Welcome to the first issue of Nousletter!

Philosophy is most commonly associated with works of brilliance produced in solitude. But we all know that, however many hours our faculty and students spend in monastic isolation, philosophy is a fundamentally social enterprise. Our work is always collective. Philosophy emerges in and takes direction from conversations and represents the results of thinking hard about ultimate questions. Nousletter is intended to mark and celebrate the departmental and alumni philosophical community at Chicago.

This Autumn four new faculty members join us. Ben Laurence comes to us from a post-doctoral fellowship at the Law School to address fundamental questions of justice. In addition to teaching, advising, and advancing research in the philosophical questions that surround democracy and liberalism, Ben is active in the University of Chicago Human Rights Program. Marko Malink brings expertise in logic to our ancient philosophy faculty, and powerful research in the history of logic to our faculty in philosophy of language, linguistics, and formal philosophy more generally. He comes to us from Humboldt University in Berlin. Anat Schechtman works in early modern metaphysics and epistemology with special emphasis on Descartes. She
Chair’s Letter, continued

has strong interests in Kant and in the history of metaphysics and mathematics, adding her voice to our conversation in these areas, and comes to us fresh from completing her doctoral degree at Yale University. Anubav Vasudevan works at the intersections of epistemology and philosophy of science with special emphases in probability and decision theory. He has also just completed his doctoral work and comes to us from Columbia University to strengthen our work in formal philosophy. If you’d like to stop in during their office hours, Anubav, Anat, and Marko can be found in our new faculty office suite in Walker 202.

You will find all four in the Faculty and Staff News section of Nousletter, along with updates on the activities of the rest of us. You will also find news about our alumni and current students, a feature about the first years of doctoral study at Chicago, an update on our commitment to sustainability, and announcements of upcoming and recent events. Have a look. Come to conferences. Visit workshops. Take courses. Argue. And send your news to us for future issues.

Above all, be well and enjoy.

Upcoming Events

Georg Simmel: Life, Self, Culture, Society

November 11-12, 2011

Franke Institute for the Humanities

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and eight other University units, the Conference will include talks and discussions of a wide range of Simmelian topics, from social interaction, monetary dynamics, history, and psychology to music, art, literature, ethics, metaphysics, religion, and philosophical modernism.

Distinguished scholars from universities outside the United States include: Alessandro Cavalli, University of Pavia; Fabio D’Andrea, University of Perugia; Annette Disselkamp, University of Lille; Arthur Frank, University of Calgary; Austin Harrington, University of Erfurt; Thomas Kemple, University of British Columbia; Volkhard Krech, R.U. Bochum; and Ingo Meyer, Bielefeld University.

Two Professors in the Department of Philosophy will serve as session chairs at the Conference. Robert Pippin will chair the session, “Simmel and Modernity,” and James Conant will chair a session including the papers “Lebensanschauung and Simmel’s Life” and “Simmel as a Transitional Figure in German Philosophy.”
Upcoming Events, continued

Georg Simmel: Life, Self, Culture, Society, cont.

Participants associated with other units of the University will include: John Andrews (Sociology), Woody Carter (Public Policy), Paolo Castaño (Sociology), Elisabeth Clemens (Sociology), Ryan Coyne (Divinity), Elizabeth Goodstein (Ideas and Methods), Berthold Hoeckner (Music), Hans Joas (Social Thought and Sociology), John Levi Martin (Sociology), Donald Levine (Sociology), Paul Mendes-Flohr (Divinity), Barry Schwartz (Sociology), Mario Small (Sociology), Tom Smith (Sociology), and David Wellbery (Germanic Studies).

Sessions are free and open to observers, but due to limited space, those interested will need to register in advance with the Conference Staff at simmel.staff@gmail.com. lucian.uchicago.edu/blogs/simmelconference/

Concepts of Bildung around 1800 and Wilhelm von Humboldt’s Idea of the University

November 18-19, 2011
Franke Institute of the Humanities
Conference Coordinator: Michael Forster

Aesthetics and German Philosophy Conference

February 10, 2012
wcas.northwestern.edu/germanphil/events.html

Sponsored by The Chicago Area Consortium in German Philosophy Coordinator: Daniel Smyth

Dewey Lecture in Law and Philosophy: Elizabeth Anderson

February 29, 2012 - 4:30pm
Law School

Stanley Cavell’s Aesthetics

March 2 - 4, 2012
Primary participants: Sarah Beckwith (English, Duke); James Conant (Philosophy, University of Chicago); Michael Fried (Humanities Center/Art History, Johns Hopkins University); Arata Hamawaki (Philosophy, Auburn); John Harbison (Music, MIT); Andrew Klevan (Film Studies, Oxford); Christoph König (Literature and Germanic Studies, Universität Osnabrück); Toril Moi (Literature and Romance Studies, Duke University); Richard Moran (Philosophy, Harvard University); Yi-Ping Ong (The Humanities Center, Johns Hopkins University); Robert Pippin (Philosophy, Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago); David Wellbery (German and Comparative Literature, Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago)

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Germanic Studies, the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on German Literature and Culture, and the Committee on Social Thought.

A Philosophical Reunion

April 21-22, 2012
philosophicalreunion.com/
Conference organizer: Zed Adams

Technē Workshop: The Craft Analogy in Ancient Philosophy

May 4, 2012
Conference Coordinator: Gabriel Lear

The Installation of Good and Bad in the Psyche

May 25 - 26, 2012
Conference Coordinators: Candace Vogler, Jonathan Lear
Ethics and the Place of Philosophy: The Legacy of Bernard Williams’s Critique

October 28 – 29, 2011
Conference Organizer: Jonathan Lear
This conference was funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Sarah Broadie – “In the Steps of Bernard Williams: Looking at Ancient Greek Ethics”
Raymond Geuss – “Did Williams Do Ethics?”
Alasdair MacIntyre – “The Elusive Starting-Point of Deliberation: A Crux in Bernard Williams’s Thought”
Richard Moran – “Williams, History, and ‘the Impurity of Philosophy’”
Samuel Scheffler – “Fear, Death, and Confidence”

HUMANITIES DAY OCTOBER 22, 2011
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO DIVISION OF THE HUMANITIES

Featuring:

Candace Vogler – “The Freudian Unconscious”
Ted Cohen – “Metaphor and Ambiguity: Two for the Price of One”
Bart Schultz – “Ethics, Poverty, and the Humanities”
Francey: So, tell me: How did you become interested in studying philosophy (were you always?), and why did you decide to study at the graduate level at the University of Chicago?

Andrew: I became interested in philosophy primarily through doing high school debate. We’d get some political or moral position (e.g. juveniles charged with violent crimes should be tried and punished as adults; or democracy is best served by a strict separation of church and state) for two or three months and have to research positions defending and criticizing the position. So, I got into political and moral philosophy in high school.

Debate also involved a lot of focus on the ways the positions were worded (e.g. does democracy’s being best served by something imply that it is served best by that thing over everything else? In other words, does the second position above imply that democracy is better served by strict separation than by voting?), as well as issues about moral and other forms of skepticism (I became fascinated with Derrida’s article “Force of Law” and spent much of my senior year bastardizing it and trying to show that it justified moral skepticism).

In college, those interests led me to Wittgenstein and German Idealism. Those having become my primary interests, it seemed a no-brainer to try to come to Chicago, and I was lucky enough to get in.

Gilad: Mine is more of a story of conversion. I took some philosophy in high school but found it too abstract and too distant from real life. Later, I became interested in anthropology and in social theory, but eventually came to realize that these disciplines too, in spite of their focus on human life forms, keep stumbling upon a problem of distance.

I then focused, for a while, on the social sciences’ reflection upon the gap between theory and observation, but eventually became unsatisfied with the level at which the discussion was handled. Instead, I turned to philosophy looking for an understanding of the basic terms which are either taken for granted in the sciences, or are not sufficiently understood in them: the concepts of motivation and action, of meaning, language, communication, and tradition, etc.

My first forays into philosophy have been mainly historical, and I have been mostly attracted to the Germans and the Greeks. This was the main reason why I chose to come to Chicago – which is a wonderful place to join the great philosophical conversation, a conversation aimed at evaluating and redefining the basic concepts through which we make sense of ourselves.

Francey: I think my experience maybe was closer to Gilly’s, in that I began, as an undergrad, with an interest in other disciplines, but found that their major guiding concepts were under-explored. I think like many people with a philosophical disposition, my thinking would just get fixed on various ideas that we otherwise have to take for granted.

I’ve found, though, that exactly what or who I find compelling within philosophy has changed since
I began studying it seriously. And I expect that, over my time here at Chicago, it will continue to evolve:

What about you two? Have your philosophical interests transformed since coming to Chicago? How has your thinking shifted?

Gilad: My answer to this is – yes. When I just came here I was still mostly interested in the history of metaphysics, especially in the Aristotelian tradition, but since then I have given much more thought to philosophy of language and the history of early analytic philosophy. I guess this is the point of the course distribution requirement, and a natural outcome of taking courses seriously – you get to shift the focus of your work, and then you might find out you got hooked on doing work in a field you did not originally expect yourself to be suited for.

Andrew: Not so much for me, I suppose. I’ve been interested in Hegel and Wittgenstein since basically the beginning of college. Obviously, though, my appreciation of them has changed dramatically – and so in that sense my interests have shifted. I’ve also picked up ancillary interests as a result of my interest in those two: most notably, I’ve become much more interested in Fregge, *The Tractatus*, *The Science of Logic*, etc. I’ve also narrowed my focus a bit - I work a lot less on Derrida, Foucault, Deleuze, Agamben, et. al.

Francey: I think whether one deepens what one is already interested in, or becomes invested in something new, the role of a philosophical community is so crucial. I know that, for myself, I not only learn new things in conversation with others, I also really learn what I know or am committed to. How has it been being part of the community at Chicago, both in the department and in the school at large?

Andrew: I think the atmosphere at Chicago is wonderful -- I’ve learned a lot both from graduate students in my year and from talking with older graduate students about their work. I’m not sure what the environment is like at other departments, but I’ve quite liked the environment here.

Gilad: One of the most amazing things about the student body at our department is how frequently we get to meet informally and continue discussions which started in one of our classes or in one of our papers.

The workshops, I think, are the main forum for philosophy students and professors to meet people from other departments -- I personally made several friends that way. And Francey, you’re also right about this -- such conversations have often gotten me to question my own views or to change my perspective on the things I’ve been working on.

Francey: I’m really excited to be here, and to be developing just these kinds of philosophical conversations and friendships. See you both soon.
Visiting Faculty and Professors

2011-2012

Jocelyn Benoist, White's Regular Visiting Professor

Corinne Bloch, Post-doctoral Fellow, Fishbein Center for the History of Science and Medicine

Matt Boyle, Visiting Professor, Social Science Division

Irad Kimhi, Visiting Professor, Committee on Social Thought

Christoph Menke, Visiting Professor, Committee on Social Thought

Bjorn Ramberg, Visiting Professor

2010-2011

Emma Borg, Visiting Professor

Christoph König, Visiting Professor

2009-2010

Jocelyn Benoist, White’s Regular Visiting Professor

Vincent Descombes, Committee on Social Thought and Dept. of Romance Languages

Samuel Fleischaker, Visiting Professor

Chris Haufe, Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Committee on Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science

Hans Joas, Sociology and Committee Social Thought

Heinrich Meier, Committee on Social Thought

Sebastian Rödl, Heinz Kohut Visiting Professor for the Committee on Social Thought

Dan Sperber, Georges Lurcy Visiting Professor

Christopher Peacocke, Visiting Professor, Committee on Social Thought

Christoph König (center) with Jim Conant and Daniel Smyth. (Photo by Christian Benne)

Prof. Arnold Davidson leads a panel discussion with Visiting Professor George Lewis (center) and guest pianist Alexander von Schlippenbach, during an evening of music and conversation that explored the relationship between humans and machines, musicians and their instruments, improvisation, social responsibility, and agency. (Photo by Marc Monaghan)
Our main goals at the Undergraduate Philosophy Club are to provide a way for undergraduates to explore philosophical ideas in a non-academic setting and to foster philosophical discussion among students. We use our weekly meetings to give people a chance to explore philosophy as a major and/or learn about new philosophical ideas in a low-pressure environment. Our events are designed to bring the larger philosophically-minded undergraduate community together to directly engage with each other’s ideas.

Our weekly meetings involve student-led discussion of a pre-circulated philosophical paper. The main event we organize each year is our annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, at which students from the U of C and other schools (from as far away as Oregon!) present their work to an undergraduate audience.

The conference also features a keynote address by a faculty member; past speakers have included Anton Ford on action theory and Agnes Callard on Plato’s account of love. For the past two years we have been holding midterm essay workshops, in which a graduate student from the Department gives a talk on how to write an effective philosophical paper and answers student questions. Last year we co-sponsored a debate on religion and morality with the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) and the Secular Student Alliance (SSA) that drew a significant audience.

In the coming academic year, we will continue to hold weekly meetings on Thursdays at 7:00 in the South Lounge of the Reynolds Club (email ugphilclubboard@lists.uchicago.edu to be added to the listhost). We will also have our 6th Annual Conference in Spring Quarter and our annual Midterm Essay Workshop 5th week of this quarter, and we are planning further collaborations with the IVCF and the SSA.

In addition, the UGPC is launching two new projects this year:

- In 4th week of Autumn Quarter we partnered with the Special Collections staff at the Regenstein library to display some philosophical material from their archives
- We are planning to hold occasional joint meetings with Northwestern University’s Philosophy Club to foster increased contact between philosophically-minded students at both schools

For more information on the undergraduate program: philosophy.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/
Current Student News

Silver Bronzo’s paper, “The Resolute Reading and Its Critics: An Introduction to the Literature,” is forthcoming in *Wittgenstein-Studien*, Vol. 3, 2012. ¶ His paper “Context, Compositionality, and Nonsense in Wittgenstein’s Tractatus” was published in *Beyond the Tractatus Wars*, edited by Rupert Read and Matthew Lavery, Routledge, 2011. ¶ He was awarded the University of Chicago Alumni Club of Italy Scholarship for 2011 which goes each year to the most deserving Italian graduate student studying at the University of Chicago. ¶ He also won a Stuart Tave Teaching Fellowships in the College for the 2011-2012 academic year.


Rachel Goodman won the Karen Dinal Award for excellence in teaching writing, for her work in Philosophical Perspectives in 2010-11.

David Holiday was awarded a Stuart Tave Teaching Fellowships in the College for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Jennifer Johnson is the new Assistant to the Director of Undergraduate Studies.


Inquisivity in Amsterdam

Matt Teichman is a fifth-year PhD student in the Department of Philosophy. For the 2011-2012 academic year, he will be a guest PhD student at the Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation in Amsterdam on a Fulbright IIE fellowship.

Currently, he is doing background research on modal logic and inquisitive semantics while working on his dissertation under the supervision of ILLC faculty, including Frank Veltman and Katrin Schulz. In early December he will present the results of his latest research at GENIUS III in Paris, a conference devoted to the study of generic statements. The paper will be titled, "Is there a Generic Quantifier?"

Matt is writing a dissertation in the philosophy of language on the semantics of generic statements. A generic statement is a loose generalization about how things normally are, as opposed to how things absolutely always are, without exception. For example, 'ravens are black' is generally true, even though there might be the occasional white raven—one that was painted white, perhaps. How can that be the case? Default logic is the study of just this phenomenon, whereby generalizations can hold for the most part but be 'defeated' by other generalizations.

In addition, he continues during the 2011-2012 academic as host and producer of Elucidations, a podcast produced by the Philosophy Department featuring interviews with philosophers on their areas of research. Along with his colleagues, Jaime Edwards, Alex Langlinais, and Mark Hopwood, he is in the process of developing a blog for the podcast, and hopes to speak to a number of faculty from Amsterdam on the program before returning to Chicago in June of 2012.
Current Student News, continued

Ryan Long began a Law & Philosophy Fellowship at the University of Chicago Law School. He accepted a tenure-track position with Philadelphia University (deferred to 2012).

Tucker McKinney was awarded a Franke Institute for the Humanities Fellowship for the 2011-12 academic year.


Andrew Werner was awarded a Beinecke Scholarship for Graduate Study by the Beinecke Foundation.

For more information on current and past student news:
philosophy.uchicago.edu/news/announcements.html

Visiting Scholars and Post-doc Fellows

These current and recent visiting scholars and fellows were invited to conduct their research periods at the Department of Philosophy.

Maxime Doyon, McGill University, Canada
Nissim Francez, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology
Adrian Haddock, University of Stirling, Scotland
Hongjun Hao, JiLin University, China
Dana Heifetz, Associated Member
Li Hiujuan, JiLin University, China
An Jun, Shanxi University, China
Joonsoo Kim, Pusan National University, Republic of Korea
Ankui Tan, Sun Yat-sen University, China
Fan Yun, Zhejiang University, China
Faculty & Staff News

Jocelyn Benoist’s book *Eléments de philosophie réaliste* was published by Vrin in 2011 and his book *Concepts* was published in 2010.


Daniel Brudney was named Full Professor, July 2010.

James Conant’s book *Orwell ou le Pouvoir de la Verite* was published by Agone, January, 2011. Beyond the Tractatus Wars, edited by Rupert Read and Matthew Lavery, was published in July 2011 by Routledge. The collection consists of a series of paired newly commissioned pieces alternately arguing for and against the so-called “resolute reading” of Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus* first put forward by Cora Diamond and James Conant.

Rileggere Wittgenstein (co-authored with Cora Diamond) was published by Carocci, Rome, September, 2010. On June 10, 2011, the journal *Philosophical Investigations* published a “virtual issue” which features the ten best articles published in the journal from 1980 to the present day and includes James Conant’s 1998 article “Wittgenstein on Meaning and Use”.

The Institute of Philosophy of the University of Porto in Portugal hosted a conference titled “The Logical Alien at 20”, on June 13th & 14th, 2011, on the 20th anniversary of the publication of his paper *The Search for Logically Alien Thought*. Together with Sebastian Rödl he was awarded an SIAS grant to run a two-year Summer Institute on the topic of The Second Person, which took place at the National Institute of Humanities at Chapel Hill in August, 2011, and will take place at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin in August, 2012.

Edmund Dain, Harper-Schmidt affiliate faculty fellow, completed his fellowship and accepted the position of Assistant Professor, with the Department of Philosophy at Providence College beginning this Fall.

Arnold I. Davidson and George Lewis presented a lecture, “Improvisation as a Way of Life” on October 19 and participated in the Q & A following the performance of George Lewis and Geri Allen on October 20, 2011 at the University of Michigan’s Institute of Humanities. Their November 11, 2010 “Improvisation as a Way of Life” event was mentioned in the February 2011 issue of *Downbeat Magazine*.


The forthcoming issue of the Spanish philosophical journal *Theorema* will be devoted to David Finkelstein’s book *Expression and the Inner*, and will contain essays on the book with replies to each essay by David Finkelstein. In April of 2010, as the year’s topic for the Sixth Inter-University Workshop on Mind, Art and Morality, a three-day conference on David Finkelstein’s book *Expression and the Inner* was held in Oviedo, Spain.

The collection *Essays on Anscombe’s Intention*, co-edited by Anton Ford, Jennifer Hornsby and Fred Stoutland, was published by Harvard
Christopher Frey joined the Department in 2010.

Michael Forster’s book *German Philosophy of Language from Schlegel to Hegel and Beyond* was published by Oxford University Press, 2011. He gave the keynote address at the Second Annual International Summer School in German Philosophy (July 4-15, 2011). His book *After Herder* was published by Oxford University Press, 2010.

Christopher Haufe, Mellon Post-doc Fellow, completed his fellowship and accepted the position of Assistant Professor with the Department of Philosophy at Case Western Reserve University, beginning this Fall.


Melody Harter, Administrative Assistant, is enjoying her 2nd year serving the Department (although it’s her 9th year on campus). She enjoys interacting with departmental students whether in the Anscombe lounge or on the AYSO soccer field and is chipping away at practicing Gabriel Fauré’s Ballade, Op. 19 (the version for piano with orchestra).

Michael Kremer was named the Mary R. Morton Professor of Philosophy, December 15, 2010. In 2011 he became the Director of Graduate Studies.

Benjamin Laurence joined the department in 2011.


Marko Malink joined the department in 2011.

Jean-Luc Marion became the most recent inductee into the Académie Française (2010). He has been named the Andrew Thomas Greeley and Grace McNichols Greeley Professor of Catholic Studies and Professor of the Philosophy of Religions and Theology.


Martha Nussbaum was awarded the Phi Beta Kappa Society’s Sidney Hook Memorial Award. She received the Centennial Medal of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University, in 2010. In 2010 she published the books *From Disgust to Humanity: Sexual Orientation and Constitutional Law; Not For Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities; and The Offensive Internet: Speech, Privacy and Reputation*, (with Saul Levmore). In 2011 she published *Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach*. Her most recent interviews include “Our world needs the humanities” - *The Australian*, July 13, 2011; “Nussbaum proposes a new way of assessing national well-being”, WBEZ Eight Forty-Eight, May 04, 2011; “Do Colleges Need French Departments” in the *New York Times*.
Robert Pippin’s book *Hegel on Self-Consciousness* was published by Princeton University Press in December, 2010. His book *Hollywood Westerns and American Myth: The Importance of Howard Hawks and John Ford for Political Philosophy* was published by New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010. His book *Nietzsche, Psychology, First Philosophy* was published by University of Chicago press, 2010. Kalamazoo College held a multi-day conference on Robert Pippin’s book *Hegel’s Practical Philosophy: Rational Agency as Ethical Life* in February 2010. He gave the 2010 Page-Barbour Lectures at the University of Virginia on the topic “Fatalism in Film Noir: Some Cinematic Philosophy” He was the Schiller Professor at the University of Jena, Friedrich-Schiller-University. He gave the Adorno Lectures from June 6th to 8th, 2011, at the University of Frankfurt, Germany. He was a faculty member at the School of Criticism & Theory at Cornell University from June 19 - July 28, 2011. At the 2011 Pacific Division Meetings of the American Philosophical Association, there was an “Author Meets Critics Session” on Robert Pippin’s book *Hollywood Westerns and American Myth*. The entire October 2010 issue of *Inquiry* was devoted to a book symposium on Robert Pippin’s recent book *Hegel’s Practical Philosophy*. From July 9 to 13, 2012, he will teach a Journal of the History of Philosophy Master Class on “Post-Kantian Idealism” in Chicago.

Robert Richards was awarded the Laing book prize from University of Chicago Press for *The Tragic Sense of Life: Ernst Haeckel and the Struggle over Evolutionary Thought* in 2010. In 2011, “Distinguished Service Professor” was added to his title. In 2011, he was awarded the Sarton Medal for Lifetime Achievement from the History of Science Society.

Anat Schechtman joined the department in 2011.

Josef Stern became the Director for the Chicago Center for Jewish Studies.

Bart Schultz has been appointed to the Editorial Board of *Utilitas*, the leading professional journal of utilitarian studies. He was the keynote speaker for the Oxford University New College Symposium, “Transcendence, Idealism and Modernity”, June 16 - 17, 2011.

Bill Tait, Professor Emeritus, was awarded an Emeritus Fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Anubav Vasudevan joined the department in 2011.

Candace Vogler was named the David B. and Clara E. Stern Professor in Philosophy and the College, July 22, 2010. She gave a seminar on John Stuart Mill to CEOs in Osaka, Japan, as part of the “Foundations of Western Thought” series, December 2010. She was a guest professor at “Themes in the Philosophy of Peter Geach and Thomas Aquinas” at the 6th Annual Thomistic Seminar at the Witherspoon Institue, August 7 - 13, 2011. She was a visiting fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies LMU Munich, in cooperation with the Munich Competence Center for Ethics during the winter term 2011. She discussed the renaissance of interest in the work of Elizabeth Anscombe, *New York Times*, January 7, 2011. In 2011 she became Chair of the Department.

Valerie Wallace, Department Coordinator, is enjoying her 3rd year in the Department. In 2011 her poetry chapbook, *The Dictators’ Guide to Good Housekeeping*, was published by Dancing Girl Press. In 2011 she received grants from the Illinois Arts Council, the Kimmel-Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, and the Vermont Studio Cen-
We have four new faculty in the Department of Philosophy this fall:

**Ben Laurence**, who works on political philosophy,

**Marko Malink**, who works on ancient philosophy and the philosophy of logic,

**Anat Schechtman**, who works on early modern philosophy,

**Anubav Vasudevan**, who works on epistemology and the foundations of probability.

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**Anubav Vasudevan**, who works on epistemology and the foundations of probability.

In 2010 she received a grant from the Barbara Deming Fund for Women.

**Malte Willer** joined the Department in 2010. Last year he published a paper on epistemic modals in *Philosophical Studies*, and has a paper on deontic conditionals forthcoming in the *Journal of Philosophy*. He gave talks at the University of Stuttgart, the University of Chicago Workshop on Semantics and Philosophy of Language (together with Anastasia Giannakidou), the Franke Institute, Northwestern University, and the University of Göttingen.

**Bill Wimsatt** Professor Emeritus, is the Winton Professor at the University of Minnesota and a residential fellow at the Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science, 2010-12. His lifetime philosophical achievement was honored by a multi-day conference titled “A Celebration of Bill Wimsatt’s Scholarship” held at the University of Chicago, April 9-10, 2010.
Alumni News


Lou Agosta (AB ’73; PhD ’77) published the book *Empathy in the Context of Philosophy* (Palgrave 2010). He completed a 14-month mini-psychiatric residency with supervision in psychiatry at Rush University Medical College, sponsored by the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis. He taught at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Nathan Bauer (PhD ’08) has an article forthcoming in the journal *Inquiry*: “A Peculiar Intuition: Kant’s Conceptualist Account of Perception”.

Daniel Benjamin (BA ’10) was accepted into the MPhil/PhD English program at Cambridge University starting in the 2010-11 academic year.

Kristin Boyce (PhD ’10) is a Postdoc Fellow at Stanford University. Her article “Literature, Logic and the Liberating Word: The Elucidation of Confusion in Henry James” was published in the *Journal of Philosophical Research* Volume 35 (2010).

Steve Capone (MAPH with philosophy concentration, ’07) has a (small) publication forthcoming in *Springer’s Encyclopedia of Global Justice*. The entry is “Negative Rights”. He is studying for the Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of Utah.

Alex Carter (BA ’11) is attending Stanford Law School, where he received a fellowship.


Conversations with J. Carlier and A.I. Davidson, was published by Stanford University Press in 2009.

Daniel Drucker (BA ’11) has been accepted to the University of Michigan’s PhD Philosophy program.

Jay Elliot (PhD ’10) is a Mellon Postdoc Fellow at Yale University. “Stag Hunts and Committee Work: Cooperation and the Mutualistic Paradigm”, was published in *Review of Philosophy and Psychology* 2 245-260 (2011).

Alex Elnabli (BA ’11) is teaching English literature at an International Baccalaureate school in Cairo.


Brian Hillman (BA ’11) is attending the University of Chicago’s Divinity School, where he received a full scholarship in the MA program.

Erica Holberg (PhD ’11) began a tenure-track position at Utah State University.

Karolina Huebner (PhD ’10) began a tenure-track position at the University of Toronto.

Ethan Jerzak (BA ’10) has been accepted into the University of California-Berkeley’s PhD in Philosophy Program.

Thomas Land (PhD ’10) was awarded an ACLS New Faculty Fellowship. He was awarded the University of Chicago’s Donnelly Fellowship for three years of post-doctoral research at Cambridge University, UK, where is presently in his first year.
Alumni News, continued

Arielle Linsey (BA ‘10) has been accepted to the University of Texas School of Law.

Jennifer Lockhart (PhD ‘11) began a Postdoc at Stanford University through a Mellon Fellowship of Scholars in the Humanities.

Micah Lott (PhD ‘11) began a position with Asian University for Women (AUW) in Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Ben McMyler’s (PhD ‘08) revised PhD dissertation, “Testimony, Trust, and Authority” will be published by Oxford University Press in 2011.

Thomas Manganaro (BA ‘10) was accepted into the English PhD program at Duke University starting in the 2010-11 academic year.

Michael Miller (BA ‘08) has been accepted into the University of Pittsburgh’s History and Philosophy of Science PhD program.

CJ Morello (BA ‘11) is attending the University of California-Davis MFA in Creative Writing program.

Thiti Owirarn (BA ‘10) was accepted into the BPhil program at Oxford University starting in the 2010-11 academic year.

Adwait Parker (BA ‘09) received a Fulbright Fellowship and was accepted to Stanford University’s Philosophy PhD program.

David Possen (PhD ‘09) is at Yale University.

Joshua Broady Preiss (PhD ‘06) was hired in 2010 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and the Program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at Minnesota State University. ¶ “Multiculturalism and Equal Human Dignity” was published in Res Publica (May 2011). ¶ “Disadvantage and an American Society of Equals,” in Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy (2011).

Brandon Quisisi (BA ’88; MA ’90; PhD ’97) was named University Research Professor at the University of Kentucky. ¶ He was invited to be a member of the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton) for the 2011-12 academic year.

Timothy Rosenkoetter (PhD ’03) is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Dartmouth College. ¶ “Kant on construction, apriority, and the moral relevance of universalization,” is forthcoming in the British Journal for the History of Philosophy. ¶ “Absolute positing, the Frege Anticipation thesis, and Kant’s
definitions of judgment” was published in *European Journal of Philosophy*, 18.4: 539-566 (2010).

**Benjamin Rossi** (BA ’10) has been accepted to the University of Notre Dame’s Philosophy PhD Program.

**James Schlabach** (BA ’11) accepted a commission in the United States Marine Corps as a 2nd Lieutenant starting September 24th.

**David Svolba** (PhD ’08) is starting a new job at Fitchburg State University as Visiting Assistant Professor in Philosophy and his article “Swindell, Frankfurt, and Ambivalence,” is forthcoming in *Philosophical Explorations*.

**Charles Todd** (PhD ’11) joined the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine as the Associate Director of Admissions & Financial Aid.


**Diana Wang** (BA Philosophy and Economics ‘10), is attending New York University Law School.

**Aaron Wells** (BA ’10) was accepted into the University of Notre Dame Philosophy PhD program, starting in 2010-11.

**Kate Withy** (PhD ’09) is a tenure-track faculty member at Georgetown University. ¶ “Review of ‘Martin Heidegger, Introduction to Philosophy - Thinking and Poetizing’” was published by *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2011). ¶ “Situation and Limitation: Making Sense of Heidegger on Thrownness”, was published by *European Journal of Philosophy*, (12 June 2011).

Send alumni updates, PhD placement updates, and other news of interest to Valerie Wallace, vwallace@uchicago.edu.

The Department of Philosophy thanks the anonymous donor to the Formal Philosophy Workshop, which enabled the workshop to exist in 2011-12.

Contributions to the Department of Philosophy help fund lectures, workshops, dissertation fellowships, and more. Please make your gift today. Every gift makes a difference, regardless of size.

QUESTIONS?
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In Memoriam

**Angela Gugliotta**, wife of Professor Michael Kremer, and teacher of environmental history whose research challenged the categorical distinction between natural and social knowledge, died June 1, 2010, after a 10-year battle with breast cancer. She was 47.

Gugliotta served as lecturer in the College and research associate in the Humanities Division since 2002. **Angela’s Obituary and Guestbook Comments from students and colleagues may be found at:** pge.uchicago.edu/news-old/2009-2010/100609-gugliotta-obituary

**Ian Mueller** served as Chair of the Department and as Director of Graduate Studies and of Undergraduate Studies. He was also Chair of the Committee on the Conceptual Foundations of Science and a member of the Committee on the Ancient Mediterranean World. He is a member of the Académie Internationale d’Histoire des Sciences and on the editorial boards of *Apeiron* and *Sciences et Techniques en Perspective*. He has held research fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies (twice), the Center for Hellenic Studies, the Fondation Les Treilles (Salernes, France), the National Endowment for the Humanities, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the National Center for Scientific Research (Paris, France), the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, and Christ’s College, Cambridge. His main research interests are in ancient Greek philosophy of science and the reception of Aristotle in later antiquity. He is the author or editor of six books and has published more than seventy scholarly articles and reviews.


**Guestbook:** lucian.uchicago.edu/blogs/mueller/

**John Haugeland** was Professor of Philosophy at the University of Chicago since arriving here (from the University of Pittsburgh) in the fall of 1999 and appointed the David B. and Clara E. Stern Professor of Philosophy in 2006. He held a bachelor’s degree (in physics) from Harvey Mudd College (1966) and a PhD from U.C. Berkeley (1976). His main interests included (early) Heidegger, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind (including cognitive science), philosophy of language, “and stuff like that.” He is the author of *Artificial Intelligence: The Very Idea* (MIT 1986) and *Having Thought* (Harvard 1998); the editor of *Mind Design* (MIT 1981; second edition, 1997); and co-editor (with Jim Conant) of Thomas Kuhn’s *The Road Since Structure* (Chicago 2000).

John Haugeland passed away on June 23, 2010. **Obituary webpage:** philosophy.uchicago.edu/faculty/haugeland-obituary.html

**Guest Book:** lucian.uchicago.edu/blogs/haugeland/2010/06/28/guest-book/#respond

**The John Haugeland Memorial Fund for Undergraduates** was established to provide undergraduate students at the University of Chicago an opportunity to work as research assistants with the Department of Philosophy’s faculty.

For more information, and to contribute to the fund: lucian.uchicago.edu/blogs/haugeland/about/
First-Year Rory O’Connell submitted the winning entry for our newsletter’s name.