

Indiana University

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Alumni Newsletter

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College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

Summer 1996

Memorial established to honor Betty Neal Hamilton

Chair J. Michael Dunn has announced the establishment of the Betty Neal Hamilton Memorial Student Award. The award will be given for support of philosophy majors, both undergraduate and graduate, for such expenses as research materials, travel to conferences, or scholarly awards.

The new award is named in honor of Betty Neal Hamilton, who died in Bloomington this past December. Betty served as departmental secretary in philosophy for some 20 years, between 1962 and 1982. George Nakhnikian remembers her as having intelligence and inexhaustible patience, with a flair for handling details. She was always cheerful, composed, and friendly. Mike Dunn adds that Betty was always willing to go the "extra mile" to get a project done



Betty Neal Hamilton

or solve some administrative problem. He particularly remembers her working one Saturday to type a proposal for him that had a near deadline.

George and Mike both think, however, that Betty's most outstanding attribute was her deep and sincere interest in the students she met. Almost every graduate student became her personal friend and Betty helped many of them more smoothly adjust to life at IU. One foreign student, who was literally a prince, offered to pay for a visit to his home country, offering Betty the "royal treatment" to meet his family so that they might thank her personally for the help she had given him. She chose not to go, but the offer was sincere and shows the feeling that the students had for Betty.

After leaving IU, Betty and her new husband, Frank Neal, moved to Middlebury, Vt. She planned to retire, but instead went to work at Middlebury College, where she became assistant to the dean and vice president of undergraduate affairs. Dean John Emerson of Middlebury spoke eloquently of Betty's service and devotion at a memorial service held on Jan. 9 in the chapel at Middlebury College.

In May 1995, Betty and Frank returned to Bloomington, where they lived until her death. In addition to Frank, she is survived by two children, two stepchildren, and several grandchildren.

Contributions to the Betty Neal Hamilton Fund for Students should be sent to the IU Foundation, Showalter House, Bloomington, IN 47405, marked as a donation to account 37-AS27-06-0. What better way to remember someone who helped so many students?

David Chalmers' visit, lecture highlight Red Carpet Weekend in March

The 1996 Distinguished Alumni Lecture was held in conjunction with our Red Carpet Weekend on March 29-31. Prospective graduate students were treated to a



Chalmers

lecture by David Chalmers, PhD'93, titled "Can Consciousness Be Explained?"

The lecture, which was attended by

about 60 people from a variety of areas, dealt with the arguments in Dan Dennett's book *Consciousness Explained*. Chalmers' exposition was lively as he defended Dennett's book against several criticisms concerning its coherence. In the end, Chalmers argued that you can make sense of the book once you realize that Dennett assumes the truth of materialism as a premise in all his arguments. From that vantage point, Dennett's arguments and conclusions are reasonable.

David's lecture could be seen as a prelude to the release of his own book, *The Conscious Mind*, in which he argues that

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Sycamore news

WEDDINGS Two of the department's long-time bachelors were married this year. **Fred Beiser** married Matilde Mateo in Spain in June and **Milton Fisk** married Maria Isabel Sosa Alba in Cuba last December.

TRAVELS **Paul Eisenberg** completed a month in Taiwan as part of our exchange program with Chung-Cheng University and has spent a sabbatical semester in Florence studying Nietzsche. **Michael Friedman** gave a talk in Israel, and **Mike Dunn** spoke in Brazil and in Russia. Graduate student **Adam Kovach** spoke at a conference in Mexico.

AWARDS **Tim O'Connor** was named an Outstanding Junior Faculty at IU. During the 1996-97 year, he will be at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland as a Gifford Research Fellow. He will also receive a research fellowship from the Pew Evangelical Scholars Program. While in St. Andrews, Tim plans to complete a book on human free agency and hopes to begin writing on more general topics in metaphysics.

OTHER HONORS **Michael Friedman** is president-elect of the Philosophy of Science Association and vice president of the Central Division of the APA. **Karen Hanson** was selected for *Who's Who in the World* and continued to serve on the

Executive Committee of the American Council of Learned Societies.

BOOKS **Jon Barwise** has co-authored a new book, with Larry Moss of the math department, titled *Vicious Circles*. It explores uses of the Aczel's antifounded universe of sets in modeling circular phenomena from philosophy and computer science. Jon and his co-worker **Gerry Allwein** have recently edited a book called *Logical Reasoning with Diagrams*. The volume includes articles by two recent philosophy graduates, **Eric Hammer** and **Isabel Luengo**.

COLLECTED PAPERS A session was held at the spring APA meetings in Chicago on **Anil Gupta's** book, co-authored with Nuel Belnap, *The Revision Theory of Truth*. Papers presented at the session will be printed in an issue of *Philosophical Issues*.

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS **Chris Kelly** won the undergraduate Biddle Scholarship, while **Brian Sweeney** received the Outstanding Senior Achievement Award. **James Rose** wrote the winning essay in the undergraduate Ewing Essay contest, and **Ehren Borg** got honorable mention. **John Ceballes** wrote the winning graduate essay. **Jack Musselman** was named outstanding associate instructor, and **Karen Brown** won the award for outstanding achievement as a graduate student. **Gregg Rosenberg** won the Nelson Dissertation Year Fellowship.

CONFERENCES The philosophy department will host its first Fall Philosophy

dent Conference in Philosophy. This was a series of four presentations, each representing a different area of philosophy. This gave the prospective students a taste of the variety of work being done in our department.

The speakers and their topics were **Byeong-Deok Lee**, "Is a Coherent Theory of Idealized Belief Problematic?"; **Gregg Rosenberg**, "Consciousness, Causation, and the Deep Structure of the Natural World"; **Eric Dalton**, "Zeno's Paradoxes and Parmenides' Monism"; and **Jack Musselman**, "Let Sleeping Dogs Lie: Legally Silencing the Speech of the Homeless."

The weekend also included time for the students to talk with individual faculty, an informal lunch in our new discussion area, and several other social events. With everyone having had a good time and several of the students deciding to attend IU, the second annual Red Carpet Weekend was a definite success!

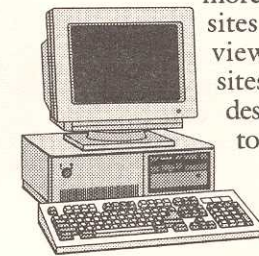
Colloquium on Oct. 18-20, 1996. The theme will be "Mind and Action," with papers from a variety of perspectives on the nature of action with attention to the general ontology of mind. The speakers are Robert Brandom (Pitt), Calvin Normore (Toronto and Ohio State), Lynn Rudder Baker (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), Beth Preston (Georgia), and IU's own **Myles Brand**. For further information, contact Craig Delancey at (cdelance@phil.indiana.edu) or see the departmental web site.

VISITORS **Andre Chapuis**, PhD'93, has been awarded a major three-year grant by the Swiss NSF. He has returned to Bloomington for the length of the grant and will be working with **Anil Gupta**.



Philosophy Web Page Earns Three Stars

The professional editorial team of the McKinley Group has named our department's World Wide Web site a "3-Star" site. This rating is a special mark of achievement in Magellan, McKinley's comprehensive Internet directory of more than 1.5 million sites and 40,000 reviews. In reviewing sites for this special designation, three factors are considered: depth of content, ease of exploration, and Net appeal.



Credit for this award goes to graduate student **Tim Maletic**, who originally set up our home page, and to our departmental computer consultant **Matt Baucco**, who updates and maintains the page now.

You can visit the site yourself at (<http://www.phil.indiana.edu>). Learn all about the department (of course, you will also continue to receive and read this paper newsletter!), and browse the other IU pages also. You can find such varied information as course descriptions, individual home pages for various faculty, athletic and auditorium schedules, and job vacancies. Beginning next year, potential graduate students can apply using an application available on the Web.

Once again, the philosophy department and Indiana University are on the leading edge of technology.

Chalmers visit

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materialism is false. The book is making a splash in and out of philosophy of mind circles. *Scientific American* published an invited precis of the book and *Time* magazine prominently featured David in a cover story on the issues it deals with. Additionally, the book is being widely reviewed in publications such as the *Times Literary Supplement* and *The New York Review of Books*. All in all, David still expects the book to have its biggest impact in the philosophy community. As the details of his position settle in, he hopes they will spark vigorous debate on the issues.

David stayed for the entire weekend, not only participating in the other Red Carpet activities, but also renewing his friendships with students and faculty on campus.

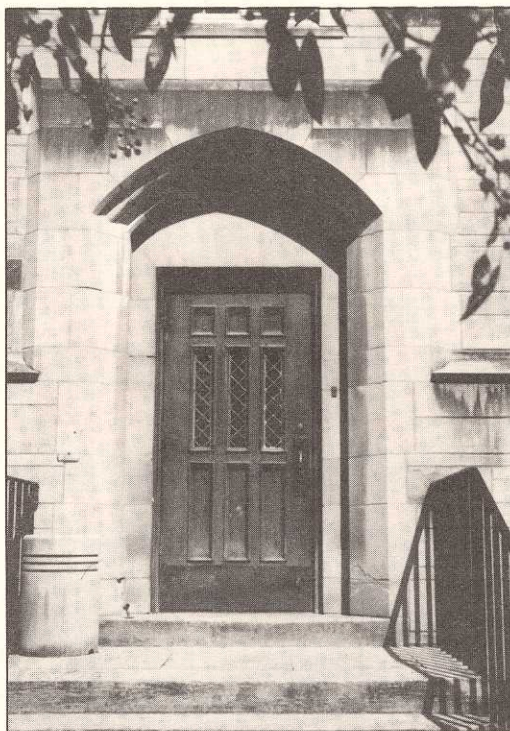
Another popular event of the weekend was the fifth annual Graduate Stu-

Finally! Philosophers have more space (if not time)

As most readers will probably remember, the Music Library was housed for years in the basement of Sycamore Hall directly under the philosophy department. Around the first of this year, however, the library moved to new quarters in what was once the Education Building. Our department was given most of what was the library's office and work areas. We were even given some of the library's furniture!

This allowed us to move all the A.I. offices to the new area. For the first time ever, fellowship students and interns have their own desks. This emptied several rooms "upstairs," so that now all faculty members, including visitors, have their own offices. Also the chair can now maintain a "research" office, and the chair's office can be used just for departmental business. This will save a good deal of shifting of books and other materials each time the chairship changes hands.

The copy machine was moved out of the main office and into a new work area. Best of all, there is now a special place downstairs just for conversation and informal small group work.



Remember this door? Although the inside will undergo extensive remodeling, the exterior of Sycamore Hall will not be changed.

Within the next few years, all of Sycamore will be remodelled. The first step will be to redo the ancient heating/cooling system in the building. Other projects will include reconfiguring the stacks area of the former library for other uses, wiring the classrooms for better use of electronic media, reconfiguring our office space and that of the other departments in the building, and bringing the whole building up to the Americans with Disabilities Act standards. The courtyard area is also to be relandscaped and the sidewalks replaced with red brick pathways. There is to be a memorial bench dedicated to the late Hector-Neri Castaneda, who was the Mahlon Powell Professor of Philosophy.

No timetable for completion of all this work has been set, but work on the heating/cooling system has already begun and some ADA work should begin soon. Alumni should visit now — while they still can recognize the place!

Editors, readers deem journals successful

This past year, *Symploke: A Journal for the Intermingling of Literary, Cultural, and Theoretical Scholarship*, founded and edited by philosophy and comparative literature PhD student **Jeffrey R. DiLeo**, was selected by the Council of Editors of Learned Journals as a finalist in the category of Best New Journal. The competition considered all journals established within the last five years. The journal also received a write-up this winter in the "Hot Type" section of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* for its special issue on the "posttheory generation."

In addition to the posttheory issue, *Symploke* has published special issues on "The Histories of Michel Foucault," "Philosophy and Literature," "Presentations of the Subject," and "Wittgenstein and Art." The next issue of the journal will be on "Rhetoric and the Human Sciences."

Part of the success of the journal is linked to the gap it fills among academic journals. While there are many journals devoted to philosophy, comparative literature, critical theory, and cultural studies, few aim to intermingle these fields as rigorously as *Symploke*.

While the journal enjoys submissions

and circulation on an international scale, its continued success, in terms of academic goals, and its continued publication ultimately depend on subscriptions. We urge philosophy alumni to support the journal by encouraging their institutions to subscribe. For specific information on subscriptions or submissions, e-mail the editor at (jdileo@indiana.edu) or write to him at the philosophy department.

The department's other journal is the *Electronic Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, which just published its fourth issue this spring and featured Hubert Dreyfus, Mark Okrent, John T. Sanders, and Tim van Gelder. The topic was "Existential Phenomenology and Cognitive Science," which addressed the growing appropriation of phenomenology by some cognitive scientists. This successful journal received more than 4,000 "hits" its first week online, and readership has remained above 2,000 "hits" a week since.

In 1997, EJAP will move from annual to biannual topic issues, starting with the fall issue, "Methods of Ontology." Readers can find EJAP on the World Wide Web at (<http://www.phil.indiana.edu/ejap/ejap.html>).

Alumni news

The December 1995 issue of *Scientific American* includes an article by **David Chalmers**, PhD'93, titled "The Puzzle of Conscious Experience." According to the magazine's table of contents, "neuroscience has done much to explain how the brain works, but consciousness — the subjective experience of having a mind — has been less tractable. This philosopher offers reasons why and frames a new science of thought." Chalmers is an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of California, Santa Cruz. (See article on page 1.)

After more than 24 years as a teacher and administrator at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, **David C. Payne**, BA'61, MS'62, EdD'65, founding chair of the Department of Family Studies, has retired. Payne taught from 1965 to 1971 at the University of Connecticut.

Dennis Sweet, BA'81, an assistant professor of philosophy at Fordham University, New York, is the author of *Heraclitus: Translation and Analysis*, published in 1994 by the University Press of America.

PHILOSOPHY

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