



## PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY NEWS UPDATE

February 15, 2009

Forthcoming on the web at: <http://www.uncw.edu/par/>

### *Soaring Seahawks!*



**25+% of PAR 2005-2008 grads have gone on to graduate or professional school**  
(philosophy, religious studies and divinity, professional studies in law, human resources, public policy and administration)

## FACULTY AND STUDENTS

### PAR RPT DECISIONS

- **Herb Berg** awarded promotion to **Professor**
- **Diana Pasulka** awarded tenure and promotion to **Associate Professor**



Diana



Herb

### FACULTY HIRING DECISIONS

- The hiring process for the **Asian Religion** position, which has been in the department for over twenty years, has been put on hold due to the state budget crisis, and we are concerned the position may be terminated.

### PAR CHAIR DECISIONS

- **Tom Schmid**, PAR chair since 2003-2004, is stepping down at the end of the year.
- The department will vote on a new chair at the February meeting. So far, **George Zervos** is the only candidate for the position.



Tom



George

### PAR SOCIETY ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

- Officers for 2008-2009: **Brandon Tinklenberg**, President, **Corey Blackburn**, Vice-President, **Alexandra Elfner**, Secretary, **Chason Higgins**, Treasurer/Activities Coordinator. **Dr. Eshleman** faculty advisor.

### STUDENT SCHOLARS

- **UNCW SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR 2008-2009**
  - **Alexandra Elfner**, Travel Award for research with Dr. Pasulka
  - **Jamie Brummet**, UNCW Undergraduate Merit Fellowship Award and Friends of UNCW Scholarship Award



Jamie presents to Board of Trustees

- **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**
  - **Ryan Neale**, "Nestorius the Orthodox: A Second Look at a Denounced Heretic" won 1st prize for among student papers presented at the North Carolina Association for Religious Studies in October, 2008. Other students attending the conference were **Samatha Lopresti** and **Christopher Winchester**, accompanied by **Dr. Murrell**.
  - **Jamie Brummet**, "The Development of Satan through the Jewish Apocalyptic Afterlife" poster presentation of her research to UNCW Board of Trustees, Feb 19, 2009, also presenting at CSURF conference at UNCW in April, advisor **Dr. Pasulka**
  - **Adam Fought**, "A New Solution to the Commitment Problem" accepted for oral presentation at "Darwin's Legacy" student conference at UNCW, Mar 19-21, advisor **Dr. Scott**
  - **Alexandra Elfner**, "Darwin in the New Age: the Theosophical Society and Evolution," accepted for oral presentation at "Darwin's Legacy" student conference at UNCW, Mar 19-21, **Jamie Brummet**, UNCW Undergraduate Merit Fellowship Award and Friends of UNCW Scholarship Award
  - **Brandon Tinklenberg**, "Are Biological Taxa Natural Kinds?" accepted for oral presentation at "Darwin's Legacy" student conference at UNCW, Mar 19-21, advisor **Dr. Turrisi**.
- **PAR 491 DIS students** in Spring 09
  - **Jamie Brummit** with Dr. Burgh
  - **Shaun Colley** with Dr. Eshleman
  - **Alexandra Elfner**, **Bryan Hendershot** with Dr. Pasulka
  - **Laura Frank** with Dr. Zervos
  - **Ben Skinner** with Dr. Habibi
- **PAR 499 Honors** Spring 2009
  - **Anna Bijelic** with Dr. Gauthier
  - **Shauna Cooper**, **Michael Gillis** with Dr. Eshleman
  - **Brandon Tinklenberg** with Dr. Turrisi
  - **Jamie Brummitt**, **Laura Frank** with Dr. Pasulka

## ALUMNI SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY – Alumni in graduate or professional school include

- **Sarah Rollens**, 2006, co-authored with Herb Berg, “The historical Muhammad and the historical Jesus: A comparison of scholarly inventions and revisions” was just published in *Studies in Religion* 37/2 (2008), 271-92.

## FACULTY PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY November-February

- **Herb Berg**
  - Co-author **Sarah Rollens**, “The historical Muhammad and the historical Jesus: A comparison of scholarly inventions and revisions” was just published in *Studies in Religion* 37/2 (2008), 271-92.
- **Teddy Burgh**
  - “And the Beat Goes On: Studying the Bible Through the Lens Music,” SBL, Boston, Nov 08
- **Matt Eshleman**
  - “The Misplaced Chapter on Bad Faith,” *Sartre Studies International* 14:2 (F08)
  - “Detmer and the Sartre Renaissance,” *Eastern APA*, New York, Dec 08
  - “Bad Faith is Necessarily Social,” *Central APA*, Chicago, Feb 09
- **Don Habibi**
  - “The International Human Rights Movement and the Proportionality Problem,” Bar Ilan University, Israel, Dec 09
- **Diana Pasulka**
  - “Death Wears a Friendly Face: the Child Psychopomp in Culture and History,” AAR, Chicago, Nov 08
- **Tom Schmid**
  - “The Politics of Reconciliation,” *International Philosophical Studies* 38:4 (F08), 119-41
- **Patricia Turrisi**
  - CTE Summer Incentive Award
- **Heath White**
  - *INFERENCEALISM AND PRACTICAL REASON: TOWARDS A NEW THEORY OF PRACTICAL REASONING, INTENTION, DESIRE AND EVALUATIVE BELIEF* (VDM, 2008)



Heath publishes book

## EVENTS

**B. Frank Hall Speaker for 2008-2009 is Philip Kitcher**, John Dewey Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University,

Public Lecture “Living with Darwin: Evolution and the Future of Faith”

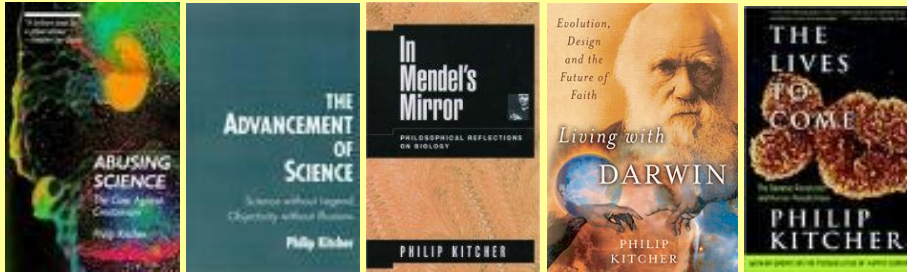
730 Thursday, April 16, Burney Center

Co-sponsored by Academic Affairs (Evolution Learning Community) and CAS



**Philip Kitcher**

Dr. Kitcher is an internationally renowned philosopher, and the author of many books on science, ethics and evolution including *Abusing Science*, *The Advancement of Science*, *In Mendel's Mirror*, *Living with Darwin*, and *The Lives to Come*



## ALUMNI NEWS

**February's focus alumnus: Charles Ponton, 1982.** In December, 2008 Charlie was elected and installed as High Priest for Concord Chapter #1 Royal Arch Masons for 2009. Concord Chapter #1 was chartered on May 4, 1815, and is the oldest Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in NC. He and his wife Wanda live with their two young sons, Noah and Caleb, here in Wilmington, where Charlie owns Ponton Reality.




**Charlie installed**

Please remember to **update your email** if you change it, as well as **send in any information about yourself you want posted to [schmidt@uncw.edu](mailto:schmidt@uncw.edu)**. The PAR Alumni connection will only work if the Alumni connect! In the future, I will send the quarterly report blind copy to all recipients.

### ALUMNI updates\*

- **Karl Amelchenko**, 2006, is graduating from Wake Forest Law School this year. Karl is at [amelkj6@law.wfu.edu](mailto:amelkj6@law.wfu.edu) 910.352.9044

- **Paul Atkinson**, 2003, continues to develop his musical career.  See [www.paulatkinsonmusic.com](http://www.paulatkinsonmusic.com) or [www.myspace.com/paulatkinsonmusic](http://www.myspace.com/paulatkinsonmusic). 704-641-1705. personal email: [pbamusic@gmail.com](mailto:pbamusic@gmail.com). You can download his newest recordings from [www.reverbnation.com/paulatkinson](http://www.reverbnation.com/paulatkinson). His group includes Andy Burger on bass, David Cornelius lead guitar, Eric Howard on drums and Paul on guitar and vocals.

- **Robert Barnes**, 2003, PAR/HST and GLS grad, is an adjunct professor of History at Central Carolina Community College.
- **Cynthia Bell**, 2005, says hello and reminds everyone "It's up to you!"
- **Gordon Blanchard**, 2005, says hello. Gordon's marriage to **Madelaine (Maddi) Pick** was reported in the August newsletter.



- **Pamela Bozeman**, 2006, is in the M.A. program in Religious Studies at UNCC this fall.
- **Leon Buchanan**, 2006, is finishing his Masters of Divinity at Erskine Seminar.  
[leonsbuchanan@hotmail.com](mailto:leonsbuchanan@hotmail.com).
- **Meredith Bailey Bumbarger**, 2008, began the MA divinity program, University of Dayton in



Ohio this fall.

- **Kathryn Cole Bunthoff**, says hello to her friends. Updated address: 3033 Coral Park Drive Cincinnati, OH 45211.
- **Kevin Campbell**, extends his warmest regards. Email: [kevcamp@duke.edu](mailto:kevcamp@duke.edu), web: <http://fds.duke.edu/db/aas/Biology/staff/kevcamp>.
- **Everett Caldwell**, 2006, is in the M.A. program in New Testament Studies, Harding University, Memphis TN. [ecaldwe1@harding.edu](mailto:ecaldwe1@harding.edu).





- **Michelle Clark**, 2006, is in the program in Holocaust Studies at U. of Texas Dallas.
- **Elicia Joi Cox**, 2006, has begun graduate studies in philosophy at San Francisco State



University. Contact at [joi\\_cox9@yahoo.fr](mailto:joi_cox9@yahoo.fr), 2840

- **Kathryn Cole** (see Kathryn Cole Bunthoff above).



- **Jane Howard Crutchfield**, 2003, says hello to all her friends from Denver.  Contact 1625 S. Birch St, apt. 70, Denver CO 80222, 720-201-8877.
- **Charles Davis, Jr.**, 1997, says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
-  **Keith Diener, JD, LLM**, 2003, is doing and teaching law in Northern Virginia and DC. He and Aimee have bought a house in Mt. Vernon, Virginia, and invites anyone in the area to give him a call. His LL.M. thesis was published, and is available at <http://www.njcl.fi/>  
Contact: cell 404-664-4271. email: [kduncw@hotmail.com](mailto:kduncw@hotmail.com).
- **Eddie Dunn**, double major in Comp Science/PAR, named UNCW Computer Science Systems Administrator.
- **Kevin English**, 1988 says hello. Kevin is a senior account manager at Eplus technology, inc. in Raleigh, NC.
- **Whitney Fautleroy**, 2006, is planning to enter seminary.
- **Emily Elizabeth Gallimore**, 2007, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (Charlotte), Master



of Divinity.

- **Lauren Griffith**, 2006, at Ohio State University for a Masters in Labor and Human



Resources.

- **Loretta Grady**, 1985, says hello to classmates and faculty, and wishes a special "Be Well" to Dr. Shinn.

- **Tom Granado, PLS, UNCW 2005**, worked in the PAR office for two years, 2003-2005, is currently working for AMDOCS. He says hello! to the faculty and to **Jeanne Harmon**, our



department secretary at that time. **Tom** **Jeanne**

- **Amy Robbins Guthrie**, 2004, says hello.
- **Mike Hargett**, 1976, says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty. Mike owns and manages Hargett Realty and Development, here in Wilmington, 18 S. Water St, 28401, 254.0509.
- **Catherine Inglesby**, 2003, is in the Psychology of Religion Master's Degree Program at Heythrop College, UK. email: [dolmadakia@gmail.com](mailto:dolmadakia@gmail.com).
- **Mark Jeffords**, 1973 double major PAR/Biology, reports birth of his first grandchild, Joshua, born 12.20.05.
- **NEW Kim Joyce**, 2008, will be with the Peace Corps for two years; her first placement abroad is Azerbaijan.
- **Jennifer Kasprzycki**, 1996, lives and paints in Hawaii. Websites: <http://jenniferkasprzycki.com/bio.html> and <http://jenniferkasprzycki.com/>.
- **Will Klinger**, 2005, completed his MA in Public Archaeology at the University of South Florida. He is working, for now, with PPR in Morrisville, near Raleigh. [willklinger@gmail.com](mailto:willklinger@gmail.com).
- **Catherine Sexton Knepper**, 2002, lives with son James and husband (a philosopher at Drake University). For her thoughts and creative interests, see <http://www.editorialdepartment.com/content/view/85/115/>; <http://www.editorialdepartment.com/content/view/516/439/>.
- **Robert Landry**, 2005 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
- **Thomas W. Lee**, 1974 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
- **Crystal Lubinsky**, 2000, Ph.D. program in Religious Studies, University of Edinburgh. email:



[s0782895@sms.ed.ac.uk](mailto:s0782895@sms.ed.ac.uk).

- **Joe Manley**, 1989 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty. Joe is working at NHRMC. Email: [Joe.Manley@nhhn.org](mailto:Joe.Manley@nhhn.org).
- **David Massey**, 2006, recently married and has a new email: [DavidTimMassey@gmail.com](mailto:DavidTimMassey@gmail.com).
- **NEW Matt McGregor**, 2007, noticed I had him going to Law School at the University of New Orleans, but in fact he is at the Law School at Campbell University, in Buies Creek, NC. Matt



says hello to all his friends and former teachers. [Stonehenge123@hotmail.com](mailto:Stonehenge123@hotmail.com)

- **NEW Matt Moghis**, 2008, is attending the Law School at the Loyola University in New Orleans, LA. He reports that he is doing well in his grades and enjoying New Orleans and the experience, though "It is pretty tough, and there is always a lot of work to do!"
- **James Miller**, 2006, is in the PhD Program at Brandeis University for Social Policy and Public Affairs. "The program is a mix of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Management... should be right up my alley!" James stopped by in December, and reported he is doing well in the program, which includes classes at Brandeis and Harvard. "I never thought you'd have to work that hard!"
- **Lacey Morris**, 2008, is teaching English at her high school. [morrislacey@gmail.com](mailto:morrislacey@gmail.com). "I will be here for the rest of the school year, and they might ask me back to teach algebra. If they do, then they are going to pay for me to become certified to teach here on a more permanent basis... I would like to teach at a university one day!"



- **Jonathan Morton**, 2006, attending Seminary, the Masters College, Lost Angeles, CA.

- **Adam Murray**, 2001, is Assistant Professor and Head of Acquisitions of Waterfield Library at Murray State University (KY). "A year later, I was named Interim Dean of the Library. I've spent the last six months learning the joys of administration."
- **Tim Myrick**, 1983, is Registrar and Director of Enrollment Management at Gordon-Cromwell Theological Seminary, Charlotte, NC. Tim is happily married and has two children. "After graduating from GCTS, I took a job to pay bills and have stayed ever since!"
- **Evian E. Patterson** 2002, is pursuing a Master of Public Administration in the Robert Wagner



School of Public Service, NYU. [evianp@gmail.com](mailto:evianp@gmail.com)

- **Christopher "Chip" Perry** 2006 wishes everyone well! 639 Bay Harbor Dr. Hampstead, NC 28443 (910) 352-0296.
- **Charles Ponton**, 1982, says hello. ([WWW.Pontonrealty.com](http://WWW.Pontonrealty.com)). See February alumnus.
- **Kevin Quinn**, 1994, is currently a Senior Technical Writer with Nokia, based in Atlanta.
- **Eric Reaves**, 2006, says hello to old friends and classmates.



- **Crystal Ricevuto**, 2007, is attending Wake Forest Law School.
- **Amy Robbins**, see **Amy Robbins Guthrie**, above.
- **Sarah Rollens**, 2007, is in the PhD program in Religious Studies at the Centre for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto, supervisor John S. Kloppenborg. **NEW** Her article co-authored with Herb Berg, "The historical Muhammad and the historical Jesus: A comparison of scholarly inventions and revisions" was just published in *Studies in Religion* 37/2 (2008),



271-92.

- **NEW Michael Runkle**, 2006, is at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, CA. Mike reports he is doing well, happy in his chosen profession, and enjoys keeping up with



everyone through the newsletter. Email: [runklemichael@yahoo.com](mailto:runklemichael@yahoo.com).

- **Matt Sayball**, 2006 is continuing his studies at Virginia Tech in the Philosophy M.A. program.



- **Ian Sheffer**, 2006, in Medical School at Temple, has also begun the "Master of Bioethics Program at Penn. Ian did an Honors project with Dr. Gauthier on the ethics of medically



assisted suicide in 2006.

- **Amanda Schoonover**, minor 2005, pursuing a Master's degree in biology, says hello to old friends and faculty.
- **Andy Sleet**, 2005, is living and working in LA. "Each day brings new adventures and possibilities." 1616 N. Normandie Ave., Apt.400 Los Angeles, CA 90027. 323 / 898-6364.
- **Andrea Smaxwell**, 2006, Golden Gate School of Law in San Francisco. Email: [andrea.smaxwell@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.smaxwell@gmail.com).
- **Joel Smith**, 1985 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty. Lives in Kinston, NC. <http://www.m3web.com>



- **James Stalvey** 2007, is attending the Masters School, Divinity, Sun Valley, CA.

- **Mona Taylor**, 2007, is at UNCW in the Masters in Public Administration program, PIA



- Department.
- **Mac Tucker** (1990) is teaching history at Richlands H.S. in NC and says hi.
  - **Jason Warnick**, 2004, says hello to classmates and faculty.
  - **NEW Margaret Lee Wilkins**, 2006, is still working full-time for Young Life but has moved to Anderson Island, WA, and is working toward a Masters at the Reformed Theological Seminary. Contact via 11208 Breaker Way, Anderson Island, WA 98303.
  - **Jeff Wunsch**, 2005, says hello and reports he is doing well.