

DOUGLAS HUSAK

EDITORIAL: CONTINUITY THROUGH CHANGE

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This issue is the first to reflect some profound changes in *Law and Philosophy*. First, the leadership of our editorial staff has changed substantially. Professors Michael Moore and Heidi Hurd of the University of Illinois are leaving the journal after several years of outstanding work. They enhanced the reputation of the journal and their guidance and influence will be deeply missed. I had the good fortune to serve with them as co-editor-in-chief for the past year, and now will assume full responsibility for the operation of the journal. Despite these changes, I would be disappointed if our readers and subscribers notice a difference in the content or quality of the articles we publish. Our aspiration is to maintain continuity rather than to make a significant departure from the existing direction of the journal.

Although I have the title of sole editor-in-chief, I plan and expect to share the editorial duties equally with Professors Kimberly Kessler Ferzan and John Oberdiek of the Rutgers Camden Law School. No sane person would undertake to edit this journal by himself. Both Ferzan and Oberdiek have already played a central role in ensuring that the journal continues to function smoothly throughout this period of transition.

We have taken the opportunity afforded by the change in leadership to reshape the composition of the editorial board. We welcome several new members: Vera Bergelson; Mitch Berman; Damiano Canale; Joseph Chan; Julie Dickson; R.A. Duff; David Enoch; Aileen Kavanagh; Paul Litton; Sophia Moreau; Yasutomo Morigiwa; Dennis Patterson; Stephen Perry; Michael Pratt; Paul Roberts; C.L. Ten; Kevin Toh; Kit Wellman; Gideon Yaffe; and Ben Zipursky. We also

welcome Wil Waluchow, who will replace Maimon Schwarzschild and Alan Wertheimer as our book review editor. These new members bring scholarship and energy to our Editorial Board. We anticipate that they will do the bulk of our reviewing. Every journal struggles to ensure that submissions are refereed in a timely manner, and we hope that the addition of these new legal philosophers to our masthead will help to recognize a service to the profession that typically receives too little credit.

The new generation of legal philosophers on our board reflects the fact that our readers and subscribers are increasingly international in scope. I was surprised to learn that approximately half of our article downloads occur in Asia and only 11% take place in North America. It is clear that interest in the issues we examine extends beyond national boundaries.

We have also asked a number of prominent philosophers of law from the United States to relinquish their positions on the board. Hugo Bedau; George Fletcher; Kent Greenawalt; David Lyons; Philip Montague; Thomas Morawetz; and Herbert Morris have made remarkable contributions to our discipline. It is difficult to find a single article in philosophy of law that does not acknowledge the influence of at least one of these distinguished scholars. The majority of them have served on our board since its inception, and their reputations in legal philosophy are secure. We intend to recognize the time and effort of a new generation of scholars who will follow in their footsteps. We also note the passing of two distinguished board members: Susan Hurley of the University of Bristol and Ota Weinberger of the University of Graz. Each made seminal contributions to the discipline that stand as impressive professional legacies, and both were committed members of this journal's board. They will be missed.

The transition to Electronic Manager (EM) is another major innovation at *Law and Philosophy*. As the "notes for contributors" information indicates, submissions will now be made and processed online. When the journal had a physical existence at the University of Illinois, submissions were handled capably by Amy Fitzgerald and (more recently) assisted by

Susan Carrell. The journal would have descended into chaos long ago without their organizational skill and sense of professionalism. They will continue to oversee the review process for articles submitted before the move to EM is finalized.

Insofar as EM has a location, our new home will be Rutgers University in New Jersey. Rutgers should prove to be a hospitable location for the journal, as it has long been a leading institution in fostering scholarship in legal philosophy. The Institute for Law and Philosophy initiated by Dennis Patterson and Kim Ferzan at Camden Law School and quickly extended to the Department of Philosophy at New Brunswick is one of a handful of Institutes created specifically to further research at the intersection of these two academic specialties.

It seems fitting that these several improvements should be marked by a new cover for the journal. My own judgment in such matters is not to be trusted, but several others with more refined taste have persuaded me that the original blue and white cover is dated and needs to be replaced. We have elected not to introduce a new cover in the middle of a volume, but we anticipate that *Law and Philosophy* will have a different appearance beginning with the first issue of Volume 30.

Law and Philosophy is the oldest and (we believe) the finest journal to publish articles solely in the philosophy of law. Many competitors have appeared since the inception of the journal in 1982, but *Law and Philosophy* continues to set the standard by which other journals are measured. Even though *Law and Philosophy* enjoys an outstanding reputation, we welcome recommendations from our readers about how we might improve it. We are proud of the history and quality of the journal and will make every effort to ensure that it continues to serve the community of legal philosophers.

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