# Philosophy News

# A Banner Award-Winning Year!

## LATE BREAKING ANNOUNCEMENT

### Hacking Wins Holberg

It was announced on 25th August that Ian Hacking has won the Holberg International Memorial Prize for 2009, perhaps the highest international honour for humanities and social science scholars. The prize, worth over 500,000 euros, was established by the Norwegian parliament in 2003, "for outstanding scholarly work in the academic fields of the arts and humanities, social science, law and theology". The previous winners are, from 2004 to 2008: Julie Kristeva, Jürgen Habermas, Shmuel Eisenstadt, Ronald Dworkin, and Frederick Jameson. The awards ceremony takes place in Bergen, 25th November, 2009.
You can find the citation at **http://www.holbergprisen.no/**

*Hacking*

### Sumner Wins Molson Prize

University Professor Emeritus **L. Wayne Sumner** (BA, 1962) has been awarded the Canada Council for the Arts' 2009 Molson Prize in the Humanities, one of the country's premier academic honours. See Page 2 for more details.

*Sumner*

### Hacking Wins SSHRC Gold Medal

University Professor Emeritus **Ian Hacking** received the 2008 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Gold Medal for Achievement in Research, SSHRC's highest honour. See Page 2 for more details.

### Socrates Project Wins Northrop Frye Award

The *Socrates Project* is a three-year-old initiative in the St. George Philosophy Department that gives our best undergraduate students the Socratic experience of learning philosophy by teaching philosophy. The *Project* students serve as teaching assistants (TAs) for Introduction to Philosophy (PHL 100Y) and at the same time take an intensive research seminar, where they develop independent projects related to topics covered in PHL 100. The *Project* received the University of Toronto Alumni Association's 2009 Northrop Frye Award of Excellence for

*Sumner photo by Shelagh Howard Photography*

*Professor Mark Kingwell accepts the Northrop Frye Award for The Socrates Project. Pictured: David Naylor, Mark Kingwell, David Peterson, Paul Cadario.*

Departmental Initiatives. The award citation states: "The Socrates Project exemplifies Northrop Frye's conviction that teaching and learning are inseparable." In its three years the project has become a model for enhancing the undergraduate experience by integrating research and learning.

*We wish to thank the generous donors to the Department of Philosophy, without whom Philosophy News would not be possible. Please see the back page to see how you can support the Department in endeavours like this one.*

## … more on Sumner and the Molson Prize

The Canada Council for the Arts awards the Molson Prize for "outstanding lifetime achievements and ongoing contributions to the cultural and intellectual life of Canada." Wayne has been honoured for his contributions to ethics: In four books and over 40 articles in refereed journals he provides one of the most careful expositions and most robust defenses of utilitarianism. Wayne's work stands out especially for its combination of theoretical and applied approaches.

Two of his books, *Welfare, Happiness, and Ethics* (1996) and *The Moral Foundation of Rights* (1987) set out his version of utilitarianism, one grounded in careful consideration of the empirical evidence and detailed analysis of the arguments for and against his preferred theory. He analyzes welfare in terms of what he calls "authentic happiness" and argues that respect for rights is the best means to promoting overall welfare.

In his two other books, *Abortion and Moral Theory* (1981) and *The Hateful and the Obscene* (2004), Wayne shows that his construal of utilitarianism helps to resolve difficult moral and public policy questions.

Wayne's applied work has been particularly focused on and influential in Canadian public life. His treatment of the morality of abortion was adopted by the Canadian Supreme Court in the landmark 1988 case, *R. v. Morgentaler*, where Justice Bertha Wilson used his approach to spell out the constraints that a just abortion law would have to meet. And his study of the right to free speech in *The Hateful and the Obscene* uses Canadian law and jurisprudence as the framework for his investigation, examining such famous cases as *Keegstra* (on hate speech) and *Butler* (on pornography).

Though Wayne retired from teaching in the summer of 2008, his research continues to flourish. His current project examines the legality and morality of euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide in Canada and elsewhere. He plans to follow it up with a detailed treatment of John Stuart Mill's argument for utilitarianism.

## Conference in Honour of Wayne Sumner – October 24, 2009

On October 24, the Department will be holding a conference, *Rights and Wrongs: Life, Death, and the Pursuit of Happiness*, in Wayne's honour. All the speakers at the conference will be former graduate students of Wayne's: **Lisa Fuller** (PhD, 2006), now teaching at SUNY, Albany, after recently completing postdoctoral work at Sheffield; **Anthony Skelton** (PhD, 2005) of Western Ontario, and before that, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Michigan; **Gustaf Arrhenius** (PhD, 2000), University of Stockholm; and **Michael Stingl** (PhD, 1986), now Chair of Philosophy at the University of Lethbridge. The conference will close with the Canada Council's formal presentation to Wayne of the Molson Prize. Please join us for this special occasion.

## … more on Hacking and the SSHRC Gold Medal

The SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research is given each year to an "individual whose leadership, dedication, and originality of thought have significantly advanced understanding in his or her field of research, enriched Canadian society, and contributed to the country's cultural and intellectual life." Ian has been honoured for his four decades of research on "how our contemporary investigations of nature and of ourselves — our science, our philosophy and our definitions of chance, illness and the self — are shaped by the history of concepts, and how expert knowledge feeds back into society over time and changes the way we think about the world."

Ian's work can be understood as exploring three related themes. First, he has examined the structure, role, and influence of statistical and probabilistic reasoning in such books as *Logic of Statistical Inference* (1965), *The Emergence of Probability* (1975, 2006), and *The Taming of Chance* (1990). *Taming* was named by *The Modern Library* as one of the *100 Best Nonfiction Books of the Twentieth Century*. Only eight other philosophical works were listed (by such titans as Thomas Kuhn, John Rawls, and William James), and only one other Canadian author made the list.

Ian's second theme has been the philosophy of experimental science. In a series of classic articles, culminating in his *Representing and Intervening* (1983), he showed that, for philosophers to make progress in their understanding of science, they had to investigate what scientists actually do, most notably, how they construct apparatus to produce and manipulate phenomena. Ian's discussion — with its pithy slogan, "if you can spray them [unobservable entities, such as electrons], they're real" — reinvigorated and refocused the debate over whether human knowers can access the deep structures of reality.

Ian's first two themes converge in a third: an analysis of how the scientific investigation of social and psychological conditions can serve to produce the very phenomena it studies. Beginning with a much-cited article, "Making Up People" (1986), and including his books *Rewriting the Soul: Multiple Personality and the Sciences of Memory* (Harvard UP, 1995) and *Mad Travelers: Reflections on the Reality of Transient Mental Illnesses* (U. of Virginia Press, 1998), Ian has engaged in micro-historical studies of particular cases where the human sciences helped to create new kinds of people.

Two collections of essays, *The Social Construction of What?* (1999) and *Historical Ontology* (2002), explore such topics as the differences between the natural sciences and the human sciences, and how philosophy can understand them. Ian has in addition published on the philosophy of language, the history of modern philosophy, and many other topics.

Ian tells us that, oddly enough, the day before he was notified of his winning the Gold Medal, he received news that he was also being awarded the 2008 Giulo Preti Prize for science and philosophy by Pianeta Galileo (a program of the Regional Council of Tuscany), given annually to a scholar of international acclaim whose work uses scientific methods to advance our understanding of civil consciousness or democracy.

Besides these two prizes, Ian also recently received two honorary doctorates, one in 2008 from McMaster University and one from the University of Cordoba, Argentina in 2007.

Ian's career has also been marked by a deep commitment to his students. For example, he was recently an invited speaker at a conference, "Cognitive

## Story of the Juggler of Notre Dame

*by Ian Hacking*

When I received the Gold Medal in Ottawa last year, I told a parable about how I think of myself doing philosophy. It has been told many times in many contexts for many hundreds of years. It is the story of the Juggler of Notre Dame. I am, by the way, an atheist of conviction, but can tell the story proudly as part of our humanity. Here is my version of the tale:

Once there was a juggler in the French countryside. He perfected his art at village fairs. But he wished to show his devotion to Our Lady. So he went on a pilgrimage to Paris. As the procession progressed through the countryside it acquired rich and poor, nobles and beggars, cardinals and kings. Always the rich took the limelight, on their horses, with their attendants, and with their splendid tents.

When they reached Notre Dame de Paris, the poor on the pilgrimage marveled as the rich knelt down with their precious gifts for Our Lady, their gold ornaments and elegant lace. The juggler was in despair. What could he do to show his devotion? By now he had only a small knapsack with enough bread to feed himself on the morrow, and the balls and knives with which he juggled. He had nothing to offer. He slept, listless, among the beggars in the Parvis of Notre Dame, the same space where the acrobats and mimes perform before the tourists today.

He awoke long before dawn and did what only he could do. He went to the back of the great church, where there is a garden now, and juggled his best, for Our Lady, knowing that the guards of the nobles would allow him no space in front of the building. She blessed him above all others.

That is how I think of myself and the ways that I do philosophy. That is my juggling. I too have been blessed.

There may be a more general moral here. Do what you are good at, perfect it in your way, and do not worry about the rest. Students should never pay any attention to what cardinals, kings, and heads of departments say they should do, in order to get a job. Instead, do your best at what you care about.

# THANKS TO OUR ALUMNI

## ANOTHER NAMED GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP, THANKS TO HANS MAAG

Hans Maag has very generously endowed the Hans Maag/Ontario Graduate Scholarship in the Department of Philosophy which will yield $15,000 per year. Mr. Maag tells us that, although he was not able to attend university, he has always loved learning and wanted to make it possible for others to receive the education he wasn't able to obtain. He came to have a special appreciation for the Department and our students from conversations with his former neighbour, longtime faculty member, Bernard Katz.

Hans Maag was born in Bachenbulach, Switzerland, and celebrated his 98th birthday last May. He emigrated to Toronto in 1951 with his wife Lydia and their two children. Though, as a young man in Switzerland, he acquired considerable training and experience in metalworking, he had a difficult time finding similar employment in Toronto, where, as many immigrants have found, prospective employers were unfamiliar with his foreign credentials and references. This difficulty turned out to be fortunate, for it led him to start his own successful metalworking business, Elrose Metal. Maag ran Elrose Metal, manufacturing custom products, until his retirement in 1982.

Throughout his life, Hans Maag has had a relentless curiosity about the world, by no means limited to metal structures and applied science. He has a lively interest in politics and history as well as a love of art, music, and literature. He is especially fond of the poetry of Schiller. Recipients of the Hans Maag/Ontario Graduate Scholarship in the Department of Philosophy should keep in mind, as they embark upon their studies, not just Hans Maag's generosity of spirit but also his devotion to hard work, his tolerant liberal disposition, and his optimism about the power of reason.

The Department is very grateful to Mr. Maag for the help he will be giving to our graduate students.

## SIMON LECTURES

Professor **Barbara Herman**, Griffin Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Law at UCLA, delivered the Jerome S. Simon Memorial Lectures on November 6 and 7. The lectures developed the idea of moral content in Kantian ethics, and considered its bearing on assessments of wrongness and impermissibility when duties conflict. The biannual Simon Lectures, generously supported by Charles Simon and his family, in memory of Jerome Simon, are always one of the academic highlights of the year. John Campbell, Willis S. and Marion Slusser Professor of Philosophy at the University of California at Berkeley will be delivering the Simon Lectures in 2010-11.

*Professor Arthur Ripstein with Barbara Herman.*

## CAREER NIGHT 2009

*Alumni David Danylewich, Karen Dunk-Green, and Adrian Montgomery*

Alumni **Stephen Bowman** (BA 1976, LLB 1979), Toronto Managing Partner at Bennett Jones LLP; **David Danylewich** (BA 1993, MBA 2004), Director of Field Operations, Right to Play; **Karen Dunk-Green** (BSc 1984), VP of Operational Risk Management, TD Bank Financial Group; **Adrian Montgomery** (BA 1996), General Manager, Rogers Media Inc; and **Jim Shedden** (BA 1986, MA 1990), Senior Manager, Bruce Mau Design, were the speakers at this year's Career Night.

As in previous years, the upper class philosophy undergraduates found the evening enlightening and benefited from the speakers' insights during both the presentations and informal conversations. Our students are always thankful to hear first hand how their philosophy degrees can be used in the "real" world.

## *ethica* Scholarship

In 2007 *ethica* Clinical Research Inc. funded a Bioethics Scholarship in honour of **Barry F. Brown** (MA 1963, PhD 1966), retired professor and founder of the undergrad bioethics program at U of T and St. Michael's College, and Chair of *ethica*'s Ethics Review Committee. **Bernice Duan**, the winner of the scholarship for the first two years, is now in Halifax at Dalhousie University's medical school. Bernice writes: "The big draw for


*Bernice Duan, winner of the ethica Scholarship in both 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, with Barry Brown at her convocation.*

me to attend Dalhousie was the strong focus they have on bioethics: They not only emphasize humanities in medicine, they also have a bioethics department within their medical school. Coming to UofT four years ago as a pure science student and choosing to do a major in bioethics along with my major in toxicology was something completely out of my comfort zone. However, in retrospect, it was the best decision I could possibly have ever made. Bioethics and philosophy have truly become a passion for me; they have opened my mind to so many different perspectives and will undoubtedly help me to become a better physician. I honestly have to say that I am incredibly grateful to the entire philosophy department and all the professors, not only in bioethics but throughout the philosophy department (as I also took many courses in philosophy outside the bioethics realm). They mentored me throughout my years at UofT, opened me up to a completely different way of approaching medicine, and challenged me to take the 'blinders off and think outside the box'."

The recipient of the 2009-2010 scholarship is **Natalie Jesenak**, a third year student, who is doing a double major in Bioethics and Global Health and is working towards a minor in environmental chemistry.

## A NEW LECTURE SERIES - THE ROSEMAN LECTURE IN PRACTICAL ETHICS

Thanks to the generosity of **Ellen Roseman** (MA 1969) and the **Constance and David Roseman Fund** at the **Toronto Community Foundation**, the Department will be able to host another biannual lecture series.

Ellen, a financial columnist for the Toronto Star, has been a very active alumna of the Philosophy Department, from the original "Friends of Philosophy" initiative in the early 1990's to the more recent projects such as our annual Career Nights and the Law and Philosophy Fellowship. She has been teaching economics related courses at the U of T School of Continuing Studies for many years. The inaugural Roseman Lecture will be held Friday, October 23, 2009, the afternoon before the Sumner Conference. **John Broome**, White's Professor of Moral Philosophy and Fellow of Corpus Christi College at Oxford, will be speaking on "The Ethics of Climate Change." Please see the Departmental website for more details.

# FROM THE CHAIRS AND ADMINISTRATORS

## From the Graduate Chair


*Mullin*

It's been another busy and exciting year, and our students and faculty members continued to thrive despite the difficult financial environment. In particular, I am very pleased to report that the Graduate Department of Philosophy at the University of Toronto continues to do extremely well in *Blackwell's Philosophical Gourmet Report* 2009 rankings (they were last done in 2006), the most reputable analysis of faculty reputation in our field. We remain ranked first in Canada by a considerable margin and are tied for 17th in the English speaking world, behind Harvard and Princeton, but ahead of Cornell, Cambridge, University of Chicago and many other fine institutions. We have also done remarkably well in specialty rankings, particularly in ethics, political philosophy, the philosophy of law, the philosophy of science, ancient and medieval philosophy, and also for the first time in philosophy of mind, metaphysics and the philosophy of language. You can see more details at www.philosophicalgourmet.com. We thank all of our supporters for their efforts at strengthening our graduate program, and are very pleased to be able to share this recognition of our joint success.

I wish to express congratulations to our graduate students for their very successful organization of the Graduate Philosophy Conference which took place in May on the theme of "Action, Agency and Explanation," featuring keynote speaker **John McDowell** of the University of Pittsburgh. The quality of both the presentations and the general discussion was very high.

Finally, I welcome the return of **Donald Ainslie** from his sabbatical leave spent as a visiting researcher at Stanford University. He has resumed his position as Graduate Chair (as well as Chair of the St. George campus Department of Philosophy).

*Amy Mullin*
*Acting Graduate Chair*

## From the St. George Chair


*Boyle*

I write this a few days before ending my stint as Acting Chair, while Donald Ainslie has been on sabbatical. I am relieved to be handing the Chair's office back to its rightful occupant. It was hard work, but rewarding and with a lot more success than frustration. The successes include a number of promotions (see page 6), as well as special funding for a number of new initiatives, including an extension of the *Socrates Project* (see page 1), a "*Writing for Research*" (W4R) project, and the implementation of a new Philosophy Undergraduate Research Coordinator position, now ably filled by **Vida Panitch** (MA, 2002; PhD, 2008).

I should note also that, at the same time as I finish as Acting Chair, **Joe Heath** will be finishing his term as Associate Chair and Undergraduate Coordinator. During his three years in this position, Joe has worked endless hours to ensure that our students get the best philosophical education we can provide. Most importantly, Joe was the

force behind the recent development of our new undergraduate programs. These now offer a structured entry into the discipline, its history, and traditional fields of study. Joe's uncompromising energy, intellectual vision, and good humour made these significant changes possible. **Mark Kingwell** is taking over from Joe in the Undergraduate Office.

The overwhelming impression I take away from my year in the Chair's office is that our Department works; it is very well run. We know our priorities and over the last few years have been pursuing them intelligently, cooperating among ourselves in a collegial and respectful way. This could not happen without superb support from the friendly but businesslike staff on the fourth floor of the Jackman Humanities Building. This year the collegial leadership of Amy Mullin, who served as Acting Graduate Chair, was pivotal. The result for me was a year of hard work, but not unpleasantness, and a sense of satisfaction in being part of such an outstanding academic community.

*Joseph Boyle,*
*Acting Chair*
*Department of Philosophy,*
*Faculty of Arts & Science*

## From the Graduate Department

We have a large and impressive new group of students admitted this year: 14 PhD students and 11 MA students. Among the PhD students, four are coming to us with external funding from SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) or OGS (Ontario Graduate Scholarship program) and one has received an internal award; among our MA students, three have won the impressive CGSM (SSHRC's Canada Graduate Scholarship Masters) awards and one has an OGS. We continue to contribute to the Collaborative Program in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, adding two students this year to the six we recruited last year. Across all years, we will have four students funded by the OGS and 20 students funded by SSHRC. Among the latter, four students won SSHRC's Canadian Graduate Scholarship, the so-called super-SSHRC valued at $35,000 per year; and one student, *Ariel Zylberman*, won SSHRC's new Vanier Scholarship, valued at $50,000 per year.

*Kremer*

*Phil Kremer*
*Graduate Coordinator*

# UTM Philosophy News

I am delighted to report that we have hired two new assistant professors who join us in the fall of 2009. They are **Ulrich Schlösser** (DPhil from Humboldt), who joins us as a specialist in German Idealism and Phenomenology, and **Andrew Sepielli** (PhD expected from Rutgers), who does research in moral philosophy, with a special focus on moral uncertainty. Thanks to the many UTM students and faculty who helped us make these terrific hires.

I am very proud of our newly formed Philosophy Academic Society. Their activities over the past year included guest speakers, graduate student presentations, movie nights, Philopardy (Philosophy Jeopardy), and an undergraduate symposium where students presented their work. A complete listing of their activities can be found on their website: http://utmphilosophy.sa.utoronto.ca/.

This year for the first time, we honoured our graduating philosophy majors and specialists at a reception held on the downtown campus after Convocation. Thanks to generous donations from our faculty, we were also able to present all of our graduates with philosophy books.

During 2009-10, I am on sabbatical leave and **Sergio Tenenbaum** will be Acting Chair. Thanks to Sergio for taking this on.

We welcome hearing from our alumni. Write us at amy.mullin@utoronto.ca to let us know what and how you are doing.

*Amy Mullin*
*Chair, Department of Philosophy,*
*University of Toronto at Mississauga*

# UTSC Philosophy News

The past year was marked by a number of notable events for philosophy at Scarborough (UTSC). The "second" annual UTSC undergraduate philosophy conference was held in March 2009. As in the inaugural year, the UTSC students served as commentators (and referees), ceding the podium to budding philosophers from Canada, the United States, and Britain. In addition, Professor **Mohan Matthen** provided the keynote address that wrapped up a very successful event.

*Seager*

Two of our most hardcore philosophy students graduated this past year but have not moved on from philosophy. **Mark Lee** and **Carl Legault** are continuing the pursuit of wisdom (or at least another degree) in graduate school: Carl, in the MA program here at the University of Toronto; Mark, in the PhD program at Rutgers University. Good luck to both.

UTSC is also welcoming a new tenure track faculty member this year. After an arduous search, **Karolina Hübner** emerged as the first choice from a strong pool of candidates. Currently finishing her PhD at the University of Chicago, Karolina's specialty is the philosophy of Spinoza. She adds much needed strength in the history of philosophy to UTSC and the graduate department as well.

Finally, after serving several years (too many to recall) as Discipline Representative (DR), as the position has heretofore been known, I have "retired" to the joys of sabbatical leave and perhaps get some work done. Over the last few years UTSC has almost doubled in size and the responsibilities of the DR have grown commensurately, but also the scope and prospects of philosophy at UTSC have never been greater. Professor **Sonia Sedivy** has now taken over as Program Director, as the position will henceforth be titled, and I wish her good luck and a thoroughly unexciting time next year.

*William Seager*
*Philosophy Discipline Representative,*
*University of Toronto at Scarborough*

## Promotions & Appointments

**Anjan Chakravartty** has been appointed Director of the Institute of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology until June 2015. Paul Thompson finished his term as Director in June 2009.

*Chakravartty*

**Imogen Dickie** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. She is currently working on questions in the philosophy of language about reference and related questions in the philosophy of mind (about perception of objects) and metaphysics (about what objects are). She is presently on leave as a Bersoff Fellow at NYU.

*Dickie*

**Jennifer Hawkins** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Her research interests are moral philosophy, philosophy of mind, moral psychology, and bioethics.

*Hawkins*

**Joseph Heath** was promoted to Full Professor. His areas of research are social and political philosophy, moral philosophy, ration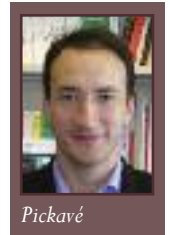al choice theory, specializing in critical social theory in the tradition of the Frankfurt School. His recent books include *Following the Rules: Practical Reasoning and Deontic Constraint* (2008) and *Filthy Lucre: Economics for People Who Hate Capitalism* (2009).

*Heath*

**Benjamin Hellie** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. His area of specialty is philosophy of mind.

**Cheryl Misak** was appointed Vice President and Provost at the University of Toronto last spring after having served as interim provost and deputy provost. While performing her administrative duties efficiently, she still manages to publish — *The Oxford Handbook of American Philosophy* last year, and *New Pragmatists* the year before.

*Hellie*

**Amy Mullin** was re-appointed for an additional term as Chair of the Department of Philosophy at University of Toronto Mississauga until June 2012. She is currently on leave after serving as Acting Chair of the graduate department for one year and finishing her first term as the inaugural Chair of the UTM department.

*Misak*

**Martin Pickavé** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. His main areas of research are medieval metaphysics and medieval philosophy of mind. He is cross-appointed to the Centre for Medieval Studies.

**Sonia Sedivy** has been appointed Program Director of Philosophy at UTSC. Her research is in the areas of Philosophy of Mind and Philosophy of Art.

*Pickavé*

*Sedivy*

**Sergio Tenenbaum** has accepted an appointment as Acting Chair of Philosophy at UTM for 2009-2010 while Amy Mullin is on leave. His areas of research are ethics, practical reason, and Kant.

*Tenenbaum*

**Jessica Wilson** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Her areas of research are metaphysics of science and foundational metaphysics.

*Wilson*

## Retirement

### A Politically Engaged Political Philosopher: Frank Cunningham Retires

Frank Cunningham retired this summer from the University of Toronto, where he spent his entire academic career with the exception of visiting professorships in China, Italy, Japan and the Netherlands. In Toronto we have been the fortunate recipients of his dedication to teaching, scholarship, and the building of community.

His undergraduate teaching was recognized with a SAC/APUS Undergraduate Teaching Award in 2005. As a graduate teacher he has supervised numerous dissertations on a range of topics related to democracy, poverty, equality, justice, and political theory. In addition, his commitment to teaching has ranged beyond the university, both locally and provincially, for adults and high-school students. For example, Frank almost singlehandedly created and found the funding for the Regent Park Learning Exchange Programme. This project, sponsored by the Provost's office, brought together professors and local residents to explore a variety of philosophical topics including the nature of personhood and the meaning of life. Frank tells us that he considers his work on this project particularly rewarding.

Frank displayed similar focus and drive in his decades-long project to bring philosophical instruction into Ontario's high schools. He spent countless hours working with the Ontario Ministry of Education to develop curriculum for high school philosophy courses; he also co-founded the Ontario Philosophy Teachers Association, and he has co-authored, along with several secondary school teachers, a philosophy text for high school students.

*Frank Cunningham*

Frank's scholarship has been deep, extensive, and highly influential. His three most recent books on democracy, *Theories of Democracy: A Critical Introduction* (2002), *The Real World of Democracy Revisited and Other Essays on Socialism and Democracy* (1994), and *Democratic Theory and Socialism* (1987) have been translated into multiple languages, and we look forward to reading his forthcoming book *The Political Thought of C.B. Macpherson* in 2010. His research accomplishments were recognized by the Royal Society of Canada which elected him a Fellow in 1995.
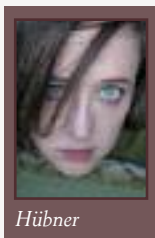
But Frank has not kept his scholarship in the ivory tower. In addition to his many philosophical publications, he has been generous in sharing his ideas with the public in more popular forums. His current research interests in urban philosophy allow him to unite his theoretical work with more practical activity related to city politics, and he is delighted to note that increasing numbers of students and professors are exploring the role of philosophy in studying urban life through the Cities Centre, a new multidisciplinary research institute at U of T.

Frank Cunningham's contributions to the Department, the University, and the profession include serving as department Chair, where he is especially pleased to have forged closer ties with philosophers at the University of Montreal; as Principal of Innis College where he enjoyed the close contact with students and curricular development; as coordinator and first chair of the Committee of Ontario University Chairs; and as president of the Canadian Philosophical Association (one of three of our department members to have served in this capacity, along with Professors Thomas Goudge and Francis Sparshott). As he retires from full-time teaching this year, we look forward to a long ongoing association with this politically engaged political philosopher.

## New Faculty

**Karolina Hübner**, a specialist in Spinoza, early-modern philosophy, and the history of metaphysics, has been hired at the University of Toronto Scarborough as an assistant professor. She receives her PhD

*Hübner*

from the University of Chicago this year, and arrived here after a stint of teaching at the University of California, San Diego.

**Ulrich Schlösser**, has been hired as an assistant professor at the University of Toronto Mississauga. The focus of his research is on post-Kantian philosophy. His PhD is from Humboldt University in Berlin, and

*Schlösser*

he has held positions both there and at the University of Sheffield.

**Andrew Sepielli**, who specializes in normative ethics, metaethics, and philosophy of law, has been hired as an assistant professor at the University of Toronto Mississauga. He will receive his PhD from Rutgers University.

*Sepielli*

## IN MEMORIAM *by John G. Slater*

### Douglas Poole Dryer

Douglas Dryer was born in Toronto on 27 November 1915, but soon afterward his family moved to the United States where he received all of his education. After being awarded an A.B. degree in both economics and philosophy by Harvard in 1936, he decided to pursue graduate studies in philosophy. Three years later, with an A.M. in hand, he accepted an appointment to teach in Union College at Schenectady, New York. Two years later he resumed his graduate studies at Harvard and completed all of the requirements for the doctoral degree except the dissertation. Exempt from military service, he taught part-time at both Harvard and Tufts University before being appointed a special lecturer in this department in 1945 by Fulton Anderson who had just taken over as head of the department. Douglas told me that the 'special' in his title was added when he insisted on being paid more than a lecturer's salary.

Dryer fitted nicely into Anderson's theory of philosophical education which centered on the great figures in the history of philosophy. Dryer's great love was Immanuel Kant and he spent his whole career studying his difficult works. Thomas Goudge and he took turns teaching *The Critique of Pure Reason* which both had studied at Harvard under C.I. Lewis. Lewis required his pupils to acquire a mastery of the book by handing in an outline of an assigned part every week. Both men continued that tradition. For the next couple of decades Dryer also adopted the Harvard way of addressing male students by their surnames. Every so often, during the years when the department required candidates for the master's degree to submit a thesis, an overly ambitious student would propose writing on Kant and be sent to Dryer for supervision. One of these misguided young men reported back to me when I was chairman that Dryer listened patiently to his ideas and then remarked, 'The first thing you have to be clear about, Smith, is that there are no M.A. theses on Kant.' Truer words were never spoken. As can be gathered from this exchange Dryer set very high standards in his teaching which only a few students succeeded in meeting.

In 1966 he published *The Solution for Verification in Kant's Metaphysics* which was essentially the culmination of his work on the doctorate. Oddly enough, it gained him his Harvard Ph.D. degree. It came about in this way. In 1977 Bruce Kuklick published *The Rise of American Philosophy: Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1860-1977*, which includes an appendix listing all those who got a Harvard doctorate during those years. Dryer decided he wanted to add his name to that list, so he submitted his book, which Harvard accepted as fulfilling the thesis requirement. Dryer was given an oral examination by Hilary Putnam and Martha Nussbaum, and awarded the degree in 1980, a year before he retired. In 1978 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Dryer died on 17 April 2009 in Toronto after suffering for several years from the ravages of Parkinson's disease. He was 93 years old.
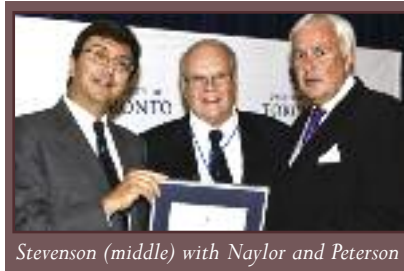
# Awards & Honours

## Faculty Awards

**Imogen Dickie** has been awarded a second year of the prestigious Bersoff Assistant Professor / Faculty Fellowship in the Department of Philosophy at New York University.

Professor Emeritus **Jack Stevenson** received an Arbor Award from the University of Toronto Alumni Association in 2008 for the many decades of work he did improving the university's tenure appeals process. He is pictured here between UofT President David Naylor and UofT Chancellor, the Honourable


*Stevenson (middle) with Naylor and Peterson*

David R. Peterson.

**Jonathan Weisberg** won Rutgers University's bi-annual Young Epistemologist Prize for the best essay in epistemology written by someone whose PhD was awarded within the past ten years. His prizewinning essay,

"Bootstrapping in General" will be published in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. Jonathan writes: "Trusting a source you don't know to be reliable is thought to lead to paradoxical reasoning called 'bootstrapping'. This paper argues that the bootstrapping paradox does not depend essentially on trust in an unauthenticated source; instead it arises from exploitations of the intransitivity of probabilistic support."


*Weisberg*

## Student Awards

**Ryan Beaton** won the Martha Lile Love Teaching Award for course PHL 315 F – Topics in 19th Century Philosophy at UTM in the summer of 2008. The award is given to a PhD student who has demonstrated a combination of skill, inventiveness, competence and enthusiasm while teaching an undergraduate course. From the design of the syllabus to his supportive approach to his students, Ryan was a model graduate instructor. Students were generous in their praise for Ryan's clarity, patience, organized approach, and sensitivity to students' needs. An observing senior professor noted that Ryan lectured Socratically, "inspiring the students to ask themselves, and him, questions. There really was a sense of intellectual community – one learnt history [and how] to think about deep matters." Great teachers instruct, challenge and inspire, and this year's Martha Lile Love award winner did all three.


*Beaton*

**Rachel Bryant** has been awarded a Doctoral Fellowship in the Centre for Ethics for the 2009-2010 academic year where she will be working on her dissertation about the fundamental normative justification for conservation biology. Rachel says: "Conservation biology aims primarily at the protection of biodiversity. Often, this is justified by reference to the intrinsic value of biodiversity. My dissertation critiques this, and offers a justification for conservation based not on the value of biodiversity, but on the value of welfare." Besides continuing with her thesis, Rachel will be participating in the Centre's seminars, conferences, and other activities. Rachel's research is being supervised by Professors Wayne Sumner and Denis Walsh.


*Bryant*

**Charlie Cooper-Simpson** has been granted a Jackman Humanities Institute Undergraduate Fellowship for 2009-2010. He will be working on an independent project, "Defending the Human: Materialism is a Humanism," under the supervision of JHI Faculty Research Fellow, Brian Cantwell Smith, a member of the Graduate Department of Philosophy and former Dean of the Faculty of Information. What an opportunity for a 4th year student!

**Alex Sinha**, a 5th year PhD student, was short-listed for the UofT Teaching Assistants' Training Program's Teaching Excellence Award. He has TA'd for us in PHL 271 F – Law and Morality, in PHL 281 Y – Bioethics, and in PHL 275 – Intro to Ethics. The department is very pleased to have such an exemplary TA – he consistently receives some of the highest tutorial leader student evaluations. Alex's research focuses on deontology (the study of duty as an ethical concept) and the justification of rights. His supervisors are Professors Tom Hurka and Wayne Sumner.


*Sinha*


*Ware*

**Owen Ware** has won a Chancellor Jackman Graduate Student Fellowship in the Humanities for 2009-2010, which will enable him to spend the year at the Jackman Humanities Institute focusing on his research. He writes: "My dissertation is on Kant's argument for how the moral law applies to us as human beings. I take up issues of freedom, agency, and moral feeling as they arise in his two most famous ethical works: the Groundwork (1785) and the Critique of Practical Reason (1788). The Chancellor Jackman Fellowship will provide me with an ideal opportunity to work on my dissertation and exchange ideas with an interdisciplinary group of fellows on the Institute's annual theme, 'Pressures on the Human'."

# Awards & Honours

## Congratulations to Ariel Zylberman, winner of the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship

Our PhD student Ariel Zylberman has received an inaugural Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, the most prestigious doctoral award in Canada. Valued at $50,000 per year for three years, the scholarships are awarded to the world's leading students from Canada and abroad. The value and prestige of the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships put them on par with such highly renowned scholarships as the Rhodes in the UK and the Fulbright in the US. These awards were created by the federal government in

2008, in order to attract and retain world-class doctoral students. The awards are administered by Canada's three federal granting agencies: the Canadian Institutes of Heath Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Ariel was among the 166 recipients of this award, as announced recently by Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology).

Ariel's path so far includes a Rhodes Scholarship in 2002, university-level teaching before he entered graduate school, and work in Peru with CUSO, Canada's largest international cooperation agency. There, he worked with APRODEH (Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos) on three projects. He engaged in a research project on intercultural education which culminated in a book, *La Educación Intercultural como*

*Ejercicio de Derechos Humanos*, published by APRODEH. He co-taught a seminar on Intercultural Education and Human Rights at the Technological University of the Andes. He also served as the Executive Coordinator of an education program — with six other NGOs and the Peruvian government — for community leaders, teachers and government officials.



*Zylberman*

Congratulations again to Ariel!

For more information on the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, see http://www.vanier.gc.ca/hp-pa-eng.shtml

# DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

## The Aristotle Contest 2009

For the past four years, the Department of Philosophy has worked with secondary school philosophy teachers to sponsor the Aristotle national philosophy essay competition for Canadian high school students. This year's topics were on torture (is it ever morally permissible?) and the truths of mathematics (are they invented or discovered?). Entries came in from coast to coast, and were judged by a team of Toronto faculty and secondary school teachers. The winning essay, by **Chloe Mighton** of Toronto, made a

careful distinction between mathematical truths and the ways we express them, and argued that only the latter are invented. In second place, an essay by **Alvin Chauhan** of Vancouver advanced a surprising argument that there could be circumstances in which torture would be not only morally permissible, but morally required. **Vincent Wen** of North York argued in his third-place essay that even the fundamental axioms of mathematics are best seen as artificial human inventions. Contest co-organizer Professor **Jennifer Nagel** (BA 1990) claims she expected, or even wanted, at least one

high school student to write a satirical essay combining the two topics ("Why math is torture; the view from Grade 12"). "The submissions were in fact all very earnest and sincere, but many did find fresh things to say on these old problems, or at least fresh ways of putting old ideas," Nagel commented. "I do look forward to seeing some of the contest participants in our university courses in the next few years."

The winning essays are available for download at <http://www.aristotle.utoronto.ca>.

## First Annual Philosophy Undergraduate Research Conference

The First Annual Philosophy Undergraduate Research Conference took place on Tuesday, April 28th and Wednesday April 29th, 2009. The conference was open to all students in PHL 489: the Socrates Project Advanced Philosophy Seminar, and PHL 499: the Individual Studies Research Seminars. Students in these seminars had pursued independent research projects with faculty supervisors during the 08-09 academic year. There were 13 presenters in all. The papers were very impressive and generated lively discussion as the students involved engaged with one another's projects. The conference ended with a dinner for all presenters.

*Vida Panitch, Undergraduate Research Coordinator*



*Vida Panitch Undergraduate Research Coordinator*

## World Philosophy Day 2008

The University of Toronto celebrated UNESCO's World Philosophy Day on November 13, 2008. Professor **Jeff McMahan** of Rutgers University delivered the WPD Lecture on "The Responsibilities of Soldiers and Civilians in an Unjust War." Students found the talk captivating and appreciated being able to interact with him informally over lunch and at the reception.

# DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

## FLC Program

The 2008-2009 academic year saw the Department of Philosophy participating in the First-year Learning Community (FLC) program for a second year. FLCs are small discipline-specific peer-led groups of approximately 24 students. The groups met regularly throughout the academic year for fifteen 90 minute sessions.

This Arts and Science program, now entering its fifth year, aims to help students make the transition from high school to university and to create a sense of community amongst those who share common academic interests.

The Philosophy department hosted two FLC groups last year:

• Mind and Brain, for students with combined interests in Philosophy and Psychology (facilitated by peer mentor **Stephanie Sugar** (BA, 2009), and assistant peer mentor **Jaime Oh**, a current Philosophy and Psychology double major); and

• Ethics & Society, a group created for students interested in the intersection of Philosophy and Political Science (facilitated by peer mentor **Navona Calarco** (BA 2009), and assistant peer


*Prof. Joseph Heath with FLC students in the University College Quadrangle.*

mentor **Anda Petro**, currently a Philosophy and Psychology double major and who is acting as peer mentor to the 2009-2010 Philosophy FLC).

Last year **Joe Heath** offered his time as Faculty Advisor, and **Leanne Dawkins** acted as the Staff Advisor to both groups.

The groups participated in a number of academic, professional and personal

development activities as well as social outings that bonded the group. Activities our Philosophy FLCs enjoyed included specialized tours of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, presentations on the philosophy programs and research opportunities at U of T, and a skating excursion to Nathan Phillips Square, to name just a few. At the 2008-09 year-end FLC semi-formal banquet, each group was asked to put together a short video that represented their group and its interests. Philosophy's Ethics & Society group filmed their contribution in silent film style, going so far as to making a group trip to Toronto's Distillery District in hopes that the setting would maximize the effect. Their efforts were well rewarded as they received the award for the best silent film by a FLC group.

We look forward to welcoming a new group of FLC students in the fall of 2009. For more information about the First-year Community Program, see www.flc.utoronto.ca.


*Leanne Dawkins with FLC students at the FLC Year-End Banquet and Dance.*

## SSHRC – Hacking

Disability: A Challenge to Moral Philosophy" at SUNY, Stony Brook, that was co-organized by his former student **Licia Carlson** (PhD, 1998) of Radcliffe; his commentator was another former student, **Victoria McGeer** (PhD, 1991) of Princeton, and he got some of the ideas for his talk from conversations with **Janette Dinishak** (PhD, 2008), a recent grad stu-

dent. It should come as no surprise, then, that Ian's motto is: "Teachers need students more than students need teachers."

On a final note, Ian and his wife Judith Baker grow exceptional varieties of tomato and pole bean in an inner-city plot in Toronto. Ronnie de Sousa, who fancies himself as a gourmet, and to whom they gave a tomato, said the next day: "That was not a tomato, but the Platonic Form of a tomato." Ian comments that his and Judith's

favourite pastime is walking up hills, "which is getting harder and harder, for, just as policemen are getting younger and younger, the hills are getting steeper and steeper." They describe a recent fortnight-long walk in the high Andes in a "Diary" in the September 10 issue of the *London Review of Books*.

Ian says there that "the hills there are steeper! Each pass involves walking up one vertical mile and then down again."

The University of Toronto Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy

**"Things in the Mind" – A Workshop on Medieval Cognitive Psychology Thursday-Saturday, September 17-19, 2009**

For details please see <http://cpamp.utoronto.ca/pages/utcmp.php>.

For inquiries and registration please email: medieval.philosophy@utoronto.ca.

The workshop is free and open to the public.

### October 23, 2009 – Roseman Leture in Practical Ethics

John Broome, Oxford. "The Ethics of Climate Change." Jackman Humanities Building, Room 100, (170 St. George Street) at 3:15 pm. Reception to follow. For more details, see Page 4 and our website.

### October 24, 2009 – Rights and Wrongs: Life, Death, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

### A Conference in Honour of Wayne Sumner.

For more details, see Page 2 and our website.

### World Philosophy Day 2009

The University of Toronto will celebrate UNESCO's World Philosophy Day events on November 19, 2009. James Dreier, Professor of Philosophy at Brown University, will be our guest speaker. A reception celebrating our senior under-graduate students will follow the talk. Please see our website for details.

*For up-to-the-minute details on these and other events, please see our recently redesigned website, <www.philosophy.utoronto.ca>.*

## *Colloquium Schedule*

**October 1, 2009 – Ed McCann** (University of Southern California).

**April 8, 2010 – Penelope Maddy** (UC Irvine).

**May 2010 – Raymond Geuss** (Cambridge). This colloquium will also serve as the keynote lecture in the annual Graduate Philosophy Conference.

Each colloquium will take place at the Jackman Humanities Building, Room 100, (170 St. George Street) at 3:15 pm and will be followed by a reception.

*Please check our website, <www.philosophy.utoronto.ca>, for details*

# 2009 PHILOSOPHY BOOK LAUNCH

## The department's 22nd Annual Book Launch, held on March 12th, 2009, featured:

**John Canfield**. *Becoming Human: The Development of Language, Self, and Self-Consciousness.* Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

**Ian Hacking**. *Scientific Reason.* National Taiwan University Press, 2009.

**Jennifer Hawkins** and Ezekiel Emanuel, editors. *Exploitation and Developing Countries: The Ethics of Clinical Research.* Princeton University Press, 2008.

**Joseph Heath**. *Following the Rules: Practical Reasoning and Deontic Constraint.* Oxford University Press, 2008.

**Brad Inwood** and **Lloyd Gerson**. *The Stoics Reader: Selected Writings and Testimonia.* Hackett, 2008.

Joshua Glenn and **Mark Kingwell**. *The Idler's Glossary.* Northwestern University Press, 2008.

**Mark Kingwell**. *Concrete Reveries: Consciousness and the City.* Viking 2008.

**Mark Kingwell**. *Opening Gambits: Essays on Art and Philosophy.* Key Porter Books, 2008.

**Graeme Nicholson**. *Justifying Our Existence: An Essay in Applied Phenomenology.* University of Toronto Press, 2009.

**David Novak**. *In Defense of Religious Liberty.* ISI Books, 2009.

**R. Rashkover** and **M. Kavka**, editors. *Tradition in the Public Square: A David Novak Reader.* Eerdmans, 2008.

**Vincent Shen** and **Kwong-loi Shun**, editors. *Confucian Ethics in Retrospect and Prospect.* Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Washington, DC, 2008.

**John Howard Sobel**. *Walls and Vaults: A Natural Science of Morals (Virtue Ethics according to David Hume).* Wiley & Sons, 2009.

**Fred Wilson**. *The External World and Our Knowledge of It: Hume's Critical Realism, an Exposition and a Defence.* University of Toronto Press, 2008.

*Alumni are invited to attend the 2010 Philosophy Book Launch which will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2010, 4-6 pm, at the Jackman Humanities Building, 170 St. George Street, Room 418.*



*Ian Hacking is holding the Canada banner on the third Aldermaston (Ban-the-Bomb) March in Britain. Photo from the Globe and Mail, 20 April 1960.*

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