As many of you probably know, this academic year on campus was marked by protests and widespread debate following the introduction of a proposal by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to add regular armed patrols, for the first time, to the general campus. In 2016, a decision was made to arm some peace officers at URMC, given the challenges faced by staff in the Emergency Department. But at that time it was emphasized by then President Seligman that there was no intention of spreading such arming to the rest of campus, given well-known opposition to such a move. So when the DPS proposal materialized this fall, and seemed to be moving forward quickly under the radar, it was met with public outcry, including the disruption of a Faculty Senate meeting by a student sit-in. Randy has asked me to write this year’s column on this issue to highlight the roles that philosophers on campus played in resolving it.

In response to protests, Rich Feldman, in his capacity as President, convened an ad hoc committee of 27 faculty, students, staff, and community members—the Public Safety Proposal Advisory Committee—to review the proposal, research the issues, conduct extensive outreach across campus and beyond, and ultimately advise him. He asked me to co-chair the committee with the student vice-president, and from the beginning our charge was framed in a philosophically rich way: we were to go beyond simple benchmarking (what do other universities do?) or data on average officer response times, and instead conduct an inclusive inquiry into what safety for everyone really means and involves, and how to achieve an appropriate balance between the pursuit of increased safety and the honoring of other values integral to UR and its mission of learning, discovery, healing, and creative work in a campus environment situated within a broader urban community and serving as home to our students.

The Committee, which also included our graduate alumna and asst. professor in the Writing, Speaking and Argument Program, Kate Phillips, worked intensively through most of the spring semester, listening to many voices, studying the issues, and deliberating critically. With insightful help from Kate and others on the Committee, I wrote an extensive report on behalf of the large majority of the Committee, approaching the task much as one would a philosophical article, focused on developing and defending the best set of arguments for the most reasonable conclusion all things considered. We recommended strongly against adding armed patrols to campus at this time. In addition to receiving the Committee’s input, however, Rich also received a recommendation from the Public Safety Review Board, which gave the opposite recommendation. This no doubt put him in a difficult position. Like any good philosopher, however, he weighed the arguments carefully on their merits, and—wisely, in my view—sided with the Committee. The result is that UR will not be adding armed patrols to campus, and I am happy that we were all able to contribute positively to this important debate and decision for the University.

William J. FitzPatrick
**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**COMINGS:**

We are delighted to welcome Associate Professor Rosa Terlazzo and Lecturer Jonathan (Jon) Herington, who will join us July 1. Rosa’s work in political, social, moral, and feminist philosophy is focused on adaptive preferences and transformative experience, and thereby the nature of, and relationships between, autonomy, well-being, development, poverty, and oppression. Ethics Bowl enthusiasts will be delighted to know that she will be the new IEB team sponsor. Jon’s philosophical work is primarily concerned with health security, and he has new projects and NSF-funded research collaborations in the ethics of science, data, and algorithmic decision-making. Although his primary role at the university will be as Assistant Director of Academic Operations in the AS&E Office of Graduate Studies, we are excited about the new directions in which his work and Rosa’s will take UR Philosophy.

**GOINGS:**

We must say farewell now to Jon Tresan, who has been with us since July 2013, when John Bennett retired. Like John before him, Jon has done a lot of instructional heavy lifting for us in the sphere of ethics, philosophy of law, and social and political philosophy. He also organized and coached our Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl team, which made it to the nationals this year, in just its second year. We will miss Jon, and we wish him well. It took two philosophers of language to replace Brett Sherman last year, and it is taking two incoming social, political, and moral philosophers to replace Jon this year.
Paul Audi

I’m enjoying being back in the thick of things after a sabbatical in Fall 2018 (my first ever...sabbatical, that is, not my first Fall). A conversation with my dad sparked a new research interest, which is the question of whether (and if so, why) things continue in existence if undisturbed. There is remarkably little on this in contemporary metaphysics, but I had a great time talking with Alison about how Descartes and Spinoza viewed the issue. In December, I gave a talk on the subject at SUNY Brockport’s Center for Philosophic Exchange, and the paper will appear in the associated journal, Philosophic Exchange. On the teaching side, my seminar this Spring is on the metaphysics of grounding and various potential applications (to problems in metaethics, philosophy of mind, and social ontology, among other areas). That has inspired me to revisit some topics from my dissertation. I’m also finally dipping my toe into the literature on humor, partly in the (misplaced?) hope that I’ll find the ingredients for the best joke ever.

Earl Conee

As usual, for me this academic year has led up to my composing a newsletter entry - this one this time preceded by the familiar combination of teaching, research, and service, with the entry and the combination mentioned in the entry this time in the opposite of the usual order.

Randall Curren

My most exciting new thing this past year was developing a research proposal with Laura Elenbaas, a UR colleague whose work in developmental psychology focuses on young children’s perceptions of injustice and how their emerging group identities interact with those perceptions. I have been working on a psychologically-grounded account of the nature and acquisition of virtue and simultaneously on civic friendship, nationalist politics, and rural-urban polarization. When I began talking with Laura about a possible collaboration in October, it seemed like a great idea to study the origins of civic friendship and place-based identities in rural, urban, and suburban children and test the efficacy of intergroup contact in strengthening civic friendship. We submitted a letter of interest in November and a full grant proposal in late February. Fingers crossed! I am meanwhile in the midst of an intense season of speaking events. At the conclusion of our May 19 diploma ceremony and reception, I leave for Amsterdam to speak at the 7th Self-Determination Theory conference, then Dublin for a talk and symposium on Patriotic Education in a Global Age, hosted by the Trinity College Departments of Political Science and Philosophy. From there, I will travel to London, Edinburgh, and Birmingham for further talks at UCL, the U of Edinburgh, and the U of Birmingham.
As noted in the column at the beginning, most of my attention this spring was occupied with chairing the committee reviewing the public safety proposal to increase the arming of campus security. But there was still happily some time left for philosophy. In the fall, I gave a keynote address at the annual Theistic Ethics Workshop (at Wake Forest University this time), entitled “Beyond Ethical Naturalism: Secular Non-Naturalist Realism, Theistic Supernaturalism, and the Grounding of Human Dignity and Rights.” It was something different for me (since I do not actually do theistic ethics), and lots of fun with a great group of people. I also published the first translation of my work—a book on morality and evolutionary biology published in Korean—as well as articles in metaethics and one on scientism, challenging a common form of overreach in appeals to cognitive science to deflate certain claims in ethics. In the winter I also wrote a symposium piece for Analyse & Kritik (forthcoming) on Allen Buchanan’s and Russell Powell’s important new book, The Evolution of Moral Progress: a Biocultural Theory. I continue to serve as an associate editor for Ethics and as the undergraduate adviser for the department, and I am advising a number of graduate students working in various areas of moral philosophy.

This year has been a big move for me and my family. It gets pretty cold here, but I much prefer the cold of Rochester to the heat of Winston-Salem. Between the kids and the house and the cold, I got some teaching and research done too. As for teaching, my courses were in philosophy of religion, ethics, the meaning of life and medieval philosophy—the last two designed anew. The medieval course delved into one central text from each of Judaism, Christianity and Islam—Maimonides, Anselm and Al Ghazali. The meaning of life course explored an optimistic book by Iddo Landau vs a pessimistic book by David Benatar, along with readings from Susan Wolf, Thaddeus Metz, and others. Most students left the course more optimistic, happier with themselves and their lives. As for research, I have two new papers forthcoming, two books nearly done, and a few more under way, all with pressing deadlines. And then there’s the series of books I’ve been annoying everyone about. I’ve been accepted to Templeton conferences in Morocco in June and Israel in August, for which I have to write another book and another essay respectively. So no summer break for me, but made up by some fun locations.

It’s been my first year at the University of Rochester. I have been working on a few papers on two-dimensional semantics. I also managed to publish a paper arguing that there is a relation between intelligence and data compression, after a very long struggle with the most extensive (but also extremely well-informed and helpful) referee reports I ever got. Speaking of long philosophical struggles: I’m still not entirely sure why we know more about the past than about the future. I have been trying to adjust to teaching on a new (for me …) continent. It’s been great fun, and I learned a lot from my students.

I spent the year getting to know the soul of the world. Partly I mean that I wrote a paper on the concept of the world soul in early modern philosophy. Partly I mean that I took a road trip out west to celebrate my tenure and soaked in the energy vortices of Sedona. I continue to work on holism in early modern natural philosophy, especially in Cavendish, and I gave talks on a variety of topics in Ontario, Vancouver, Toronto, and Berlin. Finally, my teaching has been rewarding. In the spring I taught Introduction to Philosophy for the first time and worked hard on my syllabus, and I taught a totally renovated version of Introduction to Modern Philosophy, which includes tons of women philosophers. The students loved it (I think).
I had such a wonderful and exciting first year in Rochester. My research this year has been focused on developing and defending a descriptivist metasemantics for the language of mathematics: In “From Metasemantics to Analyticity,” I defended descriptivism against externalist objections; in “Intended Interpretations in Mathematics: Revisiting Putnam’s Paradox,” I showed how a properly construed descriptivist account is immune against the model-theoretic arguments. I also worked on explaining how metasemantic considerations bear on the question of whether sentences independent of the axioms have determinate truth-values, and, if they do, how we can go about finding out their truth-values. I talked about the latter issue in a colloquium talk in the math department. Regarding some of my less theoretical work: My paper on truth in journalism is coming out in June. I used some of this material in my class, PHL 105 - Reason and Argument, which I enjoyed teaching so much. Reason and argument were also the topics of both of my first appearances on the radio (with Evan Dawson).

Michael Carrick, "Future Generations and Our Obligations to Nonhuman Animals: A Discussion of the Preservation of Opportunity Principle”

Kelley Annesley

Andrew Greenlee, PhD
“A Defense of Moral Sensibilities”
(William FitzPatrick, advisor)

Jannai Shields, PhD
“I’ll Level with You – Emergent Levels are the Only True Levels”
(Paul Audi, advisor)

My third year included the midpoint of my doctoral studies at Rochester. So, about half of my studies are now completed. In some time, I will complete another half of the remaining half of my doctoral studies. At that point, I would hope to go on to complete the latter half of that half of my doctoral studies. But first I'll have to complete half of that half of that half of my doctoral studies. I'm not sure what to make of this regress. Is it compatible with doctoral progress?
**YANSEL GARCIA**

In this last year, I passed my primary exam, got some coursework done, worked on a few papers, and had the pleasure of being Zeynep's and Bill's TA. And I find myself surprised by how quickly the year came and went. And there's still so much left to do. Lately, I've been working on one paper that's just about ready to be sent out (thanks, Paul!). Wish me luck! I look forward to another productive year surrounded by the wonderful people of this department, and I hope everyone has a great summer.

**JANNAI SHIELDS**

It is hard to believe that it's been a full year since moving from Rochester. Although we miss it, it has been an exciting and challenging year as a visiting instructor at Western Kentucky University. I've found teaching to be rewarding. Equally important, it's been nice to not have to devote so much of my non-teaching time to finishing my dissertation!

**NATHANAEL SMITH**

I have been appointed to serve on the APA Graduate Student Council. I'll serve for two years starting this summer. The GSC serves as a liaison between philosophy graduate students and the APA, and advises the board of officers on issues related to graduate student experience.

**GRADUATE ALUMNI NEWS**

**JEELOO LIU (PHD 1993)**

JeeLoo Liu (PhD 1993) has been selected to be one of the 2019 Andrew Carnegie Fellows, to be awarded $200,000, so that she can devote two years to her project. Her proposed project is entitled Confucian Robotic Ethics, which explores the possibility of implementing Confucian ethical codes into artificial moral agents (AMAs). Drawing from Confucian virtue ethics, it will consider what ethical precepts could be incorporated into robot morality. Combining Confucian ethics with future development of AMAs, this proposal aims to promote ethical awareness among AI designers to construct artificial intelligence that will aid in human flourishing rather than posing foreseeable threats to human existence. In addition, her latest book: “Neo-Confucianism: Metaphysics, Mind, and Morality” (Wiley-Blackwell, 2017) recently received a glowing review at NDPR. She is currently chair and professor of Philosophy at Cal State Fullerton. She is also the executive director of the International Society for Chinese Philosophy (ISCP) from 2017-2022.

**CHARLES CARDWELL (PHD 1972)**

Good intentions can bring horrible consequences. Tennessee has garnered great praise for its efforts to make college “free.” One consequence has been extreme McDonaldization, especially of the community colleges. All schools in our system must now offer the same courses and identical majors (which the state specifies and which include only the most generic courses). Enrollment in any course not specified as a requirement of one’s major is not funded. At my institution, medical ethics, business ethics, and philosophy & film no longer fly. Only intro to philosophy, intro to ethics, and critical thinking have survived.

A second consequence is that a significant fraction of matriculants now enroll only because there is “nothing to lose” in so doing. College is “free,” so why not? Having found themselves entitled to a high-school diploma – no work or learning required – they consider themselves equally entitled to a college degree – no work or learning required.

These “advances” have taken much of the joy from teaching. But I did enjoy doing a conference paper… and found myself elected to a fourteenth term as Secretary of the Tennessee Philosophical Association (TPAWeb.org).
**Matthew Frise (PhD 2015)**

I've been on leave for the Spring 2019 quarter, following the happy arrival of my second child, Alfred. Santa Clara University offered to let me teach for three more years, after my first year. I recently presented papers at the Pacific APA and the University of Miami. I continue to think about memory, while my own gets worse.

**Gregory Goode (PhD 1987)**

For over 30 years since graduating, I’ve been remiss. I don’t think I ever contributed to the Department newsletter. After my degree in 1987, I found work at a Wall Street law firm in the IT department. I retired at the end of 2017. In spite of the intensely busy corporate environment I never lost my love of philosophy, and found the time to teach and write in non-academic modes. For several years I was the managing editor of *Philosophical Practice*, the journal of the American Philosophical Practitioners Association. My main emphasis has been Eastern philosophy, but one article I’m very happy to share with the Department is “Colin Turbayne and the Myth of Metaphor.” This is an overview written for non-philosophers of Prof. Turbayne’s great *Myth of Metaphor*. The URL for this essay is listed with my work in the Bibliography section.

Besides philosophy I spend time with family and do my hobbies. They include fiction and film, wristwatch collecting, knife sharpening, hiking and riding a recumbent tricycle.

**Loretta Kopelman (PhD 1966)**

Hello everyone,

Georgetown University’s Kennedy Institute for Ethics and its Center for Clinical Bioethics have been good academic homes for me since we “retired” and moved to the Washington, DC area ten years ago. I am just back from presenting a paper, ‘Ethical concerns about Making Good Decisions for Sick Children’ at a conference at the Wake Forrest University Center for Bioethics, Health and Society. The conference was held in collaboration with the Hastings Center on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. In my paper, I defended the best interest standard against a host of critics. I have finally finished a long and critical project showing that Edmund Pellegrino and David Thomasma have a dilemma and inconsistency at the heart of their philosophy of medicine. Like Hume, they confessed that one existed but failed to spell out what troubled them. It will appear this year in *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*. I continue to teach part-time at the Georgetown School of Medicine and enjoy the students very much. I still serve on some ethics panels at the FDA, some editorial boards, and the ethics committee at Fairfax Hospital. Arthur and I are thriving and enjoying family, friends, travel and the many opportunities in the Washington DC area.

Greeting and best wishes to all,

In friendship,

Loretta

**Alice Kyburg**

Greetings! I have retired from my University of Wisconsin job after 23 years -- time sure flies -- and have opened up a tutoring center on Martha's Vineyard called the Center for New Learning MV. I haven't left philosophy altogether, however. I am teaching several sections of an online course, the Ethics of Data Science, for a Master's in Data Science program through the University of Wisconsin. If anyone knows of especially strong ethics articles on the subject, or even of a good ethics textbook pertaining specifically to Data Science or recent computer science, please let me know.

Also, for those who may wonder if Karanfil Soyhun is alive and well, I am happy to say that she is! I saw her this past March in Turkey, living happily with her four dogs and many, many cats. She continues to teach Philosophy at Bogazici University in Istanbul.
Lastly, I’m making one final effort to establish my father’s "Kyburg Fund." It will provide travel money for graduate students to attend conferences to present their papers. Donations can be made directly to the University of Rochester. (See www.rochester.edu/advancement/ways-to-give/) Please be sure to label the check "Kyburg Fund". We need close to $20,000 more to reach the minimum amount required by the University to formally establish the fund. It will be welcome funding for graduate students and it will be a fitting way to honor my father, Henry Kyburg. For those who have already donated, please know that I have not forgotten about the fund, nor your contributions. All contributions thus far are safe with the University, which has earmarked them specifically for the Kyburg Fund. Please help make this fund operational by donating what you can. If you have questions about it, or ideas, or would just like to say hello, please email me at kyburg@uwosh.edu

This past June I presented a paper on “Knowledge and Distance in Early Greek Thought” at the Joint Princeton-KCL Conference on Early Greek Poetry and Philosophy. Later this month I will be presenting a paper on the philosophical aspects of the poetry of the 20th-century Anglo-Irish poet Louis MacNeice, at a conference honoring Patricia Curd on the occasion of her retirement.

ERIC MACK (PhD 1973)

At the end of the Spring 2018 term, I officially retired from my position at Tulane University (where I have taught since 1975). I was especially pleased that the Department of Philosophy and the Murphy Institute of Political Economy sponsored a conference (in April 2018) in my honor in which many of my philosophical friends and PhD students participated. My wife, Mary Sirridge, also retired at the end of the Spring 2018 term from her position in the Department of Philosophy at LSU where she had taught since 1977. We both plan to continue our various academic projects without distraction from increasingly silly university administrators.

JEFFRIE G. MURPHY (PhD 1966)

Jeffrie G. Murphy turned 78 in November 2018 and is surely approaching his use by date. However, in spite of some rumors to the contrary (and to quote Mark Twain about a friend of his), “He is not dead, although he is living in Arizona.” He recently published an article on humility as a moral virtue and some colleagues suggested that its title should have been “Humility—An Outsider’s View.”
**NATHAN NOBIS (PhD 2005)**

This year I have worked on these things: I serve as the Editor in Chief of *1000-Word Philosophy: An Introductory Anthology* (www.1000WordPhilosophy.com) and so do some work to help make excellent, and accessible, short writings in philosophy available to all. Submissions are very much welcome, so please check out the project! With about 12 other philosophers, I helped write *Chimpanzee Rights: The Philosophers’ Brief* (Routledge, 2018). And I’ve written a number of introductory chapters on both abortion and euthanasia for various forums, and I had a short essay "Thinking Critically About Abortion" published in a local online newspaper. That's a bit of what I’ve been up to.

**JOSEPH (“JOSH”) B. STULBERG (PHD 1975)**

This is a milestone year for me, as it is my last as the Michael E. Moritz Chair in Alternative Dispute Resolution at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law; I officially retire from the University on September 1, 2019.

The year has been rewarding on multiple fronts: professionally, I was named the recipient of the 2019 American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work (honoring an individual whose body of scholarship over his/her career has contributed significantly to the field of dispute resolution)

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/dispute_resolution/awards_competitions/outstanding_work_award/; the academic program on dispute resolution at Moritz Law which I help lead was ranked #1 by U.S. News; and I have been able to teach, as my final course this academic year, a Jurisprudence of Dispute Resolution course, which has enabled me to assign students some of the very works by Hart, Dworkin and Rawls that were at the core of my Ph.D. dissertation – I loved it.

I returned to Rochester in October 2018 for *Meliora* weekend, talking with current UR undergrads interested in pursuing legal studies; meeting with recipients of George Eastman scholarships; and attending several program presentations. Great weekend on multiple dimensions. And the Dewey Hall that I knew, of course, where Cheryl, Rick, Tom, Gary, others and I would regularly talk, laugh and support one another – or meet with Holmes, Beck, Lehrer, Taylor and Pollock – looks nothing like it did 45 years ago!

Our family members – both children and grandchildren – continue to blossom and, fortunately, enjoy positive health. I am looking forward to completing several writing projects; remaining engaged in targeted teaching opportunities; and enjoying exercising in warmer weather. Best wishes to all.

**DAVID WASSER (BA 1989)**

I’ve created a new non-profit organization called *Cruelty Free Investing*. It’s the first comprehensive database that shows how every American corporation does (or does not) exploit animals. People who care about animal rights can use this information to invest according to their conscience.

The web site is: www.CrueltyFreeInvesting.org
**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**RANDALL CURREN**


“Battles over patriotism, Pledge of Allegiance in schools span a century” (R. Curren & C. Dorn), *The Conversation* (Sept. 14, 2018).


**WILLIAM FITZPATRICK**


**MATTHEW FRIESE (PHD 2015)**


**TYRON GOLDSCHMIDT**


*Hume’s Enquiry: Expanded and Explained*, with S. Stapleford, Routledge (expected 2020)

Ontological Arguments, Cambridge University Press (expected 2020)

Non-Being: New Essays on the Metaphysics of Non-Existence, with S. Bernstein (Eds.), Oxford University Press (expected 2020)

GREGORY GOODE (PHD 1987)

Books


Articles


JENS KIPPER

JOURNAL ARTICLES:
2019

2018
‘Acting on True Belief’, Philosophical Studies 175(9), 2221–2237.


‘Communicating Egocentric Beliefs: Two-Content Accounts,’ Erkenntnis 83(5), 947–967.
ENCYCLOPEDIA & HANDBOOK ARTICLES:

2019

2018
‘Two-Dimensional Semantics,’ in Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy. URL: http://www.iep.utm.edu/2d-seman/.

LORETTA KOPELMAN (PHD 1966)


JAMES HUNTER LESHER (PHD 1967)


‘The Locality Problem: Knowledge and Distance in Early Greek Thought’ in A. Herda, R. Hahn, and S. Fournaros, eds, The Origins of Knowledge in Ionia (Center for Hellenic Studies/ Harvard University Press, 2019).


ERIC MACK (PHD 1973)

It has been quite a few years since I have reported on recent publications. So I have listed here major publications from the last four years.


The Essential John Locke (Vancouver, Fraser Institute, forthcoming, Fall 2019).
During this period, I presented lectures at: UNC-Greensboro, the University of Minnesota, Duluth, University of Arizona, McGill University, the University of Oklahoma, St. John’s University, Georgetown University, and the University of Manchester.

RAYMOND MARTIN (PhD 1968)


JEFFRIE G. MURPHY (PhD 1966)

Recent and forthcoming publications:


MARK SAGOFF (PhD 1970)


ZEYNEP SOYSAL


JOSEPH (“JOSH”) B. STULBERG (PhD 1975)

Books:

**Journal Articles/Book Chapters:**


Book Review, Appellate Mediation: A Guidebook For Attorneys and Mediators, 22 DISP. RESOL. MAG. 20-21 (Summer 2016)

Book Review, Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in the Digital Age, 22 DISP. RESOL. MAG. 22-23 (Summer 2016)

Book Review, Divorced From Reality: Rethinking Family Dispute Resolution, 22 DISP. RESOL. MAG. 42-43 (Winter 2016)

**Edward Wierenga**


THIS YEAR’S EVENTS

2018/19 COLLOQUIUM SERIES

ELISABETH CAMP (Rutgers University)
“Agency in Understanding: Perspectives, Complicity, and Complacency”

JASON STANLEY (Yale University)
“Toward a Non-Ideal Philosophy of Language”

MAYA EDDON (University of Massachusetts Amherst)
“the Humean objection to “unHumean” laws”

DAVID BRAUN (University at Buffalo)
"Questions are not Answers"

OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS:

10TH BIENNIAL GRADUATE EPISTEMOLOGY CONFERENCE

Keynote Speaker – Jennifer Lackey (Northwestern University), “Group Lies”
Distinguished Alumni Speaker - Kevin McCain (University of Alabama-Birmingham),
“Reflections on Epistemic Conservatism”

HUMANITIES CENTER “EXPERTISE AND EVIDENCE” SERIES

Jennifer Lackey (Northwestern University), “Why We’re So Apt to Believe Confessions”

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND THE CENTER FOR LANGUAGE SCIENCES

Bernhard Nickel (Harvard University), “A Theory of Kinds for Generics?”
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☐ The Philosophy General Fund (defrays the cost of department events serving students)

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