

# Philosophy News

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

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Spring 2001

## Department events

. . . This has been an exciting year for the Department. Our outstanding students (70 undergraduate majors and 45 MA students), energized faculty, and supportive alumni and friends made possible a wealth of visiting speakers, important conferences, new courses and programs, excellent teaching, important research, and community service. We hosted 250 philosophers at the **Fifth Annual Southern California Philosophy Conference** October 21, 2000, and conducted a major conference (organized by **Dr. Sara Goering**) on **Ethical, Legal and Social Issues Arising from the Human Genome Project** April 21, 2001.

## Student Achievements

. . . **John Whipple** has been named to the Graduate Dean's List, a very high honor reserved for the top 1% of graduates each year. . . The Department has named **John Whipple** and **Debra (Tausch) Whittaker** as the Outstanding Graduates from the MA program, with Honorable Mention to **Maryam Qudrat**. The Department's Outstanding Graduate from the BA program is **Franica Tawn**, with honorable mention to **Anastacia Constantinos, Jody Dean, Jennifer Hadley, Giovanni Hortua, Daniel Jess, Jon McGrath, William Phinizy, Douglas Rosenblum, Christina Strack, and Karlee Tuttle**. . . Several students read papers at professional meetings in philosophy: **John Whipple** read a paper (co-authored with Dr. Larry Nolan) at the Midwestern Seminar in the History of Early Modern Philosophy at University of Chicago . . . **Russ Daley** was a panelist at the APA-Pacific meetings and read a paper at the Student Conference on Applied Ethics at Ohio University's Institute for Applied and Professional Ethics. . . Many have also been offered admission to excellent doctoral programs and law schools. **Maryam Qudrat** will enter the doctoral program at University of Southern California, with full support. **John Whipple** was offered admission, with full support, at UC San Diego and UC Irvine, and will attend UCI. **Erich Conrad** will enter the doctoral program at UC San Diego will full support. **David Brazgel** has been offered admission, with full support, from the doctoral programs at SUNY/Albany and the University of Tennessee. **Doug Rosenblum** has been offered admission to law schools at UCLA and Hastings. . . **Department scholarships** this year were awarded to **Carlos Castillo** (Whittington Scholarship), **Dave Brazgel** (Department Scholarship-Graduate), and **Kimberly Gainey** (Department Scholarship-Undergraduate). With the support of the Friends of Philosophy, we hope to award at least two additional scholarships next fall.

## New Faculty...

. . . In fall 2001, we will welcome **Dr. Thomas Schmidt**, who received his Ph.D. and Habilitation from the University of Frankfurt, where his dissertation advisor was Jurgen Habermas. Dr. Schmidt will teach philosophy of religion, as well as contemporary continental philosophy, critical theory, Hegel, and political philosophy. He is already planning for visiting speakers in philosophy of religion next year, and the Department looks forward to exploring the establishment of an institute for philosophy of religion, with partnerships with the University of Frankfurt and St. Louis University, where Dr. Schmidt is affiliated. . . In fall 2000, **Dr. Charles Wallis** joined our faculty and is developing new courses and a major conference on cognitive science, an exciting interdisciplinary project bringing together the insights of epistemology, philosophy of mind, psychology, and computer science. . . They join our other talented junior faculty, **Dr. Sara Goering**, who joined the Department in 1999, specializing in medical ethics, and **Dr. Larry Nolan**, who joined the Department in 1997, specializing in modern philosophy, especially Descartes. . . We expect to be able to recruit for at least one additional tenure-track faculty member in the fall of 2001 to further strengthen the Department.



**Fifth Annual Southern California Philosophy Conference at CSULB, October 21, 2000:**  
(from left) Dr. Sara Goering, Dr. T. R. Raghunath, Dr. Alex Rajczi

## Future Department Events

- ✓ **Society for Women in Philosophy**, May 19, 2001
- ✓ **Department Open House**, Commencement, May 31, 2001 (7:00-8:30 a.m.)
- ✓ **Ethics of Children's Literature Conference**, June 21, 2001
- ✓ **Cognitive Science Conference**, April 4-6, 2002

*For the most up-to-date information on these and other events, please check the Department Web site regularly:*

<http://www.csulb.edu/~philos/>

We are grateful to our Friends for their generous support of the Department of Philosophy this year:

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## Our faculty . . .

Our faculty this year presented numerous papers at professional meetings, including the American Philosophical Association (Pacific, Central, *and* Eastern Divisions!), the American Association of Philosophy Teachers, the Western Social Science Association, and the American Society for Aesthetics, and gave guest lectures at universities from Arkansas to Peru. They published articles, organized conferences, established new programs, and still found time to work individually with students on their studies and research projects. . . . **Dr. Larry Nolan** was elected Graduate Advisor for 2001-2004. Thanks to **Dr. Paul Tang** for his outstanding service as Graduate Advisor. . . **Dr. Julie Van Camp** is chairing the Department from 2000-2003, building on the outstanding work of **Dr. Al Spangler**. . . . **Ms. Cheryl Clark** retired in August 2000. **Dr. Steven Davis** retired in January 2000. **Dr. Ed Quest** enters the Faculty Early Retirement Program in fall 2001. We wish them our very best in their retirement.

## New Programs . . .

The Department will enroll the first students in fall 2001 in our new program, **Honors in Philosophy**, featuring individual research projects under the guidance of faculty and small seminars for honors students in the Department. . . . **Dr. Sara Goering** developed our new **Center for the Advancement of Philosophy in the Schools (CAPS)**, which places teams of philosophy majors working with K-12 teachers into the Long Beach public schools, and directs the **Center for Applied Ethics**.

## Our hard-working staff...

**Donna Reese** joined us as Administrative Support Coordinator in February 2001. Donna has extensive experience in financial management from years of service at the CSULB Foundation. . . . **Phyllis Simon**, formerly the Department ASC, took a new position in the Department of Linguistics in November 2000. . . . **Wendy McGlothlin**, a philosophy major, began work as the Department's new student office assistant in August 2000. . . . **Erik Baldwin**, who served the previous two years as student office assistant, completed his MA at CSULB and is now in the doctoral program in philosophy at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. . . . **Russ Daley**, a philosophy MA student, is the student assistant for CAPS and the Center for Applied Ethics.

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