Dear alumni, friends, and supporters of the University of Oregon Department of Philosophy, we are delighted to resume publication of our newsletter, The Thinking Duck, after a five-year hiatus. We have expanded and explored many new opportunities over the last several years, with growth in our enrollments, the expansion of our faculty, and many new, creative programs and courses. The most significant change in the department has been in our faculty, with three faculty departing and five new faculty joining our ranks. Professor Cheyney Ryan, whose courses are fondly remembered by many of our alums, is now in transition to retirement and will teach his remaining courses in the School of Law. We have also wished farewell to Professors John Lysaker and Erin Cline, who are now pursuing careers elsewhere. In our first expansion in over two decades, we have now welcomed five new faculty into our program, and they have brought new energy and fresh ideas to our classrooms and initiatives. We have added new courses on a range of exciting topics, such as Internet, Society, and Philosophy; Global Justice; Medical Ethics; Introduction to Latin American Philosophy; Critical Theory; and The Human Place in the Cosmos. And we have many new initiatives and outreach programs underway, including the Philosophical Installations website, a unique comprehensive archive of philosophy videos on the internet; and a new program that brings philosophy and education majors into the public school system to lead philosophy discussions with the next generation of great minds. Our latest exciting news is a relocation scheduled for this spring from our current home in Prince Lucian Campbell Hall to the newly remodeled second floor of Susan Campbell Hall, in the heart of campus. You will read about many of these new developments in the pages that follow, and we also invite you to visit our website for updates on our activities and for free electronic copies of all of our past issues of The Thinking Duck: philosophy.uoregon.edu. Thank you for your ongoing interest in and support of the University of Oregon Department of Philosophy!

Philosophy is a steadily growing and one of the most popular majors at the U. of Oregon. We are lucky to count as many as 230 undergraduate majors and 80 undergraduate minors within our program. Even though according to a common view philosophy is a theory-bound discipline, our faculty and students routinely document its relevance to contemporary concerns and real life situations in our curriculum, class discussions, and community outreach. In addition to acquiring a solid basis in the main developments and debates within Western philosophy, and becoming skilled in the area of critical and reflective thinking, our students become familiarized with non-Western philosophical traditions, as well as with topics related to gender, race, class and culture during the course of their philosophical study. Our graduates receive excellent preparation for graduate programs in law school and philosophy, but our alumni also go on to pursue careers in NGOs, Peace Corps, tech industry, ESL education, environmental activism, creative writing and filmmaking, organic farming – among others.

Since 2012, the Philosophy Department has been awarding a new competitive annual essay prize called Philosophy Matters. The prize is awarded for the best undergraduate (and graduate) student essays that showcase the continued relevance of philosophy to concrete issues facing us in the world. The winning essays in 2012 were ‘Theory and Practice of Contemporary Democracy’ by Daniel Trujillo (currently a PhD candidate at Northwestern U.) and ‘Bodies, Power, Performativity’ by Kejt Walsh. All winning essays are available on the Philosophy Website.
The Graduate Program in Philosophy is at the cutting edge of a trend in the discipline toward pluralism and diversity. This year, with fewer than 4% of applicants to our program receiving initial offers of admission, our program is also among the most selective in the nation. Our commitment to philosophical pluralism and diversity is reflected in our program that prepares students in four broad areas of philosophy: continental, American, feminist, and analytic. But we are also recognized as a leading research department in philosophy of race, Latin American philosophy, Native American philosophy, cognitive science, gender and sexuality, pragmatism, philosophical psychology, environmental philosophy, Ancient philosophy, German idealism, aesthetics, phenomenology, critical theory and poststructuralism. We are the only PhD granting department of Philosophy on the west coast with a pluralistic focus, and one of the most well established among a growing number of such programs in the country. The Pluralist Guide, a new reputation-based guide for graduate students (pluralistsguide.org), ranks our program among the very best nationally. In recent years, PhD graduates from Oregon have been hired in tenure-track positions at Marquette University, University of Denver, Northeastern Illinois University, Worcester State University, University of Wisconsin-Superior, Florida Gulf Coast University, Beloit College, Allegheny College, and the University of Hawaii among others.

JP: For you, what does it mean to do philosophy?

DV: I consider philosophy a way of thinking that involves bodily being in an eminent way. (I address this in my book *The Bodily Dimension in Thinking*.) Thinking philosophically for me means to hook to a particular resistance in issues that address us and to move closely with this resistance while seeking conceptual articulation of what is in question. I believe that philosophical thought works with concepts where they take shape, transform, and bring light to fundamental questions or issues that orient us and our relation to the world, to others, to living and non living things.

DV: *Contributions to Philosophy (Of the Event)* is as difficult to translate as poetry since Heidegger experiments with language in not purely conceptual registers. I had the pleasure of working with one of the most experienced translators of Heidegger, Richard Rojcewicz, and my particular task was to make sure the nuances of the German text were captured as
closely as possible in the English, which basically meant thinking through (in the way I attempted to describe above) the whole text word by word, sentence by sentence. Precisely because a translation can never be fully adequate to the original, it brings the translator to constantly reflect on the relation between words and meaning.

JP: If you could bring one philosopher back to life for one hour to talk with, who would it be and why?

DV: One hour is not much, so my answer will be pragmatic. I would bring back Heidegger to ask him about his experiences while he was writing.

MARK ALFANO
INTERVIEWED BY PHIL MAYO

PM: In Character As Moral Fiction, you argue that virtues are not robust personal traits, but socially-reinforced and self-fulfilling traits, which you call “factitious virtues.” How would you respond to the Aristotelian who says you’re advocating continence instead of virtue, or the Footian who says you’ve ceded too much to the situationist critique?

MA: I would say we need to take more seriously Aristotle’s attention to friendship, to which 20% of the Nicomachean Ethics is devoted. Friendship is essentially relational: you can’t be my friend unless I’m your friend, and I can’t be your friend unless we each harbor certain attitudes towards each other as such. Factitious virtues can be likened to friendship. On this model, what it means to be, say, generous, is (in part) that other people think of you in certain characteristic ways, that they signal these thoughts to you, and that you understand their signaling.

PM: Derk Pereboom, Hilary Kornblith, and Timothy Williamson have recently mounted spirited defenses of the use of intuitions in moral philosophy, to the detriment of experimental philosophy. Is there a way for empirically responsible philosophers to employ intuitions?

MA: Intuitions are hunches. Some hunches are better than others. When you’re getting started, sometimes the only thing you have to go on is a hunch. Some philosophers want intuitions to be modal hunches – hunches about what’s possible, necessary, and impossible. I see no reason why we can’t have such hunches, but to my mind the best way to show that something is possible is to show that it’s actual. So go ahead and use intuitions, but then do the responsible thing by checking whether your hunch is plausible, given the relevant empirical literature.

PM: Professional philosophers who favor the more “traditional” LEMM (language, epistemology, mind, and metaphysics) branches sometimes slight moral philosophy as less rigorous. But a recent “boom” in ethics jobs seems to belie this prejudice. How do you see the landscape of moral philosophy shaping up?

MA: I’m reluctant to draw inferences about the state of current research from the job market, but there has also been an upswing in top-notch publications in ethics, much of it in empirically-informed moral psychology. The new rigor, as I see it, will be applied by those who understand statistics, and not just classical or modal logic. The world is a really complicated mess; the old logics tend to be too coarse-grained to capture that mess.

Phil Mayo is a PhD student in the UO Department of Philosophy and a Marine Corps veteran. His research is in Moral Theory, Moral Psychology, and David Hume’s moral and political philosophy.

ROCÍO ZAMBRANA
INTERVIEWED BY DAVID ALEXANDER CRAIG

DC: How would you account for the relation of German Idealism and Frankfurt School Critical Theory within your work?

RZ: I read German Idealism and Critical Theory as extensions of Kant’s critical philosophy. These traditions rework Kant’s conception of critique as a mode of self-knowledge. More precisely, Hegel and Marx’s transformation of Kant’s thought were decisive for the Frankfurt School. Critique, for Hegel, is a mode of self-knowing, since it makes explicit the historically specific social dynamics that mediate self and world. An account of forms of life—practices, institutions, modes of self-understanding—and their often times contradictory logics is thus for Hegel the subject matter of critique. Following Marx, the Frankfurt School is committed to the thought that central to modernity’s self-awareness is an analysis of capitalism and the specific ways in which within capitalist societies freedom is entangled with domination.

DC: What importance do you think attending to Hegel’s theory of determinacy has for philosophy today?

RZ: My book argues that what Hegel calls a logic and a metaphysics is a theory of determinacy—a philosophical account of intelligibility.
Hegel ultimately shows that intelligibility is a matter of historically specific practices of rendering intelligible. How we understand nature, self, society is not merely given and therefore cannot be accounted in terms of ontological truths. They are the product of practices, institutions, discourses that articulate historically specific conceptions of nature, self, society. Hegel’s insight is worthy of our attention because he sees the need to critically assess the metaphysics—the general philosophical commitments—at work in conceptions of nature, self, society. In my book, I argue that the most important consequences of Hegel’s theory of determinacy are what I call normative precariousness and normative ambivalence. These consequences should impact our assessment of forms of life rendered intelligible by implicit or explicit normative commitments.

David Alexander Craig is a third year PhD student with research interests in German idealism, contemporary continental philosophy, and animal philosophy. His dissertation, “Immanuel Kant and the Animality of Human Being,” will provide a systematic analysis of the role of the concept of animality in Kant’s philosophy, particularly in Kant’s anthropological and pedagogical writings.

**INTERVIEWS WITH NEW FACULTY**

**COLIN KOOPMAN INTERVIEWED BY ALAN REYNOLDS**

**AR:** When did you first know that you wanted to study philosophy? What originally drew you to the discipline?

**CK:** I enrolled in two philosophy courses at the local community college during my last year of high school. My professor was fantastic. He would push us to take our ideas and develop them as far as we could. He would push us and push us to push ourselves. Eventually, of course, our ideas would always break down. At that point, he would stop playing devil’s advocate, and he’d take over and excavate for us all the kernels of insight in what we had been working to say. That is when I fell in love with the intellectual freedom implicit in philosophy. It has definitely inflected my own perspective. I try to think about my own work, as a teacher and a writer, in the same light.

**AR:** Plato famously (or infamously) argued that the state should be run by philosopher-kings, since they would govern with wisdom and truth. Was he right?

**CK:** If there were a human being who had absolute and infallible knowledge of social organization, then it’s a truism that they should be in charge. If there were a God amongst us, then we should defer to them on matters of politics, on the further assumption that they are benevolent.

**AR:** What are your favorite parts of teaching philosophy?

**CK:** The best thing about teaching philosophy is when you look across the seminar table and see the rosy light first dawning over a student’s face. Watching people in the actual process of coming to new understandings and gaining insights that are crucial for them is such a gift. I love that even in cases where the new insight is one with which I disagree. What’s most important to me as a teacher is creating an environment where students can push themselves in ways they didn’t think was possible. That is what lasts from a philosophical education: the style of a severity of thought.

**Assistant Professor Alejandro Vallega**

(2010) gave the UO Philosophy Department Commencement Address in June 2011, at the end of his first academic year, here. He has selected the following excerpt from that address, which was called, “In Praise of Useless Things,” and partly based on Adrienne Rich’s “Diving into the Wreck.”

“The poem illustrates well the place from which I begin to think... Here, below the rational, outside the already established meanings and well-mannered turns of language and politically correct inflection and gestures, one finds the wreck, and with it the need for the discipline of living with that which is meaningless and useless to the profession and the institution... The word that marks the ways we live as students, teachers and thinkers is “philosophia,” love of wisdom. Philosophers do not desire to conquer, to have and determine things by possessing their knowledge... those who happen to be philosophers have no choice but to remain exposed to the challenge of living and learning.
about themselves and all that is around them through living thoughtfully. Diving into the wreck one leaps into the philosophical by virtue of displacements, accompanied by disorientation, shock. Through your years of study, unbeknownst to you, you have walked towards silence and seen what comes of silence: the philosopher’s almost impossible word.... Upon close circumspection one learns that ideas grow between the lines, that writing happens while we walk, that conclusions arise within the swirl of smoke, with a lover's touch, or the single turn between two lines in a poem, and, that the curve drawn by a cat's leap may decenter an argument...

**AURORA LAYBOURN-CANDLISH** writes: Studying philosophy at the University of Oregon has offered me the opportunity to develop my personal interests and refine my goals into a degree that means something to me. I chose this major because philosophy challenges people to question concepts and meanings that are often taken for granted or otherwise assumed. I am very privileged at the U of O to be part of a community of students that are so open to examining their beliefs and ideas critically. I would like to pursue a postgraduate degree in philosophy.

**SHAHNAZ MOONEY** writes: I am a philosophy and environmental studies major in the Robert D. Clark Honors College. Almost every child challenges their parent's claims by asking “why?” I definitely asked my fair share of questions regarding everything from social inequality to reincarnation. I love studying philosophy because I am able to explore questions which have shaped my values, interests, and pursuits. After I graduate, I aspire to attend a joint environmental law and philosophy program.

**CARL WINDRUP** writes: I became interested in philosophy through political science, which is my first major. I thoroughly enjoyed my political theory classes, and fell in love with the study of the grander ideas and the larger theoretical concepts which underlie the values which shape our political system. While starting out as a minor, I soon decided to pursue philosophy as a major.

**DAVID ALEXANDER CRAIG**, third year PhD student, writes about his Gary E. Smith Professional Development Award: I attended the Collegium Phaenomenologicum, which took place over most of July, 2012 in Citta di Castello, Italy. The Collegium's theme was "Ζωή: On the Question of Life in Ancient Greek Philosophy," and there I both presented my own work on Aristotle and animality, as well as learned about the theme of life in ancient thought from a variety of world-class scholars. The experience benefited me tremendously, both personally and professionally, and I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to attend.

**ELENA CUFFARI**, PhD, 2011. The title of Elena’s dissertation was “Co-speech Gesture in Communication and Cognition.” She now writes: I am working as a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science at the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) and living in San Sebastian, Spain, with my husband, George Fourlas. At UPV, we research embodied intersubjectivity as foundational to social cognition and we are developing how the enactive cognitive science paradigm explains 'high-order' feats like conversation and other forms of collective meaning-modulation. As an Experienced Research Fellow in the TESIS (Towards an Embodied Science of Intersubjectivity) Marie Curie Initial Training Network, I frequently travel in Europe, present work, and collaborate with scholars in other disciplines.

**RUSSELL DUVERNOY**, second year PhD student, received one of two Norman Brown Graduate Fellowships for the 2012-2013 academic year. The fellowship was established by UO alumnus Norman Brown (1968) to support graduate student excellence. Russell’s current research interests center around the intersection between epistemology and metaphysics in both American pragmatism and process ontologies.
GEORGE FOURLAS, ABD [All But Dissertation], writes: I argue in my dissertation, *Justice as Reconciliation: Political Theory in a World of Difference*, that our thinking about justice should be shifted to focus on reconciliation, rather than retribution or redistribution. In 2010-2011 The Carlton and Wilberta Ripley Savage Endowment for International Relations and Peace awarded me a fellowship that I used to visit the island of Cyprus and study the ongoing reconciliation movement that has been positively transforming the Greco-Turkic conflict since the early 90s. I also work on issues in the philosophy of race/ethnicity (especially the racialization of Middle-Eastern Americans), ethics, and the philosophy of language/mind. I am presently living in the Basque country with my amazing partner, Elena Cuffari.

FULDEN IBRAHIMHAKKIOGLU, Second Year PhD student, writes: I have had the honor of being one of the two recipients of the Dan Kimble First Year Teaching Award for the 2011-12 academic year for my first year teaching performance. Without any prior teaching experience, it was at first terrifying for me to go into a classroom and speak in front of thirty or so students in a language that is not my first language, but I persevered with the support of faculty and fellow graduate students, to whom I am deeply grateful.

JOHANNA LUTTRELL, ABD, in the process of revising her dissertation, *Gender, Alienation, and Dignity in Global Slums*, has been selected for a 2013 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar: Development Ethics: Questions, Challenges and Responsibilities, to be conducted at Michigan State University. Under the guidance of distinguished scholars, NEH Summer Institutes provide intensive collaborative study of texts, topics, and ideas central to undergraduate teaching in the humanities.

LUCY SCHULTZ, ABD, received an Oregon Humanities Center Graduate Research Support Fellowship for 2012-2013 to support her dissertation research. Schultz’s dissertation examines conceptions of genius and artistic creation from an East-West perspective in order to describe the ways in which nature becomes expressive through art. Schultz presented a portion of her dissertation at the 2012 meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy at the Eastern APA in Atlanta.

CAROLINE R. LUNDQUIST, ABD, writes: I received the Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for the 2011-12 academic year. The fellowship provided support for one year of work on my dissertation project. The topic of my dissertation is kindness as a response to the problem of luck; I maintain that kindness is the most natural and yet praiseworthy response to the challenges luck confronts us with as we seek to flourish/become good.

AL FRANKOWSKI, PhD (2012) is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Northeastern Illinois University. He teaches 19th and 20th Century Continental Philosophy, Contemporary Philosophy, Critical Race Theory, African American Philosophy, Post-Colonialism, and Aesthetics. His first book, *The Cassandra Complex* is under review for publication. Al writes: I miss the intellectual environment at UO (advisers as well as the graduate student cohort) and the general community in Oregon.

PAUL BURCHER MD, PhD (2011) is Assistant Professor of Bioethics and OB/Gyn at the Alden March Bioethics Institute at Albany Medical College. He teaches medical ethics to medical students at Albany Medical College. He has been the course coordinator for the last two years. He teaches classes for graduate students, including “Healthcare Justice” and “Philosophical Foundations of Bioethics.” He also teaches obstetrics and gynecology to the medical students and residents. His research interests include the patient-physician relationship and the ethics of clinical obstetrics.
Columbia University Press. My new research project is on love and sex. The anthology I co-edited with Caroline Lundquist, Enlightenment, Freedom and Alienation; and the Self Unconcealed. The monograph, of Pregnancy, Childbirth and Mothering is currently in production with Columbia University Press. My new research project is on love and sex.

JOSE JORGE MENDOZA, PhD (2012) is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Worcester State University where he works on issues pertaining to global justice (specifically migration and immigrant rights). He writes: Most of my time, however, is now devoted to teaching and service, which is a big change from my graduate student days. This past year I taught courses ranging from Critical Thinking to Latin American Philosophy and I was involved with student groups such as the Third World Alliance, a student group dedicated to the promotion of diversity and pluralism on campus, and the Center for the Study of Human Rights. . .Go Ducks!

GRANT J. SILVA, PhD (2011) is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Marquette University. Specializing in Latin American philosophy, the philosophy of race and political philosophy, Grant is currently working on a book, The Political Nature of Latin American Philosophy: Nation-Building, Nation-Fusing, Nation-Transcending. Also in the works are several articles on the problem of democratic exclusion, the dynamic nature of racism, and the challenges that undocumented immigration and the militarization of the border pose to mainstream political philosophy.

MAT FOUST, PhD (2010) writes: After graduating the PhD program in 2010, I held a visiting position as Assistant Professor of Philosophy at BNU-HKBU United International College in Zhuhai, China (2010-2011). Since then, I have been Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Lander University in Greenwood, South Carolina. I have recently published a book, Loyalty to Loyalty: Josiah Royce and the Genuine Moral Life (2012, Fordham University Press), and I continue to write on figures in the American tradition. I am also broadening my engagement of my other main research area, Asian and comparative philosophy. My next book will explore the Confucian influence upon, and affinity with, classical American philosophy.

JOHN KAAG, PhD (2007) had a research post-doc at the Harvard Humanities Center and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and Director of the Graduate Program in Global Studies, an interdisciplinary PhD program modeled on international studies. He has also served as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Expository Writing at Harvard. John's book, Thinking Through the Imagination is forthcoming from Fordham University Press this fall. His recent writings about the War on Terror and the use of drones have been featured The New York Times, Chronicle for Higher Education, the New Left Project, The Brown Journal of World Affairs, and Polity.

JASON JORDAN, PhD (2011) is currently Visiting Assistant Professor at Linfield College. His dissertation, Causal Skepticism and the Destruction of Antiquity has motivated published and forthcoming articles on Cartesian occasionalism, British empiricism, the history of the philosophy of science, and the metaphysics of causation and modality. Jason is now writing a book on the history of feminist thought in the medieval and early-modern period.

CAROLYN CULBERTSON, PhD (2010) is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Florida Gulf Coast University. She specializes in twentieth-century Continental philosophy and teaches in a number of other areas including Ancient Greek philosophy and Asian philosophy. Publications include an article on normative foundations and social critique in the work of Judith Butler (forthcoming in Continental Philosophy Review) and an essay on language entanglement in Martin Heidegger and Roland Barthes (in Schreiben, Dichten, Denken, an anthology in the Heidegger Forum series). In her current book project, Carolyn rethinks the relationship between the Continental tradition and the linguistic turn, showing how a careful re-reading of texts in phenomenology and post-structuralism actually challenges the now-popular notion that who we are and how we think are simply the effect of the discourses we inherit.
ADDITIONAL RECENT PHDs INCLUDE:

Adam Charles Arola, PhD (2008) wrote The Movement of Philosophy: Freedom as Ecstatic Thinking in Schelling and Heidegger for his dissertation and is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Pacific Northwest College of Arts.

Kara Barnette, PhD (2012) wrote Necessary Error: Josiah Royce, Communal Inquiry, and Feminist Epistemology for her dissertation and has been a Visiting Instructor in Philosophy and Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies at Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, MN.

Amrita Banerjee, PhD (2011), wrote Re-conceiving “Borders”: A Feminist Pragmatic Epistemology for Postcolonial Feminist Ethics and Politics for her dissertation and is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Oregon State University.

Alain Henry Beauclair, PhD (2008) wrote Dewey’s Ethics of Imagination and is a full-time member of the Philosophy Faculty, MacEwan University, Alberta, Canada.

Elizabeth Anne Caldwell, PhD (2012) wrote Embodiment and Agency: The Concept of Growth in John Dewey’s Philosophy of Education for her dissertation and has been an Adjunct Instructor in the UO Philosophy Department.

Jazmine Lily Gabriel, PhD (2009) wrote The Problem of Life: From Mechanism to Surprise for her dissertation and is Adjunct Lecturer in Philosophy, Siena College, N.Y.

Rochelle Marie Green, PhD (2008) wrote The Self Overcoming: Hope, Relationality, and Politics for her dissertation and is Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Arkansas.


Melissa Marie Shew (2008) wrote The Phenomenon of Chance in Ancient Greek Thought for her dissertation and is Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Marquette University.


Robin Zebrowski, PhD (2010) is Assistant Professor of Cognitive Science, Beloit College and her dissertation was We Are Plastic: Human Variability and the Myth of the Standard Body.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT FACULTY

REGULAR FACULTY UPDATES

Assistant Professor Mark Alfano received his doctorate from the Philosophy Program of the City University of New York Graduate Center and has been a postdoctoral fellow at the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study and the Princeton University Center for Human Values. Alfano works on moral psychology, broadly construed to include ethics, epistemology, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of psychology. He also maintains an interest in Nietzsche, focusing on Nietzsche’s psychological views. Alfano has authored papers for such venues as Philosophical Quarterly, The Monist, Erkenntnis, Synthese, and the British Journal for the History of Philosophy. His first book, Character as Moral Fiction (Cambridge University Press), argues that the situationist challenge to virtue ethics spearheaded by John Doris and Gilbert Harman should be co-opted, not resisted. He is currently writing a moral psychology textbook and is editing three volumes on virtue ethics and virtue epistemology.

Professor Mark Johnson has just finished a new book in which he examines the sources of our moral values and the nature of moral deliberation from the perspective of recent research on moral cognition that is coming out of the cognitive sciences. The book, which is scheduled to be published by the University of Chicago Press early next spring, develops a pragmatist orientation to morality, but also blends this with compatible experimental results from psychology, neuroscience, and linguistics. Johnson has also continued his work on the central role in human meaning and thought of what are traditionally called “aesthetic” aspects or qualities. He has published chapters in three books this past year or two on the aesthetics of everyday life and the aesthetic dimensions of thought and value. The central idea is that meaning, whether in ordinary life, language, or any form of symbolic expression, arises from the qualities, feelings, emotions, images, and frames that constitute our most fundamental engagement with our world and other people.

Assistant Professor Colin Koopman published his first book, Pragmatism as Transition: Historicity and Hope in James, Dewey, and Rorty (Columbia University Press, 2009), during his first year at UO and has just published his second book, Genealogy as Critique: Foucault and the Problems of Modernity (Indiana University Press, 2013). He is now at work on (in addition to further research on pragmatist and genealogical methods) a project concerning the politics of the internet and the politics of information more broadly. The elette that “we live in an information age” demands philosophical interrogation for the reason that we citizens and users of information societies largely lack the concepts we would need to understand where we are and where we are going. Not only do we not understand “information” itself but we are witnessing a wider instability around core ideas such as “information privacy” and “intellectual property” (including property in information).

Associate Professor Bonnie Mann writes: For the last five years I’ve been concentrating intensely on finishing my book manuscript, Sovereign Masculinity: Gender Lessons from the War on Terror, forthcoming from Oxford University Press. In the book, I suggest that when we pay
attention to how gender operates in war, we learn something about what gender is and what gender does more generally. I give a four-dimensional account of gender (phenomenological, critical theoretical, poststructuralist, and materialist) to explain how it is that gender can be something deeply personal and visceraally lived, yet also be deployed by governments in times of war and national crisis.

**Professor Scott L. Pratt** has recently completed a new history of philosophy tentatively titled *American Philosophy from Wounded Knee to 9/11* (forthcoming from Continuum Press). The book, coauthored with Professor Erin McKenna (Pacific Lutheran University), is an introduction to American philosophy that charts a tradition of resistance through pragmatism, American idealism, African American, feminist and indigenous philosophies. Pratt also recently published articles on topics ranging from music to logic over the last few years and is now working on a new project examining the philosophical implications of the genocide of indigenous North American peoples in the years after the Civil War.

**Associate Professor Beata Stawarska** writes: During the last five years, I published one book and completed another. In my book *Between You and I: Dialogical Phenomenology* (Ohio UP, 2009), I highlight the phenomenological importance of the addressee, and the inseparability of I and You. In my second book, *Ferdinand de Saussure's Philosophy of Language* (under review at Cambridge UP), I challenge the validity of the course in general linguistics attributed to Saussure (but ghostwritten after his death) and its structuralist legacy in favor of a study focusing on authentic materials related to Saussure's linguistics; this approach enables me to reclaim Saussure's work within phenomenology.

**Associate Professor Ted Toadvine** writes: During the last five years after the Civil War.

**Associate Professor Daniela Vallega-Neu** writes: My research comprises a long-term project on embodied temporality in which I draw especially from Heidegger and Merleau-Ponty. The task is to rethink time not on the basis of consciousness or human subjectivity but rather in relation to the duration of things and events in their complex interweaving. More recently, I have been working on a book on Heidegger's non-public writings from 1936 to 1944 in which I trace and question shifts in language and movements of thought in the texts partly in relation to historical events. In 2008 I also began co- translating Heidegger's *Contributions to Philosophy*, which came out in 2012 with Indiana University Press.

**Associate Professor Peter Warnek** recently presented a paper at a meeting for the Pacific Association of the Continental Tradition. “Fire From Heaven: Hölderlin's Elemental Tragedy and Inimitable As Such,” deals with the German poet, Friedrich Hölderlin, and his struggles to complete a genuine modern tragedy. The paper is to appear in the journal, *Chiasm International*. Warnek is also at work on two book length studies, one on Aristotle's Ethics and another on the German philosopher, F. W. J. Schelling.

**Professor Naomi Zack** writes: My latest scholarly book *The Ethics and Mores of Race: Equality after the History of Philosophy* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2011) is an inquiry into ideas of human equality in the Western philosophical tradition. *Ethics for Disaster* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2009 and 2010) was a philosophical ethical examination of contemporary disaster policy and controversy; I wrote it for a multidisciplinary and global audience and in 2011 I was invited to participate in a UNESCO seminar in Paris and in 2012 at a United Nations University seminar in Tokyo. *The Handy Philosophy Answer Book* (Visible Ink Press, 2010) is a one-volume account of the history of philosophy for a general audience and *Race and Ethnicity* is a textbook commissioned by Bridgepoint Education for their distance learning students at Ashford University. My next book will be about the gap between progressive ideas of race relations and their treatment by the U.S. legal system.

**Assistant Professor Rocío Zambrana** writes: My research reconstructs Hegel's account of normativity and pursues the consequences of Hegel's insights for notions of critique within the Frankfurt School. Having completed Hegel's *Theory of Determinacy* (under review), I am excited to begin working on my second book project, *Normative Ambivalence and the Crisis of Critique*. To that end, I organized an international conference on Critical Theory, Immanent Critique: New Directions. In addition to publishing essays
on Hegel, Kant, and Critical Theory, I am working on an essay assessing Puerto Rican identity as articulated within an ongoing colonial context. Teaching courses on these topics has been incredibly enriching.

**Adjunct, Visiting, and Affiliated Faculty:**

**Adjunct Instructor Steven B. Brence** specializes in classical American Philosophy, 19th and 20th Century German, Social/Political, Ethics, and Philosophy of Film.

**Faculty Fellow Nicolae Morar** specializes in Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Biology, and 20th Century Continental Philosophy.

**Affiliated Faculty Members and their home departments and specializations are:**

**Joyce S. Cheng**, Assistant Professor, History of Art and Architecture: European Modern.


**Jeffrey S. Librett**, Professor and Department Head, Germanic Language and Literature: Rhetoric of Cultural Dialogue, German literature, Philosophy, Psychoanalysis, Jewish Studies, and theory from the eighteenth century to the present.

**Gerald Rosick**, Associate Professor, Education Studies: Qualitative research and the cultural foundations of education.

**Mark T. Unno**, Associate Professor & Department Head, Religious Studies: Classical Japanese Buddhism, Early Chinese Thought, Comparative Ethics, Buddhism and Psychotherapy.

**Malcolm Wilson**, Associate Professor & Graduate Advisor, Classics: The history of science and the philosophical issues surrounding the organization of systematic knowledge in antiquity; Greek Philosophy; Aristotle; Greek Intellectual History.

### RECENT AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Pacific Northwest American Philosophy Reading Group Spring 2013 Meeting**

The Pacific Northwest American Philosophy Reading Group held its 2013 meeting on Saturday May 11 at the Adobe Resort in Yachats, Oregon. The discussion this year focused on Pragmatism and Latin American philosophy. The Pacific Northwest Reading Group is co-sponsored by the University of Oregon Department of Philosophy, and the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy.

**Spring Commencement June 2013**

The Philosophy Faculty invite graduates and their guests to attend the Department's graduation ceremony at 12:00 noon on Monday, 17 June 2013, inside of the Beall Concert Hall in the MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building at 961 East 18th Avenue. This ceremony is for both undergraduate and graduate majors, and we anticipate that our ceremony will not exceed 90 minutes. Although no tickets are required to attend any UO graduation ceremony, early arrivals always have the best choice of seating. Graduating students will be individually recognized on stage.

**Summer Institute in American Philosophy at University of Oregon July 2013**

The Summer Institute in American Philosophy is designed for faculty members and advanced graduate and postdoctoral students in philosophy and related disciplines interested in research and study in the American philosophical tradition. The program is centered around three discussion-intensive plenary seminars concerning central problems, figures, and themes in the tradition. Each seminar is led by a panel of distinguished experts and consists of multiple sessions on subsequent days. A pair of keynote addresses by Richard Shusterman will enrich our discussions on the relationship between aesthetics, pragmatism, and somaesthetics. There will also be a broad number of traditional conference style sessions which will include paper presentations and works-in-progress meetings. The program includes time away from sessions to visit the Oregon coast, hike in the nearby Cascade mountains, or to enjoy Willamette Valley wine tasting.
Housing is available at local inns as well as (at a very affordable rate) on one of the UO residence halls. For more information about the conference please contact one of the Summer Institute co-organizers: Colin Koopman (University of Oregon), Scott Pratt (University of Oregon), Susan Dieleman (Dalhousie University), or Jessica Soester (SIU, Carbondale).

University of Oregon Hosts SPEP in Fall 2013
The Department of Philosophy at the University of Oregon will be hosting the 52nd Annual Conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP) in 2013. The second largest American philosophy organization, SPEP is devoted to supporting philosophy

SPRING 2013 COLLOQUIA

APRIL 11:
Maria del Rosario Acosta (Associate Professor of Philosophy, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia) 4:00pm in the Ford Alumni Center, Room 202
Title: “Memory and Fragility: Art as Resistance to Forgetting (Three Colombian Cases)”

APRIL 25:
Alia Al-Saji (Associate Professor of Philosophy, McGill University) 4:00pm in the Ford Alumni Center, Room 202
Title: “Bergson, Merleau-Ponty, and the Power of Hesitation: Interrupting Racializing Habits of Perceptions”

MAY 9:
Kelly Oliver (W. Alton Jones Chair of Philosophy and Professor of Women’s Studies, Vanderbilt University) 2:00pm in the Ford Alumni Ballroom
Title: “The New Cult of Baby to Twilight Breaking Dawn”

MAY 10:
Kelly Oliver (W. Alton Jones Chair of Philosophy and Professor of Women’s Studies, Vanderbilt University) 4:00pm in the Ford Alumni Center, Room 202
Title: “Animals, Capital Punishment and the Scope of Sovereignty: Derrida with Thomas Edison”

MAY 30:
Caroline Landquist (Doctoral Candidate in Philosophy, University of Oregon) 4:00pm in LIL 112.
Title: “In Search of Kindness Lost”

Supporting the UO Philosophy Department
Faculty, students, and staff in the UO Philosophy Department are committed to advancing the educational and scholarly mission of the university. However, although we are a public university, only 5% of UO funding comes from the state of Oregon. This percentage was once much higher, but budget cuts during economic downturns over the past two decades have forced the legislature to shrink allocations for higher education. As a result, tuition is a challenge for many undergraduates and graduate student stipends are modest. The Philosophy Department’s budget is stretched in an effort to meet increasing undergraduate enrollments and to support our graduate students through teaching assistantships. Grants for academic work in the Humanities are relatively scarce compared to the sciences. But fortunately, many of our alumni and friends share our educational, scholarly, and culturally enriching ideals, and they are able to support our efforts through financial gifts. The Philosophy Department depends on gifts from our alumni and friends to support and enrich the content and form of the philosophy education that we provide. If you’d like to help, one good way to support us is to make a donation to the Philosophy Department’s general fund. To make a contribution online you can select Give to the University of Oregon Foundation Philosophy Department Fund on the UO Philosophy Department Website at philosophy.uoregon.edu/about/giving_to_philosophy/

Please use my gift for
The Philosophy department’s greatest needs $ ____________
Other (specify) ________________________________ $ ____________

Please make check payable to UO Foundation/Economics or charge
☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Account no. ____________________________ Exp. date ____________
Signature ______________________________________

Name ______________________________________
Address ______________________________________
City ___________________________ ZIP ____________

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
EUGENE OR 97403

Double your gift:
If your employer has a matching gift program, your gift may be worth twice as much. Your personnel office will have that information. If in doubt, just fill in the name of your firm and we will do the checking.

NAME OF FIRM

10566
NEWS FROM ALUMNI AND OTHER FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT

If you are a UO Philosophy Department alumnus/a, a supporter of the Department, or have participated in Department events, please take a moment to tell us about yourself and write some feedback or comments about the Department.

CONTACT US:

uophil@uoregon.edu
Thinking Duck,
Department of Philosophy
1295 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1295

In your comments, please tell us how the Department has been relevant to your life or share your thoughts about the role of Philosophy in life. If you are an alumni, please include the year you graduated and your present occupation. (Unless you request anonymity, your name will be included in the next Thinking Duck.)

Or if you prefer, you can send a check made payable to the University of Oregon Foundation, to:

Department Head
Department of Philosophy 1295 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1295

The department has a number of continuing community outreach and intellectual enrichment projects, as well as prizes for student achievement. Funds contributed to the department will be allocated by faculty where needs are most pressing or projects most promising. However, if you would like have your gift support a specific goal or item, please include a note to Mark Johnson, our Acting Department Head for Spring 2013, or to Ted Toadvine, Department Head during the 2013-14 academic year, at the above address or email Mark at markj@uoregon.edu or Ted at toadvine@uoregon.edu.

At this time, the UO Philosophy Department would greatly benefit from funds earmarked for:

• Undergraduate and Graduate Student Essay Prizes
• Travel Funds for Undergraduates, Graduate Students, and/or Faculty to Attend Professional Conferences
• Research funds for Undergraduate and Graduate Students to buy books.
• Research funds supporting the scholarly work of Graduate Students over the summer.
• Support for inviting external speakers, including stipends for video conferencing.
• Support for conferences hosted by the Department.

In the past, donors have made innovative suggestions for program development and enrichment and we continue to welcome such contributions. You will receive a letter from the department head confirming your gift and, unless you request anonymity, you will also be publicly thanked, on our new website, and in the Department’s newsletter, The Thinking Duck.

Gifts Have been Given By:

Gifts of any amount are appreciated and all donors will be listed unless anonymity is requested. Gifts from $5 to $100 will be considered Supporting Gifts, over $1,000—Special Mention Gifts, and over $10,000—Sustaining Gifts.