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A 17th Century Look at Religion and Politics

Michael Rosenthal, Associate Professor

In a letter dated sometime in 1665 Benedict Spinoza wrote from Amsterdam to a friend in London that he was working on a book on Scripture that would attack the prejudices of the theologians, defend himself against the charge of atheism, and uphold the freedom to philosophize. When the book was published anonymously in 1670 as the *Tractatus Theologico-Politicus* (or TTP for short) it was almost immediately banned and viciously criticized. Some philosophers, like Leibniz, read it and rejected outright its scandalous views. Others admired it, albeit with some qualifications. Thomas Hobbes was reported by his biographer to have said after reading it, "I durst not write so boldly." Why was this book so controversial? Why is this work philosophically interesting? In what way might it be relevant to our contemporary situation?

Spinoza certainly chose an odd way to defend himself against the charge of atheism. The TTP is relentlessly critical of the claims of traditional religion. He starts off the book with an attack on traditional philosophical interpretations of the sources of revelation. Prophets are not philosophers, and Scripture is not philosophy. Rather, prophets have vivid imaginations, and Scripture is not a source of truth and wisdom about nature but a guide to proper conduct in the social realm. In the notorious sixth chapter Spinoza argues that, given the idea of a perfect, necessarily existing God, miracles, conceived as exceptions to the natural order, are metaphysically impossible. Because men are ignorant and unable to explain some natural event, they are quick to suppose that a supernatural cause was responsible. Just as he hoped to de-mystify the content of Scripture, Spinoza also sought to call into question its origin. Historical and linguistic analysis shows that Scripture itself is not a divine gift but rather a human artifact written and composed by several authors and editors over time.

The point of Spinoza's critique of Scripture was not merely an academic exercise but was an attempt to intervene in a political crisis. The Dutch Republic was in the midst of a bitter conflict, in which the powerful merchant class was being challenged by the traditional aristocracy (the House of Orange) who wanted to establish a monarchy. The Orangists found an eager ally in the clergy of the dominant Dutch Reformed Church.

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The political conflict was thus dressed up in theological garments. Like many protestant countries in the early modern period the populace sought guidance in Scripture, going so far as to identify themselves as the new Israelites. The political parties sought to gain adherents and bolster their authority through an appeal to Scripture and divine right. In this way the interpretation of Scripture itself became a political battleground. Spinoza's strategy to aid the anti-monarchical forces of the Dutch Republic was twofold. First, by poking holes in the traditional interpretation of Scripture, Spinoza hoped to undermine the clergy's claim to a special role in politics. Second, Spinoza was one of the first to offer a philosophical defense of democracy as the ideal form of government. Since Plato, philosophers had condemned democracy as the unstable rule of the mob. Even Hobbes, who used the new mechanism of the social contract to challenge the divine right of rulers, thought that an absolute monarchy was the best way to ensure social stability. But Spinoza's radical defense of democracy fit well with a decentralized Dutch state anxious to defend its religious and commercial liberties.

What can we learn from the study of this text? Other than the value of knowing the historical genealogy of the enlightenment critique of religion and the modern ideas of a democratic social contract, we can find some philosophical lessons.

First, we find some important arguments about the extent and nature of religious toleration. Spinoza is often lauded as one of the first to defend the freedom of speech and religion, but that is true in only a limited sense. He did argue for freedom of philosophizing, but he thought that religion was inherently political and required limited state control. Furthermore, the reason he gave for toleration was that the state could not control the thoughts of all its citizens and that any attempt to do so would provoke instability. Some have subsequently argued that toleration is better founded on a respect for the autonomy of individuals rather than on such pragmatic considerations. Nevertheless, Spinoza's solution has the advantage that it does not simply beg the question. When there is deep moral conflict over religion it is unrealistic to expect that both sides will agree to some neutral moral principle to settle their disputes.

Second, we learn about the possible kinds of relations between church and state in the modern world. Some have argued that Spinoza is the founder of the radical

life. But Spinoza never imagined that religion would disappear or that politics could be conducted free of its interference. Instead, he offers us a profound, though debatable, view of the proper relationship of the two in a democratic state.

Spinoza's efforts to defend democracy and religious freedom were ultimately in vain. After the invasion of the French empire caused chaos, the leaders of the Dutch Republic were attacked by a mob and killed. In our own time, we seem to have resolved some of these problems, and we enjoy the benefits of a stable, democratic state. However, as religious conflict both within and outside our society seems to be intensifying, Spinoza's text and the seventeenth century debates it was part of, are a good starting point to reconsider the future of religion in the public realm.

Michael Rosenthal taught a graduate seminar on the Theological-Political Treatise during spring quarter 2006, and is currently working to complete a book on the same subject.

Upcoming Events 2006-07

Conference - Ethics and Climate Change

A mini conference on ethics and climate change is planned for spring 2007. Keynote speakers will be Dale Jamieson (Philosophy and Environmental Studies, New York University) and Henry Shue (International Relations, Oxford University). The conference is being cosponsored by the Program on Values in Society and the Evans School of Public Affairs.

Lecture Series - Critical Medical Humanities

This research cluster is a cross-disciplinary effort that brings together scholars with shared interests in critical and interdisciplinary perspectives on health, illness, and medicine. This year's focus of activities will be around the theme of global health. Three outside speakers (one per quarter) will be invited to give public lectures and participate in classroom discussions and reading groups with faculty and graduate students. Invited speakers include Warwick Anderson (Medical History and Bioethics, University of Wisconsin), Adriana Petryna (Anthropology, New School for Social Research), and Linda Whiteford (Anthropology, University of South Florida).

Upcoming Events cont.

This lecture series is sponsored by the Simpson Center for the Humanities. It was organized by Rachel Chapman (Anthropology), Kelly Fryer-Edwards (Medical History and Ethics), Sara Goering (Philosophy), Linda Nash (History), James Pfeiffer (Health Services), Lorna Rhodes (Anthropology), Helene Starks (Medical History & Ethics), Mark Sullivan (Psychiatry), and Janelle Taylor (Anthropology).

Lecture Series - Environmental Ethics and Policy

The purpose of this lecture series is to raise awareness of how ethics and philosophy can make a practical contribution to the resolution of on-the-ground environmental problems and policies. Six speakers will be included for this series in 2006-2007. Invited speakers to date include David Schmidtz (Philosophy and Economics, University of Arizona), Mark Sagoff (Philosophy and Public Policy, University of Maryland), and Jim Sheppard (Philosophy and Urban Studies, University of Missouri at Kansas City).

This lecture series is sponsored by the Program on Values in Society, the Program on the Environment, and the UW Earth Initiative. It was organized by Stephen Gardiner (Philosophy) and Andrew Light (Philosophy/Evans School of Public Affairs).

Lecture Series - Sovereigns and Subjects: Jewish Political Thought in the 20th Century

This series will explore Jewish perspectives on central paradoxes and limits of modern liberalism and the nation-state; see what is unique about Jewish experience of modern politics in the last 100 years; and find what this experience has in common with other ways of negotiating the nation-state and the modern world order. The first speaker in this series will be David Meyers (History, University of California, Los Angeles).

This lecture series is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences Exchange Program. It was organized by Gad Barzilai (Jackson School of International Studies), Richard Block (Germanics), Susan Glenn (History), Noam Pianko (Jackson School of International Studies), and Michael Rosenthal (Philosophy).

New Course Autumn 2006 - Global Jus-

Theorists of justice conventionally ask only about our duties to fellow citizens. What happens when we remove this limitation of focus? What do we owe to members of foreign communities? To future persons? This course will examine recent philosophical work on these and related questions.

This course is sponsored by the Program on Values in Society. It is being co-taught by Michael Blake (Philosophy/Evans School of Public Affairs) and Stephen Gardiner (Philosophy).

New Course Autumn 2006 - Diagnosing Injustice: Ethics, Power, and Global

To understand and to address illness, we tend to look first to the body of the individual sufferer. Yet if we look instead to global patterns of power and inequality, illness comes into focus as a problem of injustice - and by the same token, it becomes clear how injustice can cause people to sicken, suffer, and die. This course highlights the problem of global health disparities, and introduces students to conceptual tools from medical anthropology and medical ethics for critically analyzing health and illness in global, social, and ethical perspectives.

This Danz Course in the Humanities is sponsored by the Simpson Center for the Humanities. Danz Courses provide unique opportunities to UW first-year students to engage in challenging, cross-disciplinary work. This course will be co-taught by Sara Goering (Philosophy) and Janelle Taylor (Anthropology).

Keyfest!

2007 marks Professor David Keyt's 50th year in the Philosophy Department at the University of Washington. On May 18th and 19th of 2007, a celebration dubbed "Keyfest" is planned. The program is still in the planning stages, but there will be ample opportunities for everyone to participate in some way.

Please make sure to mark your calendars, so that you can help us celebrate David's 50th anniversary at the UW. Check our website as these dates get nearer for more details!

<http://depts.washington.edu/philweb/>

Upcoming Events cont.

2006-2007 Colloquium Series

Oct. 6 - Laura Ruetsche, Philosophy, Pittsburgh
 Oct. 23 - Anita Allen, Law, Univ. of Pennsylvania
 Nov. 9 - Scott Walter, Philosophy, Nancy, France
 Nov. 17 - Chandran Kukathas, Poli Sci, Univ. of Utah
 Dec. 1 - Daniel Garber, Philosophy, Princeton
 March - Noel Carroll, Philosophy, Temple
 April - Carl Craver, Philosophy, Washington Univ.
 May - Henry Shue, International Relations, Oxford
 May - Cheshire Calhoun, Philosophy, Colby College
 May - Robert Pippin, Philosophy, Univ. of Chicago

This is a tentative schedule. Check our website for updates and come join us.

<http://depts.washington.edu/philweb/>

Philosophy's Ethics Bowl Teams

This year's National Ethics Bowl team traveled to Jacksonville, Florida, for the March 2, 2006, competition. Forty teams, representing colleges and universities from around the country competed for the National title. Most of the UW team members were new to Ethics Bowl, but what they lacked in experience, they made up for in enthusiasm. Team members were Kashina Groves (Senior, Environmental Studies and Philosophy), Brandon Lindsay (Senior, Philosophy), Sahar Manavi (Senior, Biology and Philosophy), Dane McCartney (Senior, Philosophy), and Edward Wolcher (Junior, Philosophy). Graduate students Bennett Barr, Andrew Jordan, and Karen Mazner, this year's coaches for the team, were pleased with how the team fared. The team took two out of three rounds... not enough to win a title, but a good showing for a new team.

On April 28-29, the inaugural Northwest Ethics Bowl at the University of Washington was held. For this competition, students addressed issues that included, among others, involuntary psychiatric medication, Sharia courts in Ontario, genetic screening and employment, and Google's censorship agreement with the Chinese government.

The Gadflies (Washington State University) won the title by going undefeated through all five matches. The UW team, Moral Hegemony, came in third after a very close semifinal loss (three points!) to Whitworth College, who finished second. California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, finished in fourth place.

The UW team members were Emily Fischer (Senior, Communications and Philosophy), Jasmine Gallaher (Senior, Philosophy), David Hain (Junior, Philosophy), Matt Jernberg (Senior, Math and Philosophy), and Obaid Quadri (Junior, Math and Philosophy). The team was coached by graduate students Ben Almassi, Renee Conroy, and Karen Mazner.

Volunteers from Boeing, Chairman of the Board (a corporate governance consulting firm), Weyerhaeuser, Seattle University, Cascadia Community College, and the UW served as the judges and moderators. UW philosophy professor, Stephen Gardiner, delivered the keynote address, "A Perfect Moral Storm." The competition was made possible by the generous support of the Friends of Philosophy and the Program on Values in Society. Many thanks to all the generous supporters who make participation in these competitions possible!

Symposium Honors Talbott

Wars, interventions, epidemics, revelations of torture, and controversies over freedom of religion have put the issue of human rights back on the front pages of American newspapers. Is there a moral standard from which we can legitimately critique actions by ourselves and others when human rights violations are raised? Three of the world's leading scholars on human rights discussed these vital topics at a public symposium, "Human Wrongs and Human Rights" on April 10, 2006. The symposium, held at William H. Gates Hall, University of Washington Law School, also celebrated the publication of Professor William Talbott's book, *Which Rights Should Be Universal?*

Featured speakers were Henry Shue (Politics and International Relations, Oxford University), Kok-Chor Tan (Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania), and William Talbott (Philosophy, University of Washington).

The symposium was well attended and very well received. If you would like to view streaming video of this symposium, go to: <http://depts.washington.edu/povins/presentations.html>. This symposium was sponsored by the Program on Values in Society, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Law School, the Comparative Law and Society Studies Center, the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities, The Evans School of Public Affairs, and the Department of Political Science. Professor Andrew Light and Beverly Wessel, our Department Administrator, deserve special thanks for their hard work pulling this symposium together.

Words from the Chair

Kenneth Clatterbaugh, Professor

Sometimes in life you find yourself surprised at where you are, and what you are doing. If anyone had asked me ten years ago when I began my first term as Chair, if I would be signing on as Chair for a third term, I would have said, "No way." But here I am having agreed to another three years as Chair! Quite frankly it is a job that I enjoy. The Department is fortunate to have a fantastic staff, which makes my job as Chair much easier. We have a distinguished and collegial faculty, each of whom is doing interesting and challenging work. Our undergraduate students are among the very best. Many of them are double or triple majors, and they are creative, interesting, and fun to know. Our graduate students never cease to amaze me by demonstrating their growing professionalism in their teaching and research. As Chair, I also get to work closely with the many alumni and friends of philosophy. These generous individuals enable us to do many wonderful things in the areas of student fellowships, student awards, and events. I cannot imagine, anymore, a Department that is disconnected from this group of individuals. It would be impoverished in many ways. And finally, there are the other Chairs and Deans in the Arts and Sciences Office who work so hard and creatively to support the Department in all its endeavors. Thus, when I considered whether to take on a third term as Chair, the decision seemed relatively easy.

Next year will provide two significant challenges. First, the Department is due for its ten-year review, which requires a good bit of work collecting documents and recovering, from the distant past, changes in policy and direction that have greatly affected the Department. Secondly, the remodel of Savery Hall will begin sometime in late 2007, which means this year we all will be getting things ready to move out of Savery and over to Condon Hall. Savery Hall is a grand old building that suffers from common ailments such as inadequate wiring, asbestos paint, and a tendency to crumble a bit during earthquakes. The newly renovated Savery Hall will have none of these features and will be open and airy. If all goes as planned, we will be able to move back to Savery Hall in 2009-2010.

Also in 2006-07, Professor Michael Rosenthal will begin his term as Associate Chair. This new position will rotate between three different faculty in the next few years, thus creating a cadre of people familiar with



Chair abandons retirement for another three years: Island life not what he expected!

the duties of Department Chair. Hopefully, this will make the transition when I DO retire, much more smooth. Michael has kindly agreed to be the first of those who will serve as Associate Chair.

The University itself has gone through many changes this past year. A new President brought in a new Provost. David Hodge, the longtime Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has accepted the presidency of Miami University. He has been a good friend of the Department and a wonderful advocate for the College. David's position as Dean will be filled by Ronald Irving, who studied philosophy as an undergraduate and who helped to create the University of Washington's math/philosophy B.A. Judy Howard has taken over as Divisional Dean for the Social Sciences. She is a very capable administrator, and I feel that we are in good hands with her as our Dean. All of these changes will affect us, and I will be working hard in 2006-07 to educate these new administrators about the needs and goals of the Department.

This summer I hope to be writing. It is the only time that I seem to be able to find time for thoughtful writing. Last summer I finished a chapter for the Oxford Handbook on Causation. This summer I hope to work on some ideas in philosophy of religion, and I will probably give a few lectures on that topic while I am staying at my cabin in Canada. But, I also plan to do some fishing and to encourage my perennials to grow in spite of the threat to their well-being by the local pack rats.

Undergraduate News

New Alumni

It seems like every year we report in this newsletter that we have graduated a record-breaking number of undergraduates. This year was no exception. Once again it was a record-breaking year for philosophy majors! The Department is pleased to announce that 94 undergraduates received philosophy degrees during the 2005-2006 academic year. Eighteen more Philosophy majors completed their degrees over summer term. Two students completed History and Philosophy of Science majors, and one more completed the program over the summer. All 115 graduates were honored at the Department's annual graduation reception June 9th.

The Department would like to thank two of our graduates who spoke at the graduation reception. Angela D. Wallace was the undergraduate guest speaker. Angie gave a humorous speech on the various things she learned in her philosophy classes, which included being invited to "think like a bat," and "dwarf tossing." Julia G. Parker announced the establishment of an annual community service award in honor of her father (see related article on page 10).

Undergraduate Awards and Service

Each year the Undergraduate Affairs Committee names an Outstanding Graduating Senior. This award goes to a member of the graduating class who has maintained one of the top grade points in philosophy and in the University. Students who receive this award are also students who are actively engaged in philosophy and who make a contribution to the study of philosophy. This year's graduating class was so outstanding, that the committee felt it needed to give out two awards. Dane McCartney maintained an outstanding grade point while being an active member of our national ethics bowl team for two years, and an orientation class leader. Cole MacKe, not only won our Outstanding Continuing Scholar award last year, but was a Dean's Medal nominee this year. He graduated this spring with degrees in Philosophy, Physics, and Astronomy.

The committee also named two Outstanding Continuing Scholars. This award goes to a continuing student who has taken a substantial number of philosophy classes and has maintained a sterling grade point. This year's winners are Graham Griffiths and Danielle McKenzie.

Graham and Danielle have also served as the tutors for the departmental writing center. The Department thanks them for the excellent service they provided as tutors over the last year. Danielle and Graham will continue as tutors in the Writing Center when they return from studying abroad this autumn. In the meantime, Arianna Beck has agreed to be the Writing Center tutor.

Four students deserve a special thank you for organizing and leading our New Majors Seminar this past year: Nate Luce, Dane McCartney, Julia Parker, and Angie Wallace.

Thanks to generous donations to the Friends of Philosophy fund, the Department was able to give out two Undergraduate Tuition Awards. One went to Ryan L. Caruso and another went to Shoguna B. Shobir. These awards go to students who maintain good scholarship while working at least 20 hours a week. The award will pay for the students' autumn 2006 tuition. Ryan, who double majors in business, hopes the award will allow him more time to work on applications to law school this autumn. Shoguna B. Shobir, who double majors in psychology, will be applying to philosophy graduate programs.

Congratulations 2005-2006 M.A. & Ph.D. Recipients

M.A.

Monica G. Aufrecht - autumn 2005

Bennett Alan Barr - spring 2006

Karen S. Emmerman Mazner - autumn 2005

Brandon L. Olsen - spring 2006

Cherann Christine Porter - summer 2006

Ph.D.

Stephanie Lynn Patridge - winter 2006

Dissertation: Should We Feel Bad About Feeling Good About Immoral Art? An Argument in Favor of Minimal Moralism.
(Professors Ronald Moore & Paul Taylor)

Faculty News

Michael Blake

This was Michael's first year at the University of Washington, and he enjoyed exploring the opportunities available to him here. He developed several new courses, including one for the Evans School on ethics and public policy, and one in Philosophy on global justice. He hosted Stephen Macedo, head of the Rockefeller Center for Ethics at Princeton University, through the Program on Values in Society, published two papers, and delivered talks at several universities. This summer he presented a paper in Berlin, before teaching for two weeks in Bavaria. Next year, Michael will be giving several papers, and has invited Aaron James of the University of California at Irvine to speak. He will also be giving radio presentations on both the CBC and KUOW. And finally, Michael is planning a book on global justice, which he hopes will be completed by

Ken Clatterbaugh

Ken did a good bit of encyclopedia work this past year. He has a paper coming out in the *Oxford Handbook on Causation*. The paper explores how the early moderns thought about causation. He also has several pieces on gender issues coming out in the *Routledge International Encyclopedia on Men and Masculinities*.

Marc Cohen

Marc spent his sabbatical year of 2005-2006 working on Aristotle, producing three papers. The first, on Aristotle's ontology, is forthcoming in *Metaphilosophy*. The second is a chapter entitled "Substances" that will appear in Blackwell's *Companion to Aristotle*. He is currently completing the third, "Alteration and Persistence: Form and Matter in the *Physics* and *De Generatione et Corruptione*," which will be a part of the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook on Aristotle*.

Arthur Fine

Some of the best rewards come from the success of our students. This year two of Arthur Fine's doctoral students earned distinction. One, from twenty years ago, is David Buller who was named Presidential Research Professor at Northern Illinois University for his work on evolutionary psychology. (See "Adapting Minds," a Scientific American Book Club alternate selection,

roundly praised in the *Wall Street Journal* as well as in specialist reviews.) Another, this year, is Max Schlosshauer, chosen by the Physics Department as a Henderson awardee for an "outstanding dissertation" in physics. Arthur supervised the dissertation, which treats how the "classical" world of our experience emerges from the "weird" world of quantum mechanics ("Quantum-to-Classical Transition: Decoherence and Beyond").

Stephen Gardiner

Steve's edited book, *Virtue Ethics: Old and New*, appeared in July 2005. In the past year, he also published a paper on the precautionary principle in the *Journal of Political Philosophy*, and gave talks at Iowa State University, Lewis and Clark College, San Diego State University, the University of Washington, the American Philosophical Association meeting in Portland, and the Western Political Science meeting in Albuquerque. A number of pieces on climate change and future generations are in progress.

Sara Goering

Sara Goering continues to work on a Greenwall Foundation funded grant (with Kelly Fyer-Edwards and Suzanne Holland) called "Testing Justice" that explores how advances in genetic testing and genomic medicine challenge our traditional conceptions of health care justice. The grant project is partnered with UW's Center for Genetics and Healthcare Equality. Her paper, "Finding and Fostering the Philosophical Impulse in Young People: A Tribute to the Work of Gareth Matthews," will be published in a special edition of *Metaphilosophy* devoted to the work of Gareth Matthews.

Andrew Light

Andrew Light has published three articles, "Objectivity and the Film of Presumptive Assertion," in *Film and Philosophy*; "What is a Pragmatic Philosophy?" in the *Journal of Philosophical Research*; and "Not Out of the Woods: Preserving the Human in Environmental Architecture," in *Environmental Values*. His essay "Environmental Art and the Recovery of Place" was published in the catalogue for the art exhibit, *Groundworks: Environmental Collaboration in Contemporary Art*, held last fall at Carnegie-Mellon University. As a result of that collaboration, Andrew was named a Studio Fellow in Carnegie-Mellon's College of Art. Since fall 2005 he has given eighteen talks at

Faculty, cont.

conferences and various universities including “The Paradox of Ecological Citizenship,” at a workshop at the University of Mannheim, Germany; “Does Nanotechnology Generate Deep Disagreement?” at a UNESCO workshop on nanotechnology at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics; “Environmental Architecture and Everyday Place,” the keynote address for the 2006 Nordic Society for Aesthetics Meeting in Finland; and “Methodological Pragmatism, Bioethics, and Biotechnology,” the keynote address at a workshop on ethics and technology at the University of Tokyo. Andrew was also selected to the U.S. delegation to the World Science Forum in Hungary in October 2005, an attempt by the United Nations to start a “Davos style” meeting on science policy. At the beginning of the conference he was telling other delegates that he was the “token humanist” in the U.S. delegation. By the end of the meeting he was referring to himself as the “token human” in the delegation.

Adam Moore

Adam has published an anthology and three articles: *Information Ethics: Privacy, Property, and Power* (UW Press, 2005); “Information Ethics: An Introduction” with Kristene Unsworth, in *Information Ethics*; “Intellectual Property, Genetic Information, and Gene Enhancement Techniques,” in *Ethics, Computing, and Genomics: Moral Controversies in Computational Genomics*, Herman Travani, Ed. (Jones and Bartlett, 2005); and “Privacy, Liberty, and the Genetic Modification of Humans,” *Journal of Philosophical Research, Special Supplement: Ethical Issues for the Twenty-First Century*, Frederick R. Adams, Ed. (Charlottesville: Philosophy Documentation Center Press, 2005).

Adam has four articles accepted and forthcoming: “Justifying Intellectual Property Rights” in *Information and Computer Ethics*, Himma and Travani, Eds. (John Wiley and Sons, 2006); “Privacy, Intellectual Property, and Hacking,” in *Readings in Internet Security: Hacking, Counterhacking, and Society*, Ken Himma, Ed. (Jones & Bartlett Publishers, 2006); “Ethical Challenges for Technology Managers: Privacy, Consent, and Security” in a special edition of *Knowledge, Technology, and Policy*, Robert Mason, Ed. (2006); and “Privacy,” with Randal Kemp in *Library Hi Tech: Special Issue on Information Ethics*, Ken Himma, Ed. (2006).

He has also completed his most recent book project, *Privacy Rights: Moral and Legal Foundations*, which is now under review for publication.

Finally, Adam was a principle participant in a Liberty Fund conference on F. A. Heyek’s *Law, Legislation, and Liberty* (Tucson AZ, November 10-13, 2005) and presented “Privacy, Secrecy, and Government Surveillance,” at the 2006 Information Ethics Roundtable, American Philosophical Association Meetings (Portland, OR, March 22, 2006).

Ron Moore

This year Ron finished his book, *Natural Beauty*, (Broadview Press). A chapter from the book is being published as an article in the journal, *Ethics, Place, and the Environment*.

During winter quarter, Ron introduced a new “capstone” course for philosophy honors students. Students were required to read a substantial number of judicial opinions, law review essays, and philosophical journal articles, all having to do with negligence liability in tort. Students then read Jonathan Harr’s best seller, *A Civil Action*, and watched both the movie version of this book, and a documentary dealing with *Anderson v. Cryovac*, the case the book focuses on. Students then were urged to develop and defend their own philosophical theory of tort liability. The class was a lot of work, (for both Ron and his students!) and a lot of fun. The students learned much from the challenge of dealing with absolutely unfamiliar material, and trying to mount their own philosophical theories regarding that material.

Ron, along with Bill Talbott, Ann Baker, and Michael Blake, spent time participating in the College of Arts and Sciences 4 X 4 Program. This program supports faculty in developing writing-integrated courses. In April, Ron was one of ten local authors honored at an event called “Literary Voices” hosted by the Friends of the UW Library at the University Club. In June, Ron went to the Monroe Correctional Center to discuss aesthetics with a group of inmates who had been reading Ron’s book, *Puzzles About Art*. This summer, Ron offered a Discovery Seminar on legal reasoning and law/morality issues to incoming freshman.

Career Milestone!

2005-2006 marked Professor Ken Clatterbaugh’s 40th year in the Philosophy Department at the University of Washington! When asked how he felt about that, Ken replied, “No way! I just got here.”

Jean Roberts

Jean was glad the three people, (Michael Blake, Steve Gardiner, and Andrew Light) she worked so hard to recruit two years ago finally came on board this year. Along with Sara Goering, who came back from maternity leave, and Karen Mazner and Cathy Yu who worked in turn as research assistants, much hard work was done by all, and the Program on Values is finally becoming something more than an idea. What spare time she had left was spent serving, along with Beverly Wessel, as the department representative on the Savery Hall Building Committee.

Michael Rosenthal

Michael presented a paper at the APA Eastern Division Meeting in New York in December and was invited to comment on two papers at the APA Pacific Division Meeting in Portland at the end of March. Last summer he was awarded a grant from the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) to study German in Frankfurt in service of his developing interest in German philosophy. He is also working to complete his book project on Spinoza.

Bill Talbott

The summer of 2005 was mostly a lost summer for Bill due to a bicycle accident in June. He had surgical repair of a broken hip and broken wrist. Both have healed well. In August 2006 he had the metal removed from his hip, and expects to be back to 100% functioning shortly. The accident set back work on his second volume on human rights, *Human Rights and Human Well Being*. Publication is now expected in late 2007. He is also working on an article on moral reasoning.

Alison Wylie

Alison Wylie spent this last year at Stanford as the Michelle R. Clayman Research Fellow at the Clayman Institute for Gender Research. She made good progress on a book, *Standpoint Matters, in Feminist Philosophy of Science*, and presented several related papers at Stanford, at the Universities of California-Berkeley, San Diego, and Santa Cruz, and at the University of British Columbia: "Standpoint (still) Matters: Women, Work and the Academy", and "The Feminism Question in Science: Epistemic Virtues and the Method Debate" (now in press, *Handbook of Feminist Research*, Ed. Hesse-Biber, Sage). She also gave papers on philosophy of science (values in science; evidential reasoning in archaeology) at the Universities of Chicago and Ari-

zona, the Stanford Center for Archaeological Research, and the 2005 Spindel Conference (Memphis), and finished up several projects on these topics: an edited volume on *Science and Values* (with Harold Kincaid and John Dupre, OUP, forthcoming); a contribution to the *Anthropology and Sociology* volume in the *Handbook of the Philosophy of Science* (Elsevier, in press); and a paper on "agnatology" - the study of ignorance - for a collection that Bob Proctor and Londa Schiebinger are editing (Stanford, forthcoming).

The 8th annual Philosophy of Social Science Roundtable (which she co-organizes with Jim Bohman and Paul Roth) was a great success, hosted at the University of California, Santa Cruz; the 2005 Roundtable Special Issue of *Philosophy of Social Science* appeared in March and the 2006 Special Issue is just about to go to press. A highlight of that issue (and the conference) are papers that Joe Rouse and Stephen Turner presented in a keynote panel on "Practice Theory and Normativity." Finally, she organized the annual *Episteme* conference, this year on Epistemic Diversity and Dissent (hosted at the University of Toronto). She is busy editing a special issue of *Episteme* based on this conference that should appear this winter.

Graduate Student Awarded Teaching Fellowship

Ali Hasan was one of nine students awarded the Graduate School's Huckabay Teaching Fellowship for 2006-2007. These one-quarter awards are intended to give graduate students an opportunity to work on a specific project focused on teaching and learning at the college and university level. These fellowships are funded by a private endowment established by Durward and Susan Huckabay, UW alumni and Laureates.

During fall quarter of 2006, Ali will collaborate with Professor Andrea Woody, as well as Professors John Palmer and Scott Murray of the Psychology Department, to create a new philosophy course that will focus on the main problems regarding perception (primarily visual), on philosophical attempts to solve these problems, and on the relevance of work in psychology to solve them. The project aims to encourage students to take part in an interdisciplinary conversation about perception, while also contributing to a richer learning experience within the student's own primary discipline. The newly created class will then be taught, by Ali, during winter quarter 2007. Congratulations, Ali!

Graduate Student News

Ben Almassi

With much appreciated help from Professor Arthur Fine, Ben was able to complete his dissertation proposal and successfully defend it at his General Exam in April. His dissertation committee proved to be both helpful and kind. The working title of his dissertation is "Trusting Expert Testimony in Scientific Practice." Late spring and early summer found Ben working steadily on the first bit of his dissertation, specifically, what constitutes expertise and how relative expertise might be calibrated.

Also in 2005-2006, Ben coordinated the philosophy of science reading group, assisted with the graduate student philosophy conference, coached the ethics bowl team, taught on his own for the first time, and is still

Renee Conroy

During the 2005-2006, Renee enjoyed having the opportunity to get 'out and about' in the philosophy community a bit more than in previous years. In the fall she commented on two papers in regional conferences. In spring quarter she presented a paper on dance and metaphysics at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics in Monterey, CA. She also served on an author-meets-critic's panel for Arnold Berleant's new anthology at the Eastern Division meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics in Philadelphia, PA. She enjoyed teaching a 200-level course in aesthetics at Bellevue Community College during the spring. Renee continues to work on her dissertation on the metaphysics of dance and dancework reconstruction.

Alumni News

Ryan Dreveskracht, B.A., 2006

Ryan was accepted to Law School at SUNY, Buffalo. He recently had his paper, "A Critique of Levinson," published in Brigham Young University's undergraduate journal, *Aporia*.

Joel Kalvesmaki, B.A., 1999

Joel graduated from the The Catholic University with his Ph.D. in Early Christian Studies. He defended his dissertation, "Formation of the Early Christian Theology of Arithmetic: Number Symbolism in the Late Second and Early Third Century" in April. His

awarded with distinction. He continues to work at Harvard University's research institution, Dunbarton Oaks, as assistant editor in the publications department. He lives in Washington DC with his wife and two children.

Noah Purcell, B.A., 2002

This spring, Noah finished up his second year at Harvard Law School. Recently his article, "Deducting Illegal Votes in Contested Elections" was published in *The Harvard Law Review*, Vol. 119, No. 4, February 2006.

Jasmin Weaver, B.A., 2002

Jasmin graduated this spring from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. She will spend the next year completing a fellowship at Harvard.

Jonathan Weisberg, B.A., 2001

Jonathan earned his Ph.D. from Rutgers University in 2006. He was hired for a tenure-track position at the University of Toronto, Mississauga.

Kenneth R. Parker Award Established

Alumnus Julia Parker (B.A. Philosophy 2006) has established an annual award for philosophy undergraduate students. Named for her father, The Kenneth R. Parker Award for Excellence in Community Service honors a student who has blended his/her studies in phi-

losophy with a community volunteer project. This is a two-part award; \$250 will go directly to the recipient, and \$250 will be donated on behalf of the recipient to the community organization of his/her choice.

Julie believes strongly in community service and hopes that this award will help other students who share her passion.



Julia Parker

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