

Newsletter:
Department of Philosophy
San José State University
May 18, 2017

Editor: Tom Leddy

Our Philosophy Department Web Site Address:

<http://www.sjsu.edu/philosophy/> For the archives of the old newsletters look at Quick Links on the first page and click on “events and newsletters.” There was no 2015 issue.

Letter from the Chair

As we wrap up the Spring 2017 semester, the world seems different than it did back in August. The Chicago Cubs won the World Series. SJSU now has a President, Mary Papazian, who (as an erstwhile English professor) understands the non-instrumental value of the humanities. For the moment, California is out of the depths of a drought. This winter, throngs of people at airports expressed love and appreciation for lawyers. The current President of the United States presents daily opportunities for philosophically minded people to reexamine the value of critical thinking (and the practical challenges of thinking critically given our human emotions), the limits of empathy, the ontological possibility of “alternate” facts, and more.

Now, more than ever, we are contemplating the place of philosophy in our world, the work it can do beyond satisfying the itch of our curiosity to know.

One way we have started to explore that question is by participating in a project to teach SJSU courses (earning transferrable credit) at the County Jail at Elmwood. The guiding idea is that meaningful educational programming may help incarcerated people

to get their lives back on track when they are released, especially if it helps them make progress toward a degree. This semester we offered a section of PHIL 57 (“Logic and Critical Reasoning”) at the men’s jail and a section of PHIL 61 (“Moral Issues”) at the women’s jail, an experience that by all accounts was transformative for both the students and the instructors involved. Faculty are thinking about how the lessons learned from teaching in the jails should be part of our ongoing discussions about prison reform, systemic injustices, crime, punishment, and rehabilitation. We are excited to continue our participation in this project.

Other activities and events this year have explored the reach and practical impacts of philosophy in the world. One of these was a student-faculty workshop organized by Bo Mou focused on the theory and practice involved in taking distinct approaches to philosophy seriously, a workshop which will be continued this summer in Beijing (with significant travel support for the participating students). Another was the diverse series of guest speakers Anand Vaidya incorporated into his “Social Justice” course this spring, speaking on topics ranging from disability rights to prison reform to the use of hip hop as a tool for engaging broader audiences in meaningful discussions. Again this year, Janet Giddings worked with students to share information about the global problem of human trafficking to the SJSU community. Our Ethics Bowl teams directed their efforts at understanding the ethical dimensions of real-life cases, performing well in the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl regional competition and in the National Bioethics Bowl Championship, before which they held an entertaining and well-attended exhibition match. So engaged are our faculty and students that I am certain I have left out more than one activity or event in which members of our community were exploring impactful ways to live their philosophy.

This year has seen transitions both happy and sad. In August we were joined by our new colleague, philosopher of technology Daniel Susser (Ph.D. from Stony Brook), who jumped right into the life of the department, the college, and the university. We also conducted a successful search for our next new colleague, philosopher of law Rebecca Chan (J.D. from University of Colorado Law School, Ph.D. from University of Notre Dame). Rebecca's dissertation is titled "Making Metaphysics Matter: Essays on Reasons and Persons," and in Fall 2017 she will be teaching PHIL 155 ("Philosophy of Law") and our graduate seminar in metaphysics and epistemology. This year also saw the passing of our colleagues Jarrett Brock (in October) and Rick Tieszen (in March). Detailed remembrances of both are included in this newsletter. We are also having a memorial service for Rick at the beginning of the Fall semester, and plans are afoot for a conference to celebrate his philosophical contributions.

As the state of the world beyond SJSU seems ever more uncertain, my inclination is to draw our community closer, not to withdraw from the larger world, but rather to renew our connections and to remind ourselves of the values and goals we share. In the coming year, I hope we can find more opportunities for alumni to "come home," both to share what they are up to and to help our current students see the life of this department as something with a much larger spatiotemporal footprint — and impact — than they might have imagined. To help us stay in touch, there's even a Facebook group (because of course there is), SJSU Philosophy Alumni.

Our departmental community is not retreating. We are staying engaged. Thank you, as always, for staying engaged with us.

Janet D. Stemwedel, Chair

Department Prizes

for 2015-16

The Herman Shapiro Memorial Scholarship went to

Andrew Khazanovsky

The Temple Prize for Outstanding Paper went to

Bianca Garcia

The Lydia A. and George V. Pinto Scholarship (for commitment to Social Justice, Service to Community, and Love of Philosophy) went to

Baltazar Lopez

The Manor Prize for Outstanding Logic Student went to

Casey Smith

The Arthur Ordaz Award went to

Helen Christine

Ashley Osbaldeston

Bhardvaj Patel

Django Runyan

Fedy Vences

for 2016-17

**The Herman Shapiro Memorial
Scholarship went to**

Bhardvaj Patel

**The Temple Prize for Outstanding
Paper went to**

Duncan Keller

**The Lydia A. and George V. Pinto
Scholarship (for commitment to Social
Justice, Service to Community, and
Love of Philosophy) went to**

Vladimir Salcedo Nateras

**The Manor Prize for Outstanding
Logic Student went to**

Bryan Nocera

The Arthur Ordaz Award went to

Keith Burnett

Daniel Guzman

Sal Curcio

Omar Alattas

**Famous Philosophical Saying:
“What Goes Around Comes
Around.”** If you received an award
from the Philosophy Department
when you were a student here,
perhaps it is time to “pass it on,” as
another saying has it.

**Different prizes have different
addresses:**

> Temple Prize
> Herman Shapiro Scholarship
> George V & Lydia Pinto Scholarship
Mail personal checks, cashier's checks, or money
orders to the Financial Aid and Scholarship
Office, Attn: Scholarship Coordinator, One
Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0036.
Make checks payable to San Jose State
University or simply, SJSU.

> Ruth Manor Award
> Arthur Ordaz Award
Mail personal checks, cashier's checks or money
orders to Tower Foundation - San Jose State
University, One Washington Square, San Jose,
CA 95192-0256
Make checks payable to the [Tower Foundation
of San Jose State University](#)

Lives are being transformed at the local Elmwood Correctional Facility

San Jose State University (SJSU) faculty are
teaching college credit-bearing courses to
students on the “inside.” Several students
report that this is the first positive
accomplishment in their lives. They now have
a sense of pride; a purpose and hope for a
different future.

The students have devoted their time and
energy to learning about Basic Legal Skills
(JS 140), Introduction to Kinesiology (KIN
70), Moral Issues (PHIL 61), plus Logic and
Critical Thinking (PHIL 57). This summer,
the Career Exploration (EDCO 4) course will
be offered and, in the fall, the course offerings
are English 1A and Child Development
(ChAD 60).

Trevor Gullion taught Phil 57 in the men's facility and Tony Nguyen taught 61 in the women's facility. Hector Jimenez assisted Trevor and Kalahan Stoker worked with Tony. Rita Manning, who was one of the grant writers for this project, attended the ceremony that recognized the students for their accomplishment in completing these classes. Most of the students had never taken a college class and they all spoke from their hearts about how these classes changed their lives. Kudos to all for the great job they did.

The County of Santa Clara's Department of Correction - Office of the Sheriff has collaborated with SJSU to offer the classes. For more information, or if you are interested in teaching a general education course at Elmwood, contact the director, Michele Burns at michele.burns@sjsu.edu."

Screening of "Ivory Tower."

The Spartan Daily published "Justice Studies screen 'Ivory Tower'" by Imran Najam, Mar 2, 2016. The Justice Studies department hosted a question and answer session with professors Rita Manning and Peter Hadreas after a screening of the documentary "Ivory Tower".

"Manning is featured in the film that concerns several issues: rising tuition costs, quality of education and school and state officials' methods for dealing with increasing prices in higher education."

Prof. Janet Giddings is quoted in the article: she provided extra credit to Business Ethics students who participated in the Q&A session and watched the documentary. Giddings said that "First and foremost, this is for enhanced classroom learning... The question is really, 'Should education be commodified?' and it really goes along with what (the business ethics) students are studying, and I think the film is really good."

Jarrett Brock (1936-2016)

Jarrett Brock, philosopher, music lover and seaman died on October 4, 2016. He was eighty years old. Jarrett grew up in New Jersey and attended Rollins College in Florida, where he met Judy Hoffman, his wife of many years. They have two sons, Andrew and John, both married with children. Before coming to San Jose State University in 1966, Jarrett taught at University of Illinois (1964-5) and Ohio State (65-66). In 1969 he completed his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois (thesis: *C.S. Peirce's Logic of Vagueness*). He was a loved and respected colleague and chair of the department. He retired in 2003.

Jarrett did important research on the philosophy of Charles Sanders Peirce. His published papers include: "Peirce's Conception of Semiotic," *Semiotica* 14:2 (1975), "Draft of a Critique of Greenlee's *Peirce's Concept of Sign*," *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 12 (1976): 111-26, "Principle Themes in Peirce's Logic of Vagueness," *Peirce Studies*, 1:1 (1979): 41-9, "Peirce's Anticipation of Game Theoretic Logic and Semantics," *Semiotics* (1980): 55-64, "On the Origin and Structure of Peirce's Logic of Vagueness,," in A. Lange-Seidl (ed.), *Zeichenkonstitution*, Vol. I (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1981), "An Introduction to Peirce's Theory of Speech Acts," *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 17 (1981): 319-26, "Peirce and Searle on Assertion," *Graduate Studies Texas Tech University*, Kenneth L. Ketner (ed.) (Texas Tech Pr., 1981): 281-287, "The Development of Peirce's Theory of Proper Names," *Studies in the Logic of Charles Sanders Peirce*, Nathan Houser, Don D. Roberts, and James Van Evra (eds.) (Indiana University Press, 1997): 560-573. He edited *Studies in Peirce's Semiotic: A Symposium by Members of the Institute for Studies in Pragmatism (Peirce Studies, No. 1)* in 1979. Joseph Ransdell wrote in the blog *OSDir.com science, philosophy, peirce*: "Jarrett Brock was, I think, the first to realize that Peirce's formal logic was in fact construable as based in speech-act theory, though Brock seems to have developed this only on the formal side, as a way of understanding formal

deductive logic (though he may have gone far past that in other research of his, which someone should be inquiring into since Jarrett is inclined to hide his light under a bushel). Hintikka has recognized this subsequently, of course..."

In his early years in the department, Jarrett was known for having taught seminars on several major philosophers, directing several MA theses, being the faculty advisor for the Philosophy student club, which often met at his house, and was Graduate Coordinator over many years. He was chair from 1985-1988. This was a seminal period in the department. Jarrett either hired or was instrumental in hiring a cohort of professors that included Tom Leddy, Rita Manning, Bill Shaw, Peter Hadreas, and Rick Tieszen, as well as S.D.N. Cook and Richard Schubert. Jarrett's chairmanship began a period that continues to today in which the department has been a friendly one open to a number of different philosophical perspectives with faculty who were, and are, excellent both as teachers and as researchers.

Jarrett was a great lover of jazz. His colleague Tommy Lott writes that "Jarrett and I used to spend hours on end discussing jazz. He knew quite a bit and, of course, as with all jazz buffs, we argued a lot about who the best players were. I will always remember him for his expertise in this regard." His friend Carolyn Shaw remembers that at Kuumbwa, the jazz club in Santa Cruz, he often won the "name that tune" contests. He could usually recall the name of the piece, the musicians playing it, and when and where it was recorded.

Music was one of his main occupations during his retirement years. He played the piano and the flute, took music classes at Cabrillo College and was a member of the Westside Community Choir. Another longtime love of his was boating: for years, he and his friends, including department colleague Lou Eastman, kept a boat in the Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor. On weekends, his wife Judy and he, and whatever friends loved the sea and sun, would spend lazy afternoons on the bay.

Richard Tieszen (1951-2017)

A memorial for Rick up on our webpage.

<http://www.sjsu.edu/philosophy/RickTieszenMemorian/>

There will be a memorial event for Rick on Aug 25 in the Spartan Memorial building at SJSU.



Rick Tieszen, internationally renowned scholar in phenomenology, logic and philosophy of mathematics, died on Tuesday, March 28 of multiple myeloma. He passed away peacefully with his wife, Nancy, at his side. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, sisters Patricia Anderson, Pamela Hobbs, Sandra Tait and parents Beverly and James Tieszen.

Rick graduated from Colorado State in 1974, earned a MA from the New School and a PhD in Philosophy from Columbia in 1986. He began his teaching career at Queen's College (CUNY) where his excellence in teaching earned him the praise of chair, Frederick Purnell: "Dr. Tieszen's skill and accomplishments as an instructor were so significant that he established a standard against which every future lecturer will be judged." After brief stints teaching at NYU, Lake Forest College and Miami University, Rick joined San José State University in 1989 where he went on to a distinguished career as a teacher, scholar and colleague. He also held visiting

positions at Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS); Archives Henri Poincaré/CNRS/Université; Institut d'histoire et de philosophie des sciences et des techniques (IHPST/CNRS); Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands; and Stanford University. He also co-supervised a PhD student from Peking University, China.

Rick was the author of three influential books: *After Gödel: Platonism and Rationalism in Mathematics and Logic*, Oxford University Press, 2011; *Phenomenology, Logic, and the Philosophy of Mathematics*, Cambridge University Press, 2005; and *Mathematical Intuition: Phenomenology and Mathematical Knowledge*, Synthese Library, Springer, 1989. He also co-edited two widely read anthologies: *Constructive Engagement of Analytic and Continental Approaches in Philosophy*, co-edited with Bo Mou, Brill, 2013, in the Philosophy of History and Culture series; and *Between Logic and Intuition: Essays in Honor of Charles Parsons*, co-edited with Gila Sher, Cambridge University Press, 2000. He is the author of over fifty articles in well regarded journals including *Philosophia Mathematica*, *Continental Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Synthese*, and *History and Philosophy of Logic*. His important work in logic and the foundation of mathematics was recognized by a prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities award for 2006-2007. His scholarship was recognized by San José State University when he was named University President's Scholar for 2007-08.

Rick's keen interest in Philosophy was periodically interrupted by treatments for his protracted illness, which he so courageously underwent. Still, he was finishing a book on Gödel in the weeks prior to his death. Rick also had a personal and professional interest in Buddhism and gave talks at the Land of Medicine Buddha, Soquel, California; and the Ocean of Compassion Buddhist Center, Campbell, California.

Rick's service to the profession included being an Editorial Board Member, *Philosophia Mathematica* (Third Series), member of the Advisory Board, *Comparative Philosophy*, member of Scientific Board, *Metodo: International Studies in Phenomenology and Philosophy*, referee for National Endowment for

the Humanities (NEH), and a Project Member, Kurt Gödel: From Logic to Cosmology.

Rick was a phenomenally good teacher, who taught a wide range of courses at SJSU from graduate seminars to the GE courses he developed. His students loved him. One former student said that "When I studied logic with him he was joyful; he went so far as to tell me he thought I brought 'fun' to the class; a generous thing to say to a woman with math anxiety," and another said that, "He was enthusiastic about the project and encouraged me to pursue it, gave me some direction, and promised to read the finished work once I was done. A few years later that paper would become my first publication and the beginning of a career dealing with questions of culture, history, and identity. I owe it all to Rick."

Rick was a wonderful colleague who kept our department running with his organizational prowess and his incredible generosity. He cut back his teaching in 2012 to devote more time to his final illness, but he was always available to his students, his department and his colleagues. He often emailed from his hospital room and described his eagerness to be back at work. One colleague remembers having a stimulating discussion with him about Kant's doctrine of the mathematical sublime at his bed side. Rick was a dedicated philosopher and a good friend: we will miss him dearly.

Further Notes about Rick from his family:

Rick was born in Mitchell, South Dakota (home of the Corn Palace). He moved to Pico Rivera, California where he started 1st grade at Birney Elementary. Rick graduated from 12th grade from El Rancho High School in Pico Rivera. He enrolled at Rio Hondo Junior College in Whittier, CA after graduating from high school. In 1970 he moved to Fort Collins, CO where he attended Colorado State University. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1974. Rick moved to New York City and attended the New School for Social Research where he received his master's degree, then he went on to Columbia University where he received his Ph.D. in 1986.

Possibly much to your surprise Rick really enjoyed racing motorcycles in the California desert almost every weekend. We as a family camped in the desert to watch him race. He

raced on the weekends and would work on his motorcycle during the week to make sure it ran and was in tip top shape. He worked at a mattress factory to support his motorcycle hobby. Trophies yes. Always had many friends at the family home. Rick was in a band that met several time a week in our garage. Rick played the drums. Later on he played the acoustic/electric guitar. He was good with mechanics and did all the mechanics on his motorcycle. He was very good on a unicycle - had excellent balance. He drove a red Datsun pickup that transported his motorcycle back and forth to the desert. He participated in the Barstow to Vegas (500 miles) dirt bike race. Rick still has friends in southern California from his days growing up that he has kept in contact with. He was a Boy Scout.

15th Annual Philosophy Department Conference

We held the 15th Annual Philosophy Department Alumni Conference on May 6. The first two papers were in memory of Rick Tieszen. Noah Friedman-Biglin talked about some of Rick's ideas on Gödel and mathematics in "Gödel, Optimism, and the Complete-ability of Mathematics." Anand Vaidya, SJSU, spoke on various projects he was working on with Rick in "Essence and Intuition talk in Phenomenology, Analytic Philosophy, and Buddhism." The second part of the conference was on the theme of "Philosophy in Troubling Times." Tony Nguyen, SJSU, gave an inspiring talk on his work teaching female prison inmates: "Free Thought: Teaching Ethics at Elmwood County Jail." Trevor Gullion, SJSU, discussed an attempt to replace Marxist class theory with a Nietzsche-based theory of economics in "Avoiding the Sticky Mess: Resituating Lazzarato's Notion of the Creditor/Debtor Relation in a Marxist Framework." Daniel Susser, SJSU, spoke on work he was doing on "Online Manipulation" especially in the era of "big data." Casey Smith, Grad Student, SJSU, gave "The Easy Problem of Expertise or Replacing Bad Experts with Stupid Robots." The regular session was followed by a Poster Session (our first!) in which there were three posters: Anthony Nispel, Graduate Student, SJSU, "Aristotle's Logic and Musical Intervals" which used Aristotle's syllogisms as binary diagrams based on musical intervals; Janet

Stemwedel, SJSU, on "Ethical Internet Trolling." And Casey Smith again, this time on "Warrant Transmission Failure and the Approaching Epistemic Doomsday."

As usual, we held our annual Philosophy Department Banquet afterwards where we honored graduating students and students who were receiving awards. This time it was in Il Fornai Restaurant at the classic St. Claire hotel in downtown San Jose.

Upcoming Local Conferences and Events

Philosophy Talk at Stanford

Driverless Cars at the Moral Crossroads:
Philosophy Talk LIVE with guest Joshua Greene

May 24, 2017 -
7:00pm to 8:30pm
Cubberley Auditorium
Admission is free; advance registration is required

See <https://philosophy.stanford.edu/>
For other events at Stanford.

American Society for Aesthetics, Pacific Division, Spring 2018

Special Rates for Students. Registration for the full conference for all students is at the nominal fee of \$15. Society members actually charge themselves more in order to defray expenses associated with allowing students to attend at such a low cost. Simply go to the ASA web site <http://aesthetics-online.org/> to register online.

In the past, several SJSU students have attended sessions at Asilomar, one even chairing a session. Please contact Prof. Leddy Thomas.Leddy@sjsu.edu for more information.

Go to <https://sites.google.com/site/asapacificdivision/home/conference-program> for last year's conference program.

The Philosophy Club

The Philosophy Club has discussed a number of interesting topics including Shame, Difficulty, and Empathy. It also sent three students to the APA Pacific Division Conference this semester. However, with leaders graduating and interest dropping please let Casey Smith (casey.smith@sjsu.edu) know if you would like to continue leading the club in the future, so that he might provide you with resources to that end.

Department History

Some of you may not know that the Philosophy BA was instituted in 1962 but the MA goes back to 1950, this according to <https://www.wscuc.org/location/5007> The Psychology BA goes back to 1956. I think that between 1956 and 1962 Psychology and Philosophy were one department. Whether that department goes back to before 1956 I do not know.

More history can be found in the Melendy (H. Brett) Oral History Collection at MLK Library in the Special Collections and archives:
MSS.2010.10.06

Student Accomplishments

In 2016-17 Keith Burnett was a Teaching Associate for the Department of Philosophy.

ETHICS BOWL

Michael Jordan writes: “In December 2016 we traveled with two teams to compete in the CA regional Ethics Bowl held at Chico State. We came in 5th place and 12th place out of 20 teams.

In February 2017, Kyle Yrigoyen, Karina Avalos (Grad Student), and I attended the APPE annual conference and participated as judges for the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl National Championships.

This past April Kyle and I took a team to compete in the National Bioethics Bowl Championships held at Weber State

University in Ogden, Utah. The team finished in 3rd place (out of 20 teams). Team members include: Matteo Poort, Lemar Karimi, Cuc Phan, Chase Wilson, Ruth Garcia, and Victoria.

Competitions next fall and spring will include events at San Diego State, in Chicago, and at the University of Southern Alabama.

As mentioned in the Chair’s Letter, the Ethics Bowl had an exhibition match at SJSU on April 3.

Center for Comparative Philosophy

<http://www.sjsu.edu/centercomp/hil/>

The Center co-sponsored the PHIL104 Student-Faculty Joint Workshop on the theme "How to Look at Distinct Approaches in Philosophy and Society: Theory and Practice" May 13, 2017 at SJSU.

Over the past two years Professor Vaidya has gone to New Zealand, Australia, India, Japan, and various parts of Europe to promote the Center for Comparative Philosophy. He has also given nine talks across the Eastern, Central, and Pacific APA promoting the inclusion of Indian Philosophy in Critical Thinking, Metaphysics, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Mind. And he is organizing a conference in India for January 2018 called: Mind, Knowledge, and Reality: An Indo-Analytic Engagement.

The 2016 SJSU Center for Comparative Philosophy Workshop/Conference Series Symposium was on the theme of *How Constructive Engagement of Comparative Philosophy Is Possible: Challenges and Prospect & Engaging Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the “Constructive-Engagement” Projects “Davidson’s Philosophy and Chinese Philosophy” (2004-6) “Searle’s Philosophy and Chinese Philosophy” (2005-8)* April 30. The Keynote Speaker was John Searle (UC Berkeley) On Globalization of Philosophy *With critics:* Chenyang Li and Bo Mou. Chenyang Li also gave “On Distinct Conceptions of Harmony in Chinese and Western Traditions.” *Christian*

Jochim, SJSU, gave “What Can Process Philosophy Learn from the *Yi-Jing*.” Bo Mou, SJSU, gave “Gettier Problem and a Daoist-Mohist Approach”

The Center Co-Sponsors the journal:

COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY An International Journal of Constructive Engagement of Distinct Approaches toward World Philosophy

<http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/comparativephilosophy/>

Volume 7 No. 2 and

Volume 8 No. 1 were published in 2015-2017.

Here are the contents of Vol. 8 No. 1:

Briggs, Roman, “Neither ātman Nor anattā: Tapering Our Conception of Selfhood,”
Funes Maderey, “Ana Laura Between the Internal and the External: Kant’s and Patañjali’s Arguments for the Reality of Physical Objects and Their Independence from Mind,”
Goerger, Michael “Moral Practice in Late Stoicism and Buddhist Meditation,” and Woodling, Casey “Malagasy Time Conceptions.”

There is also a section titled “Constructive-Engagement Dialogue: Further engagement marking the tenth anniversary of the constructive-engagement project ‘Searle’s Philosophy and Chinese Philosophy.’” Papers are: Allinson, Robert E. “Searle’s Master Insight and the Non-Dual Solution of the Sixth Patriarch: Sorting Through Some Problems of Consciousness,” Hongladarom, Soraj, “Searle and Buddhism on the Non-Self”; Martinich, A. P., “Fiction as an Institution”; Mou, Bo, “The Perspective and Perspective-Transcending Dimensions of Consciousness and Its Double-Aboutness Character: Bridging Searle and Zhuang Zi”; and Zheng, Yujian, “Content Individuation and Evolutionary Content Emergence,”

FACULTY NEWS

Peter Hadreas

was featured in a Spartan Daily article: “Professor pairs passion for music with linguistics” by Jaleny Reyes, Mar 2, 2017. For this listening hour Hadreas played three songs and developed a thesis about a close relationship between music and language. Peter also has talent as a philosophical poet: please check out the last page of this newsletter!

Tom Leddy

My substantive revision of “Dewey’s Aesthetics,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, was published Feb 8, 2016, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/dewey-aesthetics/>. “Overcoming Dualism: Textual Meaning Discovered and Invented,” was published in *Interpretation and Meaning in Philosophy and Religion* ed. Dirk-Martin Grube (Leiden: Brill, 2016). My book review “Montero, Barbara Gail. *Thought in Action: Expertise and the Conscious Mind*” is forthcoming in *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*

I keep a blog called “Aesthetics Today” <http://aestheticstoday.blogspot.com/>. This blog has had 230,000 hits over its lifetime and is currently averaging 300 hits per day. It contains over two hundred entries and about thirty substantive comments. Of the entries about nine are by guest writers, many of whom are or were students from SJSU.

Since the last newsletter I gave the following papers at conferences: “The Dilemma of Everyday Aesthetics Resolved in a Pluralist Way.” American Society for Aesthetics, Pacific Division, Asilomar, April 2017; “comments on ‘Earth and World: Malick’s Badlands by Jason M. Wirth (Seattle University),” in the Transcendence and Film Panel, Jaspers Society, American Philosophical Association Meetings, San Francisco, March 31, 2016; “Milk and Honey: Plato’s Take on Inspiration in the Ion.” American Society for Aesthetics national meeting, Seattle, Nov. 18, 2016; and “The Synthesis/Cycle View of the Aesthetics of Nature,” American Society for Aesthetics, Asilomar, April 2016.

Carlos Sanchez gave a talk for Adelante. This is from the report in the Spartan Daily article “Students, faculty convene at Adelante Fall Welcome” by Francisco Franco, Sep 15, 2016. “Sanchez received a bachelor’s of science in advertising, but then changed paths and obtained a masters in philosophy also at SJSU. He then went to University of New Mexico for his Doctorate in philosophy. “Do what you love, and do it well,” Sanchez said. Sanchez’s speech resonated well with students as many lined up to speak with him following the event.”

Carlos published "20th Century Mexican Philosophy: Features, Themes, Tasks." *Inter-American Journal of Philosophy* 7 (1): 1-25; and "Interview with Manuel Vargas," *American Philosophical Association Newsletters: Hispanic/Latino Issues in Philosophy* 15 (2): 5-7.

Daniel Susser

published “Information Privacy and Social Self-Authorship,” in *Techné: Research in Philosophy and Technology* 20(3), 2016: “Ihde’s Missing Sciences: Postphenomenology, Big Data, and the Human Sciences” (invited essay), in *Techné: Research in Philosophy and Technology* 20(2), 2016; and “Obstacles to Transparency in Privacy Engineering” (co-authored with Kiel Brennan-Marquez), in the *Proceedings of the 2016 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy*.

He also gave many talks and papers in 2016: a presentation and panel discussion at the Krause Innovation Studio. College of Education, Penn State. November 11, 2016: the Harold K. Schilling Memorial Lecture. Rock Ethics Institute, Penn State. November 10, 2016; the Keynote lecture at the Privatheit und Demokratie (Privacy and Democracy) Conference. Goethe University. September 23, 2016; “Three Normative Hurdles for Automated Enforcement” (co-presented with Karen Levy and Kiel Brennan-Marquez). We Robot 2017. Yale Law School. March 31, 2017. “Notice After Notice-and-Consent.” Privacy Law Scholars Conference. The George Washington University Law School. June 3, 2016; “Obstacles to Transparency in Privacy Engineering” (co-presented with Kiel Brennan-Marquez). IEEE International Workshop on Privacy Engineering. May 26, 2016; “The Big Chill” (co-presented with Kiel Brennan-Marquez). Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference. Yale Law

School. April 30, 2016; “Notice After Notice-and-Consent.” Internet Law Works-in-Progress Conference. New York Law School. March 5, 2016; and “Against the Collection/Use Distinction.” NYU Privacy Research Group. February 24, 2016.

Daniel was Research Fellow, Information Law Institute, New York University School of Law Visiting Scholar, NYU Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, for 2015-16.

Anand Vaidya published “Modal Knowledge: Beyond Rationalism and Empiricism,” in *Modal Epistemology After Rationalism*, Springer International Publishing 2017, 85-114.

Alumni News

The editor is eager to publish materials about alumni: please send to Thomas.leddy@sjsu.edu or Tom Leddy, Department of Philosophy,

Are you an alum interested in work outside of academia? Here is a useful website: Phil Skills
<http://www.philskills.com/resources>

Jonathan Brusco (B.A., M.A.) is Technology Curriculum Coordinator at Pinewood School.

Daniel Erlich (M.A., 2009) is Adjunct Lecture at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona and at University of California at Riverside.

Anthony Guglielmina (B.A. 2015) joined the United States Air Force in 2015. He was Honor Graduate - United States Air Force, Basic Military Training United States Air Force, May 2015.

Christina Ibarra (B.A. 2015) is Admissions Coordinator at San Jose State University Office of Admissions and Outreach.

She is also in the MA program in Public Administration at SJSU.

Jose R. Lopez, (M.A., 2008) did two years in a Ph.D. program at Texas A&M from 2010-2012 and is now Senior Program Coordinator, Institute for Civic & Community Engagement, San Francisco State University since 2013. Jose was also Keynote Speaker SJSU 1st Generation College Scholarship Luncheon in Feb 2015.

Sara Rettus is a lecturer at Cal State University East Bay. She is also an associate professor at Mission College.

Phil Schoenberg, formerly Phillip Williamson has written us: he says:

I became a father for the second time in 2016. My daughter Madeline Elizabeth was born on April 25th. My son, Robert Fulton, will be five years old in July, 2017.

Oh, yes, and I was also awarded the PhD in Philosophy from the University of New Mexico in May 2016. In March I successfully defended my dissertation, with distinction, entitled *Transcendence and Transformation: Charles Taylor and the Promise of Inclusive Humanism*.

In March 2017 I received (and accepted) an offer for an appointment as Assistant Professor of Philosophy and English at Western New Mexico University. We will be moving to Silver City, NM in July, and I will begin teaching in August.

Finally, in the 2016-17 academic year I published three academic book reviews as well as a paper based on my dissertation research. I am currently focusing my research efforts on a book based on my dissertation. I also plan to begin working on environmental ethics, an area of philosophy that has long been of interest to me, but may soon become my central research focus.

Brent S Walters (B.A. 1980) is lecturer in Humanities at SJSU. His biography on his SJSU web page states that he “has amassed one of the largest private libraries in the country concerning the ante-Nicene era and Second Temple period; its holdings number are over 20,000 volumes. Some works in this collection date from the

dawn of printing, while others are *editio princeps* of early patristic literature. The scope of the library is limited to a thousand years, roughly 500 BCE to 500 CE, the age of Socrates through the rise of Christianity under the Roman Empire.”

Phillip Williamson, see Phil Schoenberg above.

Pilosophical Confetti
Peter Hadreas
January, 2017

Husserl
On Protensions & Retentions

It was morning and the rooster knew
it.
He cockle doodle doo'd like there was
nothing to it.
Yet we would never know the crow of
this poulet,
Without retaining the cockle when he
later doodle doo'd it.

Every gong has its bong.
Every stick has its stuck.
Every gurgle has its burble.
Every tick-tock, its tick-tock-tuck.

Each 'now' retains some thens.
Each 'then' gives some nows a whirl.
They're called 'retentions' and
'protensions,'
by Edmund Albrecht Husserl.

Saul Kripke
On Proper Names

To get a grip re
how proper names are fixed, we
must not skirt or skip the
work of Saul Aaron Kripke.

We touchdown with a proper name
if it's the same place-kick that we claim.
We can carry it, ferry it and Hail Mary it in
the game,
But the kick-off sets its reference, all the
same.

Karl Marx Sign-off

Religion is the malt liquor
sixpack of the people.
Consumerism is the cocaine of
the people.
Advertising is the Ayahuasca trip
of the people.
Social media are the pot of the
people.
Benzodiazepines are the opiate
of the people
and, opium is the opium of
Afghanistan.

Simone Weil

Simone Weil, in your self-abnegation,
in your *Spiritus Mundi* penetration,
you found God, a silent and hidden filiation
beyond evil, our everyday pre-occupation.

You worked in factories, were an assembly line
slave.
You went on hunger strikes, they brought you
to the grave.
You put out your hand, your heart and your
shoulder.
Death made you bolder, Simone Weil, saint and
soldier.

Georg Cantor
"The Infinity Slayer"

Most people have affinities
for matters in their vicinities.
But Georg Cantor's pitter-pattivities
Were for waves of infinities.

One aleph, two, buckle your denumerable shoe.
Three aleph four, open the power set door.
Five aleph six, pick up transfinite sticks.
seven aleph, eight. God? Not yet, Cantor'll set you
straight.