

Alumni Newsletter



Volume 7

Spring, 2003

Mind Project Receives A Half Million Dollar NSF Grant

David Anderson and the Mind Project (www.mind.ilstu.edu) were awarded half a million dollars to develop web-based curriculum materials to introduce college students to the scientific study of the mind and brain. The Mind Project is a web-based learning community supporting education and research in the study of the mind and brain. The project brings together students and faculty members from a wide array of disciplines to learn about the mind—both human (biological) and non-human (computer based). Some participants focus exclusively on the “science” of the mind while others go beyond science to explore the implications of cognitive science research for other areas of human life. These implications include the humanities and social sciences, industry and public life, philosophy and religion, technology and medicine.



***David Anderson,
Director of the Mind Project***

Participants are also working to develop a robot that will work as an educational tool for the study of the mind. That robot, Iris.3 (yes, named after our very own Iris) will be able to be taken into a classroom and raise even more questions about the human mind and how it works. Iris.3 has the potential to develop into a learning tool that will serve thousands of students.

The Mind Project’s grant continues until July 2005. In the meantime, students and faculty are working diligently not only on individual projects and Iris.3, but also on an extensive online curriculum.

The project is developing interactive instructional modules that give students (of all ages and backgrounds) an introduction to many central topics in what is often called the cognitive and learning sciences. In addition, students are encouraged to reflect on some of the social and ethical implications of this research that is beginning to have such a dramatic impact on our lives. There are some sample modules in the curriculum section of The Mind Project website, but many more will be added during the next three years.

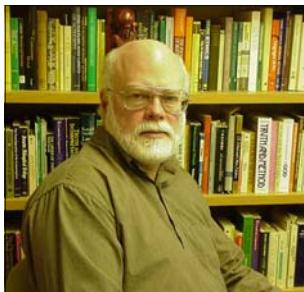
Inside

Daniel Sprouse, Alumni Day Guest

Kenton Machina, Receives NSF Grant

Adam Corelli, major, receives University Future Alumni Award

.... And Much More



News from Normal

Department faculty have had a most productive year. Atop the department's news of the last year stand two major grants and two more distinguished professorships.

Professor David Anderson has landed a half million dollar, three year grant from the National Science Foundation to continue with the Mind Project. David is the principal investigator and coordinates faculty spread among a half dozen ISU departments and a half dozen other colleges to development a complete, on-line undergraduate cognitive science curriculum. This program is fast putting ISU and the Philosophy Department on the international Cognitive Science map.

Andes Endowed Professor in General Education Kenton Machina likewise is co-principal investigator on a new \$285,000, three year NSF grant aimed at changing attitudes of college freshmen toward female participation in science, math, engineering and technology. The plan is to increase interest in science, math and technology among women through summer programs to introduce new students to the opportunities these fields represent to young women.

Professor Thomas Simon this academic year holds the Schultze Distinguished Professor Chair of Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Northern Colorado. While there he has organized public debates on pressing issues in religion and politics and reached a broad, interdisciplinary audience. Thomas gave the College of Arts and Sciences Lecture in the fall and was named the Outstanding College of Arts and Sciences Researcher in the Humanities for 2002. His new book, *Justice and Genocide*, is due to appear shortly.

Professor Mark Siderits has been awarded a Leverhulme Trust grant and Professorship to teach and develop England's first graduate program in South Asian Philosophy at the University of Liverpool. He will also teach Buddhist philosophy at the University of Lausanne in Switzerland next spring. He is the author of the new book *Empty Persons*.

Professor Michael Gorr's paper "The Morality of Plea Bargaining," was recently nominated by the editors of *Social Theory and Practice* for the American Philosophical Association Berger Prize for the best essay in philosophy of law.

Professor Alison Bailey's co-edited anthology *Community, Diversity and Difference* appeared in 2002. Alison's work is mainly in the philosophy of race and gender, and she has recently turned to the ethics of agribusiness as well.

Professor Chris Horvath has recently won the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Service Award. Chris is one of two departmental academic advisors and has served on a variety of important department, college, and university committees as well as with the American Philosophical Association.

The university's capital campaign – Redefining Normal – proceeds apace even amid budgetary woes in Springfield. We have now raised more than \$60,000,000 towards a goal of \$88,000,000. The state provides only 30% of ISU's budget, so that it is vital that alumni support the university materially. Faculty in the Philosophy Department have exceeded the average university giving rate. But we depend on you for your support.

Projects with high immediate priority include the department's first ever student scholarship. The department has determined that, instead of holding an annual essay contest for area high school students, we will provide a scholarship for one of our current students. The university is doing a great job attracting ever more promising students, and we think our resources are better spent helping students complete their degrees in a timely manner. ISU philosophy students need your help, so contribute if you can.

We are also particularly interested in enhancing the junior/senior experience for our philosophy majors. Part of this involves travel to conferences to present the results of their research. This, too, is an area with costs attached beyond the means of most of our students and for which university resources are very limited. So, please consider a gift to the department to support instructional student travel.

I hope you have a great year and encourage you to stay in touch with your former teachers and come visit the department anytime you are in the neighborhood. Our doors are always open.

Best wishes,

Jim Swindler,
Chairman



Daniel Sprouse (1975) Alumni Day Guest

The Department enjoyed very much the visit of Daniel Sprouse as our Alumni Day Guest during Homecoming weekend. Daniel spent the day Friday and Saturday morning on campus. He enjoyed seeing the changes on campus and visiting with old friends who happened to be here that weekend also. On Friday afternoon he gave a colloquium presentation, "Reflections of a Country Lawyer on the Study of Philosophy" in which he credited his philosophy studies at ISU with teaching him how to think critically. Daniel graduated in 1975 with a BS in Philosophy. He received his JD from Oklahoma City University in 1979. For the past twenty two years, he has been a practicing attorney in general civil law in Pauls Valley, OK. Daniel has been very active in the Oklahoma Bar Association and is currently Vice President.

**WANTED!!
YOUR BUSINESS CARD**



We attend Open Houses each Fall and Spring semester, as well as a couple in the summer. The attendees are juniors and seniors in high school. They, and their parents, always ask, "But what CAN you DO with a Philosophy Major?" To help us demonstrate "What a Philosophy Major Can Do", we would like to make a display of business cards to show what our alums are doing. Would you please send us one of your business cards, along with a short description of what you do and how you use your background in philosophy.

Thank you! We appreciate your time!

News From Alums

Shawn McConnell (1989)

Greetings from 85th Division Headquarters in Arlington Heights, Illinois!

I have recently been reminded of the value of *Philosophical Conversations*. A family member had looked my name up on the internet a couple of weeks ago. He found two things: a benign news article from the 1980's covering when I was involved in a martial arts expo (which was totally inaccurate), and secondly he found a paper I wrote to Dr. Machina—completely devised of my own mind. What a dichotomy to behold!

I sincerely appreciate the association's success at keeping the fires burning. Allowing alumni such as myself to participate, even in a small way, makes a big difference to me. This is because it reminds me of the days when my mind was being challenged to the utmost, without all the interference that years outside of school brings to bear.

When I was a young student, I wondered what I might think later - if I had changed my mind. It turns out, I see that like other people, I only get more set in my thought processes and opinions. Looking back, I am amazed at how the professors kept open minds as they grew older.

As for my own situation: Before 9-11, I was flying regional jets for United Express out of Chicago. In October 2001, I was put on active duty for two years. I used to fly helicopters in the Illinois Army National Guard. I am in the (Federal) Army Reserves now, working in a Division Headquarters in Arlington Heights, Illinois. The staff officer job is fairly cushy compared to the years I spent in the infantry, and I do miss flying as well. I have earned a break (I guess) for over 19 years of service. Besides, the Army will not send too many Majors to fly; that is what we have Warrant Officers for. They mostly only fly, never burdened with command positions or staff jobs! (My brother is one of these). Even most of the furloughed pilots who are also Army Aviators are working staff jobs as well, mainly down at XVIII Airborne Corps HQ (Fort Bragg, NC). So, I work in Chicago land during the week, and drive home to Bloomington on some of the weekends. I travel occasionally, making me miss the airline life. My wife misses the free flying as well.

As a Training Support Division staff officer, I work on mobilization plans and orders for Army National Guard and Army Reserve units. Basically, I write plans, and coordinate mobilizations for units from eight states: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Our Subordinate units support unit (collective) training and evaluations at Fort McCoy Wisconsin; Camp Atterbury, Indiana; and Fort's Knox and Campbell in Kentucky. Also, our unit manages reserve forces support to the Border Mission in Minnesota and Michigan. Finally, we also have some supervisory role in providing management of federal military support to civil authorities (i.e. FEMA, FBI) in the case of a federal disaster.

In short, I support thousands of reserve soldiers and hundreds of units as they go on Active Duty for deployment to local security areas, to Bosnia, Kosovo, Europe, and Kuwait.

We in the Army sincerely appreciate the support of our citizens, and the deliberate dialogue that leads up to the unified command decisions. We do what you ask, within the law. It is important that Philosophers get to make an impact before we in the military are issued tasks. Leaders making a wrong decision can cause us to accomplish a desired outcome, but for the wrong reasons. We in the military rightfully bear the risks and losses for these. Making a flawed decision, however, can cost more than anyone intended, but we in the military still pay bitterly for these regardless.

Philosophers are uniquely adept at influencing our leaders. I know because they have responded positively to my letters. Please do your part and help our national leadership make careful decisions. Send Senators and Congressmen/Women from all states logical arguments on complex subjects. It helps them sort the politics and special interests from the raw logic. Do your part!

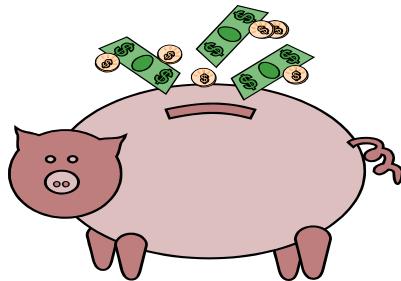
Joe Montana (1998)

As I look at the faculty and staff listing, I see some changes since I last attended. It appears Stephen Rosenbaum is no longer at ISU – a real loss in my opinion. It is good to see Professor Horvath is still there. His Scientific Explanation class is the only course in which I received less than an "A" grade, and that motivated me to further study this subject. I still keep that course's book with me at work, and much of my time doing philosophy revolves around scientific issues. I have now progressed well beyond that course's content, and have read and written some very interesting material. Most recently, I've been researching such subjects as quantum gravity and multiple worlds, as well as maximum velocity and time travel. Along that same scientific path, I regret not getting involved in the Mind Project after attending Dr. Anderson's Epistemology course. The grant he received is very exciting news, and I wish the project all the success it deserves. I believe Bertrand Russell said "Science is what you know; philosophy is what you don't know." Aside from studying the philosophy of science, I have been reading a lot about what I don't know. I found that many of Wittgenstein's writings on language align closely with my own views. On the lighter side of things, I enjoy relating philosophical thought to "the laymen's world." Examining the philosophical themes behind books, movies, and "The Simpsons" (the best darn show on TV) has been absolutely fun. I even find application of philosophical thought while at work.

I have been working as an Operations Analyst with Premier, Inc. We are a Group Purchasing Organization for hospitals, physician offices, and various alternate site healthcare facilities. Our core business is aggregating the purchasing volume of our members to negotiate lower costs from vendors. This is a first-class company, with a business environment, staff, and compensation offering that is the best I have ever seen. Having previously worked for SBC (fka Ameritech) in Operations / Project Management, I truly value my position with Premier. I find myself among other professional and mentally sharp people who force me to challenge myself. It's a perfect situation for me – I'm really happy here. It is the first time I have been among peers since my last semester at ISU. I am involved in every step of information management, from designing systems to distributing reports. My day is typically spent constructing advanced databases and hyper-detailed reports based on the purchases of our members. In my free time (ha!), I construct resolutions to data problems and reporting errors – errors that I typically am the one to uncover. Other than that, I'm in meetings discussing these things. On the surface, it sounds like a boring reporting job, but there is so much more that really makes it a perfect fit for me. When it comes down to it, healthcare products are just the "widgets" – the analysis and problem solving is where I do my work. I have no formal IT training, but the same thinking I used in the philosophy major helps me design complex relational databases and financial reports. Although this position at a healthcare company may seem out of character for such a die-hard philosophy student, I think the Career Information listed on the department's website is spot-on. I could literally retype every skill listed there and explain how I use each one every day.

On a more personal note, my long-time girlfriend and I married back in April of 2001. We just recently moved into a nice house in suburban Westmont, IL. It's a quick (but not so easy) 20 minute drive to my office in Oak Brook each day. I have grown to love the western suburbs, away from downtown Chicago but not in the middle of farmland and not among hundreds of cookie-cutter homes in a new subdivision. Outside of my philosophical studies, I have embraced my love of the automobile. We now own four cars, my favorite being a 1970 Dodge Charger that I originally saw when I was shopping for my first car at the age of sixteen. It was never for sale – that is, not until just after my graduation from ISU. It was my graduation gift to myself! That car has really opened up my enjoyment of all things automotive, from researching to collecting to competitive racing of various sorts.

Thanks!!!



Dr. David Anderson
Marcus Anderson
Erik and Lisa Brihagen
Alliant Techsystems—matching Brihagen gift
Martha Burk
Robert & Catherine Carmody
John & Valerie Carroll
State Farm Companies Foundation—matching
 Carroll gift
Bradley Cohen
Douglas Crossman
Kenneth Dooley
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Durkin
Harris Bank Foundation—matching Durkin gift
James and Rita Farina
Stephen French
Sheri and Morton Glarborg-Jorgensen
David Goehrke
C N A Foundation—matching Goehrke gift
Dr. Michael Gorr
David Goulding
Dr. Julie Gowen
John Greuling
Dr. Nancy A. Slonneger Hancock
Libby Hatchel
John Jansa
Dr. Kenneth and Marilyn Kennard

Dr. Kenton Machina
David MacTaggart
Michael Matejka
George Michalopoulos
David and Tricia Monier
Joe and Aubrey Montana
Darlene and Roger Raudabaugh
William Roach
Patricia Robillard
Ronald Rohlfing
Deluxe Corporation Foundation—
 matching Rohlfing gift
Solomon Rutzky
June Salstrom
Kelly Sanders
David Shimanovsky
Dr. David and Norma Schmidt
James and Cindy Shively
John Stanis
Philip Stebbings
David Suryk
Dr. Jim and Laurie Swindler
Valeria Taylor
Gregory Taylor
Beth Tindall
Brandon Trueblood
Becky Williams

This year's fiscal situation seems to be the same song, second verse. The department has been asked once again to return a portion of its current budget. Unfortunately this is becoming standard operating procedure. In addition, next year's budget doesn't look much brighter. As state support for the university declines, private support becomes ever more important. There are many areas in the department to which you may contribute. Your contributions to the Kenneth and Marilyn Kennard Philosophy Fund have been much appreciated by students. Our request for help in furnishing the Mind-Project Lab received many generous contributions and we now have a freshly painted lab, new carpet, new chairs and work stations. Your donations to the general department fund have helped us to send students to the Undergraduate Conference in Memphis, reward outstanding scholarship among the students, and provide other project support. We certainly understand that everyone is in the belt tightening process both at work and at home and we appreciate your many contributions. Your help and support allow us to provide those "extras" to the students that substantially enrich their education.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT INFORMATION FORM**

Name _____ Current Position _____

Address _____ Employer _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Year Graduated _____

News you'd like to share _____

You may also reach us via e-mail: philosophy@ilstu.edu or fax (309) 438-8028

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY CONTRIBUTION

YES! I/WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTMENT IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Kenneth and Marilyn Kennard Philosophy Fund \$ _____

Mind Project Lab Fund \$ _____

General Department Fund \$ _____

Total Contribution \$ _____ **THANK YOU!!**

Please make checks payable to: The Department of Philosophy

Mail to: The Department of Philosophy

Campus Box 4540

Illinois State University

Normal, IL 61790-4540

Student News

Adam Corelli

University Future Alumni Leader Award 2002



Adam Corelli was nominated by our department as a candidate for the University Future Alumni Leader Award and selected as the fourth recipient of the University Future Alumni Leader Award. The Future Alumni Leader Award for students was established in 1998. It gives each academic department and school the opportunity to recognize one student for outstanding service to the University. The selection committee is made up of members of the Illinois State University Alumni Association Board and representatives from the campus community and student population. The criteria for selection is based on the student's significant potential as an alumni leader, outstanding volunteer services and contributions to Illinois State and/or the community, and leadership and initiative shown through their academic department.

As you scroll through Adam's list of accomplishments you will surely recognize a Future Leader. Adam was a transfer student and during a short time he was Association of Resident Halls Liaison and Facilities Committee Coordinator South Campus; National Communications coordinator for the Association of Residence Halls; Ex-Officio Executive Board Member for the Illinois Residence Hall

Association; Illinois Representative on the Regional Board of Directors of Great Lakes Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls; ISU's Make-a-Wish Foundation Charity Ball planning committee; ISU Philosophical Society secretary; 1st Advocates for Individuals with Disabilities (1stAID) Co-Founder; Students with Disabilities Awareness Rally Organizer; Student Government Association on campus legislator and Chair of Personnel and Membership Committee; College of Arts and Sciences Representative to the Academic Senate Planning and Finance Committee; Campus Master Plan committee member; and co-organizer for the United in Peace Campus Rally following 9/11.

Adam is now in Canada at the University of Windsor as a study abroad student. Of course he wasted no time in getting involved there as he is Residence Program Coordinator, Residence Life Department; Advisor for the Residence Judicial Board and Windsor Residence Life Conference Roundtable Facilitator.

While this list of some of his accomplishments is impressive—to say the least—first and foremost Adam is just a wonderful person. We all have missed his smile, enthusiasm, and genuine compassion. He will return to the States in March and is looking to Graduate School next year. We are very proud of Adam—Way to go!!

Paper Presentations

Natasha Jankowski
Pacific University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference
Pacific University, Oregon

Natasha Jankowski had her paper "Racism as a Terrorist Institution" accepted for presentation at the Pacific University Undergraduate Conference. Natasha will be attending the conference and presenting her paper on April 5th and 6th in Oregon. However, quoting Natasha, "the coolest part about it is that John Searle is the guest speaker". Congratulations, Natasha!!

John Sahs
Annual Midsouth Undergraduate Philosophy Conference
University of Memphis

John Sahs' paper, "Kripkean Consequences for Possible Worlds", was accepted for the Annual Midsouth Undergraduate Conference at the University of Memphis. John presented his paper at the conference in Memphis on February 22. Congratulations, John!!

Both of these bright students will be heading for graduate school in the fall. We wish them the best!

An Update The Mind Project

David Anderson, Director



This has been a very productive year for The Mind Project. We are now well into the first year of a three year grant to develop online curriculum materials to introduce undergraduates to cognitive science. The curriculum is built around online research experiences. Rather than merely telling students what scientists have learned about the mind and brain in a static textbook, we are giving students hands-on experiences using a wide range of research methods. Students will not only learn a good deal about the mind/brain, but they will (hopefully) experience some of the excitement of *being a scientist*. And with philosophers writing many of the research modules, we also hope to instill in them the critical skills of a good *philosopher!* Not only will they be asked to carefully analyze the sometimes incompatible claims of research performed using very different research methodologies, but they will also be asked to reflect on the moral and social issues that are raised by newly emerging technologies in areas like medicine, AI and robotics.

To give a few examples of modules that are in production, students will gain hands-on experience as they engage in the following online research experiences:

1. *Virtual Anthropological Field Study.* Students will become anthropologists, studying “cultural linguistics,” and gathering data on how an unfamiliar culture, speaking an unknown language, uses *color terms*. They will learn about the physics of color optics, the proper methods for gathering linguistics data, and the various theories that have been advanced over the past 100 years as researchers seek to understand how different cultures develop the concepts that they use to “cut up” the world into its basic color categories.
2. *Memory Experiments.* Sometimes we think that we remember seeing things that we haven’t in fact seen. Why does that happen? And what does it teach us about the nature of human memory? Students will become subjects in online experiments where they will see the effects of “false memory.” They will then study various theories about the neurophysiological characteristics that account for such phenomenon and that help us understand successful memory as well.
3. *Virtual Rat Lab.* There are some exciting experiments on rats going on in the ISU biology department which have produced breakthrough results that have changed commonly held theories about how certain neurotransmitters (the chemicals that send messages in the brain) actually work. Students will become scientists in a virtual lab where they will learn many of the procedures that graduate student researchers learn as workers in these labs.
4. *Computational Models of the Mind.* Much current debate about the nature of the human mind has focused on whether the mind functions more like a digital computer or a connectionist computer. While we will continue to teach students about these two computational models of the mind, we will also add a module on “dynamical systems.” If the mind/brain is a dynamical system, there remains controversy as to whether it can still be understood as a kind of computer (just a different kind of computer) or whether the computer metaphor needs to be abandoned altogether.
5. *Virtual EEG Lab.* Electroencephalography (EEG) is a method for measuring the activity of neurons in the brain. Neurons generate electromagnetic fields when they are active, and if a large number of neurons are simultaneously active they can generate fields that are detectable on the surface of the scalp. Students will become scientists, gathering real data from “virtual” persons in our online EEG lab.

This is just a small sample of the modules that are currently in development. We hope to have most of them completed in 12-18 months. We will then pilot them in the classroom, improve them where we are able, and finally, make them available for use in the classroom. We will “package” the modules for different purposes. Some will be used for introductory courses in philosophy, biology, computer science, psychology, linguistics, anthropology, etc. Others will have more advanced elements and will be targeted for advanced undergraduate courses.



Faculty Travels

Mark Siderits

Mark Siderits has recently returned after some fairly extensive travel. In November he visited Seoul, South Korea, and Liverpool, England. And in December he was in Bangkok, Calcutta and Benares.

His visit to Seoul was at the invitation of the Korean Society of Indian Philosophy, whose 15th annual conference was held on November 18-19. His contribution to the conference was 'Moral Foundations for an Urban Age: Santarakshita's Argument for Altruism'.

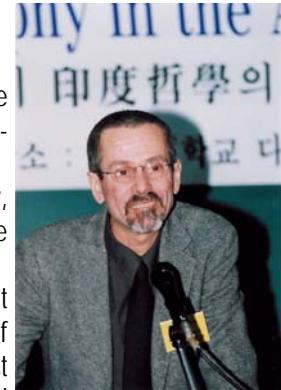
Just a week after returning to ISU from Seoul, he departed for England, where he spent Thanksgiving break meeting with members of the Philosophy Department and administrators of the University of Liverpool. The Department has recently won a prestigious Leverhulme Trust grant for establishing a graduate program in Indian and Buddhist philosophy at Liverpool, and Siderits has been awarded a Professorship to help in its development. His responsibilities include teaching a graduate course for each of the Fall semesters of 2003 and 2004, delivering a series of public lectures, and doing liaison work with other universities around the UK. (He has also been asked to conduct a seminar on Buddhist philosophy at the University of Lausanne in April-June 2004.)

Siderits returned from Europe at the end of Thanksgiving break, but then he was off again on December 7, this time for Bangkok and the XIIIth conference of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, which was held at Chulalongkorn University on December 8-13. (Since this was Finals Week, his students were all able to successfully submit their final papers electronically; Siderits' experience of Bangkok night-life was limited to occasionally looking out his hotel window after grading one more paper.) His contribution, part of the conference's panel on Buddhist logic, was a paper entitled 'Overcoming *Svabhava*-phobia'.

On December 14 he flew to Calcutta, where he was the guest of Jadavpur University. There he presented two papers on topics in Buddhist logic and epistemology. He also visited Benares in order to attend the T.R.V. Murti Centenary Conference held on December 18-21. His contribution to that conference was a paper entitled 'Murti on *Madhyamaka*'.

Siderits then spent two weeks traveling in South India and visiting with friends. He returned to Central Illinois on January 12.

It goes without saying that we will all miss Mark for the next two years.....

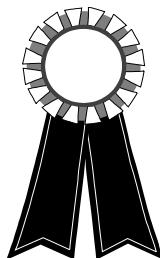


Thomas Simon Kosovo: Teaching Among the Ruins

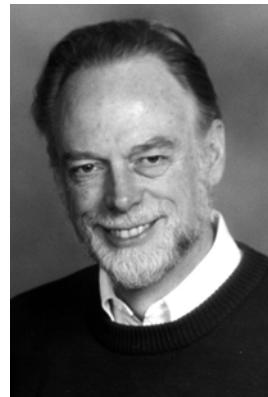
Thomas Simon taught minority rights in Kosovo this past summer. For one hundred days, the United States bombed Kosovo, a province next to Yugoslavia (Serbia). As a Fulbright scholar in nearby Slovenia, Thomas heard the bombers fly overhead each night. His law and philosophy classes at the University of Ljubljana had students from both sides of the conflict. When he returned to Illinois State University, few people even talked about Kosovo.

This past August, Thomas, who is also an attorney, returned to Kosovo as part of an effort to rebuild the devastated land where over 800,000 fled from their homes. A Dutch Non Governmental Organization (NGO), the Academic Training Association, recruited faculty from all over the world to teach over the summer. Along with a translator, an outside expert and a local instructor co-taught each of the thirty courses. This experience began collaboration within each team. Each course was required to have a mix of students. Albanian Kosovars, who lived under Serbian apartheid for a decade, made up the bulk of each class. The organizers made every attempt to enroll Serbian students. The minority Serbs formerly ruled over the Albanians, who made up about 90% of the population. Now, the Serbs face enormous problems. Students from Europe and the United States also attended the classes.

Faculty Awards and Honors



Kenton Machina Receives NSF Grant



Kenton Machina and Anu Gokhale (ISU, Department of Technology) were successful in obtaining a \$248,000 grant from the National Science foundation to support a project in improving general education. Their project is to help level the playing field between the genders regarding math, science, and technology in gen ed, a worthy goal indeed and one that will enhance our general education program over the long term.



Thomas Simon Schulze Chair of Interdisciplinary Studies for 2002-2003 University of Northern Colorado

Thomas Simon is at the University of Northern Colorado this year as a visiting professor and the Robert O. Schulze Chair of Interdisciplinary Studies. Schulze, the late dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UNC, actively promoted teaching and scholarship that crossed traditional disciplinary boundaries. He encouraged faculty to integrate teaching, scholarship and community service. These are the very qualities that would be used to describe Thomas' teaching style. It is this style and passion for teaching that has earned him teaching awards at several universities and appealed to the UNC search committee seeking a scholar worthy of the Schulze Chair. While we all miss Thomas this year, we are very proud of this latest accomplishment.

Alumni Newsletter
Department of Philosophy
Illinois State University
Campus Box 4540
Normal, IL 61790-4540

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY

In This Issue...

Mind Project Receives Half Million Dollar NSF Grant!