WHAT’S NEW!

Philosophy is international! Philosophy faculty members are going beyond borders to enrich their repertoire with international perspectives. This summer, GERALD DOPPELT will be teaching a course titled “The Ethics and Politics of Multiculturalism in Liberal-Democratic Societies” in Lund, Sweden. Jerry is one of three UC faculty out of 35 applicants selected to teach in the UC/Lund University Summer School Program in Sweden, offered through the UCSD Programs Abroad Office. It is a nine-week program focused on issues such as climate change, human rights, energy sustainability, American film, the future of Europe, democracy and pluralism. He will also present papers in Philosophy of Science and Political Philosophy in conferences and research programs at universities in Athens, Rome, and Madrid.

WILLIAM BECHTEL gave talks in 2007 on the history of electrophysiology in Exeter, England; mechanisms in psychology in Copenhagen, Denmark; and on mechanistic research on circadian rhythms in Oslo, Norway. In April 2008, he will be lecturing on mechanisms in biological explanation at the University of the Basque Country in San Sebastian, Spain; the downs and ups of mechanistic research in Tilburg University, The Netherlands; and multiple levels of control in living systems in Groningen University, Netherlands. Over the summer, he will be presenting talks at the Netherlands Summer School for Cognitive Science in Amsterdam, Netherlands; the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology in Utrecht, Netherlands; a conference on computation in cognitive science at Cambridge University, England; the annual Wittgenstein Symposium in Kirchberg am Wechsel in Austria.

NANCY CARTWRIGHT is Director of the Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science and a Professor of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method at the London School of Economics, as well as, a Professor of Philosophy at UCSD.


MONTE JOHNSON wrote a paper entitled "Aristotle the Materialist, Mechanist, and Reductionist" for a conference on "Aristotelianism and the Critique of Modernity" at the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies at the University of Helsinki, Finland in November 2007.

ERIC WATKINS was the recipient of the Research Fellowship (2005-2007) from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, a non-profit foundation established by the Federal Republic of Germany for the promotion of international research cooperation. It enables highly qualified scholars not resident in Germany to spend extended periods of research in Germany and promotes the ensuing academic contacts. The Humboldt Foundation promotes an active worldwide network of scholars.

CHRISTIAN WÜTHRICH will be participating in the Swiss National Science Foundation (NSF) project, "Properties and Relations," and there will be several workshops related to this project over the summer. For more information, visit http://www.philosophie.ch/eidos/proprel.shtml.

“Science is organized knowledge. Wisdom is organized life.”

- Immanuel Kant
UNDERRGADUATE MOVIE NIGHT

Title: Waking Life, by Richard Linklater
Date/Time: Tuesday April 15th 4-6 pm
Location: H&SS 7076
Presented By: Kristen Irwin

The movie night is open to all undergraduate Philosophy majors and minors. Free food and a Philosophy T-shirt! Seats are limited!

UNDERRGADUATE JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY: INTUITIONS V

The conference this year for the Intuitions Journal V will be on Friday, May 30, 2008. The deadline for paper submissions is Friday, April 11, 2008. For submission guidelines, please visit http://philosophy.ucsd.edu/undergrad/Intuitions_Guide.pdf.

PHILOSOPHY TUTORS

At this time, the Philosophy Department does not have an official tutoring program. However, we currently have a student who is volunteering his time to help a Phil 10 student, unofficially. In the meantime, if you would like to be put on the volunteers interest list or would like to be tutored by a volunteer, please contact Macy Huynh at mjhuynh@ucsd.edu. If there are no volunteers available, please see your professor during his/her office hours.

For more information on events and programs, please contact the Undergrad Advisors Nina Cooper at nina@ucsd.edu and/or Macy Huynh at mjhuynh@ucsd.edu.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILES:

MATTHEW BROWN wrote a paper entitled, "Models and Perspectives on Stage: Remarks On Gierer's Scientific Perspectivism" and it was accepted for publication in the journal, Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science Part A.

JOYCE HAVSTAD did some work on Ron Evans' gene expression lab at the Salk Institute before coming to Philosophy. The work is about a mechanism for insulin signaling and resistance, and its potential involvement with a certain type of diabetes. She also helped to edit the manuscript, which was published in Nature, an international weekly journal of science.

MITCHELL HERSCHBACH presented a paper titled, "Folk Psychological and Phenomenological Accounts of Social Perception" at the Pacific APA in March 2008.

KRISTEN IRWIN will be an Intercampus Exchange Graduate Student at UC Berkeley in Fall 2007 and in Winter 2008, a Visiting Student Researcher. Krsten is also an invited speaker at the first Pierre Bayle conference in the Americas: “Bayle Historien Et Critique de La Philosophie,” in Belo Horizonte, Brazil in October 2008.


JACOB STEGENGA presented a paper titled, "Nietzsche’s Lovely Paths of Truth" at the APA Society for Student Philosophers, March 2008, Austin, TX.


"Robustness and Discordance", Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, Vancouver, June 2008.


“I THINK, THEREFORE I EARN”

“Figures from the Higher Education Statistics Agency show philosophy graduates, once derided as unemployable layabouts, are in growing demand from employers. The number of all graduates in full-time and part-time work six months after graduation has risen by 9% between 2002-03 and 2005-06; for philosophy graduates it has gone up by 13%.” A human resources director said, "Philosophy lies at the heart of our approach to recruiting and developing our leadership, and our leaders. We need people who have the ability to look for different approaches and take an open mind to issues." For more, visit http://education.guardian.co.uk/higher/news/story/0,,2213665,00.html.

GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

The commencement will be held on Sunday, June 22, 2008 at 10:30AM in the RIMAC arena. Please visit Graduate Studies Commencement at http://ogs.ucsd.edu/commencement/ for more information about the event. To register for commencement, go to http://ogs.ucsd.edu/commencement/forms.htm.

For more information on the Philosophy graduate program or graduate student policies, please contact Catherine Asmann casmann@ucsd.edu or the Faculty Graduate Advisor, Jonathan Cohen at joncohen@aardvark.ucsd.edu.
RICHARD ARNESON

WILLIAM BECHTEL is both an Advisory Editor and Subject Editor for Biology for The New Dictionary of Scientific Biography. He will also be giving talks in the spring and summer in Spain, the Netherlands, and England, as well as, several conference talks in the U.S. Bill’s book, Mental Mechanisms: Philosophical Perspectives on Cognitive Neuroscience has just been released by Routledge/Taylor and Francis.


DAVID BRINK
- In February, he presented “Mill’s Ambivalence About Rights” to a law school and philosophy department joint seminar at Georgetown University.
- In March, he gave a talk entitled “What Makes a Life Go Well?” to the Revelle College Freshman Honors Seminar.
- Later in March, he commented on Geoff Sayre-McCord’s “Moral Argument Against Moral Dilemmas” at the Pacific Division Meetings of the APA.
- He recently became a lead editor at the journal Legal Theory, published by Cambridge University Press and devoted to issues at the intersection of law, philosophy, and political theory.
- His dog Oscar recently celebrated his 13th birthday with a hamburger cake.

CRAIG CALLENDER
- "Interview on Philosophy of Physics" forthcoming, Philosophy and Foundations of Physics: Interviews.

PATRICIA CHURCHLAND

RICK GRUSH
- He was an invited speaker to the Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology (PNP) Conference on “Perception, Language, and Space” at Washington University in St. Louis, March 2008.

DANA NELKIN
- Dana gave a talk titled, “Responsibility and Reason: Defending an Asymmetrical View” at the Winter Colloquium Series 200 for the Department of Philosophy at UC Irvine.

DONALD RUTHERFORD
CLINTON TOLLEY
- Clinton will be commentator on Bryan Hall’s "A Dilemma for Kant’s Theory of Substance" at the Central Division American Philosophical Association (APA) in Chicago, Illinois in April 16-19, 2008.
- He will also discuss concepts as objects in Husserl’s Logische Untersuchungen at the California Phenomenology Circle at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in April 2008.
- “Kant and the Nature of Logical Laws” in Philosophical Topics, 33.2. (Fall, 2005; forthcoming in 2008).

CHRISTIAN WÜTHRICH will be giving two talks in the spring:
- "No Presentism In Quantum Gravity", Third International Conference on the Nature and Ontology of Spacetime, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, June 2008.

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**Reading & Research Groups**

**Education & Pedagogy Reading Group**
Time and Day: TBA
Location: TBA
Contact: Mike Tiboris, mtiboris@ucsd.edu

**Ethics Reading Group**
Time and Day: Mondays 9:30-11:30 am
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Dana Nelkin, dnelkin@ucsd.edu

**Existentialism Reading Group**
Time and Day: TBA
Location: TBA
Contact: Kristin Irwin, kirwin@ucsd.edu

**Experimental Philosophy Lab**
Time and Day: Alternate Weeks TBA
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Rick Grush, rgrush@ucsd.edu

**Feminism Reading Group**
Time and Day: Alternate Mondays 4-5 pm
Location: Student lounge in new student center (near Hi-Thai)
Contact: Erin Frykholm, efrykholm@ucsd.edu

**German Translation Group**
Time and Day: Fridays 10-11:30 am
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Eric Watkins, ewatkins@ucsd.edu

**Greek Reading Group**
Time and Day: Alternate Tuesdays 7-9 pm
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Monte Johnson, monte@ucsd.edu

**History of Philosophy Roundtable**
Time and Day: Friday 2:15-3:45 pm
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Clinton Tolley, ctolley@ucsd.edu

**Philosophy of Biology Research Group**
Time and Day: Alternate Tuesdays 5-6:20 pm
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Christian Wuthrich, cwuthrich@ucsd.edu

**Philosophy of Physics Research Group**
Time and Day: Alternate Tuesdays 5-6:20 pm
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Craig Callender, ccallender@ucsd.edu

**Philosophy of Science Research Group**
Time and Day: Alternate Tuesdays 5-6:20 pm
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Christian Wuthrich, cwuthrich@ucsd.edu

**Pragmatism Reading Group**
Time and Day: Wednesdays 11:50 am-1:30 pm
Location: Seminar Room, HSS 7077
Contact: Matt Brown, mjb001@ucsd.edu

**Self-Consciousness and Objectivity**
Time and Day: Wednesday 2-4 pm
Location: Philosophy Department Library, HSS 8025
Contact: Clinton Tolley, ctolley@ucsd.edu

**Topics and Methods in Contemporary Philosophy**
Time and Day: Tuesdays 9:15-10:30 am
Location: John Muir Woods Coffee Shop
Contact: Jonathan Cohen, joncohen@aardvark.ucsd.edu

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**WHO IS AUGUSTE RODIN’S THINKER?**

“The Thinker has a story. In the days long gone by I conceived the idea of the Gates of Hell. Before the door, seated on the rock, Dante thinking of the plan of the poem behind him... all the characters from the Divine Comedy. This project was not realized. Thin ascetic Dante in his straight robe separated from all the rest would have been without meaning. Guided by my first inspiration I conceived another thinker, a naked man, seated on a rock, his fist against his teeth, he dreams. The fertile thought slowly elaborates itself within his brain. He is no longer a dreamer, he is a creator.” – Auguste Rodin, from http://www.artcyclopedia.com
APRIL

11th Philosophy Colloquium Series: Maurice Finocchiaro (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

15th Undergraduate Movie Night Presents Waking Life by Richard Linklater

18th Philosophy Colloquium Series: Paul Churchland (UC San Diego)

25th Philosophy Colloquium Series: Sam Cumming (UC Los Angeles)

MAY

2nd Philosophy Colloquium Series: Hannah Ginsborg (UC Berkeley)

9th Philosophy Colloquium Series: Gary Watson (UC Riverside)

23rd Philosophy Colloquium Series: Carl Craver (Washington University, St. Louis)

30th UCSD Undergraduate Journal of Philosophy Conference: Intuitions V

For more information on events and programs, please visit http://philosophy.ucsd.edu.

PHILOSOPHY COMICS

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Phil 1. The Nature of Philosophy (4) What is philosophy? A study of major philosophical questions, making use of both classical and contemporary sources. An introduction to the basic methods and strategies of philosophical inquiry. Rick Grush

Phil 10. Introduction to Logic (4) Basic concepts and techniques in both informal and formal logic and reasoning, including a discussion of argument, inference, proof, and common fallacies, and an introduction to the syntax, semantics, and proof method in sentential (propositional) logic. (May be used to fulfill general-education requirements for Warren and Eleanor Roosevelt Colleges.) Rick Grush

Phil 12. Logic and Decision Making (4) An introduction to the study of probability, inductive logic, scientific reasoning, and rational choice among competing hypotheses and alternative courses of action when the evidence is incomplete or uncertain. (May be used to fulfill general-education requirements for Marshall, Warren, and Eleanor Roosevelt Colleges.) Aaron Schiller

Phil 15. Introduction to Philosophy: Theory of Knowledge (4) A study of the grounds and scope of human knowledge, both commonsense and scientific, as portrayed in the competing traditions of Continental rationalism, British empiricism, and contemporary cognitive science. (May be used to fulfill general-education requirements for Muir and Marshall Colleges.) Paul Churchland

Phil 27. Ethics and Society (4) (Same as Poli. Sci. 27.) An examination of ethical principles (e.g., utilitarianism, individual rights, etc.) and their social and political applications to contemporary issues: abortion, environmental protection, and affirmative action. Ethical principles will also be applied to moral dilemmas in government, law, business, and the professions. Satisfies the Warren College ethics and society requirement. Letter grade only. Prerequisites: CAT 2 and 3, DOC 2 and 3, MCWP 40 and 50, Hum. 1 and 2, MMW 2 and 3, WCWP 10A-B or WCWP 11A-B. Samuel Rickless

Phil 33. History of Philosophy: Philosophy in the Age of Enlightenment (4) A survey of the major philosophers of the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries with a focus on the British empiricists—Locke, Berkeley, and Hume—and the critical philosophy of Kant. (May be used in fulfilling the Muir College Breadth requirement) Michael Hardimon

Phil 102. Hellenistic Philosophy (4) A study of selected texts from the main schools of Hellenistic philosophy—Stoicism, Epicureanism, and Skepticism. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Monte Johnson

Phil 106. Kant (4) A study of selected portions of the Critique of Pure Reason and other theoretical writings and/or his major works in moral theory. Prerequisite: Philosophy 33 or 105 or consent of instructor. May be repeated for credit with change in content and approval of the instructor. Clinton Tolley

Phil 120. Symbolic Logic I (4) The syntax, semantics, and proof-theory of first-order predicate logic with identity, emphasizing both conceptual issues and practical skills (e.g., criteria for logical truth, consistency, and validity, the application of logical methods to everyday as well as scientific reasoning). Prerequisite: Philosophy 10 or consent of instructor. Samuel Rickless

Phil 123. Philosophy of Logic (4) Philosophical issues underlying standard and non-standard logics, the nature of logical knowledge, the relation between logic and mathematics, the revisability of logic, truth and logic, ontological commitment and ontological relativity, logical consequence, etc. May be repeated for credit with change in content and approval of instructor. Prerequisite: Philosophy 120 or consent of instructor. Gila Sher

Phil 132. Epistemology (4) Central problems in epistemology such as skepticism; a priori knowledge; knowledge of other minds; self-knowledge; the problem of induction; foundationalism, coherence, and causal theories of knowledge. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Jonathan Cohen

Phil 136. Philosophy of Mind (4) Different conceptions of the nature of mind and its relation to the physical world. Topics include identity theories, functionalism, eliminative materialism, internalism and externalism, subjectivity, other minds, consciousness, self-knowledge, perception, memory, and imagination. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Richard Arneson

Phil 145. Philosophy of Science (4) Central problems in philosophy of science, such as the nature of confirmation and explanation, the nature of scientific revolutions and progress, the unity of science, and realism and antirealism. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Christian Wüthrich

Phil 151. Philosophy of Neuroscience (4) An introduction to elementary neuroanatomy and neurophysiology and an examination of theoretical issues in cognitive neuroscience and their implications for traditional philosophical conceptions of the relation between mind and body, perception, consciousness, understanding, emotion, and the self. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Patricia Churchland

Phil 163. Biomedical Ethics (4) Moral issues in medicine and the biological sciences, such as patient’s rights and physician’s responsibilities, abortion and euthanasia, the distribution of health care, experimentation, and genetic intervention. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Dana Nelkin

Phil 167. Contemporary Political Philosophy (4) Different perspectives on central issues in contemporary political philosophy, such as the nature of state authority and political obligation, the limits of government and individual liberty, liberalism and its critics, equality and distributive justice. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Richard Arneson
In this special issue of the quarterly newsletter, the staff members at the Philosophy Department will share with you who they are and their roles in the department.

**CATHERINE ASMANN** is the Graduate Coordinator and is responsible for all graduate student affairs and policies within the department. She came to the United States more than 30 years ago and started at UCSD in the Economics Department, but quickly moved to Philosophy, where she has been ever since. She really enjoys outdoor gardening, Japanese art, and Vietnamese cuisine. Catherine says, “My entire experience of life in the U.S. is limited to working in an academic department. So, as my husband always tells me, I have not a clue about the U.S. Probably true. Many opinions, but no clue!”

**NINA COOPER** is the Undergraduate Advisor in the Philosophy Department. She has worked in the department for four years and has been on campus for four and a half years. She has a B.A. in psychology from UCLA (go Bruins!) and a M.Ed. in postsecondary administration and student affairs from University of Southern California. Nina is originally from Fremont, CA, but enjoys living in San Diego. She and her husband recently purchased a fixer-upper home and they now spend their free time renovating and landscaping.

**VIKKI DEVRIES** Philosophers have sought to understand the essence of money for many centuries. Money has been lauded and cursed, dreamed of and disdained, praised and plundered. To wit, according to the philosopher St. Thomas Aquinas, money was invented principally for the effecting of exchanges; thus, the proper and principal use of money is the consumption or disbursal of it. That’s where Vikki DeVries, our department’s fiscal manager, enters the picture.

Born in Salinas, CA, Vikki came to San Diego after graduating from Hollister High School and found a job as a bean counter at UC San Diego in 1978. After graduating from accounting department drone to School of Medicine office manager for the division of pulmonary physiology, Vikki took a sabbatical in 1989 to raise four children in the hills of Ramona, but still kept her hand in educational accounting with her tireless work for the Ramona Unified School District. In 2004, she awoke to her error of leaving UC San Diego, moved to Oceanside and was soon hired by the Philosophy Department to return to her life’s work of balancing the university’s debits and credits.

Her spouse is Henry DeVries, former president of the UC San Diego Alumni Association, who also assists the Dean of Extended Studies with communications projects. Their oldest child, Karla, 24, is a 2003 Muir graduate who is pursuing a Ph.D. in art history at New York University. Their son, Jack, 22, is a freelance online journalist working for Rupert Murdoch while pursuing a degree in journalism at San Francisco State. Their daughter, Devin, 22, is earning a degree in floral business at Mira Costa College while working fulltime as a website supervisor at ProFlowers.com. Her son, Jordan, 16, is a video game savant who is a junior at Canyon Crest Academy.

Silly diversion in life: She is the cofounder of the Weird Al Star fund, which has raised more than $23,000 and lobbies for “Weird Al” Yankovic, the clown prince of popular music, to receive his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Similar to the Deadhead fans who followed the Grateful Dead, Vikki is an Al Gal that shows up at countless Weird Al concerts.

**MACY HUYNH,** 26, is the Assistant Student Affairs Officer and Intake Advisor and has been with the department since June 2007 and really enjoys working with students and helping others. She is also the Department Safety Coordinator and a Notary Public. Macy has recently been nominated for the Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year Award and she wishes to thank the department for this unexpected and honorable nomination. She originally comes from Redlands, CA, and graduated from UC Riverside in 2005 with a degree in Anthropology with minor studies in Studio Art and International Relations. As an undergraduate, she participated on the UC Education Abroad Program to Canada for an academic year and to South Korea for a summer. Macy has many passions ranging from international education to human rights issues to artwork to cooking to traveling.

**JUNE PETERSEN** is originally from Santa Barbara, CA, and has been the Management Services Officer for the department for 30 years (as of November 1 of this year) and nearly 39 years in the UC system (hired by the Chancellor’s Office at UC Santa Barbara in 1969). She received special recognition at a ceremony in 2006 sponsored by the Office of the Sr. Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs in celebration of individuals nominated for Exemplary Employee of the Year—a remarkable and memorable experience. She wishes to use this opportunity to thank (1) Academic Affairs for the honor; (2) Arts and Humanities Associate Dean Judith Dolan for her kind remarks during the presentation; and (3) the thoughtful individuals in Philosophy who put her name forward initially.
June is passionate about African Drumming and pleased to participate in benefit performances as part of the San Diego Women’s Drum Circle; an active member of the San Diego House Rabbit Society; a volunteer usher at local theaters, including the La Jolla Playhouse; dabbles in Japanese brush painting; and occasionally cruises the streets of Santa Barbara in a pink and white ’57 Chevy jointly owned with her brother, Walt. She received a degree from Mesa College and also completed Army Finance School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana (while serving in the California Army National Guard). June was class valedictorian when she graduated from Clownology School in San Diego a few years back as “Susie Sails, the Clown.” June’s summer plans are to be on a ship cruise to the Bahamas for several days early April.

“A mantra we often say here is: ‘We’re not bored.’ There are always changes coming along the pike that keep us engaged, challenged and interested. The best part about working here, though, is friendships. I am very grateful to be surrounded by a wonderful group of colleagues at all levels: staff, faculty and graduate students. We have a close working relationship, which engenders the team spirit necessary to insure a better chance of success in accomplishing our mutual goals. This is absolutely a great place to work, which explains why I have been here for so many years!” – June Petersen, MSO