



# TORONTO PHILOSOPHY NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

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## HACKING WINS KILLAM PRIZE IN THE HUMANITIES

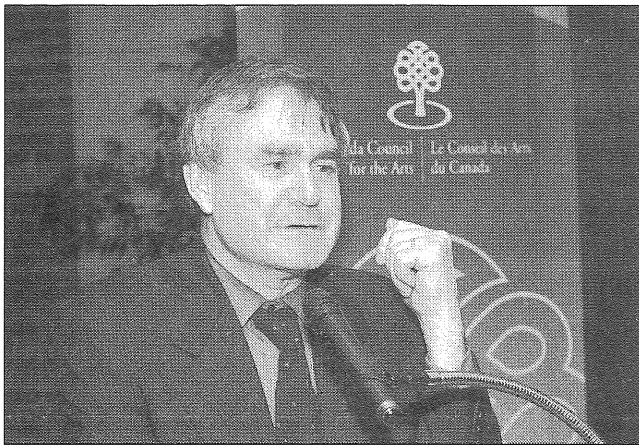
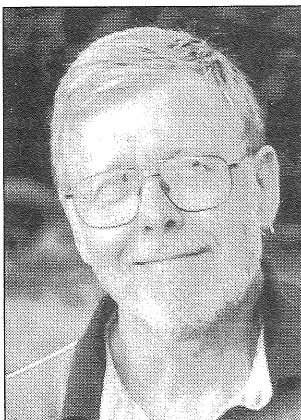


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In April 2002, Ian Hacking was one of five prominent Canadian scholars to be honoured with the 2002 Killam Prizes, Canada's most distinguished annual awards for outstanding career achievement in social sciences, humanities, engineering, natural sciences and health sciences.

Hacking's work spans epistemology, philosophy of science, theory and history of probability, sociology, the philosophy and history of psychiatry and the philosophy of language. In 2000, he was elected to a permanent chair at the Collège de France, and now divides his time between Paris and Toronto.

His many distinctions and honours include University Professor, University of Toronto, Visiting Fellow at All Souls College Oxford, Guggenheim Fellow, Killam Research Fellow, Fellow of the British Academy, Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and a honorary fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. In May of 2001, he was awarded a Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, by the University of British Columbia. He has also received the 2000 Canada Council for the Arts Molson Prize in humanities and social sciences.



## SUMNER APPOINTED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

*At the University of Toronto, a University Professor is the highest academic rank, recognizing exceptional scholarly achievement and preeminence in a particular field of knowledge, and comprising no more than 2% of the tenured faculty.*

Wayne Sumner's books on abortion and utilitarianism, on rights, and on welfare are valuable permanent contributions to ethics and political philosophy, and have both theoretical and practical relevance. *The Moral Foundation of Rights* (1987) argues that consequentialism is not only compatible with a commitment to moral and legal rights but actually provides

the most secure framework for such rights. *Welfare, Happiness, and Ethics* (1996) articulates a conception of well-being and argues that utilitarians have been right to regard well-being as the foundational value for ethics. *Abortion and Moral Theory* (1981) has been extremely influential on debates about abortion. It had a particularly significant impact on, and is quoted at length in, the important 1988 judgement in *R. v. Morgentaler*. His next book project is a critical retrospective of the classical nineteenth-century utilitarianism of Jeremy Bentham, J.S. Mill, and Henry Sidgwick. His current project, *The Hateful and the Obscene*, is a book-length treatment of issues in freedom of expression, focusing on both hate speech and pornography.

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## **FROM THE CHAIR**

We have had yet another busy and successful year, especially in the making of new appointments. I spent half of that year on a glorious research leave in New Zealand, made possible in part by Wayne Sumner who kindly agreed to be Acting Chair during my absence. That he did a brilliant job will be no surprise to those who know him. Wayne deserves not only our thanks, but also our congratulations, as he was recently made University Professor.

We are well on the way to sorting out the problematic demographics faced by most Canadian universities: a dearth of people in mid-career, due to the drought in hiring during the '70s and '80s. With the following new hires, many of them senior or mid-career, the department has a new and exciting feel:

- **RACHEL BARNEY** has been appointed as a Canada Research Chair in ancient philosophy. She is a repatriated Canadian who was recently tenured at the University of Chicago. She joins us in January 2003.
- **ANJAN CHAKRAVARTTY** has just arrived on the Mississauga campus, after a post-doc at King's College, Cambridge.
- **PHIL CLARK**, who works in ethics and the philosophy of mind, has just been hired on the Mississauga campus. His PhD is from UCLA.
- **JENNIFER HAWKINS** is an entry level appointment in ethics at the Scarborough campus, with a PhD from Princeton.
- **TOM HURKA**, a very highly regarded moral philosopher, has just come to us from the University of Calgary.
- **PETER KING**, a top medieval philosopher, joins us in July 2003.
- **GURPREET RATTAN** is an entry level appointment in philosophy of mind/language, with a PhD from Columbia University.
- **SOPHIA REIBETANZ** will join both the Department of Philosophy and the Faculty of Law in July 2003. She has a University of Toronto BA, and a BPhil from Oxford, a PhD from Harvard, and a Law degree from the University of Toronto.
- **MARLEEN ROZEMOND**, an important Descartes scholar, has just taken up a tenured position at the Mississauga campus.
- **GOPAL SREENIVASAN** is a Canada Research Chair in Bioethics. He is a repatriated Canadian who has taught at Princeton and the National Institutes of Health in Washington.
- **JIM TULLY**, Jackman Distinguished Chair in Philosophical Studies, has come to us from the University of Victoria and is a political philosopher who works on issues in multiculturalism.
- **JENNIFER WHITING**, who works on personal identity, ancient philosophy, and ethics, is the Chancellor Jackman Chair in Philosophy. She was tenured at Pittsburgh and at Cornell and will join us in July 2003.

# P A S S A G E S

## RETIREMENTS

**Jacqueline Brunning** earned her doctorate in this department in 1981 with a thesis on Peirce's algebra of relations, written under the supervision of David Savan. Her earlier degrees were in mathematics, her M.A. having been earned at the University of Detroit. She was appointed an assistant professor at Erindale College in 1981 and taught there until her retirement. In addition to several papers on various aspects of Peirce's philosophy, she co-edited, with Paul Forster, *The Rule of Reason: the Philosophy of C.S. Peirce* (1997). This book grew out of the International Conference on the Philosophy of C.S. Peirce in honour of David Savan, which she organized on the St. George campus in 1992.

**James Graff** joined the Department of Ethics in Victoria College in 1963 as an assistant professor, at the invitation of John Irving, then its Head. Earlier that year he had been awarded the Ph.D. degree from Brown University for his dissertation, *The Concept of a Moral Agent*. When Francis Sparshott, who had succeeded Irving as chairman, relinquished that office in 1970, Graff was appointed his successor. He served as chair until the Victoria department was absorbed into the University Department in 1975. In 1982 he produced *Fundamental Concepts in Philosophy* for use in his first-year course. In recent years he has written and spoken extensively on the political disputes in the Middle East, attempting to make the plight of the Palestinian people better known in North America.

**Robert Imlay** arrived in 1963 as a lecturer, in the midst of his doctoral studies at the University of Glasgow. In 1967 he was awarded the doctorate for *The Freedom of Intentional Action and the Concept of Responsibility*, directed by W.G. MacLagan, and was promoted to assistant professor. His first two degrees had been earned at the University of Western Ontario where A.H. Johnson, who had been a fellow graduate student with Thomas Goudge, took a special interest in his career. Imlay has published many articles, most of which deal with problems arising out of the writings of historical figures, especially Descartes and Hume.

**Graeme Nicholson** was a doctoral candidate in the department when Thomas Goudge appointed him as lecturer in 1966. His earlier degrees in philosophy were both earned at Dalhousie, and in addition he held the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Columbia. In 1968 he successfully defended his dissertation, *The Ontological Difference: A Study in Heidegger*, which he wrote under Emil Fackenheim's supervision. In 1984 he accepted an invitation to join the staff of Trinity College, where he taught for the rest of his career. His philosophical interests have remained centred on the Germanic tradition stemming from Kant and Hegel, although his fourth book, *Plato's Phaedrus: the Philosophy of Love* (1999), marked a return to an old and abiding interest in Greek philosophy. In recent years he has been cross-appointed to the Centre for the Study of Religion and has offered a graduate course, (Philosophy and Religion, combining his principal interests.

**Thomas Robinson** was born in England and earned his first degree from the University of Durham and the B.Litt in Greek Philosophy from Oxford. His first teaching position was at the University of Calgary, where he taught for three years in both philosophy and classics. In 1967-8 he served as a sabbatical replacement for John Rist in the Department of Classics in University College. During that year Thomas Goudge appointed him an associate professor with a cross-appointment in Classics. Robinson served as chairman of the department for two years, 1979-81, before resigning to accept the position of Vice-Dean (and later Dean) of Graduate Studies. Robinson has published widely in Greek philosophy; his best known work is *Plato's Psychology* (1970) which enjoyed a second edition in 1995. He has been active as an editor and as a member of various international organizations, serving as President of both the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the International Plato Society. In recognition of his untiring efforts in behalf of Greek philosophy, the government of Greece presented him with the Aristotle medal in 1998; this gold medal is awarded from time to time to scholars from other countries who have made significant contributions to our understanding of Greek thought and civilisation.

## IN MEMORIAM: PROFESSOR JULIA CHING

University Professor Emeritus Julia Ching died October 26 after a long battle with cancer. She was 67. Born in Shanghai in 1934, she fled China as a refugee during the Second World War. After completing high school in Hong Kong, Ching studied at the College of New Rochelle in New York and then served as an Ursuline nun for two decades, completing a master's degree at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, before obtaining a doctorate in Asian studies at the Australian National University in Canberra. She taught at Columbia and Yale before joining the Uof T Department of Philosophy and Department of Religion in 1978.

Ching rose to prominence as a world expert on the neo-Confucian philosophy and religion of the Song and Ming dynasties of 10th- through 17th-century China. She has written or edited 15 books including her definitive studies of the leading Ming Confucian, Wang Yangming, and the leading Song Confucian, Zhu Xi. Last year, she was named a member of the Order of Canada.



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WISDOM IN CHINA AND THE WEST: IN MEMORY OF JULIA CHING

**Thursday and Friday, November 21-22, 2002**

East Asian Studies Lounge, 14087 Robarts Library, University of Toronto

Early pre-registration is advised, as seating may be limited. Lunches and reception free to pre-registrants; for pre-registration, contact Prof. Vincent Shen, [vincent.shen@utoronto.ca](mailto:vincent.shen@utoronto.ca) or Prof. Willard G. Oxtoby, (416) 975-4040.

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## 2002 Philosophy Book Launch

The Department's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Launch, held on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002, featured:

Brown, James Robert, *Who Rules in Science? A Guide to the Wars* (Harvard, 2001)

Cunningham, Frank, *Theories of Democracy: A Critical Introduction* (Routledge, 2001)

Hacking, Ian, *Historical Ontology*, (Harvard University Press, 2002)

Kremer, Elmar J. & Michael Latzer, *The Problem of Evil in Early Modern Philosophy* (University of Toronto Press, 2002)

Ripstein, Arthur & Chris Morris (editors), *Practical reason and Preference: Essays for David Gauthier* (Cambridge, 2001)

Wilson, Fred, *Socrates, Lucretius, Camus: Two Philosophical Traditions on Death* (Edwin Mellen Press, 2001)

The Department's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Launch is scheduled for Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003, 4-6 pm.

## **UPCOMING 2002-2003 COLLOQUIUM SERIES & THE JEROME SIMON LECTURES IN PHILOSOPHY**

For our Colloquium Series this upcoming year, we welcome: Timothy Williamson (Oxford); Paul Boghossian (New York University); Don Garrett (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill); and Béatrice Longuenesse (Princeton University). Also this year we will be hosting the Jerome S. Simon Memorial Lectures with J. David Velleman (University of Michigan) as our guest speaker.

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## **JAY SMITH AND JOHN KANITZ**

We would like to extend our thanks to two of our most generous and constant supporters: Jon Kanitz and Jay Smith. Not only are they responsible for the Smith and Kanitz Graduate Computer Centre, but Jon has this last year purchased new computers for the Centre and Jay has given the Department \$50,000 for the Jay Smith Graduate Fellowship in Philosophy (matched by the University of Toronto and provincial government).

Jon Kanitz entered the graduate program in 1975, having received his B.A. summa cum laude from the University of Wisconsin. During his time as a graduate student, Jon was a teaching assistant and instructor in courses in logic, ethics and political philosophy, history of philosophy, and analytic philosophy. He also served as a residence don at New College, and was a Junior Fellow of Massey College. He wrote his thesis, "Perception, Reasons and Causes," under the supervision of Jack Stevenson. He received his degree in 1982. Jon joined Wood Gundy in 1981, and is now First Vice President of Wood Gundy CIBC.

Jay Smith came to the department from Indiana in the early '70s. He was a graduate student in this department between 1970 and 1977, when he completed an excellent PhD dissertation in the Philosophy of Action entitled "Purpose in Action". In that dissertation he discussed act individuation and explored difficulties with both causal and teleological theories; he also made some telling criticisms of Davidson's then recent work on weakness of will. Shortly after, an article stemming from that dissertation was published in the Australasian Journal of Philosophy. He worked with Ronnie de Sousa and Hans Herzberger, and outside the department with Charles Taylor and Ann MacKenzie. He had also studied at Harvard, Strasbourg, Avignon, and Germany. Before going on to a more lucrative career at one of Toronto's top investment firms, he spent some time teaching in Malaysia, where he taught an impressive range of courses including Chinese thought and Philosophy of Science. Department members around during Jay's time here remember him as a charmingly lively and cheerful presence.

Our warmest thanks to Jon and Jay, and to Chancellor Hal Jackman for the magnificent Jackman Endowment in the Humanities, which has provided the Department with two Senior Chairs (Jim Tully, the Jackman Distinguished Chair in Philosophical Studies; and Jennifer Whiting, the Chencellor Jackman Chair in Philosophy).

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## **APPEAL FOR GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL FUNDS**

As you know, it is not easy for young academics to secure tenure-track jobs. Our placement committee has been doing a stellar job in helping our recent PhDs in this task. We have placed students at Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania, and countless good Canadian universities. Indeed, our placement record over the past few years has been as good as most Ivy League records.

One thing that is becoming increasingly important in placing students in good jobs is their track record of giving talks at international conferences. Hence, we appeal to our alumni and friends to help us put together a fund for graduate student travel – a fund which will both enrich their experience at the University of Toronto and help them get the best jobs they can.

# Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto

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TPN is the Department's Newsletter for Alumni and Friends of Philosophy

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