

# PHILOSOPHY PHILE

Department of Philosophy Newsletter

Fall 2012

## FUNDING FOR NEUROETHICS AT GEORGIA STATE

A group led by the Department of Philosophy has been awarded \$300,000 to hire three new faculty members who will strengthen Georgia State's research in the cutting edge field of neuroethics. The participating units are Philosophy, the Neuroscience Institute, the Department of Psychology, and the College of Law.

Neuroethicists consider how ethical theories inform neuroscientific practice and how neuroscientific discoveries inform ethical theorizing. Some researchers in neuroethics address the implications of brain scanning technologies now being used for lie detection, marketing, and predicting future behavior. Others focus on questions regarding brain science and the law, e.g.,



whether brain scans violate the 5th amendment right against self-incrimination. Still others study emotion in moral reasoning and the role of neurobiological deficits in criminal behavior. Neuroethicists also consider

the impact of neuroscientific discoveries on debates about ethics and moral psychology. For instance, does modern neuroscience threaten our conceptions of self, free will, or moral responsibility?

This funding comes from Georgia State University's

Second Century Initiative (2CI). The 2CI seeks to build internationally recognized scholarly strength around common research themes of national significance.

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 Georgia State University**

# FROM THE CHAIR: *Inside the Rainbolt Lines\**

Welcome to the Fall 2012 edition of the Philosophy Phile. Another school year has begun. This is my favorite time of the academic year. Everyone is refreshed and ready to learn new things.

As you saw on page one, a group led by the Department of Philosophy has been awarded \$300,000 to hire new faculty members who will strengthen Georgia State's research in the cutting-edge field of neuroethics. We are thrilled that the University chose us for this funding.

This funding is part of Georgia State's Second Century Initiative (2CI). The 2CI seeks to build internationally recognized scholarly strength around common research themes that have national significance. The \$300,000 for neuroethics will allow Georgia State University to take a leading role in the advancement of human knowledge in this vital new domain.

Our undergraduates continue to receive recognition for their hard work. For example, Hannah Spadafora was recently accepted into AmeriCorps. (AmeriCorps is the domestic version of the Peace Corps. It is very hard to win a spot in this organization). Casey Fowler's paper, "Evaluating Heidegger's Fundamental Mood of Dread: Intentionality and Revealing," was selected for publication in the Colonial Academic Alliance Undergraduate Research Journal. This a great honor as this journal publishes only the finest scholarship by undergraduates from the eleven universities in the Colonial Academic Alliance.

On the graduate student front, two former students have just become philosophy professors. Anthony Carreras (GSU MA 2005) has completed his PhD at Rice University and is now an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Lone Star College in Houston. Candice Delmas (GSU MA 2006) has completed her PhD at Boston University and is now an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Clemson University in South Carolina. We are very proud of the accomplishments of Drs. Carreras and Delmas.

As always, I would like to encourage you to look over the list of events for the coming semester. We would love to see you in the department!



George Rainbolt,  
Professor and Chair

\*At a baseball game, one Rainbolt line extends from second base through first base and into the seats. The other Rainbolt line extends from second base through third base and into these seats. One sitting between the Rainbolt lines has a great view of the game. **Not all philosophers are geeks.**

## GSU Welcomes New Students in Philosophy Masters Program

In the Fall, the Department welcomed 22 first-year students into the masters program. Along with students from across the country, we also have students from France, Hong Kong and Singapore. There were 160 applicants for these 22 slots.

The initial deadline for consideration of admission is February 1. Contact Dr. Tim O'Keefe, Director of Graduate Studies, for more information, [tokeefe@gsu.edu](mailto:tokeefe@gsu.edu).



## Georgia State Welcomes Greg Moore

In August 2012, Greg Moore joined our faculty roster. Dr. Moore is jointly appointed in the departments of History and Philosophy. His research is in the history of philosophy with a focus on German philosophy of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, especially Herder, Fichte, Schopenhauer, and Nietzsche, and on the philosophical reception of Darwinism and the philosophy of history. Dr. Moore earned his PhD in 2000 from the University of Cambridge. He is the author of many articles and two books, *Herder and Philosophy* (Princeton University Press, forthcoming 2014) and *Nietzsche, Biology and Metaphor* (Cambridge University Press, 2002).



## FACULTY AWARDS



### WILSON WINS SELLARS PRIZE

The North American Kant Society has awarded the 2012 Wilfrid Sellars Prize to Eric Wilson for his essay "Kant on Autonomy and the Value of Persons." The Sellars Prize is given annually to the non-tenured scholar who writes the best essay that demonstrates the continued relevance of Kant's philosophy.

### SCARANTINO WINS PROVOST'S FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

Andrea Scarantino has been awarded a Provost's Faculty Fellowship for 2012-2013. This fellowship is reserved for GSU's senior scholars with a preference for full Professors. However, the only fellowship awarded for 2012-2013 was given to Dr. Scarantino, who is only in his second year as an Associate Professor. Dr. Scarantino will use this award to forward his current book project, "How to Do Things With Emotions."



# FACULTY NEWS

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## **Georgia State Philosophers continue to define academic excellence.**

In June, **Andrew Altman** co-directed a four-week National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for College and University Faculty. The topic of the seminar was "Liberty, Equality, and Justice." There were 16 participants from universities around the country, including Harvard, Stanford, University of Arizona, City University of New York, and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. The seminar was held at Washington University-St. Louis, the home institution of Altman's co-director, Christopher H. Wellman. In July, Altman spent a week in Ukraine, where he conducted a seminar on human rights for faculty teaching in Russia and the former Soviet states of Eastern Europe. The seminar was sponsored by the Open Society Institute. Altman has also published an updated version of his article, "Civil Rights," for the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. The updated version contains a new section on the history of Jewish Emancipation in Europe and a review of recent developments regarding same-sex marriage in the United States. In addition, Oxford University Press has just published *Targeted Killing: Law and Morality in an Asymmetric World*, edited by Jens Ohlin, Claire Finkelstein, and Andrew Altman (Oxford University Press, 2012).

**Andrew I. Cohen** is currently working on the impact of epistemic limits on arguments about global poverty relief. One of his articles on corporate apologies will shortly ap-

pear in *The Journal of Moral Philosophy*. He is also preparing a second edition of *Contemporary Debates in Applied Ethics* with co-editor Christopher H. Wellman. He is initiating a high-school ethics bowl program and working on a book manuscript on ethics and public policy. He is also continuing preparations for next summer's international conference on immigration and nationalism, which will take place in Finland with the cosponsor, the University of Helsinki.

**George Graham** has been invited to deliver the keynote plenary address at an Oxford University summer school program in philosophy and psychiatry in 2013. During the Fall term 2012-13, he is delivering invited papers at the Center for Mind, Brain, and Culture at Emory, the Cognitive Science Program at the University of Arizona and the University of Memphis Conference on Schizophrenia and Level of Interpretation. Graham is currently working on three book projects. The second/revised edition of his *The Disordered Mind* (Routledge) will appear early in 2013. Along with Terence Horgan and John Tienson, he is preparing a collection of their papers, on consciousness and intentionality, entitled *Phenomenal Minds*, to be published by Oxford University Press. Graham is one of the co-editors of the *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Psychiatry*, which will also appear in 2013.

**William Edmundson** was appointed an editor of philosophy of law entries for the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. A second edition of his book *An Introduction to Rights*, was

issued by Cambridge University Press. His article, "Coercion," appeared in the Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Law. He presented "Politics in a State of Nature" at an international colloquium on political and legal theory in March in Buenos Aires at the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella and the Universidad Nacional de Quilmes. He gave another presentation, "Ought We to Do What We Ought to Be Made to Do?" in August, at the Internationale Vereinigung für Rechts- und Sozialphilosophie workshop on legal normativity and the philosophy of practical reason at Goethe Universität in Frankfurt.

**Eddy Nahmias'** and former GSU MA student Dylan Murray's (now a PhD student at Berkeley) article, "Explaining Away Incompatibilist Intuitions," is forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. With former GSU MA student Thomas Nadelhoffer (now a professor at the College of Charleston), Nahmias published "Neuroscience, Free Will, Folk Intuitions, and the Criminal Law" in the *Thurgood Marshall Law Review*. Nahmias also published "Free Will and Moral Responsibility" in *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science*. He gave talks at Ohio State University and the American Philosophical Association (Pacific), and taught at summer seminars for the Big Questions in Free Will Project and NEH Experimental Philosophy.

**Andrea Scarantino** published "Discrete Emotions: From Folk Psychology to Causal Mechanism"

in Categorical and Dimensional Models of Affect, Peter Zachar and Ralph Ellis, eds., "Functional Specialization Does Not Require a One-To-One Mapping Between Brain Regions and Emotions" in Behavioral and Brain Sciences; and "How to Define Emotions Scientifically" in Emotion Review. Scarantino has several forthcoming publications including: "Rethinking Functional Reference" in Philosophy of Science and "Animal Communication as Information Mediated Influence" in Animal Communication Theory: Information and Influence, Ulrich Stegmann, ed. In June, he gave a talk on "The Scientific Study of Emotions" for GSU's Brain Program. He also presented "Rejecting the Myth of Passions" at the Summer Workshop on Moral Psychology and Human Agency at the University of Michigan.

**Eric Wilson's** "Kant on Autonomy and the Value of Person," is forthcoming in Kantian Review. Wilson will present "Self-Legislation and Self-Command in Kant's Ethics" at the annual meeting of the German Studies Association in October. He was also awarded the 2012-2013 GSU Research Initiation Grant (for a project on self-control in early modern moral philosophy).

## SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Join the Friends of Philosophy listserv and get announcements about talks, conferences, and social events in the Department. To join, send an email to: [listserv@listserv.gsu.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.gsu.edu)

In the body of the message, include only two words:

**subscribe philfriends**



Sitting: Andrew J. Cohen, Steve Jacobson, Christie Hartley, Eric Wilson  
 First row standing: Ed Cox, Andrew I. Cohen, Andrea Scarantino, Jessica Berry, Dan Weiskopf, Sandy Dwyer, Tim O'Keefe  
 Second row standing: Eddy Nahmias, Sebastian Rand, Neil Van Leeuwen, George Rainbolt, George Graham, Andrew Altman



# JEAN BEER BLUMENFELD CENTER FOR ETHICS

In August, the JBB Center for Ethics hosted a workshop on a manuscript by Alan Patten (Princeton University) entitled *Equal Recognition: The Moral Foundations of Minority Cultural Rights*. Among our guest discussants were David Miller (Professor of Political Theory, Oxford University), Margaret Moore (Professor of Political Studies, Queen's University), and Sarah Song (Professor of Law, Associate Professor of Political Science, UC-Berkeley).

This fall the JBB Center is exploring to create an Atlanta Area High School Ethics Bowl, which would give students from area high schools the chance to collaborate on offering excellent arguments about topical cases in practical and applied ethics. The Center will also field a Georgia State team and bring them to the regional competition in Florida this November.

## ETHICS SPEAKER SERIES

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Because of a generous donation from Richard Long, the Jean Beer Blumenfeld Center for Ethics, in collaboration with the Department of Economics, will host a fall speaker series, "Values and Social Choice." Four distinguished guests will visit Georgia State as part of the series. Each will deliver a colloquium to the Departments of Economics and Philosophy. Each will also speak at the seminar on "Values and Preferences in Social Choice," which will be team taught by Profs. Yongsheng

Xu (Economics) and Andrew I. Cohen (Philosophy). The guests will be Prasanta Pattanaik (Economics, University of California - Riverside); Daniel Hausman (Philosophy, University of Wisconsin - Madison); Laura Taylor (Agricultural and Resource Economics, North Carolina State University), and Iwao Hirose (Philosophy, McGill University). Further details at [www.gsu.edu/ethics](http://www.gsu.edu/ethics).

Meanwhile, the Center is finalizing preparations for the next installment of the Jean Beer Blumenfeld International Conference Series on Social and Political Thought. In May of 2013, we will collaborate with the Department of Philosophy of the University of Helsinki to sponsor a conference in Helsinki on "Immigration, Toleration, and Nationalism." Keynote speakers will be Samuel Scheffler (Philosophy, NYU) and David Miller (Political Theory, Oxford).

## FILM SERIES IS BACK!

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The JBB Center for Ethics is proud to announce its 10th annual ethics-in-film series, which is co-sponsored by GSU Housing and the Center for Ethics-Student Forum. The theme this year is "Social Justice and Cinema" and will feature distinguished panelists discussing four films in student dormitories.

The GSU Philosophy Department hosts lectures, seminars, and talks from national and international speakers in the Department's conference room.

## Colloquium Series

**Friday, October 26**

**3:30 pm**

“Love of Honor as Kantian Virtue”

Lara Denis, Agnes Scott College

## Neurophilosophy Forum

**Friday, September 21**

**3:00 pm**

“Why Religion Is Natural and Science Is Not”

Robert McCauley, Emory University

**Friday, October 12**

**2:00 pm**

“Self-Consciousness and Psychological Subjects”

Elizabeth Schechter, Washington University-St. Louis

**Friday, November 9**

**2:00 pm**

“Perceptual Constancy and The Role of the Dorsal Stream in Visual Consciousness”

Wayne Wu, Carnegie Mellon University

**Friday, December 7**

**2:00 pm**

“What Does Neuroeconomics Reduce to What?”

Dan Spurrett, University of KwaZulu-Natal

## Values and Social Choice Talks

**Thursday, October 11**

**3:00 pm**

Title: TBA

Prasanta Pattanaik, University of California-Riverside

**Tuesday, October 23**

**2:30 pm**

“Health, Well Being, and Preferences”

Daniel Hausman, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Tuesday, October 30**

**3:00 pm**

Title: TBA

Laura Taylor, North Carolina State University

**Tuesday, November 13**

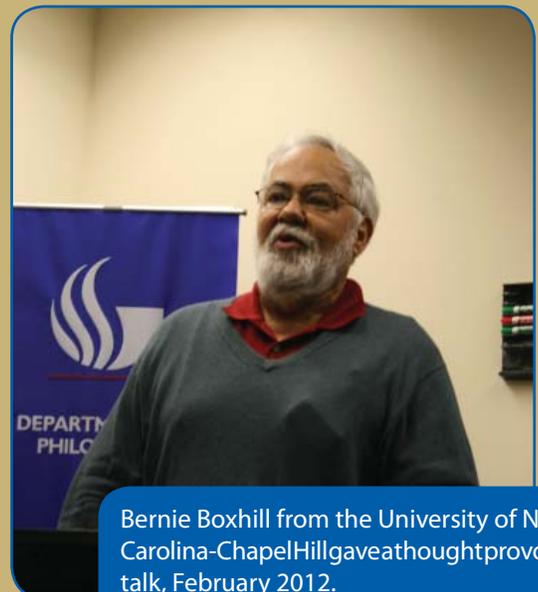
**2:30 pm**

“Telic Egalitarianism”

Iwao Hirose, McGill University



Ingo Brigandt from the University of Edmonton gave a talk on “Conceptual Change in Biology and Conceptual Analysis in Philosophy: A Combined Work,” March 2012



Bernie Boxhill from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill gave a thought-provoking talk, February 2012.

# ALUMNI NEWS: Where Are They Now?

**Michael Augustin, MA '12**, will present his paper, "Would Epicurus Have Drugged His Followers?" at the Philosophy and the Moral Life Conference this November at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

**Alex Economides, MA '12**, has been accepted at Brierley Price Prior (BPP) Law School (London, England) and has been awarded full funding by Travis Smith LLP (a law firm). Travers Smith will pay his law school fees, provide a stipend, and give him a job upon graduation. In return, he has to work for Travers Smith for two years, at which point he becomes a solicitor.

**Chris Fidalgo, BA '12**, is now working at a video game company as a Quality Assurance Tester. Fidalgo writes: "After a few months of looking, I finally got a job at Irrational Games, a major video game development company in Massachusetts. I wrote about one of their games, Bioshock, in my honor thesis, defending the game as a modern example of video games as art. Philosophy rules!"

**Katy Fulfer, MA '08**, published "The Capabilities Approach to Justice and the Flourishing of Nonsentient Life" and it will appear in the June 2013 issue of Ethics and the Environment. The paper is a critical discussion and a revision of Nussbaum's position on non-human animals as presented in Frontiers of Justice. Ms. Fulfer is currently in the philosophy doctoral program at the University of Western Ontario.

**Trevor Kvaran, MA '07**, who is currently in the psychology PhD program at the University of Arizona, has successfully defended his dissertation, "The Influence of Social Norms and Personal Values on Charitable Giving Behavior."

## Alumni Spotlight

**Candice Delmas, MA '06**, has joined the faculty of the Department of Philosophy at Clemson University as Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Dr. Delmas came to Georgia State University as part of the Sorbonne Exchange program and earned her MA in Philosophy at GSU in 2006. Her thesis, directed by Dr. Andrew Altman, was "Liberalism and the Worst-Results Principle: Preventing Tyranny, Protecting Civil Liberty." In the thesis, Dr. Delmas brought together the ideas of Montesquieu, Judith Sklar, and Roberto Unger in order to argue for a liberal political principle that focuses on safeguarding basic freedoms and preventing civil strife.



Dr. Delmas then entered the philosophy PhD program at Boston University, where her dissertation, "The Duty to Obey," was directed by David Lyons. She has published "Three Conceptions of Practical Authority," *Jurisprudence* 2 (1):143-160 (2011), coauthored with Daniel Star, and "State Legitimacy and Political Obligation in Justice for Hedgehogs: The Radical Potential of Dworkinian Dignity," *Boston University Law Review* 90 (2):737-758 (2010), coauthored with Susanne Sreedhar.

**Hannah Spadafora, BA '12**, has been accepted by AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps is the domestic version of the Peace Corps and it is very selective.

## AWARD & RECOGNITION

Congratulations to our 2012 award-winning students!

*Arlene & Alvin Altman Scholarship*  
**Casey Fowler**

*Robert F. Almeder Prize*  
**Barry Maguire**

*George W. Beiswanger Award*  
**Tyler Theus**

*Ralf F. Munster Fellowship*  
**Kathryn Joyce**

*Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award*  
**Kathryn Joyce & Sam Sims**

*Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award*  
**Noel Martin**

### Keep Us Posted!

Have news that you would like to share with GSU faculty, students, and fellow alumni? New job? Published a book or article? Traveled? Send your submission via email to Felicia Thomas, [ftthomas@gsu.edu](mailto:ftthomas@gsu.edu).

## Alumni Spotlight

**Anthony Carreras, MA '05**, has joined the faculty of the Department of Arts and Humanities at Lone Star College as an Assistant Professor of Philosophy. He earned his MA in Philosophy for his thesis, "The Role of Self-Interest in Aristotle's Moral Theory," directed by Dr. Timothy O'Keefe. In the thesis, Dr. Carreras argued that Aristotle endorses a defensible form of ethical egoism.



He then entered the philosophy PhD program at Rice University, where his dissertation, "Aristotle's Ideals of Friendship and Virtue" was directed by Donald Morrison. His "Aristotle on Other-Selfhood and Reciprocal Shaping" is forthcoming in *History of Philosophy Quarterly*.

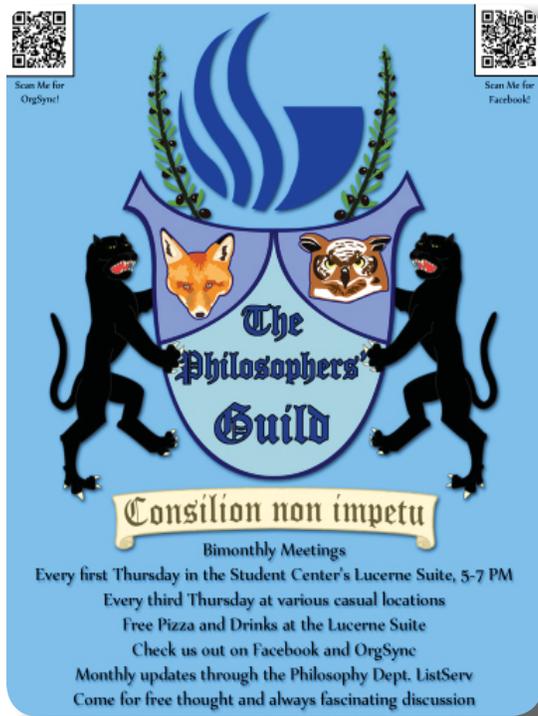
## WRITING EXCELLENCE

Undergraduate **Casey Fowler** was awarded a GSU Honors College Paper Project Scholarship for her paper, "Anachism and Kallipolis" in Spring 2012.

Graduate student **Getty Lustilla's** paper, "Fashioning Our Nature: Hume on the Fidelity to the Artificial Virtues," won the best graduate student award paper award at the 5th Annual Louisiana State University philosophy conference in March 2012.

# STUDENT GROUPS:

## Philosophers' Guild



The Philosophers' Guild, the undergraduate students' group, had a busy spring semester. They have regularly scheduled meetings every first and third Thursdays of the month. The Guild has also set up pages on both OrgSync and Facebook.

The formal meetings, which are held on the first Thursday of the month, are held in the Lucerne Suite of the Student Center. A more casual setting is the theme for the third Thursday meeting. The location varies.

The Guild sponsored the Department's second annual rush week. Rush week is dedicated to current and potential undergraduate majors. It was a huge success and we anticipate the same for rush week happening in October 2012.

Check out the department's website for further details.

## Phi Sigma Tau



Georgia State University is home to the Zeta chapter (Georgia) of the philosophy honor society, Phi Sigma Tau. The Society helps to promote continued interest, collaboration, and links among philosophy students and philosophy departments among its members. The Society also publishes a journal, Dialogue, which is student edited and features contributions of the best work by students.

Among its activities, the Zeta chapter at Georgia State hosts regular philosophy gatherings, assists students with presenting their work at professional conferences, cosponsors visiting speakers, and is host to an annual philosophy symposium, which has grown in prestige over the past several years.

Please contact the chapter president for membership information at [cyoung24@student.gsu.edu](mailto:cyoung24@student.gsu.edu).

The 2012-2013 officers of the Zeta chapter are:

President: Carson Young (Philosophy, MA candidate)  
Vice President: J.P. Messina (Philosophy, MA candidate)  
Secretary: Toni Adleberg (Philosophy, MA candidate)  
Treasurer: Pierce Randall (Philosophy, MA candidate)



## In Memoriam: Charles Richard Long

Charles Richard Long, 71, passed away May 22, 2012. Emeritus Professor of Economics, Richard was a wonderful person and a good friend to the Department of Philosophy. Many of you had the privilege to know Richard as a classmate and a spirited philosophical conversationalist. His lively mind made him an excellent intellectual companion. He will be missed.

Richard was preceded in death by his wife Laura Ellen Garner Long and is survived by his sister Sharon Long, his daughters Margaret Long and Ruth Windham, his son Richard L. Long, and his grandchildren Helen, Max, Mary, and Sophia.

The family requests that donations be made in Richard's memory to "Economics and Philosophy Collaboration" at Georgia State University.

Donations can be sent to:  
Georgia State University Foundation  
P.O. Box 3963  
Atlanta, Georgia 30302-3963  
(404) 413-3446  
[www.gsu.edu/giving](http://www.gsu.edu/giving)

Please note on your check that your gift is in memory of C. Richard Long.



Above, Richard is exhibiting his amazing chess skills by playing 20 philosophy students and faculty at one time. This event was part of Philosophy Rush week.

P.O. Box 4089  
Atlanta, GA 30302-4089  
Phone: (404) 413-6100  
Fax: (404) 413-6124

WWW.GSU.EDU/PHILOSOPHY

## MONEY MATTERS

### **Interested in lending your support? You can!**

GSU's Philosophy Department sponsors several special funds that are used to pay for departmental events and activities. They're an excellent way to express your support.

Our faculty are receiving national recognition for the quality of their research and the excellence of their teaching. Our students are taking their place on the national stage – presenting papers at national conference, receiving prestigious scholarships, and finding new ways to connect their learning with the world around them.

Your generosity makes this vital work possible. Alumni and friends support every aspect of Department life, making it possible for us to deal with present needs, and to plan for the future. You can help us:  
build our program; attract and retain outstanding students and faculty; enhance quality teaching and research; bring distinguished speakers to campus.

If you would like to give to Philosophy, visit our website at [www.gsu.edu/philosophy](http://www.gsu.edu/philosophy) and click the "Giving" tab.

