye­ opener. Her work is focused on clean water in Iowa as it pertains to agricultural interests.

Timothy Vavricek (BA, 1997; JD, 2000) moved back to the area last year to take a job at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Cedar Rapids after a number of years in Des Moines at the Iowa Attorney General's Office.

Martin Vogts (BA, 2010) was accepted into a leading Master in Management program in Paris, France after graduating from UI. Over the past four years he has lived and worked in four countries, writing a graduate thesis on the role of narrative in marketing, and working as a strategist at various advertising agencies and at the Adidas global headquarters. He adds, "My masters program as well as my employers have all appreciated that I studied Philosophy (and Cinema too...) during undergrad."

Justin Weis (BA, 2001) recently finished his Pulmonary Critical Care fellowship at the University of Rochester in NY. His wife Emily is also a doctor, they live in Rochester with their 4 year-old son Jack. He writes, "The connection I hold most closely with my past experience / education in philosophy is through participation in the ethics committee at the University of Rochester and at the community hospital in Canandaigua, NY where I spend much of my clinical time. I strongly believe my undergraduate education in philosophy has provided me with a strongly grounded principle of value judgment that aids me in counseling patients in their decision making process in a reasoned and rationale manner."

Elysa White (Ph.D., 1999) graduated from UI and then earned an MA in bioethics at Case Western Reserve University. She spent one year working at the Bioethics Department at the Cleveland Clinic. She is currently a philosophy professor at Oakland University in Michigan, where she is also teaching courses at the medical school and the engineering school.

Jamie Wymer (BA, 1993) works for SAS Institute, an advanced analytics software company. She also ran a manufacturing company for over three years. She adds, "The analytical conditioning of my thought processes in pursuing a Philosophy degree have been instrumental in my success. I believe the value of all the reading and challenging vocabulary discovery I experienced in the process have brought me immeasurable benefits in communication skills."
Jovana Davidovic (continued from p. 3)

Professor Davidovic is the director of the departmental Webpage Committee, and she is also on the Undergraduate Studies Committee. In addition, she serves on the Law and Philosophy Working Group, which she co-established with Prof. Paul Gowder from Law School. The group organizes workshops and conferences, including a Law School funded-conference on Philosophy of Law in Spring 2014.

James Duerlinger

Publications


Professor Duerlinger is director of the department's first-year seminar committee.

Evan Fales

Publications


Professor Fales has been the longtime director of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, and he is currently a member of the committee.

Carrie Figdor

Publications


Presentations and Talks
- "Is there an obligation to publish scientific research?", invited speaker, Washington University in St. Louis Medical School (Nov. 2015).

- "Psychological Predicates and Scientific Modeling," invited speaker at UC-Riverside (October 2015) and Washington University in St. Louis (Nov. 2015).


- Brown University National Diversity Summit, invited speaker, Philosophy and Gender: Beyond the Socratic Stereotype. Providence, RI. March 6-8, 2015.

Professor Figdor received an Arts & Humanities Initiative grant (U. Iowa), Pl. Project title: Mechanisms of dehumanization by cognitively impaired subjects in virtual Milgram conditions. Feb. 2015; $7,500. She was also a Visiting Scholar at the Eidyn Research Centre, University of Edinburgh, Scotland. June-August 2015.
Carrie Figdor (continued from p. 8)

Professor Figdor is on the UI Graduate Council and serves as Director of the Graduate Professionalization Committee for the Philosophy Department.

Richard Fumerton

Publications


— “Regress argument and Skepticism” in Reed (ed.), *A Companion to Skepticism*, Bloomsbury Academic.

— “What the Internalist Should say to the Tortoise,” forthcoming in *Synthese*.

Presentations and Talks
- “A Priori Philosophy of Mind” (Bled, 2015)
- “Descartes and Knowledge First” (Paris, 2015)
- “Wittgenstein on Memory” (Iowa City, 2015)
- “Foundational Thought and the Argument for Dualism,” APA Western Meetings, 2015

Professor Fumerton is currently a member of the Undergraduate Studies Committee and co-director of the interdisciplinary Ethics and Public Policy major that is run by the department.

In the last couple of years, Professor Fumerton has been Vice President, President, and Past President of the Faculty Senate, and he has served on a large number of important university committees.

Ali Hasan

Publications
— *A Critical Introduction to the Epistemology of Perception*, under contract with Bloomsbury Academic.


— “Toward an A Priori Justification of Inference to the Best Explanation,” forthcoming in Poston and McCain (eds.), *Inference to the Best Explanation*, Oxford UP.

Presentations and Talks
- “Toward an A Priori Justification of Inference to the Best Explanation,” Orange Beach Epistemology Workshop, Orange Beach, Alabama (2015).

- “Metaphysical Objections to Rationalism,” Faculty Colloquium, U Iowa Philosophy (2015)

Professor Hasan serves on the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. He also does a regular workshop at the UI New Faculty Orientation every fall, and has been on a number of Graduate College committees.

Diane Jeske

Publications


Presentations and Talks
- Seminar on the Philosophical Foundations of Children’s and Family Law, Oxford University, UK, invited participant, June 2015

Professor Jeske is currently Director of Undergraduate Studies for the philosophy department. She is also on the Executive Committee of the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association. For 2008-2014 she was chair of the UI Philosophy Department.

Gregory Landini

Publications


Presentations and Talks

- “Repairing Russell’s 1913 Theory of Knowledge,” University of Iowa, faculty colloquium 2015.

Professor Landini also serves as Director of Graduate Studies for the Philosophy Department.
Graduate Student Activity

Landon Elkind
Landon also started the Bertrand Russell Society Iowa Chapter this year. It meets once per week.

Hyungrae Noh
- "Intelligibility of the Thesis on which the Mental and the Physical Mutually Supervene on Each Other," Midsouth Philosophy Conference 2015

David Redmond

Gregory Stoutenburg
- "Best Explanationism and Justification for Beliefs about the Future," Episteme, forthcoming.
- "The Epistemic Analysis of Luck," Episteme, in press
- "Cartesianism, Neo-Reidism, and the A Priori: Reply to Pust," Logos and Episteme VI:2, 231-235
Greg was also co-director of The Iowa Lyceum for summer 2015.

Emily Waddle

Announcements and Events

The Department is excited to announce that for spring 2016 there will be three scholarships available for undergraduate senior philosophy majors, at $1000.00 each. Criteria will include such factors as outstanding work/preparation toward pre-law, pre-med, pre-business, graduate school, and internships and community outreach.

John Heil (Washington University) will be visiting the department on April 8, 2016, to present the Sievert Lecture. Professor Heil's talk will be on metaphysics.

Susana Siegel (Harvard University) will be visiting the department on April 14 to present the Bergmann Lecture, and on April 15 to present a colloquium. Professor Siegel's talk will be on on perception.

The department will host a film at FilmScene in the Pedmall, on a Sunday evening late in the spring semester. More details will be available at our website: www.clas.uiowa.edu/philosophy.

The department will also be sponsoring a panel discussion and public debate on the topic of global justice, as part of the university's theme this year – Just Living. The panel discussion will take place in May. More information will be available at our website.
Katarina Perovic

Publications

Presentations and Talks
- "Russell on Bare Particulars", APA Central Division Meeting, February 20th, 2015.
- "Why Not Bare Particulars?" Colloquim, Department of Philosophy, University of Iowa, January 30th, 2015.

Professor Perovic serves as a member of the Graduate Studies Committee for the Department of Philosophy. She is also a member of The Bertrand Russell Society Board of Directors.

David Stern

Publications


Professor Stern was Director of the Obermann Summer Symposium in 2015; he was awarded a $40,000 budget to bring 16 leading philosophers from around the world.

For 2013-2018, Professor Stern is Collegiate Fellow, UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He is currently Director of the departmental Lectures & Arrangements Committee. He was also a member of the recent CLAS Self-study Committee, 2012-14.

Carrie Swanson

Publications
- "Begging the Question as a Criticism of an Argument in Itself in Topics 8.11," History and Philosophy of Logic (2015).

Presentations and Talks


- "The Refutation of Protagoras in Plato's Protagoras'. University of Iowa, Department of Philosophy (2015).


Professor Swanson is a member of the department's Undergraduate Studies Committee, and she is the department's Faculty Assembly representative. She runs the department's film series, the Owl of Minerva. In addition, she is an active member of the Chicago Consortium on Ancient Philosophy.

Professor Stern selected as Director of Obermann Summer Symposium

In May 2015, David Stern directed a week-long Summer Seminar on the text of Wittgenstein: Lectures, Cambridge 1930–1933, From the Notes of G. E. Moore, which will be published by Cambridge UP in March 2016. Twenty scholars from the UK, Israel, Brazil, Austria, Finland, Norway, and the USA—including Richard Fumerton and Greg Landini from Iowa—took part in a lively discussion of papers they had written for the event. The seminar, held in Schaeffer Hall, was open to the public, and a number of our undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni took part. David is currently working on editing a collection of papers from the conference.
The Philosophy Department will never call or email you for a donation, but if you are interested in contributing to one of our special projects or to our General Fund, that would help us a lot. Note also that for 2015-16 our faculty are matching departmental donations up to a grand total of $8,000.00.

Please also email us if you would like a Philosophy frisbee flier or pen, or to update any contact information. Thanks! We sent requests for alumni news to all alumni for whom we had a current email address, but please send any additional news, or updated contact info, to david-cunning@uiowa.edu or philosophy-dept@uiowa.edu.