

# Announcements/Chroniques

## Canadian Bioethics Society / Société canadienne de bioéthique

The Third Annual Meeting of the Canadian Bioethics Society will be held November 22-23 at the Sheraton Centre, Hamilton, Ontario. The theme this year is "Quality of Life and Clinical Decision-Making," and peer-reviewed papers on this topic will be offered in plenary and concurrent workshops. For information, please contact Dr. John M. Phin, Planning Co-Chair, Hamilton Civic Hospitals, 237 Barton Street East, Hamilton, ON L8L 2X2 (Telephone: [416] 527-0271, ext. 6286; Fax: [416]546-1861).

## Douglas Joel Butler

The friends and colleagues of Douglas Butler announce with sadness his death, at age 33, following a short illness. He was originally expected to recover, and, indeed, was working on philosophy in the hospital right up until the final, very sudden crisis.

Douglas received his B.A. from Trinity College in Toronto, his M.A. from the University of Toronto and his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He had given many conference papers, published on the moral realism issue in *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, written several book notes for *Ethics* and published a philosophical study of character traits in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. The philosophical analysis of traits of character was his main research interest, along with non-cognitivist versions of moral realism.

Douglas was a person of extraordinarily good character. He was the most affable, loyal, trustworthy and attentive of friends, the most committed and helpful of colleagues and was a careful, thoughtful, articulate philosopher and teacher.

He had just resigned a tenure-track position at the University of Dayton in hopes of finding permanent work in Canada. He had also taught at North Carolina State University, Dalhousie University, and was to have taken up a second one-year sessional position at the University of Toronto in the fall of 1991.

To commemorate his death, the Department of Philosophy at Dalhousie University (of which he was a great friend, and where he taught and wrote for several summers) is setting up a Memorial Fund which will be used to award a prize for academic achievement at the graduate level. Donations in any amount are welcome. Cheques should be made payable to "Dalhousie University, Douglas Butler Memorial Fund," and sent to Douglas Butler Memorial Fund, c/o Development Office, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 3J5 (Telephone: [902] 494-3812).

**Conference on Cognition and Representation: Announcement and Call for Papers**

There will be a conference on Cognition and Representation, held on April 3-5, 1992, in the Center for Tomorrow, the conference centre on the Amherst campus of the State University of New York at Buffalo. The conference is jointly sponsored by the Center for Cognitive Science and the Departments of Philosophy, Computer Science, Psychology and Linguistics. The following speakers have been invited to make presentations: Charles Fillmore (Linguistics, University of California), Jerry Fodor (Philosophy, Rutgers and Graduate School, CUNY), Whitman Richards (Brain and Cognitive Science, MIT), Paul Smolensky (Computer Science, University of Colorado) and Bonnie Webber (Computer Science, University of Pennsylvania).

The general goal of the conference is conceptual: to develop an adequate conception of representation, in order that the role of representing in cognition can be clearly characterized, that different research projects involving representation can be ‘‘located’’ with respect to one another, and that appropriate topics for interdisciplinary research can be identified.

The conference will have three more specific foci: (1) Types of representing: iconic, symbolic, network and possibly others; (2) Representation and cognition, having two subfoci: (a) language, (b) perception and knowledge; (3) Knowledge representation, also having two subfoci: (a) natural language understanding, which is studied in (at least) artificial intelligence, logic and linguistics, (b) perception, which brings together artificial intelligence, philosophy and linguistics.

There is a registration fee of \$24 for the conference; there is a separate fee of \$14 for dinner on Friday. To register, please send a (non-refundable) cheque made out to ‘‘SUNY Research Foundation, Buffalo Representation Conference’’ to The Center for Cognitive Science, 651 Baldy Hall, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260, USA. Early registrants will receive an updated schedule and other information.