Greetings from the Department Head

Last spring, I wrote this column while I was sipping café au lait and eating beignets at Café du Monde, in New Orleans. I wrote about a philosopher who had recently died, Hilary Putnam. Again, I’m at Café du Monde sipping café au lait, eating beignets, and thinking about a dead philosopher, Richard Rorty. I don’t know what are the necessary and sufficient conditions for a habit, but this may become a habit.

People often say that philosophers live outside the real world and that academic philosophers live in the ivory tower. I remember telling my parents that I wanted to major in philosophy, and one of them responded sarcastically: “That’s practical.” A couple of years later, my brother didn’t want me to look after his three year old child, claiming that he was concerned that I might not know what to do if there was a fire in his house.

Contrary to this widespread belief, philosophers have been interested in improving the real world for centuries. You may remember that Socrates, in Plato’s Republic, explained that philosopher kings would be the best rulers. (Of course, some question whether philosophers would be willing to give up the contemplative life and rule.) And Aristotle had plenty to say about good and bad governments and what constitutes a good life.

Last year, after Donald Trump won the presidential election, a selection from a book written by Richard Rorty went viral. In Achieving our Country (Harvard University Press, 1998) Rorty predicted:

> [M]embers of labor unions, and unorganized unskilled workers, will sooner or later realize that their government is not even trying to prevent wages from sinking or to prevent jobs from being exported. Around the same time, they will realize that suburban white-collar workers … are not going to let themselves be taxed to provide social benefits for anyone else.

> At that point, something will crack. The nonsuburban electorate will decide that the system has failed and start looking around for a strongman to vote for — someone willing to assure them that … the smug bureaucrats, tricky lawyers … and postmodernist professors will no longer be calling the shots….

Clearly, Rorty wasn’t living in an ivory tower removed from reality.

I am happy to report that students and faculty in the Department of Philosophy at Oklahoma State University are interested in esoteric philosophical issues and practical problems. I frequently hear faculty members arguing about what Aristotle or Kant believed, whether a moral theory, say utilitarianism, is plausible, or whether humans have free will. That said, many of our faculty members are interested in experimental philosophy (an approach to philosophy that conducts empirical studies in the real world), and I serve on an ethics committee at a local hospital and the IRB (institutional review board – we attempt to ensure that human subjects enrolling in clinical trials are protected) at OSU’s medical school. Several years ago, one of my colleagues wrote a book, which was aimed at the general public, responding to public intellectuals who claimed that believing in God was irrational.

I believe that our department has achieved a healthy balance between theory and practice, between the real world and the ideal world. We continue to sponsor the OSU Ethics Club, the primary activity of which is competing in the Ethics Bowl. In
Greetings from the Dept. Head cont.

2016, OSU trained two teams that competed in San Antonio. In addition, during the past year we sponsored many talks focusing on practical, real-world issues, including: who owns the n-word and President Trump’s immigration program.

Just to be clear, I’m not suggesting that we (or other philosophy departments) no longer focus on the history of philosophy, different philosophical theories or age-old philosophical issues/problems. Our faculty members continue to teach and write about these topics. But we know that most of our students will need to get jobs in the “real world” and as we provide a solid philosophical education, we strive to prepare them to get jobs or move onto graduate/professional school. This includes hosting an annual career workshop for our majors and minors, which teaches students how to write an effective resume and how to interview for jobs. We also talk to students about what jobs/careers are open to philosophy majors/minors and the benefits (and costs) of internships. (This is the second year that the department of philosophy has secured an internship at Payne County Youth Services.)

Philosophy is, I suggest, a more relevant major than ever. As the world gets more complicated, as it becomes more difficult to separate “fake” news from real news, a philosophical education, which includes developing the ability to think and write clearly, is as important as ever and serves our students well.

Undergraduate Advising
Anthony Valentine

Philosophy being my first love at university, I confess to some discouragement when a student visits, having concluded that philosophy may not be the program for her after all. It never seems to fail, however, that I will speak with a student within the next couple of days, who has found a new interest in the program. Clear and steady indications that recruitment efforts continue to work terrifically. Frankly, it’s an exciting time to advise for the Philosophy department.

By way of continuing recruitment for the program and the college, new options on the degree are being offered for the 2017-18 academic year. While the traditional degree has always been a terrific preparation for a law school-bound student, it is exciting to announce that a new “Pre-Law” option is being added in the hopes that students, who might be looking for degrees specially designed for pre-professional goals, will see Philosophy listed among those options as they apply to OSU and identify a major of interest. The degree retains all of the traditional departmental requirements, but suggests a wide array of major electives for students interested in careers in law.

Additionally, due to the consistent and strong interest in Religious Studies minors, we’ve submitted a new option for Philosophy, Pre-Ministry, combing the traditional major with a built-in religious studies minor and some introduction to...
Undergraduate Advising cont.

Outstanding Undergraduates

Every year the Philosophy Department selects an outstanding Junior and Senior for recognition. The Department is proud to announce this year’s award recipients.

Michael Jamaleddine, 2017 Outstanding Senior

When Michael came to OSU in the fall of 2013, his professional goals were clear: after graduating, he would go on to medical school to become a physician, but the exact path he took was far from predictable.

Knowing that a strong foundation in science was a prerequisite for success in medical school, Michael’s first major was in Biology—which was soon changed to Microbiology. His interest in the questions that science couldn’t easily answer, however, led him to his second degree: philosophy. Soon after, his third and final degree was added: sociology, with an emphasis in anthropology. While seemingly unrelated, Michael hopes to synthesize each discipline’s subject matter—from the theoretical foundations in philosophy and sociology to the detailed molecular mechanisms in microbiology—in order to become a leader and pioneer in medicine. Research also plays a large role in Michael’s academic career, and from his two years spent conducting investigations in glycobiology, he has become a Wentz Scholar, completed an honors thesis, and has been awarded first place in the Three Minute Thesis competition.

Dedicated to serve others, inspired by the faculty at OSU, and driven to pursue excellence in both professional and personal life, Michael’s mission is to use the diverse body of knowledge he’s gained from each degree to become a physician committed to leadership in alleviating human suffering caused by disease and illness.

Alexander Garcia, 2017 Outstanding Junior

Alex Garcia was born and raised in Austin, TX. His mom studied history at OSU, and his dad works with computers. Alex’s passion for philosophy started young. In his own words, “I like to think my interest in philosophy is an unintended pseudo-synthesis between these two areas of study. I am interested in philosophy because the study allows me to ponder ideas that have bothered me since middle school. When I was young, I’d ask my mom what the meaning of life is. She never gave a satisfying answer. Sometime in my junior year of high school, I remember I asked questions in AP psychology concerning the soul and free will and was told that my questions were ‘not of primary concern’. This was obviously a deeply unsatisfying answer. In my freshman year of college, I asked my Calculus II professor why the numbers π and e were so prevalent in mathematical areas they intuitively had no reason to be. He responded that my question wasn’t really a math question, but more a philosophy of math question that he wasn't qualified to answer. Following this, I proceeded to ask questions of other professors, and pursue some personal study. More often than not, the professor I’d asked would respond, ‘well, that's really more of a philosophy question, but…’. In my personal studies, I’d always end up reading philosophy no matter the subject I had started on. This continued on until I finally realized I just needed to major in it. Philosophy is my passion and there’s not a single other area that I’d rather devote my life to.”

counseling. As of the beginning of this spring, there are forty-seven declared Religious Studies minors and fifty-two philosophy undergraduate minors, so it is to be hoped that this new option will provide a home for some eager students.

Last year I mentioned we had begun working with A&S Career Services to help undergraduates in the major build their résumés and learn effective strategies for finding rewarding careers. This February we’re again inviting students to meet with Chelsey Armstrong, career coordinator for A&S. In addition to topics covered last year, Chelsey will be encouraging and helping majors take advantage of the upcoming OSU Career Fair for liberal arts and sciences, March 2, in Gallagher-Iba Arena.

A reminder to those who have students or friends inquiring about major or minor requirements and sequencing: please ask them to call (405) 744-5658 or to e-mail anthony.valentine@okstate.edu for an appointment.

Undergraduate Advising cont.
Faculty News and Updates

Dr. Rebecca Bensen Cain
During my Sabbatical last spring, I experienced both a productive and restful period of time, actively engaged in my research field of ancient Greek philosophy. I had a paper accepted for publication in the Southwest Philosophy Review 33(1) which is due to come out in January, 2017. I presented that paper at a conference in Corpus Christi in November, 2016. Currently, I am writing a panel proposal and organizing it in collaboration with Dr. Sheila Lintott, a colleague in philosophy from Bucknell University. We will submit the proposal for the next meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics which will take place in New Orleans, November 2017. We plan to entitle the panel session: “Crossing the normative boundaries of humor in comedy, magic, and carnivals.”

Dr. Megan Burke
Dr. Burke is currently working on a book that examines the relationship between temporality, sexual violence, and heterosexist genders. Recently, she published two papers in Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy—“Love as a Hollow: Merleau-Ponty’s Promise of Queer Love” and “Gender as Lived Time: Reading The Second Sex for a Feminist Phenomenology of Temporality.” This year Dr. Burke has taught courses in transnational feminisms, queer theory, and gender and violence.

Dr. James Cain
This year Dr. Cain is teaching Symbolic Logic, Philosophy of Language, and Mathematical Logic. In the fall he published an article in the journal Faith & Philosophy. He has been working on a paper on free will.

Dr. Chris Drohan
Dr. Drohan joined OSU’s philosophy department in the fall semester, having previously taught for Texas A&M and Arizona State University. His research focuses on the history of western continental philosophy and semiotics. Currently he is conducting research on Heidegger’s concept of ‘distraction’ and its broader implications for existential thought. A portion of this research was presented at the New Mexico/Texas Philosophical Society’s annual conference last March. Dr. Drohan has taught Philosophies of Life and Logic and Critical Thinking at OSU, and will be adding Biomedical Ethics to his roster in the spring semester.

Dr. Marty Heitz
Dr. Heitz enjoyed attending the East West Philosophy Conference at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu and visiting his old stomping grounds with his wife Shonda, though much has changed since his graduation from UH. He followed that trip with a month-long hike of the John Muir Trail in California with his daughter and, despite some sickness, both of them successfully made it to the summit of Mt. Whitney! He also kept busy teaching Tai Chi at the Colvin and teaching two courses for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and has started a meditation group that meets in Murray Parlor on Tuesday evenings. While he’s had some serious health issues, he’s thrilled to say he’s a cancer survivor and hopes for a continued, healthy and happy new year.

Dr. Justin Horn
Dr. Horn continues to work on issues in moral ontology, moral epistemology, and moral semantics. This year he presented papers at the Northwest Philosophy Conference at Gonzaga University and the Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress at the University of Colorado, Boulder. His paper “Moral Realism, Fundamental Moral Disagreement, and Moral Reliability” is forthcoming in The Journal of Value Inquiry. Dr. Horn also organizes the First Friday Pizza Forum, a monthly discussion series aimed at cultivating philosophical discussion among undergraduates. He enjoys teaching introductory courses and Biomedical Ethics, and has been known to occasionally break into song in class.

Dr. Apple Igrek
Dr. Apple Igrek’s essay “The Limited and Unlimited Affective Space of Festival” has been accepted for publication in the journal “Space and Culture.” His short genealogical entry “Bellmer and Virtual Assemblages” has also been accepted for publication at the website “Critical Posthumanism.” And he has also recently finished a manuscript entitled Entropic Affirmation: A Theory of Change, Death, and Nothingness. In this work Dr. Igrek proposes that the infinity of change and the nothingness of death are relevant to the orientation of our values despite the fact that what is limitless cannot be measured in terms of our openness to it. This idea therefore gives rise to a new methodological approach that diverges from 1) any view suggesting that such relevance has to do with a moral responsibility to be more open to what is infinitely other, and 2) all other views that conclude that infinity is therefore irrelevant to cultural values. This approach ultimately gives rise to a new explanation for the agonistic aspect of social life, an explanation that is not equivalent to what can be found in the likes of Nietzsche, Freud, or Mouffe, given various flaws in their respective theoretical assumptions.

Dr. Brian Kim
In the past year, I have been continuing my research on the practical role and value of knowledge. This research has intersected
with my interests in the philosophy and psychology of happiness. I taught a class on the topic this last fall, and I'm currently working on a paper arguing that it is important for us to be knowers in our pursuit of happiness.

Dr. Lawrence Pasternack
Dr. Pasternack has secured contracts for the third and fourth volume of his German Enlightenment translation series with Bloomsbury, wrote various new papers, including one for Kantian Review, a Cambridge University Press collection on the Ontological Argument, and a Routledge collection on Kant and the Scottish Enlightenment. In 2016, he also ran a workshop at OSU on probability in the philosophy of religion. For 2017, in addition to his ongoing writing projects, he is organizing a session on Kant at the Central APA as well as planning another OSU workshop, this time on the topic of Divine Hiddenness.

Dr. Doren Recker
I gave two faculty colloquia in 2016, “Rom-Com or War Flic: Are Evolution and Religion Compatible?” in February, and “Apples v. Oranges: Can We Demarcate Scientific and Religious Claims?” in October. Both of them involve themes I plan to tackle early in my proposed book on Creation/Evolution, and I used the opportunity to present ideas to the department to review literature and prepare positions and arguments. The 1st presentation was then turned into a formal paper (“Faith, Belief, and the Compatibility of Religion and Science”), which was then accepted for publication by Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science. I’ve already corrected the page proofs, so it should appear in print soon. I am currently working the 2nd presentation into a paper, and hope to submit it to a journal over the summer. I am also working on several projects involving Descartes’s science. I taught 9 different classes in 2016 (many of them wildly different from one another), and also headed the RPT Committee charged with revising our documents, work continues on this project. I also worked on a mock-interview team for a Truman Scholarship candidate, and finished work on a Wentz Project on Creation/Evolution with a very deserving student from the Integrative Biology department. Laurel also landed a visiting position in American Studies at Miami University, Ohio. So, news that there are now two Dr. Reckers wreaking havoc in higher education rivals the Trump presidency in terms of shock value.

Dr. Eric Reitan
Eric Reitan was on sabbatical in the Fall of 2016 to complete a book manuscript on same-sex marriage, which he submitted to the publisher in December. The book, The Triumph of Love: Same-Sex Marriage and the Christian Love Ethic, will be released by Cascade Books in the summer of 2017. An article, “Political Liberalism, State Neutrality, and Same-Sex Marriage,” appeared in the October 2016 issue of Public Affairs Quarterly. He has also been working on contributed chapters to a pair of edited anthologies, including a chapter on personal pacifism for the forthcoming Routledge Handbook on Pacifism. In his free time he’s been writing fiction, and two short stories have recently been accepted for publication—one in Gamut Magazine and one for the anthology, The Book of Blasphemous Words.

Dr. Shannon Spaulding
2016 was an unevenly paced year for me. I did all of my teaching, research, talks, and service in the Spring and Summer. I was on maternity leave all Fall didn’t do any talks, research, or teaching then. In the busy Spring and Summer, I had three papers accepted for publication and now have two revise-and-resubmit papers under review. I’m currently working on an invited book manuscript to be published with Routledge Press in late 2017. In terms of giving talks, 2016 was a slower year for me - 7 conferences and colloquia in the Spring and Summer. I am continuing my work as graduate coordinator, mentoring our philosophy graduate students and helping them apply to PhD programs in philosophy. I’m looking forward to getting back into the swing of things in 2017.
Diversity

Oklahoma State University’s philosophy department continues our push for conversations about race and inclusion. Over the last academic year, we discussed topics as diverse as the complexity of white supremacy; we had a public lecture about black feminism, we screened the documentary 13th and had an invited talk about the racism at predominately white colleges and universities.

Lecturer, Diversity Coordinator, and Office of Institutional Diversity Fellow Lawrence Ware gives leadership to these series of events. Critical Conversations are panel discussions and invited talks from of scholars, activists, and students about issues centering around inclusion found in the news, while Critical Colloquia are academic talks from top scholars doing work that touches upon diversity. The average attendance of conversations is around 150 while the attendance for colloquia is just under 100. These events have been featured in both the local and state media, and Lawrence Ware is a highly regarded teacher and speaker around the country. In the fall of 2017, he will be the Co-Director of the Center of Africana Studies at Oklahoma State University.

The Critical Conversations series continues to set the standard on campus for public dialogue about diversity and inclusion, and the OSU philosophy department is unique in it’s dedication to giving voice to those typically marginalized in the history of philosophy.

Critical Conversations

“What is White Supremacy?  
9/12/2016

“Critical Conversations:  
13th: From Slave to criminal with One Amendment”  
11/7/2016

“Voices Unheard: The  
Critical Conversations and Gender Studies Film Festival”  
2/27/17-3/2/17

“A Horror Film’s Critique of Whiteness: Critical Discussion on Get Out”  
3/6/2017

“Black in Oklahoma: Past, Present, Future”  
3/8/2017

“Do Black Lives Matter to the Christian Church”  
4/11/2017
After a very successful first year, the OSU Philosophy Department will continue to team up with Payne County Youth Services to offer a summer ethics internship.

The summer intern will shadow Payne County Youth Services employees, observe ethical issues in the PCYS employees’ work, and talk with the PCYS employees about any ethical issues or situations that they regularly face. PCYS may request a particular ethical issue or area for the student to focus on, depending on current situations and needs. In addition, the intern will interact with residents in the emergency shelter and participate in evening activities. The intern will keep a journal and meet with the faculty advisor each week. Two weeks after the last meeting at PCYS, the intern will submit a final report to the faculty advisor and to Payne County Youth Services.

Interested students can apply by submitting their resume, cover letter, and references to philo@okstate.edu. Applications are due April 1st.

Ethics Internship

Voices Unheard is a film festival, co-organized by Professor Lawrence Ware and Dr. Megan Burke, that offers the opportunity for the campus community to consider the unheard voices of men and women of color. In celebration of Black and Women’s History Months, the film festival highlights the political struggles and feminist activism of women of color in the United States. February 27, 2017 through March 2, 2017.
Friends of the Forms

Friends of the Forms, our student philosophy club, was formed in 1975 by Dr. Edward Lawry, who retired from the department in 2006. The organization arose from students interested in extra-curricular philosophical discussions. The name alludes to Plato’s Sophist. The group schedules talks and discussions by on campus faculty from a wide variety of Colleges and Departments. Every Spring semester, they host a special “Philosopher-in-Residence” program. We invite a philosopher of national reputation to come for three days, give two lectures, and meet informally with students.

2016-2017 Officers
Conner Eggers, President
Evan Kiley, Vice-president
Michael Jamaleddine, Secretary-Treasurer
Brian Deer, Faculty Advisor

42nd Annual Philosopher in Residence

This year’s Philosopher in Residence event was a great success. Friends of the Forms hosted famed ethicist Jonathan Dancy, author of Ethics Without Principles and Practical Reality. Prof. Dancy gave a well received public lecturer titled, “Understanding Tolerance.” He also gave a smaller talk aimed at philosophers titled, “Forms of Instrumental Reasoning.” Students and faculty enjoyed the opportunity to meet Prof. Dancy, who was very generous with his time.

2016-2017 Friends of the Forms Talks

The DNA of ISIS
Stephanie Wheatley, OSU Religious Studies. 10/11/2016

Estimating Judicial Accomplishment: Applying the Legislative Accomplishment Approach to the Decisions of the Supreme Court”
Marcus Hendershot, OSU Political Science Dept.. 11/8/2016

Understanding Tolerance
Jonathan Dancy, Philosopher in Residence 3/2/2017

Forms of Instrumental Reasoning
Jonathan Dancy, Philosopher in Residence 3/3/2017

Digital Doomsday? The United States and the Growing Threat of Cyber Attacks
Jacob Mauslein, OSU Political Science Dept. 3/21/2017

Visit our Events page to watch recorded lecturers online!
philosophy.okstate.edu/events/events
Brian Deer
Student Organization Faculty Advisor and Undergraduate Liaison

Brian Deer teaches Philosophies of Life, Asian Philosophy, and classes on death and dying. Within the department Mr. Deer has been working as undergraduate liaison, working with the Friends of the Forms and developing the Oklahoma State Ethics Club. The Friends of the Forms has organized its yearly series of free and open to the public talks on various subjects from water quality, terrorism, computer safety, food ethics and several others that have drawn on faculty near and far. The OSU Ethics Club has had another successful year of developing membership. The club is only two years old, and we were able to take two teams to the APPE Regional Ethics Bowl this year. Out of thirty-six teams, we finished in the top ten. Next year’s goal is to qualify for the APPE National Ethics Bowl.

Ethics Club

The OSU Ethics Club moved from the Business College to the Philosophy Department in 2015. The club has had an exciting first two years in the Philosophy Department, forming an ethics bowl team and expanding to two ethics bowl teams in the fall of 2016. Both teams competed at the Oklahoma Statewide Student Ethics Challenge in Edmond and then finished in the top ten at the Texas Regionals in San Antonio.
Workshop on Divine Hiddenness

With co-sponsorship from the Norris Foundation and the organizational efforts of Dr. Pasternack, the Philosophy Department held a workshop on Divine Hiddenness and Philosophy of Religion February 22nd. The event was a great success, with many OSU students in attendance. Christopher Tomaszewski, Baylor University, kicked the workshop off with a talk titled, “Non Resistance is Futile: Divine Hiddenness, Evil and Human Nature.” Dr. Tyler Paytas, Australian Catholic University, followed with, “Of Providence and Puppet Shows: Divine Hiddenness as Kantian Theodicy”. Syed Abu Musab, OSU Graduate Student, continued the discussion with a talk on Islam and Divine Hiddenness. The lecturers inspired ardent discussion, so much so that the one-day workshop stretched into a two-day workshop. Keynote speaker Dr. Travis Dumsday of Concordia University wrapped up the workshop the following day with a lecture titled, “Could a Neoplatonic Conception of Transcendence Help with the Problem of Divine Hiddenness?”

Richard Swinburne visits OSU

The OSU Philosophy Department was delighted to cosponsor two talks by Professor Richard Swinburne. Richard Swinburne has been an influential British philosopher for more than 50 years and is one of the world’s leading experts on arguments for the existence of God. He is Nolloth Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Oxford University and is well known for his trilogy of books *The Coherence of Theism, The Existence of God* and *Faith and Reason*, published by Oxford University Press. Professor Swinburne gave two talks at the OSU campus. On September 26 he gave a public lecture titled “Arguments for the Existence of God,” and on September 27 he presented “Humans have two Parts—Body and Soul.” Professor Swinburne’s visit was sponsored by the Department of Philosophy, OSU Ethics Center, and the Converse-Yates-Cate International Lectureship, and Faculty Commons.
Graduate Student News and Updates

Trevor Adams
I have been enjoying my first year here a lot. I want to emphasize my studies in Philosophy of Religion and Epistemology. I have recently been analyzing Kripke's puzzle about belief. I intend to graduate by spring of 2018.

Syed Abu Musab
I'm hoping to do my thesis on Philosophy of Science concerning evolution and its implication on religion. Future plans are hopefully to get into a PhD program also related to philosophy of science and hopefully teach.

Montaque Reynolds
My interests are formal, social, religious and virtue epistemology. Essentially I am attracted to anything that has to do with beliefs, real or otherwise. I am currently working on a project responding to Blake Roeber's inscrutability argument against religious belief. My further interests include evolutionary arguments against religious belief, some of which are espoused by individuals such as Sam Harris, Daniel Dennett among others, and responded to by individuals such as Alvin Plantinga.

Jeremy Watkins
I am in the midst of completing the first draft of an amendment to Margaret Gilbert's 'plural subject' thesis of collective responsibility. I am also in the midst of applying this amendment to my graduate thesis, which focuses specifically on the practical issue of immigration. As for the future, I am transferring to another graduate program in the fall.

Ryan Wellington
I am currently working on my thesis on a philosophical evaluation of claims to divine revelation. My current interests are primarily within the philosophy of religion, and my additional interests are on the metaphysics of time, the history of philosophy (particularly Aquinas, Anselm, Aristotle, Boethius, and Augustine), and ethics (virtue ethics, deontology, and Natural Law Theory). After applying to several universities for PhD programs in philosophy and theology, I am currently in the process of waiting for replies from those universities.
ALUMNI UPDATES

Susanne Claxton (susanne55@gmail.com)
I received my PhD at University of New Mexico in May 2015 and am currently on the job market. I teach online for SNHU, give regular talks for the Vermont Humanities Council, and present at conferences. My book is coming out April 2017 from Rowman & Littlefield, Intl. in their New Heidegger Research Series. The book is entitled Heidegger’s Gods: An Ecofeminist Perspective. Here is the URL to the RLI website and a summary and reviews of my book: http://www.rowmaninternational.com/books/heideggers-gods

Stewart Clem (stewart.clem@gmail.com)
I'm currently writing my PhD dissertation, Truth as a Virtue: A Thomistic Framework for the Ethics of Lying and Truth-telling, at the University of Notre Dame. I live in South Bend, Indiana, with my wife, Molly, and our three daughters, where I also serve as assisting priest at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. I hope to finish my program in 2018 and find a position in a theology department or seminary. I recently wrote an article on Kant's philosophy of religion (forthcoming in Religious Studies) that draws on recent work by Lawrence Pasternack. My interest in Kant was first sparked by Prof. Pasternack’s courses I took while I was at OSU, and it was fun to reconnect with him and get some helpful comments via email on an earlier draft of my article.

Matt Davis (mmdavis@okstate.edu)
I am a captain in the US Air Force stationed in Yongsan US Army Garrison here in Seoul, South Korea. I'm currently working in a joint position as an executive officer to the Assistant Chief of Staff in J1. It sounds a lot fancier than it really is! Since graduation in 2011 I've been in the US Air Force and stationed in Pensacola Naval Air Station, Florida and Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. I'm still single with no kids of my own, not quite ready to grow up yet! I'm due to move somewhere else this summer but have no idea yet. And I received a master's degree in Public Administration in 2014 from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

Dennis Heinzig (dennis_heinzig@yahoo.com)
Retired in March 2016 as Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of PartnerRe America Insurance Company. He recently moved from San Francisco to Whitefish, Montana.

Calvin Harrison Warner (cwarner10@student.gsu.edu)
Calvin Warner completed his MA at Georgia State in May 2016 and has taken a position at Paycom in Oklahoma City as a New Client Setup Specialist. He continues to enjoy philosophy and has written about how philosophy and other humanities students can thrive in the work place.

Support

If you would like to donate to the OSU Philosophy Department or the Edward G. Lawry Philosophy Student Fund, please visit the OSU Foundation website at http://www.osugiving.com The Edward G. Lawry Philosophy Student Fund was established in conjunction with OSU’s Branding Success Campaign in honor of Ed Lawry, OSU Professor Emeritus, and founder of the Friends of the Forms with the hope that Dr. Lawry’s enthusiastic teaching, research and service will continue to benefit OSU, its students and alumni for many years to come. The funds are used for undergraduate student support, scholarships, conference travel, hosting undergraduate student conference and colloquia, Friends of the Forms support, lectures, receptions, Phi Sigma Tau support and discussion groups.

Please Keep in Touch! We would love to hear from you!
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