

Indiana University

P.H.I.L.O.S.O.P.H.Y

Alumni Newsletter

Volume XIV College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association Summer/Fall 1999

Henry Veatch: An appreciation and a farewell

Henry Veatch's association with the IU Department of Philosophy began 62 years ago in 1937. His death on July 9, 1999, severed the last living link to the department of the 1930s through the 1950s.

Henry spent 27 years in the IU Department of Philosophy, participating actively in its evolution through a series of profound changes. He went on to Northwestern for eight years, where he was to be honored with a named professorship. His last post, which included a period as chair, was at Georgetown for 10 more years. He finally retired at 71 and eventually returned to Bloomington.

Henry was decidedly "old school." He became a philosopher at a time when a philosopher was something of a gentleman. As the storm troops of logical empiricism and its successors began sweeping the profession, Henry eschewed sectarian infighting and maintained his wit and humanist sensibility. It wasn't that he recoiled from controversy, but he en-

tered it to calm unnecessarily troubled waters.

His philosophical outlook was formed at Harvard in the context of the American Realism of his thesis director, Ralph Barton Perry, and the Classical Realism of his mentor, John Wild. He became and remained an Aristotelian at a time when, though fashions were rapidly changing, there was the common belief that older traditions were spent and American philosophy was within reach of some radically new truth.

Even as a gentleman philosopher, Henry was remarkably productive. Of his seven professional books, he will probably be best remembered for his *Intentional Logic*, published by Yale in 1952, and his *Rational Man*, published by Indiana in 1961. These like his other works were contributions to an epistemological, moral, and ontological project of an Aristotelian character.

Among his old school ideas, departmental pluralism was one Henry was most reluctant to give up. He was opposed to traditionalists in the 1950s who stood fast against letting analysts join the department. He was equally opposed to analytic philosophers in the 1960s who wanted to wipe the slate clean of idealists and phenomenologists. As he makes clear in his perceptive and enjoyable



memoir of 1994 about his days at IU, it was an interactive pluralism that he encouraged. A department was not to be just a many-colored beast, but a diverse collection of faculty who would learn from one another.

The Indiana philosophy department and the Bloomington community were also enriched by the presence of Henry's wife, Mary Jane (Janie). Henry and Janie were individually delightful, and they were obviously and utterly devoted to each other. Their closeness was evident even at the end: Janie and Henry died on the same day.

The Veatches were instrumental in the establishment of the Dona Roberts Biddle Scholarship and often came to the department to meet the recipients. Memorial contributions can be made to that fund or to the Wells Scholars Fund.

Those of us who had talked with the Veatches since their return to Bloomington will miss Henry's refreshing political commentaries and personal jibes and Janie's charm. The department as a whole can be proud to claim both as distinguished and exemplary figures in its history.

— Milton Fisk



Mary Jane and Henry Veatch congratulate David Finklestein, winner of the department's first Dona Roberts Biddle Scholarship

ASA meets at IU Bloomington in 1998

The 56th annual meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics took place on Nov. 4-7, 1998, on the IUB campus. Peg Brand, of our department, served as the local contact and was responsible for

(continued on page 2)

Around Sycamore

Faculty news

Fred Beiser has an NEH Faculty Fellowship for the coming school year.

Graciela DePierris participated in a number of conferences, including one in Oslo, Norway.

J. Michael Dunn has been appointed director of informatics.

Michael Friedman continued as president of the Philosophy of Science Association and served as the Jacobson Lecturer at the University of London, the Hall Lecturer at the University of Iowa, the Simon Lecturer at the University of

ASA at IUB

(continued from page 1)

most of the arrangements. Almost 200 people attended the event.

The American Society for Aesthetics was founded in 1942 to promote study, research, discussion, and publication in aesthetics. "Aesthetics," in this connection, includes all studies of the arts and related types of experience from a philosophical, scientific, or other theoretical standpoint, including those of psychology, sociology, anthropology, cultural history, art criticism, and education

In keeping with this broad mandate, meeting participants covered a wide range of topics. Session titles included "Nietzsche," "Classical Music and Postmodern Knowledge," "The Metaphysics of Fiction," "Prejudice and Interest," "The Female Body in Art," and "Musical Noise and Recording Technology."

While the philosophy department was the "official" host for the meeting, the conference would not have been possible without the help of other people and departments on campus. The meeting also included a showing of photographs from the Kinsey Institute, a private concert and lecture from Grammy Award-winning cellist Janos Starker, and a private performance of a portion of the opera *Idomeneo*. The Fine Arts Gallery hosted the opening reception, and the dance department took part in one of the sessions. Delegates were also treated to a reception at Bryan House.

We extend a big "thank you" to all those involved. Richard Eldridge, the program chair, called IU a "marvelous host" and looks forward to returning sometime in the future.

Toronot, and the Wirkmeister Lecturer at Florida State.

Anil Gupta has returned from his fellowship year at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and announces that he and his wife, Mukta, have adopted a daughter, Donna.

Karen Hanson gave invited lectures in Dallas for the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, in Philadelphia for the Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium, and in Minneapolis for the University of Minnesota.

David McCarty returned from a sabbatical during which he served as a DAAD fellow and visitor in Konstanz, Germany, and as a visiting scholar at Oxford, England.

Michele Moody-Adams continues as associate dean for undergraduate education in the College of Arts and Sciences and also was invited to give a paper at the Eastern Division meetings of the American Philosophical Association.

Michael Morgan gave an invited paper at Hebrew University and has a Summer Faculty Fellowship this year. He also has a Jewish studies grant to organize a conference, to be held on campus next fall, on the topic "Jews and Germans: Intellectual Engagement."

Tim O'Connor has a new book coming out this winter. *The Metaphysics of Free Will* is being published by Oxford University Press in December.

Leah Savion has received an "active learning" grant from Research and the University Graduate School.

Paul Spade concluded a term as president of the Society for Medieval and

Renaissance Philosophy.

Milton Fisk continues his very active retirement. He visited Palestine in October, lecturing at Bir Zeit University, Muwatin Institute, and the Institute for Community and Public Health. He brought back greetings for everyone from Raja Bahlul, who received his PhD here in 1983 and is on the faculty at Bir Zeit. In March, Milton and his wife, Maritza, were off to Taiwan and the People's Republic of China. He lectured in both countries. In Taiwan, the Fisks were hosted by Karl and Jo Ning, both of whom have PhDs from IU. On the mainland, they were hosted by another IU graduate, Limin Bao. Milton's book on health care as a public good is due out next March, and he is working on an anthology on public goods.

Student news

Axel Barcelo was a visiting scholar at the Instituto de Investigaciones Filosoficas at the National University of Mexico during the fall semester last year. He worked with professors and students and also gave talks based on his dissertation work.

Kata Bimbo won the prestigious Gene L. Branigin Graduate Fellowship from the College of Arts and Sciences for the spring 1999 semester. Kata was able to complete her dissertation during that time and is now working in New Zealand.

Jack Green Musselman received a travel grant from the College of Arts and Sciences so that he could give a talk at the Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association.

Andrew Janiak has received a fellowship award from the University of Tel Aviv. He will spend the next academic year there participating in a seminar on the Enlightenment and working on his dissertation.

Richard Lara will participate in IU's graduate student exchange program with the Free University of Berlin. He received a grant to cover travel and living expenses for the year.

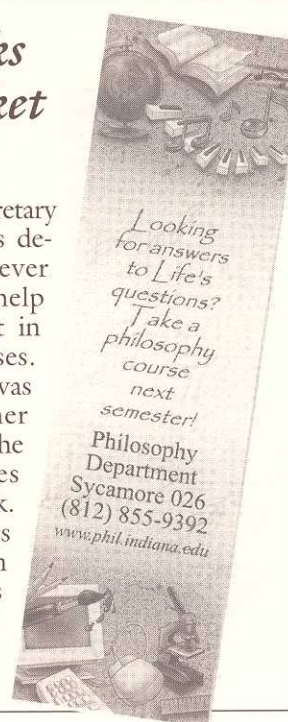
Yiwei Zheng received a Starr Fellowship from the Office of International Programs.

The job placement news is good this year also. **Craig Delancey** has accepted a consultant's position at the Stamford, Conn., office of McKinsey & Co. **Anthony Chemero** has accepted a two-year

(continued on page 3)

Bookmarks help market classes

Departmental secretary Margie Clark has designed some clever bookmarks to help stimulate interest in philosophy classes. The first batch was used for summer school and had the summer classes listed on the back. The bookmarks were distributed in philosophy classes and at various spots around campus.



Barwise elected to academy

K. Jon Barwise was one of four professors from Indiana University Bloomington elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a distinguished honorary society that recognizes achievement in the natural sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities and that conducts a varied program of projects and studies responsive to the needs and problems of society. Barwise is College Professor of philosophy, computer science, and mathematics and adjunct professor of linguistics.

The American Academy, based in Cambridge, Mass., is an honorary learned society whose members are elected for distinction and achievement in the entire range of the intellectual disciplines and professions. Each year, the fellows of the academy nominate and elect individuals who have made significant contributions to knowledge and culture. The election process is administered by a membership committee made up of academy members representing each field.

"This is great news for these four faculty members and for Indiana University. Election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences is a high honor," said IU President Myles Brand. "I couldn't be more pleased with this endorsement of the caliber of our scholars,

performers, and researchers."

Barwise, one of six U.S. humanities professors selected for their expertise in philosophy and theology, is known for his research in logic and its interactions with other fields. His work in pure logic is concerned mainly with model theory and higher recursion theory, and his work in philosophy addresses the implications of epistemology, metaphysics, and the philosophy of language for the foundations of logic and mathematics. His work in linguistics and computer science has been directed at developing a theory of information that is rich enough to support an understanding of discourse and computation.

Jon has been in our department since 1990. Before joining our faculty, he was at Stanford, where he was co-founder and first director of the Center for the Study of Language and Information and the first director of the Symbolic Systems Program.

Barwise joins Michael Freedman as a member of both the philosophy department and of the academy. The late Hector-Neri Castaneda was also an academy member.

Free permanent IU e-mail addresses offered

The Indiana University Alumni Association is now offering permanent IU e-mail addresses to new graduates, members of the Alumni Association, and all alumni of Indiana University. Currently, students' IU e-mail expires 30 days after they graduate, but the IUAA's service lasts forever. It is the virtual equivalent to postal mail forwarding.

The address following the "@" sign reads "alumni.indiana.edu." The IUAA will receive your e-mail at your permanent IU e-mail address, then forward it to you at home, work, or wherever you've established a new e-mail account.

When you switch jobs or e-mail service providers, you can update your addresses through the IUAA Web site, and your e-mail will automatically be forwarded. You may move from job to job or place to place, but people will always be able to reach you through your permanent IU e-mail address.

Register for your permanent IU e-mail address at www.indiana.edu/~alumni.

Ben Singer wins Biddle Award

Benjamin C. Singer is this year's winner of the Dona Roberts Biddle Memorial Scholarship. The award, established in 1994 to honor Mrs. Biddle, seeks to encourage and recognize a student whose academic work has been excellent and who demonstrates an interest in relating philosophy to the task of improving the quality of life of others.

Ben graduated in May, majoring in both philosophy and religious studies. He maintained a 3.93 GPA and wrote honors theses in each department. He received many honors and awards during his stay at IU, including the University Honors Division Senior Achievement Award and the Department of Religious Studies Undergraduate Appreciation Award.

He belongs to several organizations, including Students for a Free Tibet, Amnesty International, and the Student Environmental Action Coalition. He has worked as a legal intern and as a camp counselor. He also helps teach Sunday school when he's home in Florida and has volunteered as a soccer coach.

Ben has also done research in India, Nepal, and Tibet and had a photo exhibition of the work he did there.

Congratulations, Ben! We are proud to have had you as a philosophy student and wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Around Sycamore

(continued from page 2)

visiting position as assistant professor in the Scientific and Philosophical Studies of Mind Program at Franklin and Marshall College, in Pennsylvania. **Adam Kovach**, **Charles Bolyard**, **Ingo Farin**, and **Yiwei Zheng** all have visiting positions for the coming year, while **William Johnson** has joined the diplomatic corps of the U.S. State Department.

Departmental awards

Several awards were presented at the annual departmental reception in April.

This year's winners were

- Undergraduate Ewing Essay Contest — **Alan Wiggins**;
- Undergraduate Academic Excellence and the Dona Roberts Biddle Memorial Scholarship — **Benjamin Singer**;
- Graduate Ewing Essay Contest — **Yi-Yu Liang**;
- Academic Excellence — **Kevin Robbins** and **Rony Guldmann**;
- Outstanding A.I. — **Lisa Keele**; and
- Nelson Fellowship — **Axel Barcelo**.

PHILOSOPHY

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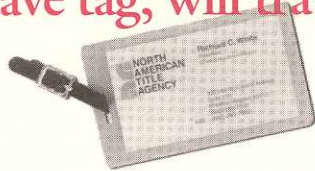
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