

Indiana University

PHILOSOPHY

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Alumni Newsletter

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College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

Undauntable Hector-Neri Castañeda honored

Hector-Neri Castañeda, the Mahlon Powell Professor of Philosophy, was honored at a special reception last September. Campus dignitaries, departmental colleagues, graduate students, and friends attended.

The reception featured several presentations in Hector's honor. The first was the announcement of his election to the National Academy of Arts and Sciences and the unveiling of his portrait. This portrait, along with those of other IU faculty elected to NAAS or other such prestigious honorary associations, is now hanging close to the Whittenberger entrance to the Indiana Memorial Union.

The second presentation was made by IU President Thomas Ehrlich. He presented Hector with the President's Medal in honor of his academic excellence and his many years of service to the University community.

Chair Paul Eisenberg, on behalf of the philosophy faculty, presented Hector with an engraved silver tray, and Martin Schonfeld, speaking for the graduate students, gave him a Guatemalan vase with accompanying plaque.

Following the reception, a public lecture was given in Hector's honor by Roderick Chisholm (Brown University), who spoke on "The I of Castañeda."

Hector's rise to world fame has certainly been remarkable, given his humble Guatemalan beginnings. He was born in San Vicente, an isolated rural village, with no local government, no police, no church, no electricity, and with a school that offered teaching only through the third grade. Fortunately, Hector's mother moved the family to Guatemala City when he was still in grade school. There, two significant

events happened that helped shape Hector's later philosophical interests.

Neighbors introduced Hector to Sunday school. He has written, "My Sunday school experience was a most fortunate one. I enjoyed it thoroughly. It was most educational, and it provided a theoretical underpinning for the moral education I received from my grandmother's clan. It helped me to form my intellectual equipment."

The next significant event was Hector's flunking the fourth grade in public school. "Failing the fourth grade affected my life dramatically," Hector says. "Perhaps a contributing factor was an illness in the fifth grade, which made walking difficult. . . . In any case, failing the fourth grade turned me at once into a very studious youngster."

At age 13, Hector finished grade

school and won a competition for a scholarship to high school, making the highest test score in Guatemala City. Though many obstacles were still to come—including expulsion from the militarized high school for disciplinary reasons—Hector was at last on his way to an academic career.

Hector's introduction to philosophy came after his expulsion from high school, when he was spending most of his free time at the National Library. "One morning I read the first chapter of Bertrand Russell's *Problems of Philosophy*. . . . It was a tremendous experience," Hector says.

"I was dumbfounded by his analysis of matter and his phenomenalist account of physical objects. His arguments fascinated me. Here was the sort

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IU President Thomas Ehrlich congratulates Hector-Neri Castañeda, as his wife, Rhina Toruño Castañeda, watches, and presents him with the President's Medal.

Philosophical inference: *Bo knows retirement*

The Department of Philosophy bid a fond farewell to Romane (Bo) Clark last December. After teaching at IU for 22 years, Bo has retired. The ever-busy Bo and his wife of 42 years, Lynn, plan to spend some time each winter in Arizona, spend more time visiting their four children, and still keep their home in Bloomington.

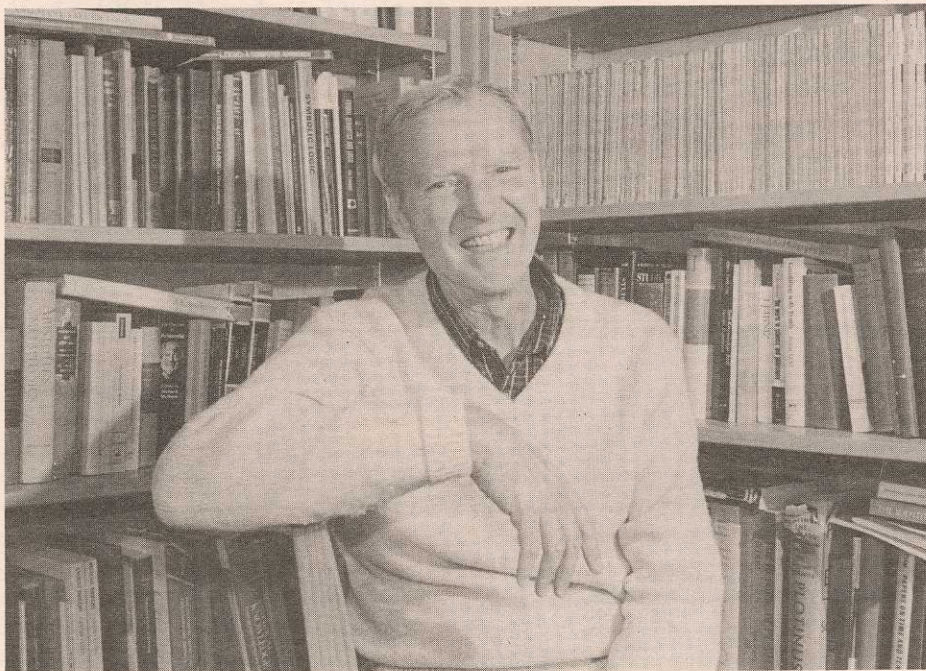
Bo Clark began his bachelor's work at the State University of Iowa after having served in the Air Force from 1943 to 1944. Bo thrived at Iowa and proceeded immediately to earn his master's degree there (1950) and his doctorate (granted in 1952, in record time). Bo's first academic position was as a lecturer at Iowa (1952-53). During the course of that year, he accepted the offer of an appointment at Duke University. He remained on the faculty at Duke until 1970, when he came to IU as a full professor.

According to Bo's own description of his research program, he is interested in the philosophy of perception, the structure of natural language, and the nature of common patterns of inference in everyday reasoning. These interests have led to specific investigations of such topics as the relation of sensation to perception, the nature and logic of predicate modifiers, and a formal and semantical characterization of reasoning from effects to sufficient explanations of their occurrences.

His research has been well received. Through the years, he has won a number of prestigious grants and fellowships. He was the recipient of one National Science Foundation grant in 1963-65 and of another during the following two-year period. He won a senior fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for 1974-75 and again in 1989. He was a senior Fulbright research fellow in 1981-82, during which time he was also a visiting fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study at the Australian National University.

Bo has contributed many hours of service to the department and to the University. He was selected to chair the philosophy department in 1972, a position he held for two years. He has also served the department both as its undergraduate adviser and as director of graduate studies. On the University level, he chaired the Patten Committee and the Search and Screen Committee for the dean of the college in 1980.

Through the years of his tenure at



Emeritus Professor Bo Clark happily contemplates his retirement plans, which include travel, visiting offspring, and wintering in Arizona.

IU, Bo has been much sought after by graduate students who have wanted him to chair or at least serve on their dissertation committees. One such student was Tim Day, who recalls: "Bo directed my dissertation. That was a few years ago, and given the mind's tendency to blot out painful experiences, I mainly remember that he did a good job. The direction was not too hard to follow, and he let me use the typewriter in his office. He had a way of being polite, but not letting me get away with anything either. . . . I don't think Bo gave much slack when it came time to assign grades, but he was willing to do quite a bit to help students along the way."

Perhaps his unfailing politeness is the attribute we all remember best about Bo. Tim says he remembers Bo at departmental colloquia: "He was the guy in the back who would politely raise his hand and say 'Excuse me, but you're all wrong about that.'" Bo was also always willing to explain things to students outside of class and to discuss almost any issue with his colleagues over coffee in the reading room.

Of course, Bo's contribution to the department was not all philosophical. Tim explains: "I don't know who the department will get to replace Bo, but it would surprise me if the next person will be able to provide the department with the kind of insightful analysis of Hoosier basketball that Bo provided

for all the years I was at Indiana. I have heard a rumor that Bo will spend winters in Arizona now, but it will be hard to find a better place to spend a winter than those seats he had in Assembly Hall."

Best of luck, Bo, in whatever you do next. All your colleagues and friends in Philosophy will miss you.

Philosophy Alumni Newsletter

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Faculty News

Michele Moody-Adams will join the faculty next fall, coming from the University of Rochester. She earned her PhD at Harvard, and her areas of specialization include moral philosophy, social and political philosophy, and the Empiricists. Michele has an NEH fellowship for 1991-92 that will allow her to work full-time on research. She will begin teaching here the following year.

K. Jon Barwise has been active in forming the campuswide IU Logic Group. Building on the multidisciplinary logic colloquium that Mike Dunn started a few years ago, logic faculty from several disciplines formed the new group. Aided by funds from the dean of faculties, the IULG holds weekly seminars, has created a new preprint series, and has hosted the campus visits of many logicians this year.

Paul Eisenberg published two articles this year: "Was Hegel a Panlogician?" which appeared in *Noûs*, and "The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing But the Truth," which appeared in *Morality, Responsibility, and the University: Studies in Academic Ethics*, edited by S.M. Cahn. Paul also gave a lecture and slide show, "Images of a Saint" (on Augustine), at the IU Art Museum and developed a new course, with Marc Weiner (German studies), on Nietzsche and Wagner. He was also elected to the executive board of the Association of Philosophy Teachers. Paul reports that his step-daughter, Vivienne, is about to make him and his wife grandparents for the first time.

Reinhardt Grossmann fulfilled a life-long dream last summer. He gave a lecture at the University of Jena (Germany) in the same building in which Frege used to lecture. He also gave a talk at the University of Salzburg. On sabbatical this past semester, Reinhardt spent several months in Sydney, Australia. He gave lectures on Kant at the University of Sydney and at the University of Brisbane. His next book, *The Existence of the World: An Introduction to Ontology*, will be published shortly by Routledge.

J. Michael Dunn and **Anil Gupta** have edited a Festschrift for Nuel Belnap titled *Truth or Consequences*. A special leather-bound copy of the book was presented to Belnap, their former teacher and now their collaborator on various research projects, in a ceremony during the December meetings of the APA in Boston. Belnap was the first occupant of the Ewing Chair of

Philosophy here, serving from 1977 to 1980 while continuing to be on the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh. **Mike Dunn**, the current Ewing Professor, has recently been appointed executive associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Karen Hanson has published "Dressing Down Dressing Up—The Philosophic Fear of Fashion" in *Hypatia* and remains popular as a speaker. She has given papers or participated in symposia for the Association of Departments of English, the IU Music School, the Kansas Committee for the Humanities, and three different APA meetings. Karen and Ilinca Johnston (Comparative Literature) developed and team-taught a new course on ethics and literature. Without doubt, however, Karen's proudest accomplishment of the past year is the adoption (with husband Dennis Senchuk) of two new-born, beautiful, non-identical twin girls, Tia Elizabeth and Chlöe Miranda.

Dennis Senchuk had two articles published this year: "Consciousness Naturalized: Supervenience without Physical Determinism" in *American Philosophical Quarterly* and "Listening to a Different Voice: A Feminist Critique of Gilligan" in *Studies in Philosophy and Education*. He also lectured at the Philosophy of Science Association meeting in October and revived two courses not taught in the department for some time, Philosophy of Nature and Philosophy of Action.

Raymond Smullyan remains busy even though semi-retired. He has had two articles in *Studia Logica* this year and a new book is to be published soon, *Satan, Cantor and Infinity*. He has given lectures at CUNY, Stony Brook, at St. John's University, and at the MCI Computer Conference in Austin, Tex., as well as appearing on television (WTIU) and on the radio (WFIU).

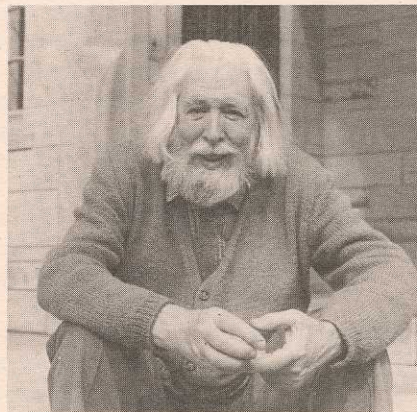
Paul Vincent Spade has recently completed a contribution to the article on logic for the forthcoming 16th edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. His sections of the article are on Ancient and Medieval Logic and will supersede contributions by Czeslaw Lejewski. Paul also delivered the inaugural lecture in the Eric Dean Memorial Lecture Series at his alma mater, Wabash College, and read papers at Wayne State, Ohio State, the University of Texas at Austin, and at the International Congress on the Middle Ages at Kalamazoo. He also taught a graduate-level version of his course on Sartre. Paul wants everyone to know

that he has moved into Professor Clark's former office (Sycamore 122), one of the nicest offices in the building.

Alice ter Meulen has had a new book, *Mathematical Methods in Linguistics*, co-authored with Barbara Hall Partee and Robert Wall, published by Kluwer. She gave the 1991 Sievert Lecture, titled "Information, Identity, and Control," at the University of Iowa department of philosophy. Alice reports that her four-year old son, Tiemen, performed in an IU dance program.

Tim van Gelder has served this year as faculty in residence at the Collins Living Learning Center. His duties there include teaching a course, supervising independent study projects, organizing visiting speakers, conducting workshops, and taking students on field trips. Tim is also busy revising his Ph.d. thesis so that it can be published as a monograph.

Radio Puzzler



Oscar R. Ewing Professor Emeritus of Philosophy **Raymond Smullyan** has embarked on a new twist to his career: hosting "Puzzle Time," a series of short features on WFIU, the public radio station on the Bloomington campus. The broadcast features a brain-twisting puzzle each day and reveals the solution to the previous day's mystery.

With his snow-white beard, Raymond looks like a man who could conjure up puzzles of biblical proportions. And those of us who have spent any time at all around him realize that he lives up to his looks. We've all been fooled by Raymond more than once!

Raymond also continues doing magic tricks and playing the piano. He has also been teaching part-time even though officially "retired." We hope students here and on the airwaves will continue to be "fooled" by Raymond Smullyan for years to come.

Lectures, awards highlight year

This year's Distinguished Alumni Lecture, titled "Even-If," was presented by **Donald Nute**, PhD'74, chair of the University of Georgia Department of Philosophy.

Students receiving the department's annual awards this year were: **David Banta**, Undergraduate Academic Excellence Award; **Ruth Eberle**, Outstanding Associate Instructor Award; **Gillian Parker**, Graduate Academic Excellence Award; **Gillian Parker** and **Stephen Schulz**, Graduate Ewing Essay Prize; and **Jessica Spector**, Undergraduate Ewing Essay Award.

Two of our undergraduate majors, **David Banta** and **Mark Schifferli**, won

Senior Achievement Awards from the University Honors Division. **Jessica Spector** has been awarded a fellowship from the University of Chicago to do graduate work in philosophy.

Mark and **Jessica** also served this year as undergraduate interns along with **Brian Statz**, **Kerrie Best**, and **Scott Miller**. **Brian** was also elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Graduate student **Anayra Santory** won a dissertation-year fellowship from Mount Holyoke College and will spend the next year there researching and writing her dissertation.

Congratulations to all our distinguished students—past and present!

Alumni news

William F. Cooper, PhD'67, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Baylor University, Waco, Tex., teaches philosophy part-time.

William J. Rapaport, MA'74, PhD'76, is director of undergraduate studies and associate professor with tenure in the department of computer science at State University of New York, Buffalo.

Todd D. Alexander, BA'85, of St. Louis, has started his neurosurgery residency training at the University of Chicago.

Eros Corazza, MA'88, is a faculty member in the department of philosophy at Geneva University, Switzerland.

Tell us about yourself . . .

Pass along the latest about yourself to the Philosophy alumni newsletter, Indiana University Alumni Association, IMU M-17, Bloomington, IN 47405. Please use this form for address correction.

Your news _____

Name _____

Address _____

IU degree(s) / date(s) _____

Castañeda honored

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of rationality I had been searching for. Here was a man who could answer questions, the sort of questions that had intrigued me...

"I closed the book and shut my eyes in order to contemplate a kind of picture of what Russell was proposing. After a few minutes I exclaimed, barely audibly: 'It must be a great triumph to construct a theory of physical objects!'"

Thirty years later, **Hector** constructed his own theory of physical objects, and made many other contributions to philosophy. His investigations have reached into nearly every area of philosophy, from mind and perception to philosophical methodology and the history of philosophy. He is especially known for his work in ethics and the theory of knowledge and for his theory on the relation of thought to action.

Unfortunately, **Hector** became ill last summer and was diagnosed in the fall of 1990 as having a malignant brain tumor. As time passed, the tumor began to affect **Hector's** motor skills and his ability to breathe and speak. Nonetheless, he continued to work at home, editing *Noûs* and working on several papers and books.

Then, on Father's Day, he fell and broke his right hip. After about two weeks in the Bloomington Hospital, **Hector** returned home, undaunted in spirit, despite increasing physical problems. Today, he continues working and writing to his many friends and well-wishers from around the world.

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