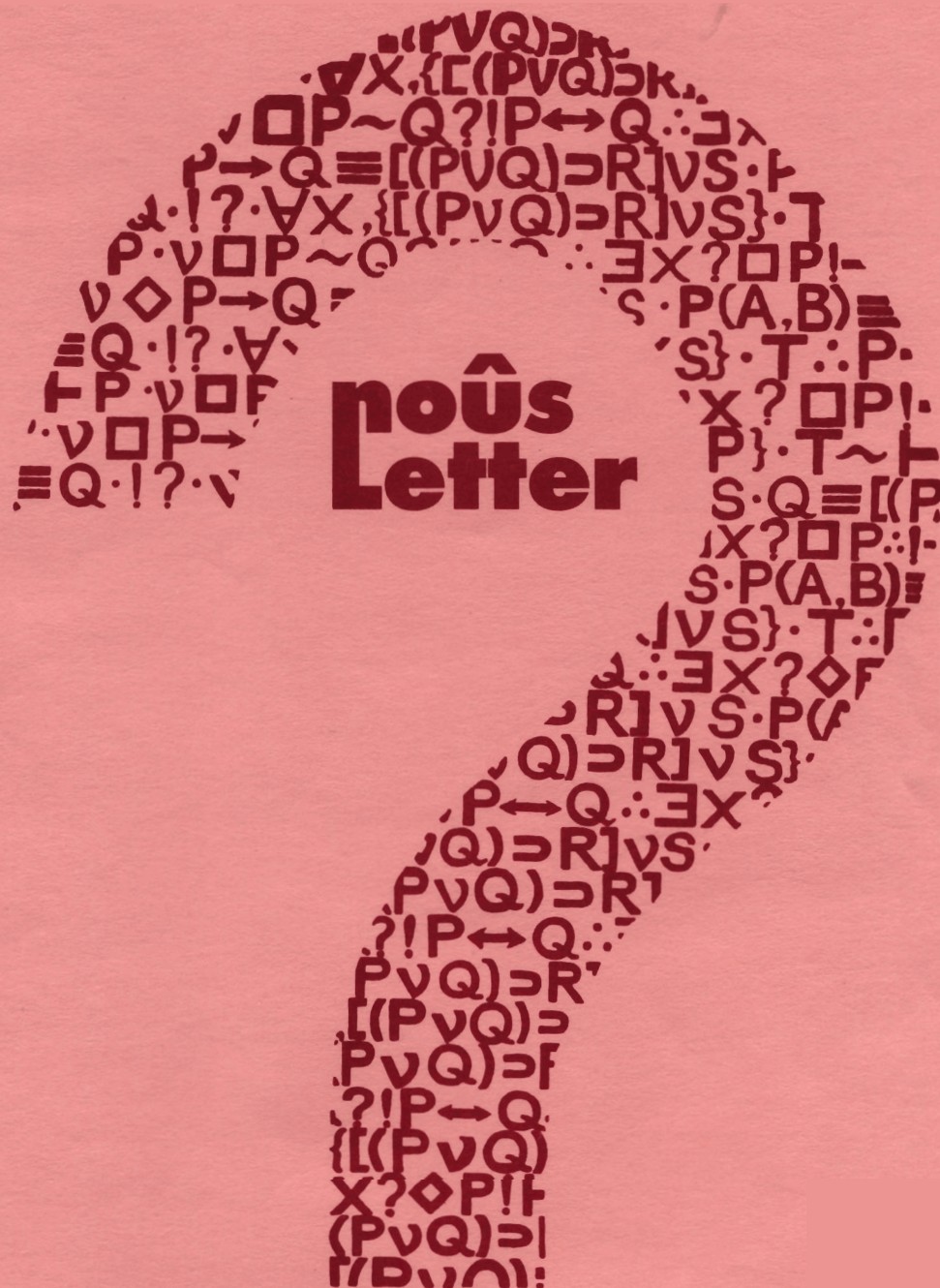


STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO



NOÛSLETTER

No. 5

December 1992

Campus Unrest, 1968-70 UB Philosophers

Former UB Vice President Richard A. Siggelkow has recently published Dissent and Disruption: A University Under Siege (Prometheus, 1991). A number of philosophy faculty figure in this account of unrest at UB between the mid-60's and 1972:

Paul Kurtz. Professor Kurtz, whose publishing house issued the book, is often quoted at length. Siggelkow notes that "[T]he views of Kurtz--a consistent advocate for early intervention of outside authority to protect education from unjustified assault--remain unchanged after twenty years. He remembers his hate mail and threatening phone calls in 1970, and being shouted down and prevented from teaching by chanting demonstrators, who rattled bats and clubs around his classroom windows" (p. 186).

William Baumer. "Baumer firmly believes today that outside police in sufficient force to control such situations should be immediately employed. 'The mob literally drove the police off campus with stones and anything they could find for weapons,' he recalls, 'At one point within two minutes they totally dismantled a wooden dugout at the baseball field to get weapons to attack the retreating police. I fully expected to see shooting, and had a Buffalo police officer gone down we would have had serious student casualties then and there'" (p. 155).

Newton Garver. "Philosophy Professor Newton Garver (1989) feels that Meyerson's position was impossible and untenable. 'He was a president designed for good times, who was caught up with the rest of us in the intense difficulties that grew out of the terrible Vietnam conflict,' explains Garver,

who remains one of a small number of Meyerson proponents." (p. 136).

The Faculty 45. An entire chapter (XII) is devoted to the case of "The Faculty 45," four of whom were members of the Philosophy Department. These faculty were arrested for a sit-in to protest the continued police presence on campus. Newsweek as well as the Buffalo newspapers carried articles on the 45. An accompanying photo showed philosopher **Charles Pailthorp** among those peering from behind bars at the downtown police precinct. **Kenneth Barber** recalls the trip to the police station and "swears that his van deliberately took a short cut down some railroad tracks" (p. 209). Siggelkow reports that, "[a]lthough not handcuffed, the 45 were photographed, fingerprinted, searched (their pockets turned inside out), and all personal belongings, including belts and neckties were impounded. The unkindest cut of all for those who relied on them was the loss of their spectacles. [James] Lawler said that 'he shuffled around myopically while holding up my trousers'" (p. 210).

Peter Hare. Hare's recollections of Robert Cohen (described by Siggelkow as "a standardized conception of an irresponsible radical") are quoted at length. "I was Director of Graduate Studies in Philosophy when Cohen applied. Since he had been dismissed from the University of Wisconsin for his political activities, it was apparent from the beginning that my decision would be controversial. His academic credentials were recognized by the Admissions and Financial Aid Committee to be high enough to justify admission with aid. He also had a strong letter of support from a distinguished philosopher at Wisconsin. On the matter of his dismissal, we had a supportive letter from the Assistant Dean of the Wisconsin Law School. I felt strongly that the decision should be made solely on the basis of



Chuck Pailthorp (second from right) peering from behind bars
at the downtown Buffalo police precinct

Cohen's intellectual credentials, which were solid....We resolved to take whatever flack resulted from the decision. Not surprisingly, Bill Baumer became upset....and tried without success to prevent Cohen from coming to Buffalo....I found [Cohen] to be bright and easy to talk to when the subject was not politics. Perhaps because of my role in his admission he always treated me considerately. However, one needs no confidence in psychoanalysis to recognize that Bob had a traumatic effect on my psyche. For some ten years after his dismissal from UB I had (with gradually decreasing frequency) dreams in which Cohen was the central figure. In the dream I was seated in an airport waiting for a flight. Bob and a couple of his militant colleagues came up to me and calmly said, 'Peter, it's your turn....' I understood that statement to mean that it was time for my execution and that's when I always awoke from the dream" (pp. 162-163).

"One of the World's Leading Skeptics"

Prometheus Books has just published Emeritus Professor **Paul Kurtz's** The New Skepticism. The jacket blurb begins: "In this provocative book, philosopher Paul Kurtz, one of the world's leading skeptics, explores the dimensions of the 'new skepticism,' which he labels 'skeptical inquiry'. An outgrowth of pragmatism, skeptical inquiry differs from earlier forms of skepticism, Kurtz argues, because its motivation is inquiry rather than doubt. Thus the new skepticism is constructive rather than negative."

Faculty News...

Paul Kurtz Elected Fellow

Paul Kurtz, professor emeritus, was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the

Advancement of Science during the February 10 meeting of the AAAS Council.

AAAS Fellows are those members "whose efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications are scientifically or socially distinguished."

Professor Kurtz was cited "for research, publications, service to the profession, and communicating and interpreting science to the public," according to Richard S. Nicholson, executive officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Philosophy and Its History Issues in Philosophical Historiography

"Professor [Jorge J.E.] Gracia's book," as described by George R. Lucas, Jr. editor of the SUNY series in philosophy, "is a stunning tour de force, a brilliant scholarly achievement. It will serve to define the future practice of philosophy, both in this country and abroad. No serious philosopher or intellectual historian can afford to be without this remarkable book."

1992 John N. Findlay Prize

Jorge J.E. Gracia has been awarded the 1992 John N. Findlay Prize by the Metaphysical Society of America for his book Individuality: An Essay on the Foundations of Metaphysics (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1988).

The award established in 1990 in honor of the late John Findlay will be made every three years by the Society to recognize "an exceptional work in metaphysics, rooted in the historical traditions of western philosophy."

Newton Garver visited Moscow in May and delivered three lectures, two at the Institute of Philosophy and one at Moscow University. In October he took part in a two-day conference on "Nonviolence: Theory into Practice" at Elon College in North Carolina.

Kah Kyung Cho will serve as one of three General Editors of a new international phenomenological series that will be inaugurated starting spring 1993. The series aims at unifying and systematizing phenomenological researches that have become somewhat unoverseeable in recent decades. It also brings together scholars of various nationalities and geographical regions to cooperate as closely coordinated teams. Annually two volumes will be published in English and German. Publisher is Karl Alber Verlag in Freiburg, Germany.

Osaka University is celebrating its 50th anniversary in July 1993. On this occasion, its Faculty of Letters is hosting an international symposium under the title: Anticipated World Picture of 21st Century. Cho is among five invited speakers from overseas (U.S., Germany and France).

Kenneth Inada Named Distinguished Service Professor

Last spring the SUNY Board of Trustees named **Kenneth Inada** Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy. Over more than 20 years no one at UB has done more than Professor Inada to foster constructive contacts between the cultures of West and East. Often this has been done with little public recognition. Only recently has the importance of the countries of the Pacific Rim become generally appreciated. Long before it became popular, Dr. Inada was working tirelessly to promote communication between America and Asia. Striving always to follow Buddhist principles, he has devoted his career to the improvement of what he calls the "spiritual contract" between East and West.

Dr. Inada founded the SUNY Press Series in Buddhist Studies and edited some 30 volumes in the series. This series is generally considered the most important one in Oriental thought in the world. The single most internationally influential piece of work Inada has done is his translation and commentary on Nagarjuna's *Mulamad Hyamakarikas*. Scholars throughout the world consider this work seminal in Western studies of Nagarjuna.

Dr. Inada served two terms (1972-74, 1974-76) as president of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Also noteworthy is his election as the first non-Chinese President of the International Society for Chinese Philosophy.

In March of 1991 Inada received a prize that indicated unmistakably the magnitude of the international impact of his career. For only the second time in 150 years of giving the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai Cultural Award, the Japanese Association for the Promotion of Buddhism presented the award to an American. At an elaborate ceremony in Japan attended by prominent diplomats as well as scholars from many Asian nations Inada was recognized as one of the foremost authorities on Buddhism in the world. Photos of the occasion show that it was an impressive event in which the men (including Professor Inada) wore formal diplomatic attire of the last century, while the women (including Masako Inada) wore full length formal gowns.

New Faculty

Pablo DeGreiff joined our faculty as an assistant professor this fall. A native of Bogota, Colombia, he is a 1986 honors graduate of Yale who is completing at Northwestern a dissertation on "Temporal Aspects of the Representation of the Moral Point of View". A specialist in ethics, he is also interested in social and political philosophy, ancient philosophy, modern

Buddha, Kamakura, Japan



Award Ceremony: Kenneth Inada
receiving certificate from Dr. G. Nagao

philosophy, Habermas, and Spanish and Latin American philosophy. He has published in Spanish two articles in Ideas y Valores and a third in Sistema #92.

Mariam Thalos will join our faculty as an assistant professor next fall. Egyptian-born, she is a 1984 honors graduate (in Physics) of Pomona. She has earned also an M.A. in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary (1986), an M.A. in Philosophy from the University of Rochester (1988) and a Ph.D. in Philosophy (1992) from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a dissertation on "Measurement and Macroscopic Quantities". A specialist in philosophy of physics (especially quantum and statistical mechanics), philosophy of science, theories of identity, moral philosophy and feminist theory (especially epistemology and philosophy of science), she is also competent in beginning and intermediate logic (including metatheory), philosophy of logic, history of philosophy of science, probability and rational belief, decision theory, ancient philosophy, philosophy of religion, philosophy of mind, epistemology and metaphysics, and elementary mechanics and quantum mechanics. She is co-author of "Against Conditionalization" in Synthese and has presented various papers in philosophy of science and philosophy of mathematics at professional meetings.

Hourani Prize

The Hourani prize in ethics was awarded this year to **Michael Rhodes**.

Joseph Grassi (Ph.D. 1960)

In Marvin Farber's seminars particular graduate students were selected for "volunteering" to prepare different subjects. Joe Grassi was chosen by Farber always to be the volunteer on free-will issues. Finally one summer afternoon, Joe questioned the

professor about this "volunteering." Farber claimed that he knew early on that Joe Grassi was predetermined to be a free-will guy. Joe has manifested that mark in all of his activities.

In 1951 Joe Grassi took a full time position with the LaSalle University philosophy department. Within a short time Joe decided to dedicate himself to the profession of philosophy and to seek a Ph.D. His employment at LaSalle demanded his full attention for 9 months of the year. The possibility for doctoral work began when he discovered that Marvin Farber at the University of Buffalo taught graduate seminars every summer. In the summer of 1952, Joe began his studies with lawyers, high school teachers and other mature scholars as fellow graduate students in Farber's summer seminars. Farber's colleagues attended individual sessions on topics of interest to them: a psychologist participating on psychological and epistemological topics, a scientist or mathematician on issues of scientific method, etc.

The U.B. philosophy department demanded of all its students a course in symbolic logic. None were available at U.B. in the summer terms. The requirement was a graduate requirement and no school in the Philadelphia area allowed students in such courses unless they had been admitted to the school's graduate program. So Joe made application and was accepted in the graduate program at Bryn Mawr for the sole purpose of taking a single course; Hughes LeBlanc's symbolic logic course.

As Joe grew to know Marvin Farber he realized that this great phenomenologist was a great human being. Farber cared very much about the personal life of those whom he prepared for a career in philosophy. Ph.D. candidates wrote reviews for *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, received support for and guidance with fellowships received outside U.B.; and encouragement to pursue life activities beyond the professional and the academic.

Joe was very taken by Marvin Farber's home office. In the midst of the Farber study was a large two-sided desk: one side always reserved for and covered with Farber's current writing project, the opposite side used for all other activities.

When Joe was awarded a two year fellowship by the Italian Government and needed time to go to the University of Perugia, before his work at the University of Florence, Marvin Farber made arrangements in the seminar so Joe could leave before the course was completed. And two years later when Joe came back to U.B. now loaded with Croce lore, Farber was ready with a supporting committee to guide Joe's final 18 months as a graduate student.

Joe took a position teaching full time at Rochester Institute of Technology and began commuting the 120 miles as a full time graduate student. Joe did not take a preparation course for the French language examination. He was sent to the office of a professor of French. She selected a volume and asked Joe to read a section, and then examined him. Fortunately for both of them it was a text of Auguste Comte, with some Latin and Greek that Joe knew better than the French. At the end of the examination the Professor said, in a heavy accent "oh! that my French graduate students understood so well." Joe was very grateful that he had recently done work in English on Comte. For his second language examination, he was sent to the home of an adjunct who taught Italian.

The second reader for Joe's dissertation on the social and political philosophy of Croce was William Parry, whose initial reading of the first version of the first chapter was so effective at catching Joe's attention via red ink, that never again did Parry have to read so critically. The oral examination of Joe's dissertation was attended by a member of the French department who had told Farber that he had some reservations about the dissertation and about Croce, Farber reserved those objections for Joe to have as a kind of a dessert at the very end of the

examination. The rest of the committee, Marvin Farber and Joe remembered and re-enjoyed those last minutes for many years. Many of us have had Joe enjoy such moments over our objections to what he has written, said or done during the fullness of his career.

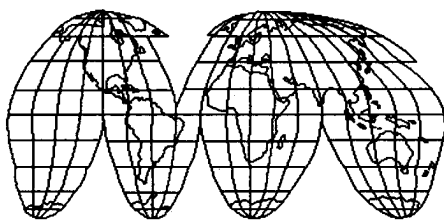
Joe Grassi came to Fairfield University in 1961, the first lay philosopher in this Jesuit institution. He deliberately and carefully build a pluralistic department, in every sense of pluralism: phenomenological, analytic, Thomistic, Chinese, Chicago interdisciplinary studies; Columbia, Bryn Mawr, New School, Chicago, Toronto, Vanderbilt; East Coast, West Coast, Deep South, European, Oriental, women (before the drive for affirmative action). He sought, and in one case continued to seek, the academics he wanted until they accepted their appointment.

The Joe Grassi that many know as a principal founder and member of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, of the Conference of Philosophical Societies, and of the Pluralist Group, has carried that same sense of humor, steadfastness, and joy of life throughout his career. Although retired from teaching, the excitement of the life of philosophy is still manifest in all his activities.

King Dykeman
Fairfield University

A comment by **Professor Hare** to his Pragmatism graduate class, January 21, 1992.

"It's unreadable. That's not to say that it's not philosophy...."



News About Our Graduates

Arnold Berleant (Ph.D. 1962) has forthcoming in 1992: The Aesthetics of Environment (Philadelphia: Temple University Press).

Environmental aesthetics is an emerging discipline that explores the meaning and influence of environmental perception and experience on human life. Arguing for the idea that environment is not merely a setting for people but fully integrated and continuous with us, The Aesthetics of Environment explores the aesthetic dimensions of the human-environmental continuum in both theoretical terms and concrete situations. From outer space to the museum, from architecture to landscape, from city to countryside to wilderness, this book discovers in the aesthetic perception of environment the reciprocity that constitutes both person and place.

George Boger (Ph.D. 1976) has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at Canisius College.

Kisor Chakrabarti (Ph.D. 1975) is beginning the first year of a two-year NEH research grant for a comparative study of Indian and Greek logic on the nature of definition and induction. This continues the comparative study of Indian logic that he began with his doctoral dissertation twenty years ago. He uses the libraries at Duke and

Chapel Hill, and lives with Chandana (Ph.D. 1975) and their two children near Elon College, where Chandana teaches in the Religious Studies Department.

Joseph Ferrandino (Ph.D. 1979) works with Psychotherapy and Employees Assistance Consultants in Tampa, Florida. His practice as a psychotherapist continues to thrive, Joe reports, and he is "very grateful for [his] philosophy training in that regard. After all, the history of psychology was really the history of philosophy before Freud! Since I also teach counseling part-time at the University of South Florida, this larger perspective is extremely helpful." He enclosed a copy of The Tao of Therapy, which he describes as "some of my musings on the philosophy of psychology".

Ranjoo Herr (Ph.D. 1992) presented "An Examination of the Care Perspective: Is Its Claim of Regarding Others 'Thickly' Plausible?" at the Tri-State Philosophical Association Spring 1992 meeting.

John M. Lincourt (Ph.D. 1972) was named North Carolina Professor of the Year by the Washington-based Council for the Advancement and Support of Education for his outstanding commitment to undergraduate teaching, contributions to students' lives and service to his institution. The Charlotte Observer reports that "former students praise Lincourt for permanently changing their lives. 'He was the first professor to show me that how one thinks is as important as what one thinks,' says one former student".

Peter T. Manicas (Ph.D. 1963), named Romanell Lecturer for 1992, delivered his lecture, "Nature and Culture," at a meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division) on March 27 in Portland, Oregon. The first two paragraphs of the lecture interestingly relate his topic to his Buffalo training:

My title intends to associate my effort with Dewey's Experience

and Nature, better titled, he later thought, Culture and Nature. My main interest is to reconsider naturalism in the light of recent debates in the philosophy of the social sciences. I motivate this with a brief genealogy.

My teacher at Buffalo, Marvin Farber, often quoted the definition of naturalism of his teacher, Ralph Barton Perry: It was, simply, the generalization of the sciences. The idea is sufficiently serviceable for some purposes, but of course, it leaves much out, including, both how these sciences are to be conceived and how they are related. Farber, a student of Husserl was founder of Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, and through this important journal, he was also a close associate of Patrick Romanell. People are still surprised when I tell them that Farber's 'uncautious' naturalism--which included deep sympathies with Marxism--were directed squarely at phenomenology. Another of my teachers at Buffalo, William T. Parry, was a founder of Science and Society. As I later discovered, my philosophical views owe to him as well."

Woosuk Park (Ph.D. 1988) received the Seo-Woo Philosophy Prize given annually for the best philosophical article published in Korea. "Scotus, Frege and Bergmann" published in Philosophy: Journal of the Korean Philosophical Association is the prize-winning essay.

Woosuk's publications have received much attention in this country as well. Allan B. Wolter, in Duns Scotus' Early Oxford Lecture on Individuation notes that Park "has published several important articles on various aspects of Scotus' theory of individuation...that together give an excellent analysis of Scotus' conception of haecceity".

Toni Paterson (Ph.D. 1966) died November 6, aged 71. The Buffalo News published an obituary:

....The blunt-talking professor was a favorite among students at Buffalo State College where she taught from 1968 until her retirement in 1990. She taught at the University at Buffalo from 1965 to 1968.

In 1975 she received the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

"They all wanted to be in her class," said her twin sister, Mary "Carmela" Steele of Niagara Falls. "She never stopped learning. She got her doctorate by going to night school for several years. And as a registered nurse, she saw the whole student, and if she sensed they had a problem she'd talk to them after class."

In 1984, Mrs. Paterson was chosen overwhelmingly by Buffalo State students to be the first speaker in a "last lecture" series, which would sum up each speaker's teaching career.

During her lecture, she said everyone has a self and what she called the "unself"--other people's needs, which the self tries to ignore.

"The unself is too powerful to be silent, too powerful to be locked out," she said. "This is when you have psychosis, neurosis, and you have boredom."

Earlier in her career, Mrs. Paterson held many positions in rehabilitation counseling, most notably with the Erie County Department of Social Services and Erie County Home and Infirmary from 1957 to 1964.

Born in Utica, she came here in 1940 to study nursing with her twin sister at the former E.J. Meyer Hospital, becoming a registered nurse in 1943.

At UB, she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1958, a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling in 1961 and a doctorate in philosophy in 1966.

An ardent student of the Renaissance, she was the author of The Infinite Worlds of Giordano Bruno and Francis Bacon and Socialized Science as well as many scholarly articles....

A memorial service was held December 1st in Butler Library of the State College. Some of her paintings were on display and her favorite jazz was played.

Michael L. Peterson (Ph.D. 1976). The University of Notre Dame Press last spring published The Problem of Evil: Selected Readings, edited with an introduction by Michael Peterson. Mike dedicates the book to his U.B. mentor Edward Madden, "teacher and friend, for his deep insights into the problem of evil. Over many years I have enjoyed and profited from our philosophical conversations on this perennial problem."

Alan Soble (Ph.D. 1976) founder of the Society for Philosophy of Sex and Love is stepping down from the presidency after 15 years.

Daryl (McGowan) Tress (Ph.D. 1983) has an article forthcoming entitled: "The Metaphysical Science of Aristotle's Generation of Animals and Its Feminist Critics." The article will appear in the December 1992 issue of Review of Metaphysics.

Xianglong Zhang (Ph.D. 1992) has been appointed Assistant Professor in The Institute of Foreign Philosophy, Peking University, Beijing, People's Republic of China.



Can you guess the name of this Mystery Philosopher? (Answer on last page.)



Berman, Michael P.	B.A. SUNY Binghamton (1990) Interests: Phenomenology, Philosophy of Mind
Berne, Joseph C.	B.A. SUNY Buffalo (1992) Interests: Ethics, Continental Philosophy
Belles, David W.	B.A. Roberts Wesleyan College (1990) M.A. Western Kentucky University (1992) Interests: Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysics
Carroll, Jennifer	B.A. University of California at Davis (1992) Interests: Logic, Philosophy of Mathematics, Feminism, Animal Rights
Clune, Alan C.	B.S. Worcester Polytechnic Institute (1988) M.S. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1992) Interests: Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, Metaphysics
Fantl, Jeremy	B.A. Brandeis University (1992) Interests: Metaphysics, Ontology
Imperi, Sharon A.	B.A. SUNY College at Buffalo (1992) Interests: Metaphysics, Logic, Philosophy of Logic, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mathematics, Epistemology
Irwin, William T.	B.A. Fordham University (1992) Interests: Existentialism, History of Philosophy
Kim, Seon-Wook	B.A. Soongsil University-Seoul (1983) M.A. Soongsil University (1985) Interests: German Idealism, Critical Theory, Social and Political Philosophy
Kirwan, Christine M.	B.A. SUNY College at Geneseo (1992) Interests: Metaphysics, Leibniz, Kant, Feminism, Perception
Koepsell, David R.	B.A. SUNY Buffalo (1990) Interests: Philosophy of Economics, Philosophy of Science
Longo, Darren R.	B.A. Cornell University (1989) Interests: Philosophy of Language, Ethics

New Graduates (con't)...

Paradise, Paula M.	B.A. SUNY Albany (1985) Interests: Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind
Skelley, Patrick J.	B.A. University of Pittsburgh (1992) Interests: Comparative Philosophy, Environmental Ethics
Soper, Joyce E.	B.A. SUNY Buffalo (1992) Interest: Social and Political Philosophy
Zaibert, Leonardo	J.D. Universidad Santa Maria-Caracas (1989) Interests: Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of History, Theory of Knowledge

Une Soirée Chez William James

We expect current graduate student **Tim Madigan** to become a celebrity on the Left Bank. The one-act play he wrote for the 1990 Buffalo Conference on "The American Philosophical Tradition as Interpreted and Used in Other Countries" has been translated as Une Soirée Chez William James by the eminent French philosopher Gérard Deledalle and will soon be printed by a French publisher.

Judy's Cruise News

Judy Wagner reluctantly left for a seven-day Caribbean cruise in October. Of course, she had to be pushed out the door by staff members and agreed to go only when Ken Barber promised to fax her daily departmental work to the ship. Her postcard to the office from San Juan extolling the ship, the weather, the shows and the lack of sleep ends with "Have to go, my piña colada is waiting. See you in a couple of days."

Dedication of (Unofficial) William T. Parry Room

After many names were suggested for the room we created as an office for the graduate groups associated with the Philosophy Department, it seemed best to adopt the suggestion that we name it after the late Professor Parry, who played a major role in the history of the Department. A dedication party was held on August 20th. at which Professor Parry's widow, daughter and grandson were present. The Chair led everyone in a champagne toast to Bill Parry and his family. He also announced that the Parry family had made the Department a gift of funds for a graduate student prize [co-winners later selected were **Lesley Friedman** and **Steven Shaw**].

An explanation is needed of why 'Unofficial' appears on a 1" X 6" removable plaque above 'William T. Parry Room' on the 8" X 10" brass plaque on the door. Thanks to meddling by the UB Foundation, the Provost's Office decided that we cannot be permitted to name the room until the University has developed an official policy governing such naming of rooms, spaces, etc. Since it may be several years before such a policy emerges, it was decided to circumvent the authorities by using 'Unofficial'. When, and if, a policy is adopted and our naming request is approved, the double-faced adhesive will allow us easily to remove 'Unofficial'.

An Historical Note

Charles Lambros has brought to our attention that William T. Parry's work in modal logic is twice mentioned in Rudolf Carnap's Logische Syntax der Sprache (Vienna, 1934). Parry was 26 years old at the time of these citations in what became one of the classics of twentieth century philosophy.

It Was a Dark and Stormy Night

We take pride in the range of talents found among the members of the Department. The latest talent discovered is the ability of Assistant to the Chair **Eva Koepsell** to write deliciously bad prose. She has won (dis)honorable mention in the annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest by composing "the opening sentence to the worst of all possible novels":

His heart fluttering, he felt the familiar intoxicating sense of power verging on awe as strains of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" drifted into his consciousness, rising in its stirring crescendo, confirming to the core of his being the absolute art of what he was about to do, and with an electrifying thrill shuddering through his body, Dr. Forquin thrust the liposuction tube deftly and deeply into Mrs. Mulch's bulbous left buttock.

Her winning entry appears in the "In Dubious Taste" section of It Was a Dark and Stormy Night: The Final Conflict, edited by Scott Rice and published by Penguin Books.

Prometheus Lectures

The Prometheus Lecture Series continues this year (1993) with Professor Kurt Baier.

"Three Questions of Life and Death"

1. March 22, 1:00 - 4:30 P.M., Symposium with Kurt Baier, Lawrence Thomas, Claudia Card, Newton Garver, at 200 The Commons. A wine and cheese reception will follow at 5 P.M.

March 22, 8 P.M., Lecture by Kurt Baier entitled "Death and the Good Life" at the Center for Tomorrow.

2. March 23, 3 - 5 P.M., Lecture by Kurt Baier entitled "Wrongful Death" to held at 280 Park Hall.
3. March 24, 3 - 5 P.M., Lecture by Kurt Baier entitled "Wrongful Life" scheduled in 684 Baldy Hall.

Kurt E. Baier has held teaching positions at the University of Melbourne, The Australian National University, and is now Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh. He was President of the Eastern Division and Chairman of the National Board of Officers of the APA. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has written widely in philosophy of mind, in moral, legal, and political philosophy. He is best known for his book, The Moral Point of View.

The Prometheus Lectures are delivered each year by a distinguished philosopher and are presented by Prometheus Books in conjunction with the Philosophy Department.

Conferences...

SUNY/Buffalo GPA Sponsors Conference

The Graduate Philosophy Association of the State University of New York at Buffalo is sponsoring a conference, DIVISION AND DIALOGUE: The Analytic-Continental Split and the History of Philosophy, to be held at The State University of New York at Buffalo on APRIL 24, 1993. The Keynote Speaker will **Jorge J.E. Gracia** (Philosophy, SUNY at Buffalo) and the Respondent will be Rodolphe Gasché (Comparative Literature, SUNY at Buffalo). For more information contact Gordon Snow, Department of Philosophy, SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York 14260 or Michael Gorman, Internet (V5875BZA@UBVMS.CC.BUFFALO.EDU).

The Fourth Annual Western New York and Southern Ontario Undergraduate Philosophy Conference will be held on SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1993, 10 A.M. - 3 P.M. at 280 Park Hall, SUNY at Buffalo, Amherst Campus. Papers should be 10-15 pages in length and may address any topic in the field of philosophy. The conference is open to both majors and non-majors in philosophy. The conference is free and open to the public. A complimentary deli lunch will be provided. Papers should be sent to: Prof. Peter H. Hare, Department of Philosophy, Baldy Hall, SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14620. Deadline for submissions is MARCH 5, 1993.

Volunteers are needed to make 10 minute commentaries on the papers. If you wish to be a commentator or desire further information, contact Tim Madigan at (716)636-7571.

The Monist Colloquium at Wingspread European Philosophy and the American Academy

February 12-14, 1993

A conference on the influence of Jacques Derrida and of French philosophy and literary theory on American universities and disciplines, under the auspices of *The Monist: An International Journal of General Philosophical Inquiry* will be held at the Wingspread conference facility, a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed villa-complex in Racine, Wisconsin.

Scholars attending the conference include Pascal Engel (Paris), J. Claude Evans (Washington University), **Newton Garver** (Buffalo), **Jorge Gracia** (Buffalo), Gerald Graff (Chicago), Christopher Norris (Cardiff), Tomas Pavel (Princeton), Herman Philipse (Leiden), and Dallas Willard (University of Southern California). Also in attendance will be a number of academic administrators and education policy-makers.

Conference director: **Barry Smith**
(International Academy of Philosophy and
State University of New York at Buffalo).

Conference coordinator: **Todd Volker**
(Hegeler Institute).

The Gallaghers Survive QE2 Collision in High Style

Neil Gallagher, a faculty member in the late 60's and early 70's, and his wife Sarah were on the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth 2 when it struck a rock near Martha's Vineyard. Their experiences were written up by Robert George of the Times Record in Maine. Below are excerpts from that newspaper account.

Neil Gallagher took another bite of his Romanoff Strawberries marinated in Grand Marnier. Scrumptious! His wife Sarah sipped her coffee. The captain came over the loudspeaker to announce the ship had hit some sort of underwater obstruction. Mr. Gallagher took another bite of his Romanoff Strawberries. Mrs. Gallagher sipped her coffee.

Disaster at sea just ain't what it used to be.

"The QE2 cocktail," Mr. Gallagher quipped. "Everything on the rocks--shaken up."

Quite amusing. Pass the champagne, please.

The Gallaghers finished up a wonderful meal--disturbed only once by a large minute-long vibration followed by the captain's timely announcement.

"He said the ship had hit an underwater obstruction in his best British accent." Mrs. Gallagher said.

"We had a momentary flash of fright, but the captain said we're in no harm so we went right on eating dinner and talking to our table companions."

Then they went on deck to see what was up. They saw Coast Guard helicopters mostly, and there were some rescue cutters circling the luxury liner. It was then they realized the crash was probably more than a bump in the night.

But it was a calm and sultry summer evening. The Gallaghers, happy to be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary, slept soundly.

"There was probably more danger from the rich food on the ship than the crash," said Mr. Gallagher.

The next morning they awoke, ate breakfast and listened to the ship's social director outline a day of activities especially designed for the survivors. Everyone survived. All 1,815 passengers. But they'd have to spend a few extra hours on board.

"Let's face it, there are worse things in life than being stuck on the QE2," said Mrs. Gallagher.

We wish to thank all those who have supported this department through their donations to the various funds: Farber, Hourani, Perry, Steinberg, Donovan, etc.

During these times of severe budget cutbacks, we will be even more dependent on continued donations in order to provide additional support to our students, scholars and visiting professors for travel reimbursement, honoraria and colloquia, among other needs. You may also wish to specify that future donations be deposited in the "UBF Philosophy Department Resource Fund" as a means for the department to use the monies provided as it deems most urgent.

Again we thank you for your past donations and continued support.

Please send material you wish to be included in future Noûsletters to: The Philosophy Department, 607 Baldy Hall, SUNY-Buffalo, Amherst, NY 14260.

CREDITS

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