



PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY NEWS UPDATE

November 2007

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

FACULTY AND STUDENTS

GRADUATES (Spring 07)

- PHILOSOPHY Concentration: **Ian Brockett, Robert Brown, Alfred Lerch, Matthew McGregor, Joseph Sanguinetti, Ian Sheffer**
- RELIGION Concentration: **Pamela Bozeman, Emily Gallimore, Paul Hendrix, Jonathan Lemaire, April Rozzelle, Jeremy Simmons, Zane Whitner.**

Pictures from the spring graduation ceremonies are posted on the PAR website (currently being updated) and the glass case in the main hallway.

FACULTY RECOGNIZED (by graduating seniors)

- Dec 06: **Drs. Altrichter, Berg, Burgh, Gauthier, Habibi, Murrell, Pasulka, Schmid, Zervos**
- May 07: **Drs. Altrichter, Berg, Conser, Gauthier, Habibi, McGowan, Murrell, Pasulka, Schmid, Zervos**

NEW FACULTY

- **Jeffrey Durham, Assistant Professor, Asian Religion.** Jeffrey received his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia (2004), his B.A. from University of Texas at Austin. His areas of research interest include Hindu and Buddhist traditions, and he has mastered, among other languages, Sanskrit, classical Tibetan, ancient Egyptian, Greek, Latin, and ancient Mayan.
- **Matthew Eshleman, Assistant Professor, History of Philosophy.** Matthew received his Ph.D. from Duquesne University (2005), his B.A. in philosophy from the University of Minnesota. His area of research interest is history of philosophy, with a special interest in French philosophy from Descartes to Derrida, and is developing a book project on Jean-Paul Sartre's *Being and Nothingness*.
- **Scott James, Assistant Professor, Ethics.** Scott received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland (College Park, 2005), and a B. A. in philosophy from Connecticut College. His area of research interests are normative ethics and meta-ethics, with special interests in the relationship between ethics, cognitive psychology and evolution, and in the concept of beneficence.
- **Eva Kort, Lecturer, Philosophy.** Eva received her Ph.D. from the University of Florida (Gainesville, 2001), and a B.A. from Indiana University. Her areas of research interest are modern philosophy with a special focus on the concept of personal identity and applied ethics.



Dr. Jeff Durham Asian Religion **Dr. Matt Eshleman** French Philosophy **Dr. Scott James** Ethics and Metaethics **Dr. Eva Kort** Modern Philosophy

STUDENT SCHOLARS

- **SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED 2007-2008**
 - Charles Long and Sankey Blanton Awards – **Josh Bolick**
 - Jim Megivern and Carol Thysell Awards – **Mary von Aue**
 - John. J. Wilson Award – **Grant Breuer**
- **PAR OUTSTANDING MINORITY STUDENT AWARD, 2007-2008**
 - **Gisette Rodriguez** (to be awarded at Nov dept meeting)
- **CHANCELLOR'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** in Spring 07 (A's in all classes):
 - **Josh Bolick**
 - **Jamie Brummit**
 - **Vincent Conti**
 - **Samona Taylor**



- **Ian Sheffer, 2007**, was highlighted as a "Soaring Seahawk" and congratulated by Honors Scholars for being only the second student in UNCW history to undertake and successfully defend two Honors projects, one in Biology under Dr. Padgett, the other in Philosophy under Dr. Gauthier (on the ethics of physician-assisted suicide). Ian is currently studying medicine at Temple University.
- **HON 499s** in Fall 2007:
 - **Mary Bumbarger** with Dr. Murrell
- **DIS students** in Spring and Summer 2007:
 - **Mary Aue, Ann Conner, Morgan Gerszewski, Allison Tuszynski, Zane Whitner** with Dr. Berg
 - **Samona Taylor** with Dr. Habibi (Spring), Dr. Schmid (Summer)
 - **Keith Barnhardt, Allison Casey, William Coppage, Lauren Frank, James Stalvey, Mark Xanthos** with Dr. Zervos

FACULTY: RPT, BOOKS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Dr. Altrichter's** 2nd edition of *Philosophical Works*, George Berkeley (Hungarian) was published last year.
- **Dr. Berg** is serving as Director of Graduate Liberal Studies, is doing research on Islam, and is active with the PAR society.
- **Dr. Burgh** applied and was recommended by PAR for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.
- **Dr. Conser's** history of religion in the Cape Fear area, *A Coat of Many Colors*, was published last year.
- **Dr. Durham**, a new faculty member, is working on a book called *The Immortality Project*.

- **Dr. Eshleman**, a new faculty member, is working on a book on Jean-Paul Sartre, and is active with the PAR society.
- **Dr. Gauthier** is working on a book on medical ethics with a physician at NHRMC.
- **Dr. Habibi** is working on a book, with a UNC-CH professor, on ethics and war.
- **Dr. Kort**, a new faculty member, is doing research on the philosophy of identity.
- **Dr. James**, a new faculty member, is doing research on evolution and ethics, and is active with the Evolution Learning Community
- **Dr. Murrell** is working on a book on Caribbean religion.
- **Dr. Pasulka** is doing research on 19th century spirituality, and religion and postmodernism.
- **Dr. Schmid** has begun a second term as Chair, and is active with the Evolution Learning Community.
- **Dr. Turrisi** is doing research on the philosophy of persons, and is active with the Evolution Learning Community.
- **Dr. White** is doing research on practical reason, and is active with the PAR society.
- **Dr. Zervos** is doing research on early Christian writings.

ALUMNI NEWS



November's focus alumnus is Paul Atkinson

- **Paul Atkinson, 2003:** See www.paulatkinsonmusic.com or www.myspace.com/paulatkinsonmusic. After earning an M.A. in Religious Studies from Naropa University in Colorado, Paul returned to North Carolina where he is director of sales for Southend Building Products, a company that specializes in unique, reclaimed flooring, and formed the Paul Atkinson Band, with the hit tune: "The Divvy." His latest EP, *Music for the Journey*, is available for sale on www.cdbaby.com and on I-tunes. Of his music, Paul says: "I want to connect on some real level of humanity—on all the peaks and valleys, all the questions, all the mystery. But then I want us to know that we're all in it together. And we're alright." Paul's phone: 704-641-1705. Email: fanreach@reverbnation.com.
- **ALUMNI updates***
 - **Karl Amelchenko, 2006**, is at Wake Forest Law School. Karl is at amelkj6@law.wfu.edu 910.352.9044
 - **Paul Atkinson, 2002**, is developing his musical career. See focus alumnus above.
 - **Robert Barnes, 2003**, double major HST and GLS grad, has been appointed adjunct professor of History at Central Carolina Community College.
 - **NEW Cynthia Bell, 2005**, says hello and reminds everyone "It's up to you!" to make your own life.
 - **NEW Gordon Blanchard, 2005**, says hello. Gordon is continuing in his position as a manager and planner for Kellogg Supply Co. in eastern NC, where he recently opened a new store. Gordon stopped in to visit PAR faculty in September.

- **Leon Buchanan**, 2006, began the Masters of Divinity program at Erskine Theological Seminary in Due West, SC. leonsbuchanan@hotmail.com.
 - **NEW Kathryn Cole Bunthoff**, says hello to all her friends from Cincinnati. Updated address: 3033 Coral Park Drive Cincinnati, OH 45211.
 - **Everett Caldwell**, 2006, is in the M.A. program in New Testament Studies, Harding University, Memphis TN. You can reach Everett at ecaldwe1@harding.edu.
 - **Michelle Clark**, 2006, is in the program in Holocaust Studies at U. of Texas Dallas.
 - **Kathryn Cole** (see Kathryn Cole Bunthoff above)
 - **Jane Crutchfield**, 2003, says hello to all her friends from Denver. Janey was our Alumni in Focus in March. Contact at 1625 S. Birch St, apt. 70, Denver CO 80222, 720-201-8877.
 - **NEW Charles Davis, Jr.**, 1997, says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
 - **Keith Diener, JD, LLM**, 2003, finished his M.A. and LL.M. at George Washington, and is now a member of the NC and Virginia bar. You can visit him at 6216 Rose Hill Dr., Apt. #2B, Alexandria VA 22310, cell phone 404-664-4271. Email: kdiener1@law.gwu.edu.
 - **NEW Kevin English**, 1988 says hello to fellow graduates and faculty. Kevin is currently a senior account manager at Eplus technology, inc. in Raleigh, NC.
 - **Emily Elizabeth Gallimore**, 2007, is attending Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (Charlotte Campus) for the Master of Divinity program beginning Sep 21, but she reports “thoroughly enjoying” the reading she is doing in preparation, and a promising writing and publishing effort.
 - **Amy Robbins Guthrie**, 2004, has an art showing with her husband Brandon, “The Several Eyes of Fragmented Light,” at the Ann Flack Boseman Gallery. The exhibit Oct 25-Nov 14 in the Warwick Center Lobby Gallery.
 - **Whitney Fautleroy**, 2006, received a rave review while serving as the Interim Youth director at Winterpark Presbyterian Church, where she “single-handedly revitalized the youth program beyond our expectations in a few months.”
 - **Catherine Inglesby**, 2003, began the Psychology of Religion Master’s Degree Program at Heythrop College, UK this past fall. **NEW** email: dolmadakia@gmail.com.
 - **Mark Jeffords**, 1973 double major PAR/Biology, a pilot with US Air, reports birth of his and Cindy’s first grandchild (congrats!), Joshua, born 12.20.05.
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- **Will Klinger**, 2005, double major with Anthropology, completing his MA in Public Archaeology at the University of South Florida, willklinger@gmail.com, and planning to move back to NC after the end of the year and find work, mostly likely in the Raleigh area. He sends his best to all his classmates, and special regards to Drs. McGowan, Murrell and Berg. “I’m confident I’m not the only student who owes a debt of gratitude to them and their classes.”
 - **NEW Catherine Sexton Knepper**, 1998, says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty from Iowa, where she lives with her 17 month old son James and husband (a philosopher at Drake University), works for the Editorial Board, and is writing.
 - **NEW Robert Landry**, 2005 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
 - **NEW Thomas W. Lee**, 1974 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
 - **Crystal Lubinsky**, 2000, is beginning the Ph.D. program in Religious Studies at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Edinburgh email address: s0782895@sms.ed.ac.uk.



Overcast in Edinburgh Crystal at the door to wisdom?

- **NEW Joe Manley**, 1989 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty. Joe is working at New Hanover Hospital as a CT Technologist. Email: Joe.Manley@nhhn.org.
- **David Massey**, 2006, has taken a full time position in the UNCW admissions office (congrats!). His new email is masseyd@uncw.edu.
- **NEW James Miller**, 2006, says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty.
- **Evian E. Patterson** 2002, is a Program Assistant, Center for International Training, Academy for Educational Development, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009; (202) 884-8192, epatterson@aed.org; www.aed.org
- **NEW Christopher "Chip" Perry** 2006 wishes the best to everyone! Chip is living now at 639 Bay Harbor Dr. Hampstead, NC 28443 (910) 352-0296.
- **NEW Charles Ponton**, 1982, says hello to all the PAR grads. Charlie is head of Charles E. Ponton Realty (WWW.Pontonrealty.com) in Wilmington, and he and his wife Wanda have two young boys, Noah and Caleb.
- **NEW Kevin Quinn**, 1994, reports he is doing well and continuing his education. See note below.
- **NEW Eric Reaves**, 2006, stopped in the PAR office with Gordon Blanchard, Amanda Schoonover and Mike Runkle to say hello on Sep 21, and says hello to old friends and classmates.
- **Amy Robbins**, see **Amy Robbins Guthrie**, above.
- **Michael Runkle**, 2006, reported last year on his success in law school at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, CA, as well as the success of Andrea Smaxwell, 2006 at the Golden Gate School of Law in San Francisco. Andrea returns the favor below. Email: runklemichael@yahoo.com. Michael stopped in to visit PAR faculty in September
- **Matt Sayball**, 2006 is at Virginia Tech in the Philosophy M.A. program, and reports that he was acknowledged in a recent paper published by Berit Brogaard, "The But Not All, a Partitive Account of Plural Definite Descriptions," *Mind and Language* Sep 07, a subject he studied with Dr. Altrichter at UNCW.
- **NEW Amanda Schoonover**, minor 2005, is presently pursuing a Master's degree in biology, and says hello to old friends and faculty.
- **NEW Andy Sleet**, 2005, reports he is doing well and still going strong in the film business, having moved to Los Angeles after working on a Paramount Picture in Wilmington, *The Marc Pease Experience*. "I miss my friends back in Wilmington but each day brings new adventures and possibilities." 1616 N. Normandie Ave., Apt.400 Los Angeles, CA 90027. 323 / 898-6364.
- **NEW Andrea Smaxwell**, 2006, reports this summer that she and Mike Runkle are both continuing to do well in law school, she having made the Dean's List at the Golden Gate School of Law in San Francisco and an internship with Dennis Herrera, City Attorney of San Francisco, Michael having landed an internship with the Public Defender's office in San Diego. Congrats, Andrea and Michael! Email: andrea.smaxwell@gmail.com.
- **NEW Joel Smith**, 1985 says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty. MA in Philosophy from University of Virginia. Currently living in Kinston, NC. Proprietor of m3 Consulting & Services, computer consulting and web development services. Still enjoys reading philosophy, with interests in philosophy of science

and technology. Also enjoys malting and brewing science, pottery, the novels of Pratchett, Buddhism, and disc golf. <http://www.m3web.com>

- **NEW Margaret Lee Wilkins**, 2006, is enrolled part time at the Reformed Theological Seminary in Asheboro, where she is working for Young Life of Randolph County. She wishes everyone well, and thinks often about her experience at UNCW PAR. Contact via Young Life, P.O Box 1182, Asheboro, NC 27204. (336) 629-7323.
- **NEW Jeff Wunsch**, 2005, says hello to old friends, classmates and faculty, and reports he is doing well with an office job at a tile showroom, his own house, and “half a pilot's license.”

*Please remember to update your email address, as well as **send in any info you want posted on this quarterly**. The PAR Alumni connection will only work if the Alumni connect! (We have a number of new members on the list serve, in response to a recent mailing to Alumni, asking if they wished to be on it.) I will be sending out the quarterly report blind copy to all recipients.

PAR, LIFE AND CAREER

From a recent letter to the PAR department:

- My name is **Kevin Quinn**, and I graduated from UNCW in 1994 with a major in English and a minor in philosophy. Upon graduation I moved to Atlanta, GA and was successful in a career in IT working for a software development firm. While I enjoyed my job, I always wanted to return to academia. In 2003 I resigned from my position and returned to school. I'm now beginning the last semester of my M.A. in English at Auburn University, waiting to hear responses from the Ph.D. programs to which I've applied. In many ways, the classes that I took in the philosophy and religion department prepared me for graduate study in an English program with a focus now in literary studies on literary theory. While I certainly learned a lot from my professors in the English department, in some ways, I feel that my minor in philosophy has been more beneficial. The two professors I remember most vividly from the P&R department are Dr. Patricia Turrisi and Dr. James McGowan. Both challenged me in their classes and taught me things that still help me in my graduate studies today. While Dr. Turrisi probably had the greatest impact on me at UNCW, Dr. McGowan told me, on graduation day in 1994 in front of my mother, not to waste my time on computers but to go on to graduate school. I have never forgotten his advice.