End-of-Term greetings from the GW Philosophy Department!

On Saturday, May 19th, a beautiful sunny afternoon, we hosted our annual department reception for our graduating philosophy majors as well as our graduating Philosophy and Social Policy M.A. students and their families. This has always been one of my favorite events of the year, not only because of the satisfaction of seeing our students culminate years of hard work to receive their degrees, but also because we are able to meet their families and celebrate this milestone together. We have been holding this event in a lovely venue for the past two years, the Fine Arts and Art History Art Gallery on the first floor of Smith Hall. The atmosphere is much more festive than the Marvin Center conference room, where we used to have this reception and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event. Check out the pictures from the reception at the end of this newsletter that were taken by our colleague, Professor Jeffrey Brand-Ballard! Our newly minted philosophy B.A. and M.A. students have now joined your ranks as GW Philosophy alumni, and we are proud of their many accomplishments. The Columbian College of Arts and Sciences commencement program listed 32 graduating senior philosophy majors- a record for our department! Looking at the picture of our graduating seniors who participated in the commencement ceremony, I think you will all agree that this was a happy group!

As we transition to our quieter, summer months, we are finalizing our plans for our first philosophy alumni conference on Friday, September 28th. Please save the date! We have five terrific panels planned for this day-long event and directly after the conference, CCAS Dean Peg Barratt will be hosting a cocktail reception, followed by a concert with Earth, Wind and Fire (yes, they are still alive and touring!). Please see the alumni conference update in this newsletter for more specific details about our conference. We will also follow up with more information over the summer when the program is finalized.

This past spring we hosted three major annual events: the Goutman Lecture in February, the Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in March, and the Thacher Lecture in April. We are continuing to expand our philosophy curriculum and several new courses will be taught for the first time in Spring 2013: a graduate course in Biomedical Ethics led by Professor David DeGrazia, a graduate course in Cognitive Science and Public Policy offered by Professor Tad
Zawidzki, an undergraduate Dean’s Seminar on the Philosophy of Human Rights taught by Professor Paul Churchill, and Professor Michèle Friend’s Philosophy of the Environment, a civic engagement course that will also contribute to GW’s new Sustainability Minor. Our new fall 2012 courses, Introduction to Existentialism, The Meaning of Mind, and Philosophies of Disability, have healthy enrollments and all of these courses have generated exciting new teaching opportunities for both our full and part-time faculty.

This year we welcomed Professor Mark Ralkowski to the department. Mark has a joint position in Philosophy and the Honors program and specializes in ancient philosophy and continental philosophy. He has already attracted a strong student following in his first year and he will be supervising one of our Thacher-Reynolds fellows, Iaan Reynolds, next year. A second Thacher-Reynolds fellow, Katie Hurrelbrink, will be supervised by Professor Tad Zawidzki, and a third Thacher-Reynolds fellow, Landon Elkind, will be supervised by Professor Michèle Friend. We are grateful to both Michael Thacher and Dan Weiss for their generous support of these student research awards for senior philosophy majors.

We are sorry to be losing one of our extremely dedicated regular part-time faculty members, Professor Thanassis Samaras, who has recently accepted a full-time position at the University of Georgia. Thanassis won a Bender Teaching Award this year and has done an outstanding job teaching both ancient and modern philosophy for our department. He has had a formative influence on many of our majors and the department won’t be the same without him. However, we know that our loss will be the University of Georgia’s gain and we wish him the best of luck in his new position!

We hope you enjoy this Spring 2012 newsletter and look forward to your feedback. Have a wonderful summer and please remember to stay in touch!

Gail Weiss

**Events**

**Goutman Lecture**

David Cole, professor at Georgetown University Law Center, delivered the annual Goutman lecture on February 3rd, 2012. Professor Cole is also a volunteer staff attorney for the Center for Constitutional Rights, the legal affairs correspondent for The Nation, and a regular contributor to The New York Review of Books. Professor Cole’s most recent book, published in 2009, is *The Torture Memos: Rationalizing the Unthinkable*. His Goutman lecture was entitled “Accounting for Torture after 9/11: The Challenge of Looking Backwards.” Here is the abstract for his talk:

In the wake of September 11, the President and Vice-President of the United States, along with several members of their Cabinet, authorized the systematic use of torture and cruelty against terror suspects. Since leaving office, both former President Bush and former Vice-President Cheney have boasted of authorizing waterboarding, a tactic the U.S. has in the past prosecuted as torture. Yet there has been no accountability for these crimes. President Obama has said that he wants to look forward, not backward. This lecture addressed the necessity -- and the challenge -- of looking backward and holding to account those who authorized such conduct.

**Graduate Student Spotlight**

Joanna Nicoletti, first year student in the Philosophy and Social Policy program will be spending the summer in Costa Rica completing the University of Georgia’s International Perspectives on Interracial Communication program. Joanna will be traveling throughout the country to different regions (Caribbean Coast, Pacific Coast, Central Mountains and Rainforest, and San Jose, the Capital) to discuss different perceptions of race and culture with each local community/culture. The discussions will focus on the culture’s perceptions of themselves as well as of others. The program is based on qualitative research and is part of the Communication Studies Department at UGA. After the program, Joanna plans to stay in Costa Rica and do some independent traveling.
Undergraduate Conference

The Philosophy Club held the annual undergraduate conference on Friday, March 23rd, 2012. GW’s own Allison Markowitz (pictured) presented “Arendt and Foucault: The Nature of Human Freedom.” Other presentations included “On the Absurd” by Benjamin Conover from Saint Louis University, “Becoming Familiar with the Other” by Matthew Fallings of Miami University, “On the Distinction between Freedom and Liberty” by Grady Stevens from Johns Hopkins University, and “Breaking the Chain” by Jay Farber of Tufts University. We look forward to another successful event next year!

Thacher Lecture

Peter Godfrey-Smith, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Graduate Center, CUNY, delivered the annual Thacher lecture on April 20th, 2012. Professor Godfrey Smith has written three books, Complexity and the Function of Mind in Nature (1996), Theory and Reality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Science (2003), and Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection (2009), which won the 2010 Lakatos Award. His Thacher lecture was entitled “The Evolution of Meaning” and the abstract for his talk appears below:

Recent models of “sender-receiver” systems developed in philosophy, biology, and economics provide a new way of thinking about meaning, and the evolution of representation-using systems. I will describe this work and then focus on a difficult and interesting case: the application of these models to internal representation and the content of thought. This will include discussion of the senses, memory, and the relation between human and non-human thought.

Update on GW Philosophy Alumni Conference

(Revised, September 28, 2012)

We have several committed speakers for each of the five panels for our alumni conference and will soon be ready to share the entire conference program with all of you. We hope to have more alumni conferences in the future so if you would like to be a panelist at our next one, please let us know.

This year’s conference will kick-off with a panel led by three of our alumni donors: Beth Loker (’69), Michael Thacher (’70), and Tom Goutman (’76). The second panel profiles four alumni who are currently philosophy graduate students: Jason Fisette (’04), Cameron Bassiri (’06), Ndidi Nwaneri (M.A. ’09), and Amanda Huminski (’09). Our third panel includes current law students and practicing attorneys: Max Utzschneider (’09), Ananda Joy Norris (’97), and John Hanson (’67). The 4th panel brings together alumni who have pursued policy-related and non-traditional careers: Nikole Yinger (’06), Clyde “Bo” Davis (’97), and Marin Randall (M.A. ’07). And a final panel showcases three of our alumni philosophy professors: Rachel Singpurwalla (’93), Brook Sadler (’93), and Mark Alfino (’81).

We are really excited about this terrific group of speakers and hope that many of you can join us and your fellow alumni at this inaugural event!

Faculty News

Jeff Brand-Ballard’s (Associate Professor) has played some ceremonial roles at the University this year. He introduced the award winners at the Faculty Honors Ceremony in March and served as master of ceremonies at the Phi Beta Kappa induction ceremony in May. His article, “Moral Emotions and Culpability for Resultant Harm” just appeared in the Rutgers Law Journal.

Peter Caws (University Professor) presented a paper, “A Multi-Axial Analysis of the Left/Right Opposition in Society and Politics,” at the conference “Left and Right: The Great Dichotomy Revisited” at the University of Minho in Braga, Portugal in March 2012. In July 2012, he will present a keynote address, under the auspices of the Fulbright Inter-Country Lecturer program, at the 13th Annual Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas at the University of Cyprus in Nicosia, Cyprus. He will also participate in a roundtable on psychoanalysis at the

In addition to his book, Women in the Crossfire, Paul is presently writing on religious fundamentalism for a book on religion and violence to be edited by Andrew Fiala.

This semester, David DeGrazia (Professor) has returned to teaching Introduction to Philosophy and a graduate seminar, Topics in Health Policy. Looking ahead to next spring, he has developed plans for a new graduate seminar, Biomedical Ethics. As for professional talks, he was an invited speaker for the main program of the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, addressing the ethics of meat-eating; and he presented a paper, “What is Suffering and What Kinds of Beings Can Suffer?” at a conference on animals, ethics, and the law at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Recently, Prof. DeGrazia was invited to address the Presidential Commission on the Study of Bioethical Issues, in its May meeting, on the ethics of using children in research. This semester, he has been developing the paper on suffering for publication in an anthology and another paper on the use of biological means to enhance moral capacities for publication in The Journal of Medical Ethics. Meanwhile, the book project of last year’s sabbatical, Creation Ethics, has just been published by Oxford University Press. Prof. DeGrazia plans to devote the summer months to research on the ethics of gun control.

Jason Fisette (Lecturer) has had the first chapter of his dissertation “Architecture, not Projection: Hume’s Analogy of Morals to Secondary Qualities” accepted for publication in a special issue of The International Journal for the Study of Skepticism dedicated to ethical skepticism. He will also be presenting part of that article at two upcoming conferences: the 6th Biennial Margaret Dauler Wilson Conference, which will be held June 22-24 at Dartmouth College, and the Atlantic-Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, which will be held June 25-28 at Dalhousie University, Halifax. Jason is looking forward to teaching History of Modern Philosophy in the fall.

Michèle Friend (Assistant Professor) has been a little less sociable recently, for two very good reasons: She is coming up for tenure review, and she has been completing a book manuscript, Pluralism in Mathematics: A New Philosophical Position, on pluralism, a new position she has developed in the philosophy of mathematics. The manuscript has just been sent to the publisher, Springer Press, for the series: Logic, Epistemology and the Unity of Science, edited by Shahid Rahman and John Symons.

After the material for the tenure review is also submitted, Assistant Professor Friend will have a big party, and then go off to Rio de Janeiro for the International Society for Ecological Economics conference, where she will present a paper on homo ecologicus. After travelling around Brazil for a few weeks, she will then fly to Europe to attend a conference on the foundations of mathematics in Cambridge, and give a paper at the Logic Colloquium in Manchester on three conceptions of mathematical proof. Assistant Professor Friend will also be teaching philosophy of environment at both the graduate and undergraduate levels in the next academic year. She looks forward to trying out some daring ideas!

William Griffith (Professor) presented a paper on March 16, 2012, at the Association for the Study of Law, Culture and
Faculty News

Humanities Conference at the Texas Wesleyan School of Law in Ft. Worth, TX. The title of the paper was: “What Should be the Force of Human Rights Treaties on the U.S. Obligation to Investigate Torture Decisions?” Professor Griffith also served as a faculty mentor, helping a Trachtenberg School graduate student prepare a paper for publication in Polity Perspectives, a journal of the School.

Since the last newsletter, Mark Ralkowski (Assistant Professor) has finished writing a chapter for the Continuum Companion to Socrates entitled “The Politics of Impiety: Why Was Socrates Prosecuted by the Athenian Democracy?” The Continuum volume is scheduled for publication in January of 2013. He also finished editing a book for Open Court called Curb Your Enthusiasm and Philosophy, which will be published this August. One of the final pieces of that volume was a glossary which he co-authored with one of his students in the University Honors Program. This summer Professor Ralkowski will be teaching a proseminar on Heidegger’s Being and Time, and he will continue working on a long research project on Plato’s politics.

This spring Eric Saidel (Assistant Professor) introduced a new class: The Philosophy of Biology. This class was a close examination of the philosophical issues raised by biology and evolution. Professor Saidel reports that after spending weeks introducing concepts, the class focused on several controversial issues in biology, together with case studies illuminating those issues. Questions studied included: What is the evolutionary function of female orgasm? How did altruistic behavior evolve? Can biology be reduced to more basic sciences? And, does evolution explain one’s psychology? Professor Saidel is looking forward to teaching the class again in Spring 2014.

Gail Weiss (Professor) is currently completing a book chapter on “Beauvoir, Irigaray, and the Ambiguities of Desire” for a new anthology, The Matter of Distance: Beauvoir and Irigaray. This past April, she spent an evening with a fascinating, diverse group of GW alumni in Buenos Aires, Argentina and shared some of the changes that have been occurring on the Foggy Bottom campus since they graduated. The picture above captures the spirit of the event. Those present included a mix of Argentinian and U.S. alumni (younger and older) from several schools at GW.

In addition to her position as department chair, Gail continues to serve on the CCAS Chairs Space Planning committee, the CCAS Graduate Advisory committee, the Women’s Studies Executive committee, and the Africana Studies committee.

All in all a busy spring at GW! She is looking forward to finishing up the semester and will be working on two new essays this summer, one of which will be presented as the keynote address at the 37th meeting of the International Merleau-Ponty Circle at Fordham University in NYC in September.

Since the last newsletter, Tadeusz Zawidzki (Associate Professor), has presented a paper on adaptive, false beliefs about the mind, at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology, in Savannah, GA (March 2012). He also participated in the prestigious, annual Oberlin Philosophy Colloquium (May 2012). One of the papers he had under review, “Phenomenology and the Extended Mind,” was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Machine Consciousness, and is currently in press. Another, “The Evolution of the Imitation Faculty,” which he is co-authoring with Alison Brooks of Anthropology and Francys Subiaul of Speech and Hearing Sciences, is under revision. A paper that was in press, “Unlikely Allies: Embodied Social Cognition and the Intentional Stance,” should appear in print this summer, in Phenomenology and Cognitive Science. The final draft of his book manuscript, Mindshaping: Linchpin of the human socio-cognitive syndrome, will be submitted to MIT Press by June 1st, and should appear in early 2013. On the teaching front, Professor Zawidzki will teach the first section of his new course, The Meaning of Mind, as a Dean’s Seminar in the Fall Semester of 2012. Professor Zawidzki has also been re-appointed as Faculty Guide for Potomac Residence Hall, for the 2012-2013 academic year. He has also been selected as the new Arts & Humanities Representative on the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Research Advisory Committee.
Boy, that’s a tough question. I think I would funnel money into libraries and literacy programs, because books have always been my favorite things in the world.

We noticed that you teach Aesthetics, and would like to ask: what is your favorite: (a) composer or piece of music? (b) movie? (c) video game? (d) literary work? (e) work of art or artist?


Do you have any advice for the aspiring philosophers at GWU or elsewhere?

Take as many courses in as many different areas as you can, because you never know what’s going to grab your attention.
Alumni News

Alumni Spotlight

Matt Vincent (BA ’07, MA ’10) is currently working for Scottie’s Place, a non-profit organization based in the mountains of West Virginia. Scottie’s Place provides year-round wilderness adventure and academic enrichment programs for homeless and at-risk children. Working directly with Executive Director Paul Winter, Matt has been assisting with the recent expansion of the organization’s mission to include youth from the global community in the services they provide. The goal of the new initiative, the Vulnerable Scholars Program, is to ensure safety through education for girls whose lives are at risk in regions of crisis and conflict around the world.

Matt and his colleague Paul recently returned from a two-month needs-assessment focused on post-primary education for female students in refugee camps in Kenya, Rwanda and Botswana. With support from UNHCR, Windle Trust Kenya, Jesuit Refugee Service, and Lutheran World Federation, among others, they evaluated the needs and challenges of refugee students; identified gaps in available services; and determined alternative strategies for ensuring protection and education for girls. Matt and Paul are now working to implement academic preparatory programs at the Dukwi refugee camp in Botswana in partnership with UNHCR; and to establish a secondary school for girls at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya in partnership with Windle Trust Kenya.

To learn more about these initiatives, please visit www.scottiesplace.org or email Matt at mvincent@scottiesplace.org.

Alex Braha (BA ’09) Starting in the fall, Alex will be attending the University of Denver’s Josef Korbel School of International Studies to pursue a Master’s of Arts in International Security.

Brett Gall (Philosophy minor ’11) will spend the next two years in London, pursuing a Masters of Public Affairs (MPA) in Public and Social Policy at the London School of Economics.

Anna Goldstein Howe (BA ’97) graduated in 1997 with a double major in Philosophy and French Literature. For the past 13 years Anna has taught English in private schools to grades 6 through 12 in San Francisco, CA, Alexandria, VA, and, starting next fall, in Washington, D.C. where she will be teaching High School English at the Georgetown Day School. Anna said, “the schools where I choose to teach are ones that have long histories of commitment to teaching for social justice and that is the ethos that fuels my practice as well. My background in Philosophy continues to strongly influence what I do in the classroom on a daily basis. It is the interplay of Philosophy and Literature that forms the basis of my passion for the subject area and I weave in mini lessons for the students on race and gender, existentialism, ethics, logic...all inspired by the amazing courses I took in undergrad at GW.” Anna lives in Chevy Chase, MD with her husband, Tom and her 5 year-old son, Ethan.

Manali Kumar (BA ’09) Manali received her Masters in Geopolitics, Territory and Security from King’s College London (UK) in September 2011. Her dissertation assessed the strategic competition for trade and influence between India and China in the South Asian region, and also considered if bilateral trade between China and India could have a conflict-inhibiting influence per neo-liberal institutionalism.

Manali is now working with the Institute for Defense and Security Analyses, a think-tank based in New Delhi, India. The project, based on Futures Studies, is the first of its kind in India and seeks to understand the strategic environment India will face in 2050. Manali said “It is exciting, forward looking work, and I’m really enjoying the research!”

Mark Nichter (BA ’71) is the Regents Professor in the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona. Mark recently received two major awards from the anthropology communities of the USA and UK: the Robert B. Textor and Family Award for Excellence in Anticipatory Anthropology from the American Anthropological Association, and the Wellcome Medal for Research in Anthropology as Applied to Medical Problems from the Royal Anthropological Institute UK.

Julie Oliver-Zhang (BA ’01) went on to attend both American University and GW School of Law. After working for both AM Law 100 defense firms and the plaintiffs’ bar, Julie is currently the senior associate at Aaron Levine & Associates.
Alumni News

Julie has been working on a high profile pharmaceutical case for the past couple of years. A recent news report about it can be read [here](#). Julie said, “my education in philosophy has taught me to think critically and analytically. I would never forget the knowledge and skills Dr. Weiss, Dr. Altman, Dr. Schlagel, and Dr. DeGrazia have imparted upon me. I want to sincerely thank the department for preparing us to succeed in our careers.”

Ernest Wolf-Gazo (BA ’69) was invited as Distinguished Lecturer to the “Philosophy and Psychoanalysis” Circle and the Institute of Philosophy at Heinrich-Heine University of Duesseldorf, Germany, for May 29-June 1, 2012. He will be giving lectures entitled, “Polis and Eros: On the Alchemical Transformation of Modernizing Egyptian Society”, and, “Politics, Religion, Sexuality: Central Problems of Egyptian Society in the Time of Transition between Religious Tradition and Technical Modernity”.

Student News

Graduate

Ross White, first year student in the Philosophy and Social Policy program, was recently awarded a Walter Green Fellowship for “graduate students who intend a career in public service or government and will be working in a job or internship, paid or unpaid, for at least 15 hours a week.” The fellowship covers $10,000 for full-time study. He will use this fellowship to continue program studies in health policy.

Since moving to DC in August, Ross has served as Public Policy Associate for The Hastings Center, a bioethics and public policy research institute based in Garrison, NY. He took this position after serving as research assistant at the Center for two years. In his new capacity he attends Congressional hearings, other governmental meetings, and events sponsored by various organizations on issues in health and science policy. In addition to reporting back major findings from events in DC, he is also working to help disseminate ongoing research being conducted by research scholars at the Center to Congressional staffers and other relevant stakeholders.

Undergraduate

Landon Elkind presented at four conferences this spring. Landon presented at the Midsouth University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in February, The University of William and Mary Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in March, the Pacific University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in April, and the Northwestern University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in May. Landon received best paper at the Pacific Conference. Landon said, “I want to thank the Department for generously funding some of the travel.”

Landon also received a Luther Rice Fellowship with which he will research how the definition of polyhedron changed throughout history and how these changes altered mathematical practice. The project is titled “Mathematical Definition Changing Mathematical Practice: A Case Study in Polyhedra”. The adviser for the project is Dr. Lowell Abrams in the mathematics department. It comes with a $5,000 award to support research over the summer.

(Chair’s note: Not to be outdone by the Mathematics department, as earlier noted, Landon has also been awarded a Thacher-Reynolds fellowship for research on Bertrand Russell under the supervision of Professor Michèle Friend.)
From Brian Browne, who is currently a sophomore majoring in philosophy:

In my first semester at GW, I joined an organization called Banaa.org because I was impressed with its story and mission. Student activists influenced the university to leverage its educational resources to help bring peace to conflict-ridden Sudan by awarding a scholarship to a Sudanese student. Two years later, I realize that working with Banaa has helped me grow immensely as a young professional, but the greatest impact on my life comes from the friendship I developed with Makwei, the Banaa scholar.

Makwei, raised in a refugee camp since age seven, would certainly have much to teach someone like me who is interested in international affairs and conflict resolution. I remember briefly speaking with him once about the United Nations’ involvement in Sudan and the pastoral lifestyle of the Dinka in South Sudan. But after taking Modern Philosophy together in the spring of my freshman year, philosophy always became the center of our conversations. The first time I talked with him after class he explained how much his mind was opened by taking philosophy, a subject that he never had the chance of studying.

I remember meeting up with him for lunch one Saturday shortly thereafter; we sat in the restaurant debating about the existence of the universe for four hours! Sadly for the universe, I was not able to provide him with a convincing argument. Even sadder to me is the fact that Makwei is graduating this spring as a double major in Philosophy and Economics. I will miss him and his skeptical nature after he flies back across the Atlantic, but I know he will keep touching the lives of those around him in his home nation.

Student Spotlight

Sarah Holmes received Second Place in Undergraduate Humanities Research at GWU’s Annual Research Day for her research entitled “Inquiry into the Moral Implications of American Exceptionalism and the U.S. War Ethic.” In this research, Sarah studied the changing nature of our nation’s sense of exceptionalism and the way that it has influenced why we go to war and how we fight. Sarah says “over the past two years, I’ve developed a personal interest in war ethics, the United States’ defense infrastructure and history, and just war theory. I work for a small business defense contractor, and have found that philosophy is the perfect complement to the topics I tackle on a daily basis at the office. I’m particularly interested in finding policy recommendations to resolve the ethical dilemmas present in our current (overgrown) military industrial complex, without sacrificing those principles that have shaped our national consciousness. I’d also like to say ‘thank you!’ to Professor Churchill, for helping me with my research project, putting up with my stubborn ways, and cheering me on.” Additionally, Sarah was recently selected to present a separate (but related) research project entitled “Ethics, Exceptionalism, and Espionage: the American Dilemma” at the University of Maryland’s “New Synthesis” Conference on 21 April 2012. She gave a twenty minute oral presentation as part of a session on “An Ethical Political Science.”
Department News

Recent Graduates

The department would like to congratulate the following individuals who graduated in the Spring and Summer of 2012:

Maxwell Anthony
Harry Bergmann
Lawrence Caldwell
Tim Durkin
Christopher Fritz
Carrie Greif
Rebecca Groom
Shelby Hartman
Alexandra Inman
Joseph Inzano
Bryce Jarvis
Xiao Ying Koh
Christopher Leveroni
Joseph Mabioor Deng
Elizabeth Methodios
Geoffrey Middleberg
Christian O’Neill
Christina Ottati
Derek Sable
Anthony Sampson
Carl Sceusa
Anjali Sharma
Se Ra Song
Salem Srour
Jillian Stanley
Shannon Sweeney
Diego Uribe
Justin Woods
**A Year of BrownBags**

The department hosted ten brown bags this year. All presenters are affiliated with the University unless otherwise noted. For more information, or to read the available papers please visit our [website](#).

September 23, 2011: **Jorn Sonderholm** presented “Cullity, affluence and logic.”

October 7, 2011: **Peter Caws** presented “Transforming Human Nature.”

December 2, 2011: **Andrea Pedeferri** presented on standards for appropriateness for assertion.


March 2, 2012: **Anthony Friend** presented “System of Accounts for Global Entropy Production, (SAGE-P) and the 'Integration Problem' of the Natural and Social Sciences.”

Friday, April 6, 2012: **David DeGrazia** presented “What is Suffering and What Sorts of Beings Can Suffer?”

Friday, April 13, 2012: **Michael Sigrist** presented “Objections to a Naive Theory of Temporal Perception.”

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**Donations**

**December 15, 2011 - May 1, 2012**

The department gratefully acknowledges the following individuals who have made recent donations:

- Chevron Matching Gift Program
- Mr. Christopher C. Fritz, CCAS BA '09
- Mr. Thomas M. Goutman, CCAS BA '76
- Ms. Maryanna L. Kieffer, CCAS MA '73
- Ms. Elizabeth St. J. Loker, CCAS BA '69
- Mr. Michael W. Thacher, CCAS BA '70

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**Giving to the Department**

All donations to the Department of Philosophy are greatly appreciated and tax-deductible. To be a part of the department's continuing growth, please send your donation through this site:

[https://www.gwu.edu/online_giving](https://www.gwu.edu/online_giving)

(Don't forget to designate your gift to the Department of Philosophy!)

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**Credits**

This issue of the GW Department of Philosophy Newsletter was edited by Lindsey Petersen, with assistance from Professor Weiss, Garrison Spencer, Lindsey Serwatka, and Lizzie O’Boyle. The design of the newsletter was created by Julia Louie.