

Philosophy News



Dear Alumni:

Inside this issue:

Department faculty speak up 2

Faculty speak (cont.) 3

Alumni News 4

The Philosophy Department underwent significant changes during the preceding academic year. We thought you might like to hear about some of the things going on in the Department.

Most notably, Ewing Chinn has retired. This is a real loss to the Department, as Ewing is a well known scholar in Asian Studies. Fortunately, he plans to stay around; he is still young (a sprightly 144 years old) and in great health (even the two hairs on his chinnnn). He's just back from Hawaii, where he made a presentation at the East-West Center. Luper will take over as Chair of the Department.

We have a new faculty member, Andrew Kania, from New Zealand. His degree is from the University of Maryland, and his specialty is aesthetics.

Our Stieren speaker this year will Dr. Allen Carlson, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. His research includes aesthetics, environmental philosophy, and the aesthetics of nature, landscape, and architecture. We will have other speakers also. Dr. Ward Jones, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, will speak to the Depart-



Ab summer—time to smell the flowers....

ment in September. He is the chief editor of *Philosophical Papers*.

Feel free to contact us, and we hope that you will stay in touch.

A word from the Lup...

I spent the last semester on academic leave, one of the really terrific perks of academic life. I worked on an epistemology project—on knowledge closure—and on death ethics. I am also revising my Stanford

Encyclopedia article on death (url: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/closure-epistemic/>). This will help when I teach my Death and Happiness seminar this coming semester. Finally, I wrote a review of a fun and interesting book by Bede Rundle (Oxford U.) called *Why*

is There Something Rather Than Nothing (Oxford Press). (My review is in the next *Disputatio*.) Rundle's answer: well, there *has* to something or other. On the philosophy obviousness scale (POS) of 0 (like, *so* not obvious; an idea that makes the



A word from the Lup (continued)

brain explode) to 10 (duh; an idea that induces instant and permanent coma), I'd give his thesis a 6. Joe Bob sez: check it out. Hey, I have a web site, too, you might care to visit: <http://www.trinity.edu/departments/philosophy/sluper/>).

So what else is going on? Well, when I'm not doing philosophy, I spend a lot of time working on my place out on the Guadalupe River. (Anyone want to volunteer to help with landscaping?) I'm planting any beautiful plant that will survive out there.

(Got any ideas?) Phoebes, cardinals, wrens and coo coo birds nest on my porches and in my yard.

From the desk of Curtis Brown..



I was on academic leave during the fall of 2005, working on issues in the philosophy of computation, especially on what it is for a physical system to implement a computation. A recent related publication is "Implementation and Indeterminacy" (there's a complete reference and link to the paper on my website at

<http://www.trinity.edu/cbrown/>). I am currently working on revising and updating my Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy entry on "Mental Content, Narrow" and am in the early stages of work on texts on intermediate logic and on the philosophy of science.

I plan to get lots of work done during my trip to Hawaii with my family this summer!

Off the top with Kimmel

Kimmel continues apace, teaching, writing, and traveling. Depending on when you graduated in the last 38 years (and counting) the list of published essays stretches out a ways. In the last three years: "The Poetics of Transformation," "Death as Metaphor," and "Literature, Mystery, and Truth" to name just a few. If you have an interest in any of these topics—or any of the stuff you will hear about in these newsletters—let us know,

and we'll send off-prints, or cyber-copies, followed, of course, by an exam.

Again, depending on when you graduated and who you want news of, we can bring you up to date on former faculty—Chuck, Alex, et al., where they are, what they're doing or not doing, but we need your response to this missal. Once we get a list together, we will make sure you don't miss ongoing BIG EVENTS such as Ewing

Chinn's graduation (retirement) party, at which there was a giant piñata in the form of the Buddha. The administration balked on allowing a naked dancing person to spring forth from the smiling face, but a good time was had by all anyhow. If you learned anything from your tenure among us, you will remember that philosophy does not end with an exit from the Academy. Keep thinking and keep in touch. LDK

Norman's notes

I have had a great, though busy year. I have finished translating a bunch of Nietzsche's late works, which will be published later this year (check out <http://www.cambridge.org/uk/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=0521816599>). I recently gave a paper on Hegel and German romanticism—a subject I am getting into more and more, since it lets me explore really interesting aspects of the relationship between philosophy and literature. And I am

spending the summer writing a paper on Schelling's philosophy of time, which will be published in an anthology next year.

Apart from the philosophy, I have kept my hand in political work, giving a couple of talks on peace related themes and writing a trainers' manual for the Texas Fair Trade Coalition. But mostly I am spending as much time as possible with my gorgeous

little baby, who loves swimming, chasing cats, and opening and closing doors — the ingredients for a perfect summer.



a word from Heil

I'm putting the finishing touches on my Stanford Encyclopedia article on Plato's aesthetics, and working on a new paper on artistic inspiration in Plato's "Ion." I'm starting to see the theoretical reasons why Socrates does NOT light up the room when he walks in. I'm excited that my 2-year old son Andy has finally decided to

talk—and now, of course, he won't shut up. My daughter, Ellie, is turning 10 this summer, though I haven't seen her since she got one of those game cubes a couple of weeks ago. My wife, Katrina, is finishing up her dissertation this summer, and so I've been trying to support her by dramatically acting out possible con-

versations between Unamuno and Aristotle in our kitchen. Other than that, not much, except grieving over the future of our country's Supreme Court.

"I'm starting to see the theoretical reasons why Socrates does NOT light up the room when he walks in."

The new kid on the block (Andrew Kania)

Hello! I've spent the last five years earning my Ph.D at the University of Maryland, just outside of Washington D.C. Before that I received a BA and MA from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. My doctoral dissertation is entitled *Pieces of Music: The Ontology of Classical, Rock, and Jazz Music*.

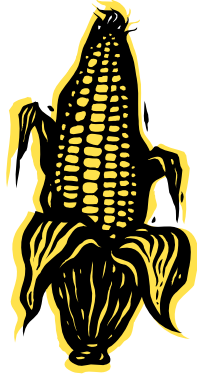
It's basically about the relations between works, performances, and recordings, in each of those three traditions. Though my primary interest in aesthetics is musical, I've also published in the philosophy of film and literature, and enjoy teaching a whole range of philosophy. I'm looking forward to

starting the next phase of my philosophical life at Trinity this fall, but before then I'm taking a month-long road trip across the country and back to see some of the places academic conferences will never take me, and to hunt down the greasiest-spooned diner in America. See you soon!



Just peachy...

Alumni News



Eat more corn

We hope you've enjoyed our first issue of *Philosophy News*. Our goal is to keep in touch with our alumni and keep them involved in making our program the best it can be. We welcome your comments and suggestions to help us in this effort. We also would like to hear what you are doing with your lives, be it great or small. If you have anything you'd like to share with us, we will try to include it in this section of our newsletter. Comments, criti-

cisms, news, jokes, all the stuff that makes us real. Thanks for sharing, and take care. Editor

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

This story can fit 50-100 words. The ear of corn is a good example of a story that is 50-100 words long. You can use this as a guide to help you write a story that is 50-100 words long.

Inside Story Headline

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing. Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an

Inside Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid

selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in

your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you’re finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends,

or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a

column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

“To catch the reader’s attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you’re trying to convey. Avoid

selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

*Philosophy Department
One Trinity Place
San Antonio, TX 78212*

*Phone: 210-999-8305
Fax: 210-999-8353
Email: roconnor@trinity.edu*

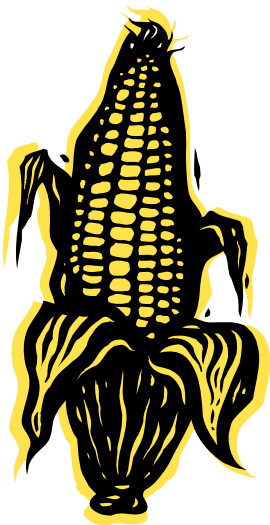
We're on the Web!

example.microsoft.com

Your business tag line here.



Back Page Story Headline



Caption describing picture or graphic.

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization

is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual char-

ity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.