Head Lines
Message from the Department Head

As I write this, I am completing my second year as Department Head, having started in July 2009. Two eventful years! Since developments in our department did not receive much coverage in the national media, it is high time to see them written up – in “The Evening Star”! The department can be proud of its many accomplishments: outstanding research, exciting initiatives in teaching, diverse series of lectures and workshops, and bringing in new faculty, students and staff. This newsletter will tell you about some of these many activities and developments.

One of the most astonishing things, even for those who have been here for a number of years, is just how rapidly the department has grown. A decade ago, we had only 12 professors. As of September 1 of this year, our permanent faculty will include 19 professors and 2 instructors. We have many visitors, and around 40 graduate students. The department is larger and (dare I say) more accomplished than it has been in many years. We have research and teaching strengths in most areas of analytic philosophy: philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, aesthetics, metaphysics, epistemology, logic, philosophy of language, ethics and social philosophy. We have similar strengths in our coverage of select figures and periods in the history of philosophy and history of science.

Our department hosts or sponsors many lectures each year, nearly all of them open to the public. We have our regular Friday colloquium series (approximately every two weeks), our annual spring colloquium in March, co-sponsored lecture series (Science and Society, Green College), and numerous conferences and workshops. The annual Richard

Prof. Susan Haack of the University of Miami will be delivering the next Sikora lecture on September 23, 2011. If you are a recent graduate of one of our programs, or just somebody who would like to receive email notification of upcoming events in the department, I encourage you to write to me or to our departmental administrator, Nissa Bell, and we will put you on a mailing list.

A few words about new faces in the department. The most recent additions to the permanent faculty are Matt Bedke, Chris Mole, Michael Griffin and Carrie Ichikawa Jenkins (beginning in September). These new professors – about whom you can read below – bring tremendous breadth, talent and energy to the department.

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Department of Philosophy
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Vancouver BC Canada V6T 1Z1
We are also pleased to welcome Adam Morton, emeritus professor and Canada Research Chair at the University of Alberta, who joins us as a visiting emeritus professor professor starting this July.

The life of the department has been greatly enriched, over the past couple of years, by an exceptional group of visiting professors and post-doctoral fellows. Scott Edgar and Brad Murray both recently completed very successful three-year terms. We have also had, and continue to benefit from, a series of gifted researchers and teachers among our post-doctoral fellows: Brian Hepburn, Flavia Padovani, Sandra Raponi, and Matt Fulkerson. Matt continues as a post-doctoral teaching fellow this fall, joined by Jonathan Jenkins Ichikawa and Masashi Kasaki.

We are blessed with a vibrant group of graduate students, hard at work on their courses or dissertations, but also presenting and publishing their work in ways that make us all proud. Special congratulations go to recent PhD graduates James Kelleher, Yuichi Amitani and Nola Senczyszyn. Nola has accepted a two-year Mellon post-doc at Franklin and Marshall College; Yuichi has a post-doc at the Centre for Philosophy of Science in Pittsburgh.

Finally, a word about our office staff. Anyone who has had any contact with the department in the past few years will know that our administrator, Nissa Bell, is the heart and soul of the department! Nissa was joined in December 2009 by Rhonda Janzen, whom we have welcomed as our graduate secretary.

Take the time to read about what has been happening in our department. We look forward to an exciting year in 2011-12!

Paul Bartha, Head

Comings...

The Department has an exciting cohort of incoming members, including:

Michael Griffin is an Assistant Professor who began a cross appointment in Philosophy and Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies in July 2010. He graduated from UBC with his B.A. (Classics) in 2004. He went on to do graduate research in ancient Greek philosophy at the University of Oxford, where his research focused on the ancient Neoplatonic philosophers and their influential interpretation and development of Aristotle's logic. His doctoral dissertation (2009), which reconstructed and analyzed early fragments of commentary on Aristotle's *Categories*, received a special commendation from the Hellenic Foundation in the UK.

Matt Bedke started as an Assistant Professor in July 2009. He studies normative theory, especially ethics, meta-ethics, epistemology and philosophy of law. His work has been published in *Ethics, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Studies, Oxford*.

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and is currently in revision for publication in Oxford's *Classical Monographs Series*.

Carrie Ichikawa Jenkins will be Associate Professor starting Sept. 2011. She studied as an undergraduate and postgraduate student at Trinity College, Cambridge, where her PhD was supervised by Simon Blackburn. Since then, she's worked at the Arché Research Centre at the University of St Andrews, the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University, the University of Michigan and the University of Nottingham. Carrie is an intersubdisciplinary generalist whose first book, *Grounding Concepts*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2008, and explores a new way of epistemology for arithmetic which preserves certain important but apparently incompatible intuitions. She has also published on a range of topics in metaphysics, epistemology, the philosophy of logic and the philosophy of language. She is currently working on a large-scale project examining the role of explanation in philosophical theories, and at any given time is working on a number of smaller projects examining whatever philosophical shiny things have recently caught her attention.

Christopher Mole joined the department as an Assistant Professor in 2009, having previously taught in Ireland, at the School of Philosophy at University College Dublin. His book *Attention is Cognitive Unison* was published by Oxford University Press in December 2010. The book gives a philosophical account of the nature of attention, and of its metaphysical relationship to the brain processes that underpin it. Chris has also co-edited a collection of philosophical and psychological essays on attention, which is due for publication in May 2011. His other philosophical interests include the aesthetics of literature and the awareness of time.

Adam Morton will be joining the department as a Visiting Emeritus Professor in July of 2011. Morton's work has focused on how we understand one another's behaviour in everyday life, with an emphasis on the role mutual intelligibility plays in cooperative activity. He has also written on ethics, decision-making, philosophy of language and epistemology. His more recent work concerns our vocabulary for evaluating and monitoring our thinking. Recent books include: *The Importance of Being Understood: Folk Psychology as Ethics* (2002) and *On Evil* (2005). He is currently working on two books, one on knowledge and bounded rationality (working title: *Limitation Management*), and one on moral emotions.

David Silver (Professor) holds an appointment at the W. Maurice Young Centre for Applied Ethics,

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and is Chair in Business and Professional Ethics at the Sauder School of Business. He became an Associate Member of the UBC Department of Philosophy in 2010. He is currently working on a book entitled Corporate Ethics in a Liberal Democracy.

Matthew Fulkerson began as a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the department in July 2010, and will continue on for 2011-2012. He completed a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto and an M.A. in philosophy at Tufts University. He is primarily interested in perception and the philosophy of psychology and neuroscience, but he also has strong interests in the general philosophy of science (focusing on explanation and reduction), epistemology (focusing on perceptual justification and self-knowledge), and moral psychology (focusing on whether empirical findings, especially in behavioral neuroscience, might impact traditional philosophical issues about the self, action, and moral responsibility).

Jonathan Jenkins Ichikawa will be starting as a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Sept. 2011. He received his Ph.D. from Rutgers in 2008, with a thesis on the relation between imagination and epistemology supervised by Ernest Sosa. From 2008-2011 he was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Arché Philosophical Research Centre in St Andrews, Scotland, as part of a research project on intuitions and philosophical methodology. His current central areas of research are the epistemology of philosophy (connecting a neo-Fregean theory of mental content to rationality and apriority) and the relation between epistemology and the semantics of 'knows' attributions (connecting contextualism with the theoretical significance of knowledge). Jonathan has also published papers on intuitions, experimental philosophy, the nature of dreams, counterfactuals, and modal epistemology.

Masashi Kasaki will be starting at UBC this Fall with a Government of Canada postdoctoral fellowship at UBC, supervised by Carrie Ichikawa Jenkins. He has a PhD from the University of Calgary, and specializes in epistemology.

and Goings...

The Department also bids a fond farewell and thanks to a few individuals who are leaving UBC, including:

Scott Edgar spent the last three years as an Assistant Professor Without Review at UBC, writing about Kant and Neo-Kantianism, as well as teaching the history of modern philosophy, and even a little ancient philosophy. He'll be spending the next two years doing much the same as an American Council of Learned Societies New Faculty Fellow at Yale.

Brian Hepburn is leaving after 4 years at UBC: 2 years as a teaching postdoctoral fellow, 1 year as a SSHRC postdoc (supervised by Andrew Irvine) and a fourth year as sessional instructor. He is leaving for a 2 year postdoc in the Department of Science Studies at Aarhus University, as part of a project entitled philosophy of science in contemporary practice. While at UBC, Brian published two papers and nearly completed a monograph on the philosophy of science of Leonard Euler. Most rewarding for him has been the chance to interact with so many great students and build his teaching repertoire and experience.

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Bradley Murray began in the department as an Assistant Professor Without Review in 2008, and will be leaving during the summer of 2011. His teaching and research interests include aesthetics (ontology of art, aesthetics of nature, theory of artifacts), philosophy of psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, Kant's philosophy, and Buddhist philosophy.

Faculty News


Sylvia Berryman published her monograph, The Mechanical Hypothesis in Ancient Greek Natural Philosophy with Cambridge University Press in 2009. During a sabbatical in 2010, she began a new project on Aristotle's ethics, and is also researching some new questions in the emerging field of development ethics. As co-director of Global Citizenship Term Abroad (see below), she has been teaching some of her UBC courses in a group study setting.

Christina Hendricks has been serving as the Chair of the Arts One Program at UBC from 2010-2011, and will continue in this position during 2011-2012. In 2009-2010 she organized and facilitated the Philosophy Department’s T.A. Training program, and this year she edited this newsletter. She has given several conference presentations on teaching Philosophy, including at the 2011 Pacific APA meeting, the 2010 meeting of the Association for Core Texts and Courses, and the 2010 meeting of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers.

Dominic Lopes’ book, A Philosophy of Computer Art (Routledge, 2009) received the American Society for Aesthetics Outstanding Monograph Prize, and was designated an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice. During 2010-2011 he has been on sabbatical to work on a book entitled Beyond Art for Oxford University Press. He will be a Leverhulme Professor at Warwick in January-June 2012 and will be giving the Mangoletsi Lectures at Leeds in May 2012. In 2010 and 2011 he published articles in Aesthetic Science: Connecting Minds, Brains, and Experience, ed. Steven Palmer and Arthur Shimamura (Oxford University Press, 2011)(article co-authored by Vincent Bergeon), Empathy: Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives, ed. Peter Goldie and Amy Coplan (Oxford University Press, 2011) and Philosophical Perspectives on Depiction, ed. Catharine Abell and Katerina Bantinaki (Oxford University Press, 2010).

Paul Russell: In 2010 Paul was awarded the Journal of the History of Philosophy Prize for the best published book in the history of philosophy in 2008, for The Riddle of Hume’s Treatise (Oxford University Press, 2008). During the Sept.-Nov. 2010 (Michaelmas) Term, he was the Fowler Hamilton Visiting Fellow in the Humanities at Christ Church, Oxford University. He has published several articles recently, including “Selected Hard Compatibilism” in Joseph Campbell, Michael O’Rourke and Harry Silverstein, eds., Action, Ethics and Responsibility: Topics in Contemporary Philosophy, Vol. 7 (MIT Press, 2010), and invited (continued on page 6)
contribute contributions to The Oxford Handbook of Free Will (2nd ed., forthcoming July 2011), and The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy in Early Modern Europe (2011). Finally, he has been a part of two podcasts on the “Philosophy Bites” podcast program: one on fate in December 2010, and one on Hume’s Treatise in April 2011.

Margaret Schabas: In 2009-11, Margaret Schabas gave several invited talks, including the keynote address at the annual Canadian Philosophical Association meetings (Ottawa 2009). In 2010-11 she was one of five Distinguished Scholars in Residence at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Study at UBC, and thanks to the generous support of the PWI and the Department, she also mounted two workshops in April 2010: one on themes in the History and Philosophy of Economics (co-organized with Tyler DesRoches), and the second on the Philosophy of Science. Margaret continued work on two large projects, Hume’s Economics and the Conceptual Foundations of Bioeconomics.

Nola Semczyszyn and Tyler DesRoches, with Tyler’s fiancée Christine Katerynycz; Philosophy picnic at Spanish Banks, Sept. 2009.

Recent Graduates

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<tr>
<th>M.A.</th>
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<td>Setareh Bateni</td>
<td>Rana Ahmad</td>
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<td>Aidan Collier</td>
<td>Yuichi Amitani</td>
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<td>Emma Esmaili</td>
<td>Vincent Bergeron</td>
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<td>Nathan Fox</td>
<td>Eric DesJardins</td>
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<td>Stefan Lukits</td>
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<td>Charles Macurdy</td>
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<td>Alexis Paton</td>
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<td>Suze Berkhout</td>
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<td>A.J. Snelson</td>
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<td>Kim Taylor</td>
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The Brian Laetz Essay Prize

This will be an annual prize for a graduate student essay, made possible by contributions from department members, the Dean of Arts, the Dean of Graduate Studies, and Brian Laetz’s family and friends. The department is close to its target objective. If you wish to make a donation, please visit the web page: www.supporting.ubc.ca/bl. The department hopes to have this award in place by fall 2011.
Roger Clarke has had one paper published recently in *Synthese*: "The Ravens Paradox Is a Mismomer," and has a paper accepted for publication in *American Philosophical Quarterly*: "How to Manipulate an Incompatibilistically Free Agent." In October 2010 he presented a paper entitled "Belief, Assertion, and Context" at the Western Canadian Philosophical Association meeting. He also presented a paper at the Northwestern/Notre Dame Graduate Epistemology Conference in April 2011: "No Contradiction in the Preface."

Taylor Davis presented a poster at the 2010 meeting of the Society of Philosophy and Psychology in Portland, OR, entitled: "The Cognitive Science of Science: Hypothetical Reasoning and Inference to the Best Explanation."

Tyler DesRoches presented a paper entitled "Evidence for-use in the social sciences: towards a general model" at the 2010 meeting of the International Network for Economic Method (INEM) at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He also co-organized a workshop in March 2010 (with Margaret Schabas) on the History and Philosophy of Economics at the Peter Wall Wall Institute for Advanced Studies at UBC.

Oisin Deery is co-editing a volume with Paul Russell for Oxford University Press (due for publication in spring 2012) entitled *The Philosophy of Free Will: Selected Contemporary Readings*. He has presented numerous papers recently, including "How Our Experience as Agents is Mistaken if Determinism is True," at the 61st annual Northwest Philosophy Conference in Oct.

New Orleans Workshop on Agency and Responsibility (NOWAR).

Emma Esmaili presented a paper entitled "Rationality’s Evolution: Against the Fine Descriptive Grain" at the meeting of the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science (at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences) in May 2011.

Oisin Deery and Paul Russell doing some experimental philosophizing in Paris, on the way to the CEU Summer School on 'Moral Agency' (Budapest 2009).

Christopher French has a Visiting Graduate Fellowship at TiLPS (Tilburg Institute of Logic and Philosophy of Science at Tilburg Uni. in the Netherlands) from February to April 2012. He presented two papers last year: The first, with Andrew Inkpen, at the first POBAM (Philosophy of Biology at Madison) workshop at the University of Wisconsin,

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Madison in May 2010, and the second at HOPOS (History of philosophy of science) in Budapest, Hungary in June 2010. He also presented a paper at the July 2011 meeting of the International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology in Salt Lake City.

Stefan Lukits has recently published a paper in *Philosophy and Theology*. He gave a presentation on Information Theory and Epistemology in May 2011 at the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science annual conference at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Fredericton, New Brunswick. He has also been invited to do a presentation on evolution and morality at the Ian Ramsey Centre Conference in July 2011 (the faculty of theology at Oxford, UK).

Alirio Rosales served as a symposium organizer (with Yoichi Ishida, History and Philosophy of Science at Pittsburgh) for the meeting of the International Society for the Philosophy, History and Social Studies of Biology in July 2011 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He also presented a paper at that meeting, entitled “Population Genetics as Multidimensional Scientific Discipline.”

Roger Staney has recently published papers in the *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* and *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*. He presented a paper at the Epistemology of Modeling and Simulation conference at the University of Pittsburgh in April 2011. In 2010 he presented a paper at the Objectivity Conference (Situating Science) at UBC Vancouver in June, and another at a conference entitled “Philosophy of Scientific Experimentation: A Challenge to Philosophy of Science,” held at the Center for Philosophy of Science in Pittsburgh, in October.

Gerardo Viera presented a paper entitled “Interpersonal Frege Cases and the Publicity Constraint” at the University of Western Ontario Philosophy of Mind, Language, and Cognitive Science conference in May 2011, and at the July 2011 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology in Montreal.

Philosophers’ Curling:
Tyler DesRoches organized two curling sessions for UBC grad students at the Vancouver Curling Club in Spring 2011. The first was in January, with about 16 grad students, and the second was in April with over 20 students. Thanks to the Philosophy dept. for partly subsidizing these events!

The Science and Technology Graduate Program
Pending approval from the Board of Governors and the provincial government, UBC will, at last, have a Science and Technology Studies Graduate Program as of September 2012, with Alan Richardson (Professor, UBC Philosophy) as Chair. There will be a stand-alone interdisciplinary MA program; PhD studies in Science and Technology Studies will take the form of research streams within the PhD programs of English, History, and Philosophy. That is, students earn a PhD in one of those three departments, with a declared specialization in STS.
Undergraduate News & Activities

Ethics Bowl
Johnna Fisher has been coaching the international award-winning UBC Ethics Bowl team. UBC is the only Canadian university invited to participate in this annual US competition and the UBC team has performed strongly each time, earning both first and second place in the regionals and twice making it to the finals rounds where the team placed 9th overall. The 2010 team, comprised of a new crop of dedicated and enthusiastic philosophy majors bound on entering the honours program, met weekly for 1-2 hours throughout the entire year to prepare and debate real-life ethics cases. At the 15th annual regional competition held in Seattle in November, 2010, the team placed 4th, missing an invitation to the finals by a margin of 5 points. We're working hard to improve our performance at the 16th regional competition in November 2011.

Philosophy Students' Association Events

Ghosts of Mustaches Past:
A licensed event organized in conjunction with the History, Economics, and Cognitive Systems students' associations to raise money for Prostate Cancer Canada.

Masters of Debate:
A comical debating event co-organized with the Cognitive Systems Students Association. Students debated topics such as “if I go back in time and kill my grandfather, will I still exist?”

Philosophy Phridays:
Undergrads would attend the Department Colloquia, and then adjourn to Koerner’s pub for a discussion.

The Western Canadian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference:
A student-organized conference hosting students from across Canada and the United States.

Philosophy++:
Each week, students gathered to discuss a specific topic philosophically. Topics included “moral science” and “gender.”

Johnna Fisher (left) and the UBC Ethics Bowl Team.
Students experienced life in a significantly poorer environment, coping with challenges from tropical storms to cold showers and stomach viruses. Live volcanoes, improvised classrooms, and language barriers added to the fun. Debates continued outside class, fueling impassioned discussions on 'poverty tourism' and the ethics of sweatshops. Returning students have continued their engagement by publishing papers, fundraising, organizing seminars and pursuing further educational goals inspired by their experiences.

A third group, lead by Drs. Sylvia Berryman from Philosophy and Thomas Kemple from Sociology, departed in May 2011 for 6 weeks in Xela, Nebaj Quiché and a rural coffee cooperative, where they will study Power and Oppression and Theory and Practice of Civil Society.

Recipient of an ARCAAP grant to promote international research and service learning in the Faculty of Arts, the GCTA programme hopes to encourage an engaged approach to using philosophical ideas as well as a greater awareness of global disparities.

Colloquia, Conferences, Etc.

- **Sikora Lecture**, Fall 2009: Samuel Scheffler, "The Good of Toleration"
- **Foundations of Evolutionary Biology** Conference, Nov. 2009
- **Spring Colloquium**, March 2010: "Epistemology and Information"
- **History and Philosophy of Economics and Philosophy of Science Conferences** (Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies), April 2010
- **SALT Conference** (Semantics and Linguistic Theory), April 2010
- **Objectivity in Science Conference**, June 2010
- **Expressive Performance in Human Interaction** lecture series (Green College), 2010-2011
- **Spring Colloquium**, March 2011: "Normative Questions"
Recent Faculty Books

Philip Robbins (University of Missouri-Columbia) & Murat Aydede (UBC) (eds.), The Cambridge Handbook of Situated Cognition (Cambridge, 2009). From the Cambridge website: “[A] recent - and increasingly influential - trend [in cognitive science] is that of dynamical-systems-based, ecologically oriented models of the mind. Researchers suggest that a full understanding of the mind will require systematic study of the dynamics of interaction between mind, body, and world. Some argue that this new orientation calls for a revolutionary new metaphysics of mind, according to which mental states and processes, and even persons, literally extend into the environment. This is a state-of-the-art guide to this new movement in cognitive science.”

Paul Bartha, By Parallel Reasoning (Oxford University Press, 2010). From the OUP website: This book “is the first comprehensive philosophical examination of analogical reasoning in more than forty years designed to formulate and justify standards for the critical evaluation of analogical arguments. It proposes a normative theory with special focus on the use of analogies in mathematics and science. ... Bartha proposes that a good analogical argument must articulate a clear relationship that is capable of generalization. This idea leads to a set of distinct models for the critical analysis of prominent forms of analogical argument. The same core principle makes it possible to relate analogical reasoning to norms and values of scientific practice. Reasoning by analogy is justified because it strikes an optimal balance between conservative values, such as simplicity and coherence, and progressive values, such as fruitfulness and theoretical unification. Analogical arguments are also justified by appeal to symmetry—like cases are to be treated alike.”

Sylvia Berryman, The Mechanical Hypothesis in Ancient Greek Natural Philosophy (Cambridge University Press, 2009). From the Cambridge website: “It has often been thought that the ancient Greeks did not take mechanics seriously as part of the workings of nature, and that this contributed to the marginalization of their natural philosophy. In this book Sylvia Berryman challenges that assumption, arguing that the idea that the world works ‘like a machine’ can be found in ancient Greek thought, predating the early modern philosophy with which it is most closely (continued on page 12)
Associated. Her discussion ranges over topics including balancing and equilibrium, lifting water, sphere-making and models of the heavens, and ancient Greek pneumatic theory, with detailed analysis of thinkers such as Aristotle, Archimedes and Hero of Alexandria.”

Andrew Irvine, ed., The Philosophy of Mathematics, in the Handbook of the Philosophy of Science series (Amsterdam: Elsevier / North-Holland, 2009). Series editors: Dov M. Gabbay, Paul Thagard, John Woods. From the Elsevier website: “One of the most striking features of mathematics is the fact that we are much more certain about the mathematical knowledge we have than about what mathematical knowledge is knowledge of. Are numbers, sets, functions and groups physical entities of some kind? Are they objectively existing objects in some non-physical, mathematical realm? Are they ideas that are present only in the mind? Or do mathematical truths not involve referents of any kind? It is these kinds of questions that have encouraged philosophers and mathematicians alike to focus their attention on issues in the philosophy of mathematics. Over the centuries a number of reasonably well-defined positions about the nature of mathematics have been developed and it is these positions (both historical and current) that are surveyed in the current volume.”

Dominic Lopes, A Philosophy of Computer Art (Routledge, 2009). Winner of the 2009 Outstanding Book Prize from the American Society for Aesthetics, and designated an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice (the American Library Association). From the invention of the press, to the elevator, acrylic paint, and the electric guitar, technological progress has helped drive changes in ancient art forms.... But sometimes entirely new art forms (such as the movies) spring from new technologies. In A Philosophy of Computer Art, Lopes argues that computer art is a new art form. While it is true that digital encoding is having an enormous impact on traditional arts, the essence of the computer is not digital encoding. Rather, computers run computational

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processes or algorithms that enable them to modify a display based on input. Computer art takes advantage of this to achieve interactivity, where the audience of a work has a part to play in how the work unfolds.

Christopher Mole: Attention Is Cognitive Unison: An Essay in Philosophical Psychology (Oxford University Press, 2011). From the OUP website: “Some psychological phenomena can be explained by identifying and describing the processes that constitute them. Others cannot be explained in that way. In Attention is Cognitive Unison Christopher Mole gives a precise account of the metaphysical difference that divides these two categories and shows that, when current psychologists attempt to explain attention, they assign it to the wrong one. ... According to [Mole’s] theory the question of whether someone is paying attention is not settled by the facts about which processes are taking place. It is settled by the facts about whether the processes that serve that person’s task — whichever processes those happen to be — are processes that operate in unison. ... The book as a whole shows that metaphysical questions have a foundational role to play in the explanatory project of cognitive psychology.”

Doran Smolkin co-authored (with Warren Bourgeois and Patrick Findler) Debating Health Care Ethics (McGraw-Hill, 2010). From the McGraw-Hill website: “[This text] shows students how debates on philosophical ethics are conducted ... [and] provides the tools to examine issues critically. Early chapters introduce readers to philosophical arguments and methods, the strengths and weaknesses of major normative theories, and the ethical positions of the three text authors (Deontological Pluralism, Contractarianism, and Virtue Ethics). After laying the foundation for argumentation and theory, the text examines important ethical issues in health care. A brief drama—dialogues between patient or family member and health care provider (all composites of actual people) —introduce a moral problem for each chapter. After the case, a debate ensues between the authors; positions emerge, and are defended, revised, and sometimes rejected.”

Recent Faculty Book Prizes

A Philosophy of Computer Art
Dominic McIver Lopes (Routledge, 2009)

Outstanding Book Prize from the American Society for Aesthetics (2009)

Designated an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice (the American Library Association)

The Riddle of Hume’s Treatise
Paul Russell (Oxford University Press, 2008)


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Donations
Philosophy Department Annual Fund

Gifts from friends of the UBC Philosophy Department can have a lasting impact. Your contribution to this fund will be used to support events like our Speaker Series and Spring Colloquium, as well as student travel awards, our departmental library, and other student initiatives. By donating to the Department, you enrich the experiences of our students and help them to achieve excellence.

Donations may be submitted directly to UBC Annual Giving, 500-5950 University Blvd., Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3 Canada or made by credit card online at www.supporting.ubc.ca/givingoptions/donatenow.html. Please note on your cheque—or the ‘gift designation’ section of the online giving form—that the donation should be directed to the UBC Philosophy Department Annual Fund. (Online: select UBC Vancouver, then Arts, then Philosophy Department Annual Fund). Tax receipts will be issued by the UBC Development Office.

Thank you for supporting the UBC Philosophy Department.

Murat Aydede, Derek Matravers (U of Cambridge, visiting at UBC 2009-2010), Roberta Ballarin, Scott Anderson; Philosophy picnic at Spanish Banks, Sept. 2009.