



## UW Philosophy Moves Further into 21st Century

As many of you know, we have been bringing you our electronic newsletter three times per year since the spring of 2010. Soon we will launch a new streamlined and interactive website to match! The new website will house videos and podcasts, have a search engine, and will be updated on an ongoing basis so that you can more easily keep apprised of departmental activities. A dedicated team of faculty, students, and staff has been working with UW's Creative Communications for the past year on the new site, and we are excited to get it up and running during the 2012-13 academic year.

We believe this new website, coupled with our electronic newsletters, will serve the needs of the department, and our alumni and friends more efficiently. It is more cost effective, better for the environment, and more up-to-date than a large hard copy newsletter that is printed only once per year, which brings us to another big change...

For now, you will continue to receive this newsletter, but it will be smaller and will include only some of the full stories that are available to you via the web and/or the electronic newsletter. This issue is the start of that change, with some full length stories, and some that you will want to peruse further via the website and/or the electronic newsletter. We are excited to continue our move into the 21st century, and sincerely hope that you will join us there! Sign up now at: <http://www.phil.washington.edu/enews.asp>

## Arthur Fine - *The Shaky Game* - 25 Years Later

Professor Arthur Fine's contributions to the field of Philosophy of Science were celebrated at this year's meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association. Colleagues, students, and former students of Arthur gathered to celebrate his work with a symposium and reception, which honored the 25th anniversary of his book, *The Shaky Game: Einstein Realism and the Quantum Theory*. University of Washington Professor John Manchak, who specializes in Philosophy of Physics, wrote the following comments on Arthur's book:

In nearby Port Townsend, long before becoming a faculty member at UW, Arthur Fine was finishing up writing a book on Einstein and scientific realism. Roughly put, scientific realism consists in two positions: A semantic component holds that the theoretical claims of our scientific theories should be read literally. And an epistemic component holds that evidence gathered from observations can give us good reasons to believe as true the claims which our scientific theories make about the (observable and also the unobservable) world. Two influential types of empiricism run counter to realism; the logical empiricism type of anti-realism denies the semantic component while the constructive empiricism type denies the epistemic component. Philosophy of science in the latter half of the 20th century was concerned largely with the question, "Should one be a scientific realist or a (type of) anti-realist?"



Professor Arthur Fine

The *Shaky Game* argues that the answer to the above question is "neither." Realists and anti-realists alike share a core position; they simply trust the results of science (e.g. concerning electrons) in the same way they trust sensory evidence concerning everyday objects (e.g. tables, chairs). What distinguishes the realist from the anti-realist is what is added to this core position.

*Shaky Game* cont.

For the realist, it is a dogmatic insistence upon the semantic and epistemic components mentioned above. For the anti-realist, it is a dogmatic denial of one or the other. But (and here is the upshot of Arthur's seminal work) we need not add anything to the core position. This minimalist viewpoint, dubbed the "natural ontological attitude" is, itself, an elegant philosophical stance. And moreover, a detailed historical examination shows that Einstein himself seemed to have held this stance all along with respect to quantum theory.

With a bit of hindsight, it is now clear that Arthur's book has been enormously influential. It has been cited hundreds of times in the literature. But much more importantly, it has helped to (forgive the pun!) shake the field up a bit. Questions which were, at one time, regarded as the most important and urgent in philosophy of science (such as the one above) have now been deemed less important by the community. In the meantime, new lines of inquiry, more closely connected with scientific practice, have revealed themselves. In part, this is due to Arthur's work. Finally, let me say that *The Shaky Game* was the first philosophy of physics text (of any kind) that I read as an undergraduate. (And I think it's telling that the book was given to me by my then physics (!) professor.) Its influence on me personally simply cannot be overstated.

The UW Department of Philosophy has created The Arthur Fine Prize in Philosophy of Science. This prize will support graduate students in the philosophy of science. It will take the form of a biennial award for the current graduate student with the best essay submission to a UW sponsored conference on philosophy of science. You are, of course, welcome to contribute to this fund.

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## Words from the Chair



Professor Michael Rosenthal

One of the best moments of the academic year is graduation. Parents are beaming with pride as they see their children graduate. Students are full of satisfaction for having completed their studies and are excited about moving on to new projects and prospects. It is a chance for faculty to reflect with satisfaction on the year's work.

Even in the midst of the worst recession in years, we can be thankful for the students who take our classes, read difficult books, and enthusiastically engage with philosophical ideas. As in the past we held our departmental graduation reception at the lovely Urban Horticultural Center, and what looked like stormy weather seemed miraculously to clear up by the time the event began. I still had some papers to grade and reports to write, but I too had the feeling that the year was coming to an end and summer was about to begin.

During this year, our faculty won national and international recognition. They published books and many articles. They were on the radio and in the newspapers. Friends and alumni generously gave tens of thousands of dollars to support the department and our students. I have written in detail about many of these achievements in my articles for our departmental e-newsletters. If you haven't already read all about it, I would encourage you to sign up for electronic delivery of the newsletter. In the future most of our communication with our friends and alumni will happen through e-mail and the Internet. It is where more and more people look for their information, and so our transition in that direction makes economic and environmental sense.

What I want to do here is mention some of the achievements that are not so easy to measure and record: a graduate student who first entered the classroom as a shy and nervous first-time TA has now become a confident and effective instructor; an administrator who deals with the obscure details of a grant application; a faculty member who mentors an undergraduate research project in the history and philosophy of science; a staff person who advises our students on their courses and helps them register; an undergraduate who, in the midst of writing a paper, finally understands Kant's second formulation of the categorical imperative; a search committee that screens scores of applications in order to find just the right person for the position;

Words cont.

a philosophical conversation that happens in the lounge or coffee shop. Of course, all these events are supposed to be just routine - what happens every day in the University. But I think that as the pressure mounts - for understandable and justifiable reasons - to account for everything we do in terms of spreadsheets and rankings, it is even more important to remind ourselves of the quality of our everyday work in the department. We have had a great year not only because of our documented productivity, but also because we have worked together to educate our students and increase our knowledge of philosophy. Thank you all for your interest and support. Please join us in the department - whether in person or virtually - at an event next year!

## Philosophy for Children

The Northwest Center for Philosophy for Children had another year of expansion, with the help of a three-year grant from the Squire Family Foundation. Some of the highlights of the year include:

- ◆ Sending UW students and Center staff into five different primary and secondary schools where they facilitated classes that reached over 300 young people.
- ◆ Monthly sessions with teachers at John Muir Elementary School in Seattle, as well as other workshops for teachers and graduate students exploring how introducing philosophy can enrich learning in K-12 classrooms.
- ◆ Talks at philosophy for children conferences in Seattle, San Diego, and Vancouver, BC, as well as four books and several articles... all by Center staff!
- ◆ Collaborative creation of a philosophy class at Nova Alternative High School on Capitol Hill.
- ◆ Improvement to the Center's website and development of a philosophy for children library.

## Rabinowitz Symposium

The 4th annual Rabinowitz Symposium in medical ethics was a huge success! It was titled, "Disordering Personalities? Psychiatric Diagnosis and Moral Responsibility."

The first talk, by philosopher Nancy Potter (University of Louisville), focused on oppositional defiant disorder, with discussion of radicalized attributions of defiance in the school system, concerns about motivations for diagnosis and treatment, and the possibility of a virtue of defiance.

Next, medical anthropologist Rebecca Lester (Washington University), described some of her experiences working in an eating disorders clinic. Lester analyzed common treatment of "difficult" patients, and considered how diagnoses such as borderline personality disorder alter therapists' thinking about the necessity of engagement with a patient, sometimes based on unfounded assumptions about manipulative behavior. She also offered interesting insights into internal family systems therapy, which treats each individual as a collection of internal parts with their own identities and desires, and requires individuals to recognize and address the internal conflicts between these parts of self.

Finally, forensic psychotherapist Gwen Adshea (Broadmoor Hospital, UK), spoke about her work doing therapy with individuals who have committed violent crimes and been sentenced to life in a locked psychiatric facility. Her focus was on the ways in which individuals diagnosed with personality disorders can come to develop a stronger sense of agency and make sense of their actions.

The lively interdisciplinary audience took full advantage of each discussion period, and the interchange continued into the final period, which focused on moral implications of trying to identify proto-personality disorders in children; the effects of managed care on the diagnosis and treatment of personality disorders; the difficulties of identifying and understanding patient manipulation; and the danger of value-laden psychiatric diagnoses.

## Advisory Board Update

Our Advisory Board advises the department chair, supports the department's community and public relations activities, and assists in implementing the department's fund development and outreach efforts.

For the fourth year, the board funded the department's Outreach Coordinator, Kate Goldyn, and worked with her to organize and carry out fund-raising and outreach initiatives. The board also collectively donated one of the lead gifts (\$51,500) for the Ken Clatterbaugh Endowed Fund, which honors retiring Professor Kenneth Clatterbaugh. **This fund will support scholarships for undergraduate philosophy majors. We hope to meet our target goal by the time Ken retires at the end of 2012, so contributions are welcome!**

The Advisory Board currently consists of seven members: David Byrne, Meaghen Friel, Dan Gerler, Jana Mohr Lone, Ann Owens, Jack Sabin, and Jasmin Weaver.

## Awards and Achievements

### Faculty

**Michael Blake** was promoted to full professor.

**Stephen Gardiner** was on sabbatical leave this year as a visiting fellow at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (Fall 2011), as a H.L.A. Hart Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Ethics and Philosophy of Law at Oxford University (Winter 2012), and as a Visiting Fellow at the Smith School for Enterprise and the Environment at Oxford University (Spring 2012).

**Arthur Fine's** contributions to the field of Philosophy of Science were celebrated at this year's meeting of the Pacific Division of the APA. See our cover story!

**John Manchak** was chosen to serve on the program committee for the 2012 meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association.

**Michael Rosenthal** was promoted to full professor.

**William Talbott's** book *Which Rights Should Be Universal?* (the Korean translation) was selected as the Human Rights Book of the Year by the Korea Human Rights Foundation ([www.humanrights.or.kr](http://www.humanrights.or.kr)).

Bill was also one of the primary organizers of an international conference, "Cosmopolitan Rights and Responsibilities" held at the UW in May 2012. The conference was the second in an ongoing series of joint conferences between the UW and the University of Frankfurt. Bill is looking forward to co-teaching a new lecture course, "Issues on Global Justice" with Michael Blake (UW, Philosophy) and Jamie Mayerfeld (UW, Political Science) in winter 2013.

**Alison Wylie** gave the Presidential Address at the Seattle-based meetings of the American Philosophical Association (APA) in April 2012. Her presentation, "Standpoint Matters, in Feminist Philosophy of Science" is available on podcast. Please visit her website for the link.

<http://faculty.washington.edu/aw26/index.htm>

In fall 2012, Alison will be a Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, University of Durham (UK). She was invited to join a diverse interdisciplinary group working on topics related to the annual theme of "Time" ranging from mathematical physics - "the nature and geometry of time" - to humanistic questions about "time and the present." The subthemes Wylie will engage will focus on the narration of time and the strategies by which we reconstruct time.

### Graduate Students

**Asia Ferrin and Benjamin Hole** received the Annual Philosophy Department Teaching Awards.

**P. Joshua Griffin** (UW, Anthropology) won the \$750 POV Ethics Exploration prize, which rewards work that combines empirical study with normative philosophical reflection. His work - "Resilience, Resistance, and Risk: articulating climate justice at the front lines" - involves interviewing and fieldwork with the indigenous inhabitants of Kivalina, a village in Alaska facing the effects of climate change. Griffin's work combines ethnography and cultural anthropology with a serious commitment to philosophical analysis about the justice of climate change. He will use this grant to accompany the inhabitants of Kivalina to a gathering of native stewards dealing with climate change, where he will conduct further interviews about the effects of climate change on native lives.

**Joan-Antoine Mallet**, our French exchange student, passed the "CAPES" exam which qualifies him to teach high school philosophy in his native France, which is a tenure track position!

**Amy Reed-Sandoval** won the second place award for the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE)/Squire Family Foundation Formal Paper Competition on Pre-college Ethics for 2012.

**Patrick Smith** had two publications, "Domination and the Ethics of Solar Radiation Management" in *Engineering the Climate* (edited by Christopher Preston), Rowman and Littlefield Press (2012), and "International Justice" in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (forthcoming 2012), with Michael Blake.



Doctor Karen Emmerman and Professor Sara Goering share a celebratory hug at this year's departmental graduation reception!

*Achievements cont.*

## Congratulations 2011-2012 Ph.D. and M.A. Recipients

### Ph.D.

- ✧ Jason D. Benchimol - "The Significance of Unintentional Omission: Moral Responsibility for the Failure to Act" (Angela Smith, Chair)
- ✧ Karen Emmerman - "Beyond the Basic/Nonbasic Interests Distinction: A Feminist Approach to Inter-Species Moral Conflict and Repair" (Sara Goering, Chair)
- ✧ Jeremy M. Fischer - "Feeling Proud, Being Proud: An Inquiry into the Moral Psychology of Personal Ideals" (Angela Smith, Chair)

### M. A.

- ✧ Amy J. Reed-Sandoval - winter 2012
- ✧ Dustyn Addington - spring 2012
- ✧ Christopher G. Partridge - spring 2012

## Undergraduate Students

The department named **Jacob Baudin and Kseniya Husak** the 2012 Outstanding Graduating Seniors.

**Carley Lord** was awarded Outstanding Continuing Scholar.

**Cody Fritts** received the Kenneth R. Parker Award.

**Kelci Mumford** was awarded the George and Barbara Akers Scholarship (a UW Humanities Scholarship).

**Ian Chase** was the recipient of a Mary Gates Research Scholarship. His research project, "Concerning History in the Philosophy of Science" was supervised by Professor Andrea Woody.

Special thanks to the New Major's Seminar leaders, **Elle Kim** and **Charles Tilander**; to our 2011-2012 Writing Center tutors, **Sam Hopkins** and **Kseniya Husak**; and to the leaders of the undergraduate philosophy club, **Lyceum**, **Chris Rodriguez** and **J. Eckard**.

**Did you know that 25% of all UW Philosophy majors were on the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's List in winter 2012?**

Congratulations to philosophy major **Kelsey Kamitomo**, BA '13! Kelsey's paper entitled "Duty, Sentience, and Morally Culpable: An Argument for the Rights of Animals" was awarded first place in the undergraduate division at the Appalachian Regional Colloquium. Kelsey was also invited to present her paper at four other conferences! Kelsey's paper focused on Peter Singer's view of sentience and moral consideration, Michelle Moody-Adams' argument for culture and individual responsibility, and J.O. Urmson's discussion of supererogation.

## Congratulations B.A. Recipients



Kseniya Husak

Husak was the undergraduate guest speaker. Congratulations majors!

The department is pleased to announce that 82 Bachelor degrees were awarded in 2011-2012: 79 were Philosophy majors and three were History and Philosophy of Science majors. All were invited to our departmental graduation reception where Kseniya Husak

## Hypatia's 5th and Final Year at UW!

*Hypatia* has been hosted by UW for four eventful years. Over this time, four philosophy graduate students have kept the journal on the rails; Asia Ferrin will continue as Managing Editor for this final year, joined by Elizabeth Scarbrough who replaced Rachel Fredericks as Editorial Assistant. Alison Wylie, the senior editor for this five-year editorial term, is especially proud of two special features that appeared in *Hypatia* this past year:

- ◆ A new *Hypatia* Virtual Issue on "The Place of Women in the Profession of Philosophy," assembled by *Hypatia* co-editor Ann Cudd.
- ◆ *Animal Others*: a Special Issue co-edited by Lori Gruen and Kari Weil, which includes a review by UW graduate, Karen Emmerman.

Both are available, open access, on the Wiley-Blackwell *Hypatia* website:

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

## Remembering Professor Robert Richman (written by Prof. David Keyt)



Bob Richman will be remembered for his big heart, his modesty, his wit, and his intelligence.

Bob died on July 30, 2011, at the age of 88. He never expected to live so long. Since the males in his family had always died young, he was surprised that he lived into his sixties and astonished that he almost reached 90. His longevity was due in part to his love of hiking. He would regularly drive to Mount Rainier for a day hike. When he had a class he would often walk from his house in Madrona to campus and back again—a long beautiful walk traversing the arboretum. These walks in the arboretum were traded for walks in Seward Park when, after retirement, he and Carol switched neighborhoods.

Bob entered our Department in 1961. We had snatched him from the University of Oregon, where he had landed after getting his Ph.D. from Harvard. Within two years he was, for a quarter, acting chairman; within three he had begun a five-year term as permanent chairman. He returned to the chairmanship, for one quarter, yet again in 1971. Though he didn't particularly like administrative duties, he performed them well.

Bob's big heart is illustrated by a story that came to be told about him. When Bob was chairman, the chairman was also the graduate advisor. In that role Bob sometimes had to tell a graduate student that he had flunked the qualifying examination. Since Bob hated to disappoint or discourage anyone, he would begin by stressing the positive aspects of the student's (failing) performance. In one instance, so the story goes, Bob did such a good job of stressing the positive that a student who had failed the qualifying exam left the chairman's office thinking that he had actually passed. That the story is probably apocryphal is unimportant. Its significance lies in the fact that it was taken to capture Bob's nature.

Bob's sly sotto voce humor is difficult to recreate, but some of it lives on in his underappreciated little gem of a book *God, Free Will, and Morality*. Those who know the book will recall that Bob's humor infects even the Table of Contents, which lists such chapter titles as 'Was Free Will a Pseudo-Problem?' (implying that philosophical problems and their solutions are temporally indexed), 'The Fly in the Flypaper' (improving on Wittgenstein's famous image), 'Unprincipled Morality' (a pun), and 'With God All is Permitted' (indicating that Ivan Karamazov got it backwards).

Bob's modesty and self-effacement kept his work from getting the recognition that it deserved. It wasn't that Bob was unsure of himself; he was aware of his philosophical talent and ability. He just couldn't bear self-advertisement.

We received many remembrances about Bob... too many to print here in the newsletter. Please go to our website for a walk down memory lane with Bob's students and friends.

<http://www.phil.washington.edu/RememberingBobRichman.htm>

## Alumni News

### Caroline Simon, Ph.D., 1986

Simon, Professor and Interim Dean for the Social Sciences at Hope College, MI, received a "2012 Distinguished Woman Leader Award" from the Michigan American Council on Education (ACE) Network for Women Leaders in Higher Education. Dr. Simon has been a Hope College faculty member since 1988. Along with teaching, she has also served in a variety of administrative capacities. She specializes in ethics with an emphasis on the use of literature in moral reflection.

### Jonathan Collier Ettel, B.A., 2011

After some time off for traveling and camping throughout the US West Coast, Jonathan will join Stanford University's graduate program in philosophy this fall.

## Friends of Philosophy

**Thank you for your support!** Gifts to the department are crucial to our success in enhancing educational opportunities for our students. Undergraduate student awards, scholarships, and resources for graduate fellowships would not be possible without the support of our donors. We also depend upon donated funds to develop and promote new programs, such as philosophy of science, philosophy of the environment, professional ethics, and introducing philosophy to children.

We thank the following individuals, as well as numerous donors who wish to remain anonymous, for their contributions:

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- ☐ Philosophy Undergraduate Tuition Scholarship Fund
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- ☐ Philosophy for Children Fund (support for program that introduces philosophy into K-12 classrooms around Washington State)
- ☐ Kenneth Clatterbaugh Scholarship in Philosophy (support for undergraduate students majoring in Philosophy)
- ☐ Philosophy Outreach Coordinator Fund (to fund an outreach coordinator for the Department of Philosophy)
- ☐ The Kenneth R. Parker Award for Excellence in Community Service (an annual award that honors a student who has blended their studies in philosophy with a volunteer-based community project)
- ☐ Arthur Fine Prize in Philosophy of Science (supports graduate student scholarships in Philosophy of Science)

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