



Seeing Plato's forms during the Eclipse...

RUTGERS PHILOSOPHY

Departmental
Newsletter

SPRING-SUMMER 2024

DEAN ZIMMERMAN



Letter from the chair



Dear Friends of Rutgers Philosophy:

Once again, I find myself writing a “Letter from the Chair”, but this time from the comfortable perspective of a mere Interim Chair. Much better than a three-year sentence, interim chairing means I just have to keep the lights on and the wheels turning for one year, while Karen Bennett takes a well-deserved break. May her sabbatical be restful and rejuvenating!

The spring semester always seems to be busier than fall, and 2024 was no exception: it was filled with talks and dissertation defenses, and also preparations for summer travel — which, for many of our faculty, grad students, and post docs, included a Roman Holiday. In May, one lucky group (listed below) participated in a seminar at the Angelicum, in a room with the best view in the city; while in August many faculty members converged within the (then sweltering) city for the World Congress of Philosophy.

The summer has had its somber side, though, as we learned, first, of the passing of Rob Bolton, and then Alvin Goldman. Rob had taught at Rutgers since 1971, and was part of the team that created our graduate program and gave it such high aspirations. He remained active in the department until very recently — Rob retired just a year or two ago, and he and I co-directed Chris Hauser’s thesis in 2020. Alvin arrived when I did, in 2002, and immediately became a cornerstone of our department. He was already one of the biggest names in epistemology when I was an undergraduate in the 1980s, and it was an honor to wind up in the same department with him. I knew many professors my age who had been students of Alvin, and they always spoke fondly of him, and expressed gratitude for his mentorship and ongoing support throughout their careers. Now I had the opportunity to see, up close, his unflagging commitment to his students, as he directed many dissertations here at Rutgers.

But there is new life to celebrate as well. The cohort of first-year graduate students has arrived — I write this on the first day of the Fall semester, right after a meeting with them, — bringing fresh perspectives and enthusiasm. (You can read about their wide range of interests below.)

New life has come more literally, too. On August 2nd, our Chief Administrator, Arielle L’Esperance, gave birth to a new baby, the lovely Adelaide — seen here locking eyes with her “Big Brother”, Peanut.

We all miss Arielle terribly, and we’re anxious for her return in January — hopefully accompanied, sometimes, by Adelaide and Peanut, too. In the meantime, Mercedes and Jessica are holding down the fort with their usual skill, and some extra determination, as we — and our undergraduate students, arriving with tons of questions — ask them to solve all our problems.

Happy Interim Year to All! And to All a Good Night!

Departmental Events



The Rutgers Epistemology Workshop took place from May 3-4, 2024, at The Hyatt Regency. Topics included transitional beliefs, hinge trust, epistemic modality, bracketing and boltzmann brains, and agnostic wrongs and pragmatic disencroachment. Chris Willard-Kyle (who did his PhD from Rutgers) and Tim Kearl were the winners of the Young Epistemologist Prize 2023, and co-presented their paper "Epistemic Cans".

Fun Fact: Some attendees arrived to find that a furry convention was being held beside the conference venue! They had to decide which conference was more interesting to attend.

**RUTGERS
EPISTEMOLOGY
CONFERENCE |
MAY 3-4**

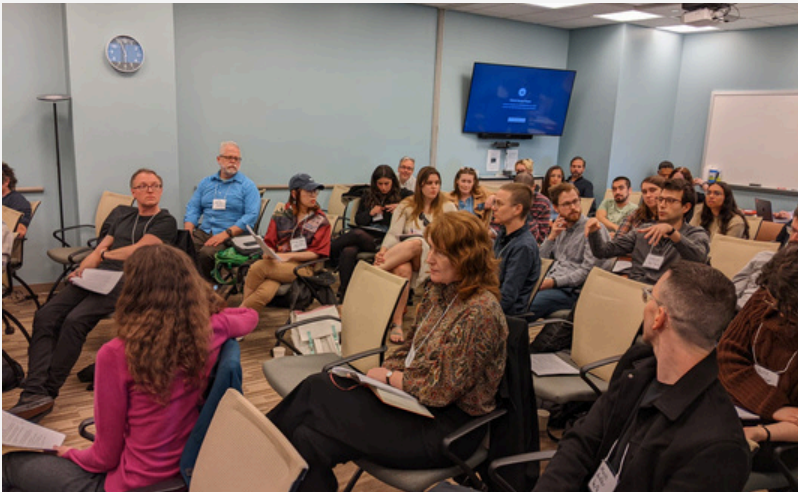
MORE EVENTS



CONT'

- Feb 8: Colloquium: Prof. Jeffrey Russell (USC)
- Feb 16: Conference on Non-Violence
- Mar 21: Colloquium: Prof. Mark Schroeder (USC)
- Mar 27-28: Grad Recruitment (Prospectives Visit)
- Mar 28: Class of 1970 Annual Lecture: Prof. Susan Schneider (Florida Atlantic University)
- Apr 11: Climate Lecture: Prof. Sukaina Hirji (U Penn)
- Apr 13: Rutgers Admitted Student Open House
- Apr 18: Colloquium: Prof. Gideon Rosen (Princeton University)
- Apr 25: Mesthene Lecture: Prof. Agnes Callard (Univ of Chicago)
- Apr 27: Rutgers Day

5th Social Metaphysics Workshop | Apr 26-28



We are excited to share the success of the 5th Annual Social Metaphysics Workshop, which took place from Apr 26-28, 2024, at Rutgers University. Organized by Jonathan Schaffer, Rose Fonth, and Adrian Liu, this year's event featured a wide range of talks covering topics such as the metaphysics of race, feminist metaphysics, dispositions and sexual orientation, racial indifference, and grounding (of course, how can Rutgers exclude grounding?).

Keynote speakers: Karen Bennett, Ron Mallon, Jennifer McKittrick, Ronald Sundstrom.

Speakers: Matthew Andler, Louis DeRosset, Jade Fletcher, Dan Korman, Alice van't Hoff

FEATURING...



2024 BOCHUM -RUTGERS WORKSHOP | MAR 23-24

The Rutgers-Bochum Mind and Language Workshop was held on March 23-24, 2024, at Rutgers University, bringing together philosophers from both institutions. Organized by Brian McLaughlin (Rutgers, Department of Philosophy), Pernille Hemmer (Rutgers, Department of Psychology, RuCCS), and Albert Newen (RUB, Institute of Philosophy II), the workshop had presentations by both professors & students.

Topics included: Deep Engrams, Immersive Imagination, Animal Cognition, Models of Consciousness, and the Possibility of Empirical Knowledge.

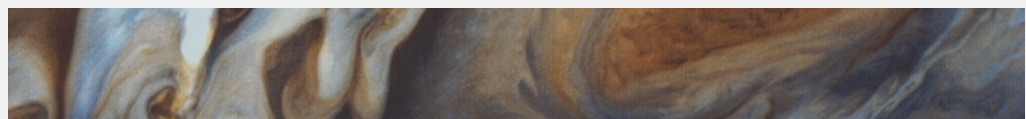
FEATURED



Rutgers Summer Institute | July 7-July 13

Derrick Darby organized the Rutgers Summer Institute 2024, a seven day program, which took place from July 7-13, at the Rutgers University Inn and Conference Center.

Dedicated to broadening inclusion in philosophy, the program introduces undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds to the various areas of specialization within the discipline of philosophy, gives students a better idea of what graduate studies in philosophy is about, and explores various views about what it means to be a professional philosopher. By doing so, the Institute provides invaluable opportunities for students who may not otherwise have access to a large university environment, peer connections, or professional mentorship.



UNDERGRADUATE EVENTS



**Rutgers Philosophy
Club & Phi Sigma Tau
Philosophy Honor
Society hosted two
events...**

1. A Graduate School Panel

Panelists: Andrew Rubner, Isabel Uriagerak Herburger, Fernanda Abrahao Birolli, Mia Accomando, Oliver Wolf & Adrian Liu.

2. A Philosophy Alumni Career Panel

Shweta Mahajan (Bloomberg), Hershi Sahay, Greg Burdea (Human Resources Exec), Mercedes Diaz, Carl Wu (lawyer-NY), Monica Hanna-Duenas (Lawyer-NY Attorney General's office) & Chris Moore (Netflix)



Panelists

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



PAUL
PIETROSKI

Co-authored paper "Psycholinguistic Evidence for Restricted Quantification" (a paper about quantifiers), that was previously published in *Natural Language Semantics*, has been selected by the *Philosopher's Annual* as one of the top ten philosophy papers from 2023! Paul has been giving talks about this work and related projects.

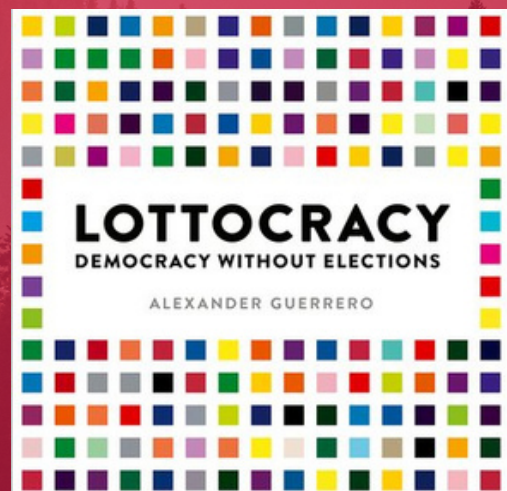
Paul has also:

Published a paper: "Observers Efficiently Extract the Minimal and Maximal Element in Perceptual Magnitude Sets: Evidence for a Bipartite Format" (a paper about perceptual magnitudes) in *Psychological Science*

Did collaborative experimental work in psycholinguistics.

ALEXANDER GUERRERO

Published book:
"Lottocracy: Democracy Without
Elections" with Oxford University Press



DERRICK DARBY

Invited Speaker: Ohio State
University COMPAS Colloquium:
From Identity Politics to Income
Inequality
(<https://cehv.osu.edu/events/compas-colloquium-identity-politics-income-inequality>)



Darby was also:
Colloquium Speaker: "Armed Self-Defense," Toronto Metropolitan University
Colloquium Speaker: "Armed Self-Defense," Vanderbilt University
Workshop Speaker: "Armed Self-Defense," UCLA School of Law
Directed the Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy

BRIAN LEFTOW

Co-organized the "Rutgers Analytic Theology Seminar 2024"

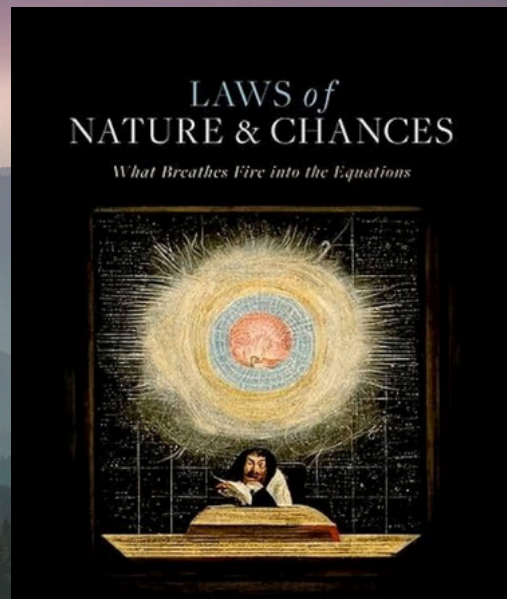
Lecture:
"Allocating Scarce Resources, Disability, and Parity," University of Richmond

FRANCES KAMM

Published paper:
"Israel, Palestine, and the Consequences of Wrong Acts in War" in Public Ethics at the Stockholm Centre for War and Peace website (publicethics.org)

BARRY LOEWER

Published book:
*Laws and Chance: What Breathes
Fire into the Equations*
with Oxford University Press



TED SIDER

Taught Hamburg/Vienna summer school

DEAN ZIMMERMAN

Co-organized, with Brian Leftow and Fr. Philip Neri-Reese, a second Rutgers-Angelicum Summer Seminar in Rome. Rutgers participants included graduate students Minsoo Cho, Joseph Cobon, Javah Xie, Ethan Muse; and post docs Wesley Skolits and Timothy Perrine.

Organized a multi-disciplinary panel on the Welsh writer and mystic, Arthur Machen, at Providence NecronomiCon. Participants included fellow philosopher Eric Steinhart, as well as two Victorianists, and two authors and professors of creative writing.



ZOE JENKIN

Published paper: "Encapsulated Failures" in *Philosophers' Imprint*

Published a paper: "Learning in the Social Being System" (a commentary on Elizabeth Spelke's book, *What Babies Know*, co-authored with psychologist Lori Markson) in *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

Gave talks at the London School of Economics, Indiana University Bloomington Cognitive Science, the Rutgers-Bochum conference, and the Leonardo Art-Science talk series.

Finished up her fellowship at the Princeton University Center for Human Values and is looking forward to properly starting teaching at Rutgers in the Fall 2024.

MICHAEL GLANZBERG

Organized a workshop 'Foundations of Logic and Applications to Mathematics' as part of the World Congress of Philosophy, Rome.

Visiting Overseas Expert: Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China, August.

Organized a 2-day session "Perspectives on Perspectives in Literature" as part of the World Congress of Philosophy, Rome.

Co-directed "Athena in Action: A Networking and Mentoring Workshop for Graduate Student Women in Philosophy". Rutgers participants included graduate students Kayla Jackson, Esther Goh, Rose Fonth, and Isabel Herburger.

LIZ CAMP

BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN

Ran the 9th annual Rutgers-Bochum Mind and Language Workshop
Presented: "Visual Illusions: A Problem for Naive Realism and for Representationalism" at a Symposium on Perception at the World Congress of Philosophy, Rome.

GRADUATE

HIGHLIGHTS

Kayla Jackson

Won the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowship for 2024. So cool!

Audrey Powers

Published paper: "Moral Overfitting," forthcoming in *Philosophical Studies*

Will be presenting: "Non-Naturalist Moral Causation" at Madison Metaethics Workshop in Sept

Rose Fonth

Presented: "The Derogatory Force and Moral Contestability of Deadnaming Utterance" at the Harvard-MIT Graduate Conference

Presented: "The Social Significance of Sounds" at the International Social Ontology Society Conference held at Duke

Frederick Choo

Published: "The Subjective Ought and the Accessibility of Moral Truths" in *American Philosophical Quarterly*

Published: "A Non-Vacuist Response to the Counterpossible Terrible Commands Objection" in *Erkenntnis*

Presented: "The Desire Machine and Authenticity-Weighted Desire-Satisfactionism" at the 17th Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME XVII)

Presented: "Desire Satisfactionism and the No-Future Time-of-Desire View" at a Symposium session at APA Central Division 2024.

Presented: "Aesthetic Reasons: Requiring or Merely Enticing?" at St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR 2024)

Co-Presented (with Esther Goh) a keynote talk: "Kavka's Toxin Puzzle and Conditional Intentions: Explaining Abraham's Sacrifice" at Istanbul Analytic Theology Workshop

Participated in a 1-week pedagogy workshop and summer roundtables as part of the Life Worth Living Graduate Pedagogy Fellowship (from Yale University)

Participated in the American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) Teaching and Learning Seminar 2024, & also the AAPT Biennial Conference 2024

Participated in the Rutgers Active Learning 101 Workshop

Jordan Bridges

Presented: "The (Ir)rationality of Collectively Self-Fulfilling Beliefs" at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SSPP '24). The same paper was also selected to be presented at the annual meetings of the International Social Ontology Society (ISOS '24), though Jordan was unable to attend due to illness.

Esther Goh

Presented: "Friends, How Should We Be Biased?" at The Annual Southwest Graduate Philosophy Conference 2024

Presented: "A New Argument for Intrapersonal-EP: Detective Revisited" at 45th Annual UIUC Graduate Conference

Co-Presented (with Frederick Choo) a keynote talk: "Kavka's Toxin Puzzle and Conditional Intentions: Explaining Abraham's Sacrifice" at Istanbul Analytic Theology Workshop
Commentator for Ina Jantgen's "How Mean Differences Can Fail Rational Decision Makers" at Athena In Action 2024.

Commentator for Lisa Doerksen's "Sceptical Hypotheses and Subjective Indistinguishability", APA Eastern Division 2024

Avi Sommers

Became co-chair of the Association for the Philosophy of Judaism, an affiliated group of the APA devoted to fostering philosophical work relevant to Judaism.

Presented: "An Argument of Hutcheson on Moral Motivation" at the 2024 meeting of the Long Island Philosophical Society.

Published a blog post: "Should We Continue to Read and Honor Immoral Historical Philosophers" for the Blog of the APA (<https://blog.apaonline.org/2024/04/29/should-we-continue-to-read-and-honor-immoral-historical-philosophers/>).

Published co-authored paper: "Mitzvot," forthcoming in the *Encyclopedia of Skepticism and Jewish Tradition*

Presented: "Degrees of Divine Revelation," at the meeting of the Association for the Philosophy of Judaism at the 2024 APA Eastern Division meeting

GRADUATE HIGHLIGHTS

Event Highlight: Women in Philosophy | Athena In Action



Athena in Action is a networking and mentoring workshop for graduate student women in philosophy. Kayla Jackson, Esther Goh, Rose Fonth, and Isabel Herburger were selected to attend the workshop. Kayla, who presented at the workshop, said that “it was nice to have a supportive space to give a talk.” Esther, who was a commentator, remarked, “I love that special attention was paid to ensure that everyone’s voices were heard. The organisers implemented a fair system to ensure that everyone was given an equal opportunity for their comments and questions to be answered.” “I loved getting to know so many other awesome women graduate students that we’ll likely be seeing and communicating for the rest of our philosophical careers,” Rose adds. When asked about the highlight of the conference, Isabel responded, “I really loved getting to carefully read and discuss papers in so many different areas.”



CONTINUED...

Itamar Weinshtock Saadon

Itamar’s paper, “Knowledge and Action: What Depends on What?”, was one of the three finalists for the Marc Sanders Prize in Epistemology and will be published in *Oxford Studies in Epistemology*. The same paper was also presented at the Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop.

Isabel Herburger

Presented: “Evidentialism for Radical Epistemologists” at the Central APA

Zhiguo Huang

Presented: “Expanding Sensorimotor Theories of Perceptual Consciousness: The Action-Selection Approach” at the 27th Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness conference

Presented: “Mind-Wandering Makes Us Free: Virginia Woolf’s Norms on Exploration” (co-authored with Zac Irving at UVA) at the Oxford Workshop on Humanistic Ethics

Presented: “Offensive Odors: How Smells Can Slur” at Slurring Terms Across Languages Workshop (STAL) '24

Participated in the CEU Summer School session “The Ethics of Attention”

PLACEMENT & DISSERTATION

DEFENSES

Updated Placements

Austin Baker, Moravian College
(tenure-track)

Sam Carter, University College
London (permanent position)

Christopher Willard-Kyle, University of
Kentucky (tenure-track)

Dissertation Defenses and Initial Placements

Nicholas Tourville, "Flat", Advisor:
Jonathan Schaffer
Initial placement: Thomas Reuters,
software design

Lauren Lyons, "Injustice and the
Criminal Law: Defending Radical
Solutions", Advisor: Alexander
Guerrero
Initial placement: University of
California Santa Cruz (TT)

Dissertation Defenses and Initial Placements

Andrew Rubner, "Natural Function and
Perceptual Content", Advisor: Susanna
Schellenberg, Initial placement: NYU
Bersoff, postdoc

Danny Underwood, "Prosecutors:
Discretion, Distrust, and Corrective
Transparency" Advisor: Alexander
Guerrero
Initial placement: Institute for Ethical
Leadership, Rutgers Business School,
postdoc

Callan Howland, "Presumed Cooperation
as a Pragmatic Presumption" Advisor:
Elizabeth Camp
Initial Placement: Rutgers Center for
Cognitive Science, postdoc

MEET THE FIRST YEARS

QUESTIONS WE ASKED:

- (1) What areas of philosophy are you most interested in right now?
- (2) What are your non-philosophical interests or hobbies?
- (3) Any philosophy paper or book recommendations?

RUTGER VAN OEVEREN



1. Ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology. I spend a lot of time thinking about the ethics of collective action and related issues, such as causation in collective action cases.

2. I sing quite a lot; I obtained a degree in early music voice and try to keep this up as much as possible.

3. P. Quinn White, "Honesty and Discretion." The paper discusses when and why it is wrong to lie and deceive, and when and why it is wrong to tell the truth. The idea that there is a general, context-independent injunction against lying and deceiving is misguided, or so White argues. When, for example, someone impermissibly pries into your private life, you may deceive or lie if doing so is necessary to avoid the truth from being known. Since you have a right to privacy, your interlocutor has no right to the truth. White develops a view on which the particular relationships we stand in to each other set the relevant communicative standards that regulate lying, deceiving, and telling the truth.

MEET THE FIRST YEARS

QUESTIONS WE ASKED:

- (1) What areas of philosophy are you most interested in right now?
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- (3) Any philosophy paper or book recommendations?

JAVAH XIE

1. At the moment, I'm obsessed with all things metaphysics. Really, I think I'm interested in all things "meta": meta-ontology and metametaphysics, of course, but also more recently metaethics. As for non-meta areas, I'm quite a fan of epistemology.

2. I love combat sports (think MMA, boxing, BJJ, and even fencing), and I love chess. Naturally, I also love chessboxing. On the music front, I could listen to nothing but folk punk and math rock for the rest of my life.

3. My favorite paper is probably Lewis's "Holes," and my favorite book, Wittgenstein's "Philosophical Investigations." I would point anyone looking for a romp towards Sinhababu's "Possible Girls," Elga's "Newcomb University: A Play in One Act," or Anscombe's "A Note on Mr. Bennett."



LEYLA ASGAR

1. Philosophy of Language



MEET THE FIRST YEARS

QUESTIONS WE ASKED:

- (1) What areas of philosophy are you most interested in right now?
- (2) What are your non-philosophical interests or hobbies?
- (3) Any philosophy paper or book recommendations?

JESSICA POHLMANN

1. Right now, my research lies at the intersection of metaphysics and the philosophy of science. My research interests focus on the emergence of spacetime, the metaphysics of Quantum Gravity, dependence, and fundamentality. I'm focusing on metaphysical models of emergent spacetime and investigating the implications of spacetime emergence for existing theories in metaphysics.

2. Outside of philosophy I enjoy yoga, hiking, scuba diving, and poetry by Mary Oliver.

3. I'd probably recommend 'Emergent spacetime and empirical (in)coherence' by Nick Huggett and Christian Wüthrich.



JOSEPH COBON

1. Phil religion (natural theology, Buddhist philosophy), Phil math and logic (probability, platonism, existential quantifier, deviant logics), Phil Science (physics, biology, values in science, explanation)

2. Music (piano playing), hiking, body building and exercise science

3. *Do Numbers Exist?* (Book: William Craig and Peter Van Inwagen), *Calling For Explanation* (Book: Dan Baras), *Powers Ontology and the Quantum Revolution* (Article: Robert Koons), *Are We Bodies or Souls* (Book: Richard Swinburne), "Understanding Interaction: What Descartes Should have Told Elisabeth" (Article: Daniel Garber)



In Memoriam

Alvin Goldman

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Alvin Goldman, a Board of Governors Professor at Rutgers University from 2002 until his retirement in 2018. Born on October 1, 1938, he died on August 4, 2024. He received his B.A. from Columbia University in 1960, and his PhD from Princeton in 1965. He taught at the University of Michigan (1963-1980), followed by positions at the University of Illinois at Chicago (1980-1983) and the University of Arizona (1983-2002), before coming to Rutgers.

Goldman was, without doubt, one of the most important epistemologists of the last 80 years. In a 2016 Leiter Report poll of about 400 of his peers, he emerged as the second most influential Anglophone epistemologist working in the period since 1945 (after only the then late W. V. O. Quine). Goldman also made major contributions to cognitive science, philosophy of mind, political philosophy, metaphysics, and action theory.

Goldman's approach to epistemology was resolutely naturalistic. His work sought to explain how epistemic states – such as knowledge and justification – fit into the natural world. His “Causal Theory of Knowing” (*Journal of Philosophy*, 1967) analyzed knowledge as a causal relation between facts in the world and an agent's beliefs. One of his most important contributions to epistemology was his development and defense of process reliabilism about justification, which analyzes the justificatory status of a belief in terms of the reliability of the psychological processes that caused the belief (“What is Justified Belief?” in Pappas (ed), *Justification and Knowledge*).



This was a revolutionary approach to justification. It parted ways with internalist theories of justification (the dominant approach at the time), which took justification to depend on factors that are internally accessible to the believer. It also rejected the “current time slice” approach to justification, according to which the justificatory status of an agent's belief depends only on facts that obtain at the time of the belief. According to Goldman, any adequate theory of justification will need to take into account the belief's prior history. Consequently, no time-slice view could be right. Goldman developed and refined his reliabilist theory over the course of his career (e.g., *Epistemology and Cognition*, 1986; “Internalism Exposed”, *Journal of Philosophy*, 1999). Goldman was also a pioneer of social epistemology. Historically, much of epistemology has had an individualistic bent. In the tradition of Descartes, it has focused on the perspective of an agent who is trying to attain truth (or justification or knowledge), on their own, in isolation from their social surroundings. Social epistemology, by contrast, looks at the role of social practices

In Memoriam

(Continued)

in generating knowledge in both individuals and groups. Goldman's *Knowledge in a Social World* (1999) offered a distinctively reliabilist version of this approach, examining how social structures can be evaluated in terms of their truth-conduciveness. This book laid the groundwork for much subsequent work in social epistemology.

Goldman also had enormous influence in cognitive science. His 2006 book, *Simulating Minds*, provided an influential and systematic defense of simulationism, the idea that we often attribute mental states to others by first simulating a mental process in ourselves. Throughout his work, he explored the ways in which work in cognitive science can fruitfully bear on other areas of philosophy, particularly epistemology and metaphysics (e.g., *Liaisons: Philosophy Meets the Cognitive and Social Sciences*, 1992; *Philosophical Applications of Cognitive Science*, 1993).

Goldman was the author of 10 books and over 150 articles, many of them now classics in the field. A Guggenheim Fellow from 1975-76, in 1991-92 he served as president of the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division. He was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2004. From 2005-2014 he was the Editor-in-Chief of the epistemology journal *Episteme*. A Romanell Prize Lecturer of the American Philosophical Association in 2010, he was also a co-winner in 2015 of the Lebowitz Prize for outstanding achievement in the field of philosophy.

For more than 50 years, Goldman was a dedicated and supportive teacher, mentor, and colleague in the departments he served. His kindness and encouragement shaped the careers of generations of philosophers, who now mourn his absence.



Robert Bolton

Professor Bolton was a renowned expert on Aristotle who taught at Rutgers for 52 years. After earning his B.A. at Princeton (including a senior thesis on Plato's Theory of Forms, directed by Gregory Vlastos), he was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, where he worked with G.E.L. Owen, writing on Plato's *Cratylus*. Rob earned his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, with a dissertation on the *Cratylus* under the direction of Julius Moravcsik and Nicholas White. He came to Rutgers in 1971, where he eventually helped philosophy to become a research focused department with a strong graduate program; he served as Vice-Chair for Faculty Recruitment during crucial years of rapid growth. Rob was also chair of the committee that inaugurated a linguistics program at Rutgers, which then became an important department with close ties to philosophy.



In Memoriam

(Continued)

Rob published over 30 articles and edited several volumes during his long scholarly career. Much of Rob's work centered on Aristotle, specifically Aristotle's philosophy of science, philosophical methodology, epistemology, and metaphysics. He was especially known for his work on Aristotle's ideas about the nature of science and scientific inquiry, the nature of dialectic and its relationship to science, and the application of these methodological and epistemological ideas in Aristotle's works. Rob challenged the once dominant view that Aristotle's procedures of inquiry in his major works — e.g. *Physics*, *De Anima*, and *Metaphysics* — are philosophical and not scientific. Rob's response to this approach to Aristotle included a substantial, new interpretation of the *Posterior Analytics*, and a demonstration of how the guide to genuine scientific inquiry in that work is manifested in *Physics*, *De Anima*, *Metaphysics*, and other works.

He also mounted a defense of the thesis that, in his *Ethics*, Aristotle's mode of inquiry is truly philosophical, and not scientific. In recent years, Rob continued to explore the interplay of philosophical and scientific inquiry in Aristotle, and the special mode of human understanding that Aristotle calls moral wisdom. He argued that moral wisdom differs both from scientific knowledge and from the philosophical mode of human understanding that Aristotle reaches in his *Ethics*.

His pioneering and influential approach to Aristotle's philosophy of science and philosophical methodology can be found in such papers as: "Essentialism and Semantic Theory in Aristotle: *Posterior Analytics*, II, 7-10", *The Philosophical Review* (1976); "Aristotle's Definitions of the Soul: *De Anima* II, 1-3", *Phronesis* (1978); "Definition and scientific method in Aristotle's *Posterior Analytics* and *Generation of Animals*", in *Philosophical Issues in Aristotle's Biology* (1987); "The Epistemological Basis of Aristotelian Dialectic", in *Biologie, Logique, et Metaphysique chez Aristote* (1990); "Aristotle's Method in Natural Science", in *Aristotle's Physics* (1991); "The Problem of Dialectical Reasoning (Συλλογισμός) in Aristotle", *Ancient Philosophy* (1994); "Aristotle's Conception of Metaphysics as a Science", in *Unity, Identity, and Explanation in Aristotle's Metaphysics* (1994); "Science and the Science of Substance in *Metaphysics Z*", *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (1995); "Aristotle on Essence and Necessity in Science", *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* (1997); "Aristotle: Epistemology and Methodology", in *The Blackwell Guide to Ancient Philosophy* (2003); "Dialectic, Peirastic and Scientific Method in Aristotle's *Sophistical Refutations*", *History of Philosophy & Logical Analysis* (2012); "The Search for Principles in Aristotle: *Posterior Analytics* 2 and *Generation of Animals* 1", in *Aristotle's Generation of Animals: A Critical Guide* (2017); and many more. (Much of his work is available at: <https://philpapers.org/s/Robert%20Bolton>.)