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Introduction

Having now completed seven years as director of the University Center for Human Values, I am working to resist the temptation to take various things for granted. Candidates would include the terrific undergraduate and graduate students and faculty colleagues, and the incredible range of discussions and presentations that take place every week during term time. Then there is also the feeling of intellectual renewal that energizes us each fall when we welcome new groups of visitors to Princeton. The Laurance S. Rockefeller visiting fellows’ end-of-year reports— which can be found below— furnish a nice reminder of how much we have to be thankful for.

This past year’s highlights included Susan Wolf’s excellent Tanner Lectures on “Meaning in Life”; a celebration of the work of our colleague Philip Pettit; a conference on constitutional democracy that brought together scholars working on constitutional theory, history, and institutions; a workshop on Hobbes organized by one of our visiting faculty fellows; another workshop on the idea of the people in political theory past and present; and a forum on the ethical status of embryonic human life that featured intense but respectful engagement among scholars with deeply divergent moral views. In addition there were dozens of visiting scholars and Princeton scholars presenting and discussing their ideas. The center’s programs continue to range from formal University lectures to informal discussions on an astonishing array of values questions.
The University Center continues to seek out ways to fully deploy our resources on behalf of Princeton's mission of teaching and research. This past year marks our first as a full partner with the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the University in sponsoring and funding the Program in Law and Public Affairs. That program thrives under the leadership of LAPA director Kim Lane Scheppele, who is also a faculty colleague at the University Center.

We have increased our support for the Human Values Film Forum, which extends the work of the Undergraduate Values Forum, generously funded by Bert Kerstetter ’66. The forum, led by Dr. Erika Kiss, who has recently been appointed an associate research scholar at the center, brings together undergraduates and faculty to discuss values-related themes in films.

We are delighted that Peter Brooks, currently the Sterling Professor of Comparative Literature at Yale University, will move to Princeton, in September 2008, with a joint faculty appointment in the Department of Comparative Literature and the University Center. Brooks is the recent recipient of a prestigious Mellon Faculty Fellowship which will allow him to organize programs at Princeton concerned with law and the humanities.

In addition, Alan Ryan, currently the Warden of New College, Oxford University, and former professor of Politics at Princeton, will return to Princeton for at least three years beginning in September 2009.

Our colleague Dr. Victoria McGeer, whose teaching and research make her an integral part of life at the center, was this past year promoted to research scholar with continuing appointment. We were also joined this past year by Professor Elizabeth Harman, whose research and teaching include bioethics, in a joint faculty position with the Department of Philosophy.

Center faculty continue to garner a wide range of well-deserved honors. It is astonishing and exciting — and sometimes a little daunting — to work with such accomplished colleagues. I cannot help but noting that, as we go to press, Peter Singer and Anthony Appiah have appeared on the Foreign Policy/Prospect Magazine poll of the world's top 100 public intellectuals: Peter beat out Pope Benedict XVI by three places, and Anthony was just two places behind Lee Kuan Yew. Just wait until next year!

Once again, on behalf of my colleagues and the many students and faculty who benefit from center programs and resources, I would like to express my thanks to all those who have given us the opportunity to do the sorts of work that is described in what follows.

Sincerely,

Stephen Macedo
Faculty,
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching,
& Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellow in Bioethics
Kwame Anthony Appiah, the Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Philosophy and the University Center for Human Values, has published widely in philosophy and in African and African American literary and cultural studies. In 1992, Oxford University Press published In My Father's House, which deals, in part, with the role of African and African American intellectuals in shaping contemporary African cultural life. His major current work has to do with the relationships between philosophical ethics and other disciplines. In 1996, he published Color Conscious: The Political Morality of Race with Amy Gutmann; in 1997, the Dictionary of Global Culture, coedited with Henry Louis Gates Jr. Along with Gates, he has also edited the Encarta Africana CD-ROM encyclopedia, published by Microsoft, which developed into Oxford University Press’s five-volume Africana encyclopedia in book form. In 2003, he coauthored Bu Me Be: Proverbs of the Akan (of which his mother is the major author), an annotated edition of 7,500 proverbs in Twi, the language of Asante. He is also the author of three novels, of which the first, Avenging Angel, was largely set at Clare College, Cambridge, where he received his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees. In 2004, Oxford University Press published his introduction to contemporary philosophy, Thinking It Through; in January 2005, Princeton University Press published The Ethics of Identity; and Norton published Cosmopolitanism: Ethics in a World of Strangers in 2006. This year, Harvard University Press published his Experiments in Ethics.


Elizabeth Harman is an assistant professor of philosophy and the University Center for Human Values. She works in ethics and metaphysics. Her paper “Creation Ethics: The Moral Status of Early Fetuses and the Ethics of Abortion” appeared in Philosophy and Public Affairs; “The Potentiality Problem” appeared in Philosophical Studies; “How is the Ethics of Stem Cell Research Different from the Ethics of Abortion?” appeared in Metaphilosophy; and “Discussion of Nomy Arpaly’s Unprincipled Virtue” is forthcoming in Philosophical Studies.

Nannerl Keohane, the former president of Duke University and Wellesley College, is the Laurance S. Rockefeller Distinguished Visiting Professor of Public Affairs and the University Center for Human Values. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, and a fellow of Harvard College. Keohane specializes in political philosophy and is the author of Philosophy and the State in France: The Renaissance to the Enlightenment and coeditor of Feminist Theory: A Critique of Ideology. Her most recent book is Higher Ground: Ethics and Leadership in the Modern University. She has published essays in several leading scholarly journals, and is working on a book on leadership. She previously taught at Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Swarthmore College, as well as Wellesley and Duke.

Erika Kiss is an associate research scholar in the University Center for Human Values. She studied history and literature in Hungary and comparative literature at Harvard University (M.A., Ph.D.). She was a member of the Department of Medieval and Modern Languages, the University of Oxford, and a fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. She is a co-founder of Germany’s first English-language liberal arts college, the European College of Liberal Arts (ECLA) in Berlin, and served for a year as its CEO. As ECLA’s first dean of academic affairs, she developed a year-long interdisciplinary curriculum in intellectual history and the liberal arts and supervised its implementation. Her research and teaching interests include the connection between the civic and the aesthetic arts of rhetoric, poetics, dramaturgy
Victoria McGeer is a research scholar in the University Center for Human Values and a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy. In 1993, as an assistant professor in the philosophy department at Vanderbilt University, she won the Royal Society of Canada’s Alice Wilson Award for postdoctoral research. With support from the Canadian government, she took special research leave to explore how developmental questions affect theoretical work in philosophy of mind and moral psychology, and spent two years at the lab of developmental psychologist Alison Gopnik at the University of California — Berkeley. After leaving Vanderbilt in 1998 to pursue an interdisciplinary research program on the development of social cognition and its disorders, she became a senior member of the McDonnell Project in Philosophy and the Neurosciences in 2001. She has published a number of papers in prestigious journals that reflect her wide range of interests, encompassing topics in moral psychology, the development of agential capacities and its impairments (focusing especially on autism), the nature of folk-psychological explanation, problems of self-knowledge, and the metaphysics of mind. McGeer received her A.B. in government and philosophy from Dartmouth College and her M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Toronto.

Stephen Macedo is the Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Politics and the University Center for Human Values and, since 2001, director of the University Center for Human Values. He writes and teaches on topics related to diversity and civic education, religion and politics, the family and sexuality, and political communities and globalization. His current projects include immigration and social justice and the impact on domestic democracy of involvement with multilateral institutions. As founding director of Princeton’s Program in Law and Public Affairs (1999–2001), he chaired the Princeton Project on Universal Jurisdiction and helped formulate the Princeton Principles on Universal Jurisdiction. He was vice president of the American Political Science Association and the first chair of its Standing Committee on Civic Education and Engagement. With other members of that committee, he wrote Democracy at Risk: How Political Choices Undermine Citizen Participation, and What We Can Do About It (Brookings, 2005). His other books include Diversity and Distrust: Civic Education in a Multicultural Democracy (Harvard University Press, 2000); and Liberal Virtues: Citizenship, Virtue, and Community in Liberal Constitutionalism (Oxford University Press, 1999). He is coauthor and coeditor of American Constitutional Interpretation, with W. F. Murphy, J. E. Fleming, and S. A. Barber (Foundation Press, fourth edition 2008).

**Kim Lane Scheppele** is the Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs in the Woodrow Wilson School and the University Center for Human Values. In addition, she is the director of the Program in Law and Public Affairs and a faculty associate in the Department of Politics. Before joining the Princeton faculty in 2005, she was the John J. O’Brien Professor of Comparative Law and Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, where she remains a faculty fellow in the law school. Her primary field is comparative constitutional law, and she has spent much time under three different grants from the National Science Foundation studying post-communist European countries undergoing constitutional transformation. She has published extensively on post-communist constitutional transformations in law reviews and social science journals. Her new book, *The International State of Emergency*, examines constitutional changes around the world in the wake of 9/11. Scheppele has held elective offices in the Law and Society Association as well as in the sociology of law and theory sections of the American Sociological Association. She has won numerous teaching awards, both at the University of Pennsylvania and at the University of Michigan.

**Peter Singer**, the Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, is the author of, most recently, *The Way We Eat: Why Our Food Choices Matter*, coauthored with Jim Mason. Singer was the founding president of the International Association of Bioethics, and, with Helga Kuhse, founding coeditor of the journal *Bioethics*. He first became well known internationally after the publication of *Animal Liberation*. His other books include: *Democracy and Disobedience; Practical Ethics; The Expanding Circle; Marx; Hegel; The Reproduction Revolution* (with Deane Wells), *Should the Baby Live?* (with Helga Kuhse), *How Are We to Live?, Rethinking Life and Death; One World; Pushing Time Away*; and *The President of Good and Evil*. His works have appeared in more than 20 languages. Singer holds his appointment at the center jointly with his appointment as Laureate Professor at the University of Melbourne, attached to the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics. This visiting research position involves spending three months a year at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

“There is no better way to spend a year of research than as a fellow at the University Center for Human Values. The center provides a wonderful opportunity to engage in sustained writing and reflection, enriched by the many interdisciplinary conferences, lectures, and colloquia across the campus.”

Adam Kolber
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow
Laurence S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching

The visiting professorships for distinguished teaching were instituted by Princeton President Harold T. Shapiro as part of a set of teaching initiatives announced at the beginning of the University’s 250th anniversary celebration in 1997. The program, known as the 250th Anniversary Visiting Professorships for Distinguished Teaching, supports as many as five visiting faculty members each year, in all divisions of the University. Laurance S. Rockefeller established the Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching in the University Center for Human Values. Visitors are selected for their demonstrated excellence in teaching and their capacity to bring new ideas in undergraduate teaching to the campus. Each faculty visitor teaches an undergraduate course, possibly in collaboration with a regular faculty member. The visitors also engage in other activities aimed at improving teaching at Princeton, such as workshops for faculty and graduate students, demonstration lectures, and classroom visits.

The 2007–08 Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching was Don Marquis, a professor of philosophy at the University of Kansas. He is the author of a widely reprinted and much-discussed essay on the ethics of abortion. He has also written about physician-assisted suicide, the doctrine of double effect, and the ethics of adultery. While at Princeton, he taught a course on life and death issues in bioethics, worked on a book on the ethics of abortion, and organized a workshop, titled “Is It Wrong to End Early Human Life?”

The 2008-09 Visiting Associate Professor for Distinguished Teaching is Lawrie Balfour. Balfour is an associate professor of politics at the University of Virginia. A political theorist whose primary focus is democracy, race, and racism, she is the author of The Evidence of Things Not Said: James Baldwin and the Promise of American Democracy, and is completing a book on W. E. B. Du Bois’s political thought. While at Princeton, she plans to offer a course on politics and memory and to finish a book manuscript, “Reparations: A Democratic Idea.”

Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellowship in Bioethics

The Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellowship in Bioethics, endowed by William K. Fung ’70, enables the center to appoint a fellow, who is chosen in international competition, to pursue research in bioethics for a term of one to three years at Princeton and to teach one course each year.

Bennett Foddy holds the fellowship for a second year in 2008–09. Foddy received his D.Phil. in bioethics from the University of Melbourne in 2007. He is developing a novel account of addictive motivation in which he seeks to replace the dominant account of addictive behavior that informs current philosophical and biological literature. He is the author of numerous articles, including “Can Addicted People Consent to the Prescription of their Drug?” in Bioethics and “The Ethics of Genetic Testing in Sport” in International SportsMed Journal. Foddy has also written a chapter on “Performance Enhancement and the Spirit of Sport” for the forthcoming Gillon's Principles of Healthcare Ethics.
Fellowships

“The core of our intellectual life was the twice-monthly fellows seminar. The visiting fellows this year combined the virtue of diversity with the capacity to communicate across diverse interests and perspectives. And we benefitted tremendously from the participation of Princeton faculty members, whose commitment to engaging with us was outstanding. What a privilege it has been to have regular contact with some of the sharpest and most enthusiastic minds in our fields.”

_Arash Abizadeh_
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow
The Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellowships are awarded annually to outstanding scholars and teachers interested in devoting a year in residence at Princeton writing about ethics and human values. A central activity for the fellows is participation with the center’s faculty members in a fellows seminar to discuss ongoing work. Fellows participate in other activities, including seminars, colloquia, and public lectures. Fellows enjoy access to Firestone Library and to a wide range of activities throughout the University. They are selected on the basis of the significance of their proposed research and its relevance to the purposes of the center, the quality of their previous research, their ability to benefit from the activities of center, and the contribution they are likely to make to higher education in the future through teaching and writing about ethics and human values.

**LSR Visiting Fellows 2007-08**

**Arash Abizadeh** teaches political theory at McGill University. His research focuses on 17th- and 18th-century philosophy, particularly Hobbes and Rousseau; discourse ethics; and the relation between identity, nationalism, cosmopolitanism, and democratic theory. While at Princeton, he worked on a book on Rousseau that situates his political philosophy within the context of his philosophies of language, music, and aesthetics, as well as his intellectual sources.

**Matt Evans** is an assistant professor in the philosophy department at New York University, where he specializes in ethics, philosophy of mind, and the history of ancient Greek philosophy. He has published a series of papers on Plato’s moral psychology in *Philebus*, as well as a paper on the Epicurean conception of friendship. At Princeton, he explored Plato’s resistance to the idea that the value of things is grounded in our disposition to value them.

**Adam Kolber** is an associate professor of law at the University of San Diego. His research focuses on the intersection of law and neuroscience, and he is the editor of *Neuroethics & Law Blog*. Most recently, he has written about the legal and ethical implications of efforts to pharmaceutically dampen the intensity of traumatic memories. At Princeton, he wrote about the theory of punishment and how advances in our understanding of the mind and brain ought to inform our punishment practices.

**Anne Norton** is professor of political science and comparative literature at the University of Pennsylvania. Her most recent books are *Blood Rites of the Poststructuralists: Word, Flesh, and Revolution*; *95 Theses on Politics, Culture, and Method*; and *Leo Strauss and the Politics of American Empire*. Her project at Princeton, “On the Muslim Question,” explored the figure of the Muslim in contemporary politics and political theory.

**Aidan O’Neill**, a Queen’s Counsel (QC) who practices law in Scotland and before the courts of England and Wales, was the University Center for Human Values/Law and Public Affairs Fellow in Law and Normative Inquiry. He has a strong profile in discrimination and employment law matters, in judicial review, as well as in issues of constitutional law, post-devolution. He has a particular interest in the interrelationship between EU law, human rights law, and domestic law, and has written three legal text books and numerous articles in these areas. While at Princeton, reflecting on his experience in legal practice, he worked on a book concerned with the interaction between law, politics, and religion, concentrating particularly on the relationship between Christianity and democracy and on the law-morals debate/divide.
Corey Robin is an associate professor of political science at Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Author of *Fear: The History of a Political Idea*, he has also written numerous articles on political repression, constitutional law, conservatism, and modern political thought. At Princeton, he worked on an intellectual history of counterrevolution, from the English Civil War through the Bush Administration.

MirandaSpieler is an assistant professor in the Department of History at the University of Arizona. She specializes in French and French Caribbean history, with a focus on the role of law as a lever of police power and of lethal violence against marginal groups, including political enemies, convicts, ex-convicts, slaves, freed persons, and immigrants. Her research at Princeton focused on colonial French Guiana during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Nadia Urbinati is professor of political science at Columbia University. She specializes in modern political thought with a particular focus on democratic theory, theories of representation, and sovereignty. She has published on J. S. Mill on ancient and modern democracy and on the principles and genealogy of representative democracy. At Princeton, she undertook a new book project on the anti-democratic ideology as it developed in the West, particularly beginning with the 18th century and along with the process of democratization. Urbinati’s research interests are associated with the center’s Democracy and Human Values Project.

The Laurance S. Rockefeller Preceptorships are awarded for a three-year period to outstanding assistant professors whose scholarship and teaching are devoted in significant measure to ethical issues. Preceptorships are open to junior faculty in all Princeton departments.

**LSR Preceptors 2008-09**

**Tamsin Shaw**, an assistant professor of political theory in the politics department at Princeton University, holds the 2006–09 preceptorship. She is interested in the implications of secularization and moral skepticism for political thought. Her book, *Nietzsche’s Political Skepticism*, is forthcoming from Princeton University Press. She has previously been a junior research fellow at King’s College, the University of Cambridge, and a member of the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study. She has recently studied the differing accounts of secularization offered by Nietzsche and Weber and examined the kinds of constraints these accounts place on their understanding of political possibilities.

**Natasha Lee**, an assistant professor of French literature in the Department of French and Italian, holds the 2008–11 preceptorship. Her primary interests lie in the Enlightenment and its legacies and the dialogue of literature and criticism with other disciplines, above all political theory and history of science. She is completing a manuscript, “The Myth of Human Nature,” which examines debates concerning human classification in the French Enlightenment and how writers explored the implications of thinking social questions in scientific terms. She was previously a research fellow at the Penn Humanities Forum.
2007–08
Visiting Faculty & Fellows

The University Center for Human Values invites applications from all disciplines for Laurence S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellowships. These fellowships will be awarded for the academic year 2008-09 to outstanding scholars and teachers interested in devoting a year in residence at Princeton writing about ethics and human values.

WWW.PRINCETON.EDU/~UCHV
Graduate Prize Fellows

These fellowships, made possible by a gift from Laurance S. Rockefeller ’32, are awarded on a competitive basis to Princeton graduate students with distinguished academic records who show great promise of contributing to scholarship and teaching about ethics and human values.

Graduate Prize Fellows 2007-08

William Bulman is a fifth-year graduate student in the Department of History. His interest in the nature and consequences of the English Revolution has led him to pursue research that intersects with both literary scholarship and social science. His dissertation merges literary and political history to reinterpret the relationship between Enlightenment culture and political values in the early British Empire. He is also interested in how the nature of political decision making varies over time and across cultures, and has written about how royalist politicians made decisions during the outbreak of the English Civil War. Bulman earned a joint A.B./A.M. in history from Washington University in St. Louis.

Daniel Lee is a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Politics. His dissertation, “Popular Sovereignty and the Logic of Civil Jurisprudence,” traces the juristic origins of modern popular sovereignty doctrines in late medieval and early modern political and legal thought. His most current research investigates the notion of popular sovereignty in Renaissance thought as expressed through the juridical language of rights and powers derived from Roman private law. Prior to his arrival in Princeton, Lee was a graduate commoner of New College, University of Oxford, where he read politics for the degree of master of philosophy. He took his first degree with honors from Columbia University, where he won the Phelps Stokes Prize and the Arthur Rose Fellowship.

Tristram McPherson is a fifth-year graduate student in the Department of Philosophy. His philosophical research focuses on topics in normative ethics, metaethics, and moral epistemology. His dissertation, “For Unity in Moral Theorizing,” argues that normative ethics — the project of offering systematic answers to questions such as “how ought I to live?” and “what do I owe to others?” — is best pursued by integrating it with metaethical theorizing concerning the meaning of moral language, the nature of moral judgment, and the status of moral properties. McPherson holds a B.A. in philosophy from Simon Fraser University.

G. Cristina Mora is a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Sociology. Her dissertation examines the institutionalization of Latino panethnicity within U.S. government policy, political advocacy, and ethnic media marketing. In it, she reveals how actors have drawn on ideas about culture, history, and biology to mediate the tensions between ethnic and panethnic allegiances and reify group boundaries. She argues that both strategic interest and ambiguity are central for the construction and maintenance of panethnic claims. Mora earned a B.A. in sociology from the University of California — Berkeley.

Christopher Olivola is a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Psychology. He is interested in the psychology of human decision making and behavioral economics (applying psychological principles to models of economic behavior). His dissertation explores the psychology and behavioral economics of martyrdom: Why people are willing to endure pain, effort, or even death for a cause they care about, and how associating an action or object with pain and effort can increase its perceived value. He is currently applying these concepts to the domain of charitable giving. Olivola received a B.A. in psychology from the University of Chicago.
**Evan Oxman** is a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Politics. His research interests include democratic theory, the history of political thought, and American political thought. His dissertation examines the relationship between the ideals of popular sovereignty and constitutional democracy. In it, he argues that practices of political representation are not merely instrumentally necessary, but also normatively crucial in order to conceive of “the people” as the sovereign political subject in a democratic regime. He received a B.A. in political science from Duke University.

**Intisar Rabb** is a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of Near Eastern Studies, where she is writing a dissertation on the role of legal maxims as tools of textual interpretation in American and Islamic law. One of her goals is to explore the rationales behind maxims that govern criminal law, inasmuch as that area of law reflects society’s public, moral values. Rabb holds a J.D. from Yale Law School and a B.S. from Georgetown University in government and Arabic. Currently, she serves as a law clerk to the Honorable Thomas L. Ambro of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

**Prerna Singh** is a sixth-year graduate student in the Department of Politics. She holds a master’s degree in social and political sciences from Cambridge University and a bachelor’s in economics from Delhi University. She is particularly interested in issues at the intersection of normative political theory and comparative politics. Her dissertation seeks to explain variations in human development outcomes in Indian states in terms of differing configurations of political community. In it, she brings together statistical analysis; qualitative methods (including case-study, archival, survey, and ethnographic research); and philosophical reasoning to explicate how a cohesive political community can generate a politics of the common good. She has also worked on topics related to ethnicity and republican political thought.

**Laura Weinrib** is a fourth-year graduate student in the Department of History. She holds an A.B. in literature from Harvard College, an M.A. in comparative literature from Harvard University, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Before coming to Princeton, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Thomas L. Ambro of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Her principal field of study is 20th-century American legal history, with an emphasis on social and cultural history and the history of legal thought. She is writing a dissertation on the history of civil liberties in America between 1920 and 1937, in which she argues that the interwar civil liberties movement only gradually exchanged its progressive emphasis on social and economic reform for a new commitment to legally enforceable individual rights.
Undergraduate & Graduate Programs

The center funds and sponsors a variety of courses and forums across the University that contribute to teaching and discussion about ethics and human values.
Freshman Seminars 2007-08

**The Brothers Karamazov**
Ellen Chances
Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**The Book of Genesis**
James Diamond
Peter T. Joseph ’72 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Can Virtue Be Taught?**
Erika Kiss
Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Church and State in the United States**
Marci Hamilton
Paul L. Miller ’41 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Ethical Thought and Moral Values**
Kwame Anthony Appiah
Professor Amy Gutmann Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Freedom, Identity, and Self-Deception:**
*Philosophy through Literature*
Bas van Fraassen
Peter T. Joseph ’72 Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Life in a Nuclear-Armed World**
Zia Mian
Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Mind, Body, and Bioethics in Japan and Beyond**
Amy Borovoy
Kurt and Beatrice Gutmann Freshman Seminar in Human Values

**Origins of Ethnic Hatred and Racism**
Brent Shaw
Dean Eva Gossman Freshman Seminar in Human Values

Cross-Listed & Funded Courses

CHV 202 • PHI 202
**Introduction to Moral Philosophy**

CHV 212 • PSY 212
**The Psychology of Moral Behavior**

CHV 214 • CLA 214
**The Other Side of Rome**

CHV 261 • REL 261
**Christian Ethics and Modern Society**

CHV 301 • WWS 301 • POL 308
**Ethics and Public Policy**

CHV 308 • PHI 308
**Perfecting Life: Designing Children, Designing Memories, Designing Death**

CHV 309 • PHI 309
**Political Philosophy**

CHV 310 • PHI 385
**Practical Ethics**

CHV 311 • PHI 307
**Systematic Ethics**

CHV 316 • JDS 316
**The Ten Commandments in Modern America**

CHV 319 • PHI 319
**Normative Ethics**

CHV 330 • CLA 330
**Greek Law and Legal Practice**

CHV 335 • PHI 335
**Greek Ethical Theory**

CHV 345 • ECO 385
**Ethics and Economics**

CHV 364 • SOC 364
**Sociology of Medicine**

CHV 470 • WWS 470
**Special Topics in Public Affairs**
The Human Values Forum provides an opportunity for approximately 50 undergraduate students and 15 faculty members — its junior and senior fellows — to meet in an informal setting to discuss current and enduring questions concerning ethics and human values. Students and faculty meet over dinner at 5 Ivy Lane several times during the academic year. Professors Stephen Macedo and Peter Singer serve as advisers to the student leaders. We are grateful to Bert Kerstetter '66 for generously endowing the forum. Dinner Discussion Topics 2007–08 were:

**The Ethics of What We Eat**  Peter Singer, *Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics in the University Center for Human Values*

**Mental Illness and Responsibility**  Gideon Rosen, *Professor of Philosophy*

**Difficulties of U.S. Participation in the International Human Rights System**  Stan Katz, *Lecturer with the Rank of Professor in Public and International Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School*

**Terrorism**  Don Marquis, Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching

**Religion and Globalism**  Forum Discussion

**Global Health**  Adel Mahmoud, *Senior Policy Analyst, Woodrow Wilson School and Molecular Biology*

**Universal Healthcare and Its Moral Justifications**  Forum Discussion

**The Morality of Abortion**  Don Marquis

**The Ethics of War**  Paul Miles, *Lecturer in History*

**The Ethics of Cognitive Enhancers**  Bennett Foddy, *Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellow in Bioethics, University Center for Human Values*

**The Future of the Human Values Forum**  Forum Discussion

In April 2008, five forum members traveled to New Orleans for *V to the Tenth* and *Swimming Upstream*. *V to the Tenth* featured international performances of the *Vagina Monologues*, musical guests, V-Day activists from across the globe including Kenya, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Philippines, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eastern Europe, men standing up for women, and more events that focused on ending violence against women and girls throughout the world. Carole Bebelle, Majora Carter, Rosario Dawson, Colette Pichon Battle, Jane Fonda, Paul Hawken, Dr. Denis Mukwege, Suze Orman, NYC Council Speaker Chris Quinn, Rha Goddess, and Suheir Hammad. Azali De Van, and Kerry Washington are among the internationally renowned speakers and artists who participated. *Swimming Upstream* had its premiere in the Louisiana Superdome. The piece, written by women of New Orleans, is based on the personal stories of these women before, during, and after Hurricane Katrina. The members of the forum who participated described these programs as “life-changing.”

Other activities of the forum have include field trips to museums, the opera, the United Nations, and Broadway shows.

The student leaders for the forum in 2007–08 were:

**Jessica Lucas ’08,** President

**Nic Poulos ’08,** Vice President

Congratulations to next year’s officers:

**Julie Kheyfets ’11,** President

**Ahson Azmat ’11,** Vice President
Senior Thesis Prize

Every year, the University Center for Human Values awards a prize to the senior thesis that makes an outstanding contribution to the study of human values. Nominations for this prize are made by departments across the University.

The 2007–08 Senior Thesis Prize was awarded to Emily Seen ’08, Woodrow Wilson School, for her thesis, “Challenging the Refugee Regime's Exilic Bias: The Relationship between Asylum and Intervention in Humanitarian Crises.”

Top-Up Prizes for First-Year Graduate Students

We offer $2,000 prizes for incoming graduate students whose work explicitly focuses on ethics, political theory, and human values. In 2007–08, 17 students in the Departments of Near Eastern Studies, English, Politics, Philosophy, Religion, and Sociology received this one-time only grant. For 2008–09, 16 students in the Departments of English, Philosophy, Politics, Psychology, Religion, and Sociology received top-ups.

Political Philosophy Grants

The Program in Political Philosophy and the University Center for Human Values awards these grants, which were created through an allocation of funds from an endowed account established by Amy Gutmann, Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Politics and the University Center for Human Values, Emeritus, former provost of the University, and founding director of the University Center for Human Values. Individual grants of up to $2,000 were awarded to graduate students specializing in political philosophy, to be used in support of research and travel related to research. The intent is to increase the overall support provided by Princeton for excellent scholarship and teaching in the field of political philosophy.

The 2008 recipients are:

Alexander Bick
Loubne El Amine
Sandra Field
Jessica Flanigan
Javier Hidalgo
Daniel Lee
Julie Rose
Geneviève Rousselière
Public Lectures, Seminars, & Special Events

The center sponsors a wide range of regular forums, special events, and conferences at which members of the Princeton University community, and often the wider community, come together to hear visiting speakers, discuss scholarly work in progress, and reflect on basic questions concerning ethics and human values.
Calendar
2007-08 Sponsored & Cosponsored Events

Tanner Lectures on Human Values
McCosh 51 • 4:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7 & 8
Susan Wolf
Elias J. Kraus Professor,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Moffett Lectures
McCosh 77 • 4:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2007
Jonathan Israel
Institute for Advanced Study
THURSDAY, MAY 1
Tariq Modood
Bristol University

PEPA Seminars
Kne victories Room (314 Marx Hall) • 4:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4
Eamonn Callan
Stanford University
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11
Michael Blake
University of Washington
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21
Nancy Fraser
New School for Social Research
THURSDAY, MARCH 27
Michael Freeden
Oxford University
THURSDAY, APRIL 10
Frank Michelman
Harvard University

Political Philosophy Colloquium
127 Greene Hall • 4:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
Richard Tuck
Harvard University
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6
Rae Langton
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28
Elizabeth Anderson
University of Michigan
THURSDAY, MARCH 6
Anthony Pagden
University of California at Los Angeles
THURSDAY, APRIL 3
Jules Coleman
Yale University

DeCamp Bioethics Seminars
Roberman Hall, 3rd Floor • 4:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
Sahar Akhtar
Duke University
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17
Bonnie Steinbock
SUNY Albany
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Lori Gruen
Yale University
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5
Frances Kamm
Harvard University

For seminar/lecture titles and further information regarding the Program in Ethics and Public Affairs (PEPA) and other activities of the University Center for Human Values, please visit our website at www.princeton.edu/~uchv or send an e-mail to uchv@princeton.edu. For seminars, papers are posted to the website and circulated approximately 10 days in advance.

For information on the Political Philosophy Colloquium, go to www.princeton.edu/sites/politics/events/polphil.html.

For further information and updates, visit our Web site at www.princeton.edu/~uchv.

If you would like to add your name to the seminar distribution list, please forward your mailing address to Sue Winters at suewint@princeton.edu.
Meaning in Life
and Why It Matters

SUSAN WOLF
Edna J. Koury Professor of Philosophy
University of North Carolina

COMMENTATORS
Robert Adams, Clark Professor of Moral Philosophy and Metaphysics, emeritus, Yale University; senior research fellow, Mansfield College, Oxford University
Nomy Arpaly, professor of philosophy, Brown University
Jonathan Haidt, associate professor of psychology, University of Virginia
John Koethe, professor of philosophy, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; poet

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 & THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8
4:30–6:30 PM, MCCORMICK 101
The Tanner Lectures on Human Values

The Tanner Lectures on Human Values, established in 1976 by the American scholar, industrialist, and philanthropist Obert Clark Tanner, serve to advance and reflect upon scholarly and scientific learning related to human values. The lectures are presented annually at selected universities, including Cambridge, Oxford, Harvard, Michigan, Princeton, Stanford, California, Utah, and Yale. Princeton has hosted Tanner lecturers since academic year 1989–90. Recent lecturers at Princeton include a poet (Robert Pinsky, Boston University); an art historian (Timothy Clark, University of California — Berkeley); a philosopher (Jonathan Glover, King’s College, Cambridge University); a primatologist (Frans de Waal, Emory University); and a scholar of international relations and political theory (Michael Doyle, Columbia University).

Tanner Lectures, 2007–08

Susan Wolf, the Edna J. Koury Professor of Philosophy, University of North Carolina, delivered the 2007–08 Tanner Lectures. Her topic was “Meaning in Life and Why It Matters.” Her first lecture defended a proposal: that an account of meaningfulness arises when subjective attraction meets objective attractiveness, i.e., meaning comes from active engagement with projects of worth. Her second lecture explored the implications of this proposal for our conceptions of well-being, practical reason, and morality.

The four commentators were:

Robert Adams, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Yale University; Visiting Professor, Oxford University; Fellow, Mansfield College

Nomy Arpaly, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Brown University

Jonathan Haidt, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Virginia

John Koethe, Professor of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; poet

Tanner Lectures, 2008–09

Mark Hauser will deliver the 2008–09 Tanner Lectures, November 12–13, 2008. His topic will be the “Seeds of Humanity: How a Unique Mind Transformed the Ethical Landscape.” Hauser is a Harvard College Professor; Professor of Psychology, Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, and Biological Anthropology; Co-Director, Mind, Brain, and Behavior Program; and Director, Cognitive Evolution Lab.
The Program in Ethics and Public Affairs & the James A. Moffett ’29 Lectures in Ethics

Stephen Macedo, Director
Erum Syed, Program Coordinator

The Program in Ethics and Public Affairs (PEPA) is cosponsored by the Woodrow Wilson School. The program includes the James A. Moffett ’29 Lectures, Seminars, and Workshops in Ethics, which focus on ethics in public and professional life, and are made possible by a generous grant in honor of James A. Moffett ’29. PEPA and Moffett events feature lectures and discussions by scholars from colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad. Topics range across a wide array of ethical controversies concerning such matters as religious freedom, minority rights, the psychology of hypocrisy, identity politics, geography and inequality, racial and gender discrimination, and constitutional democracy. Events in 2007–08 were:

OCTOBER 4
Eamonn Callan, Stanford University. “Integrating Immigrants.”

OCTOBER 11
Michael Blake, University of Washington. “Political Liberalism Abroad.”

OCTOBER 18
Jonathan Israel, Institute for Advanced Study. “Voltaire, Radical Philosophers, and Anti-philosophers.”

FEBRUARY 21
Nancy Fraser, New School for Social Research. “Abnormal Justice.”

MARCH 27
Michael Freeden, Oxford University. “Thinking Politically: Contending Conceptualizations of Support for Collectivities.”

APRIL 2
Mathias Risse, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. “Imagine There’s No Countries: A Reply to John Lennon.”

APRIL 10

APRIL 18
James A. Moffett ’29 Research Workshop on Thomas Hobbes. Convened by Arash Abizadeh, Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow. This day-long workshop brought together a number of top scholars working on Hobbes today, including historians, philosophers, and political theorists, to discuss three recent book-length treatments of Hobbes’s thought. The manuscripts covered were Made with Words, Hobbes’s Bipolarism, and The Allegiance of Thomas Hobbes, which were discussed in depth at three different panels. Topics included Hobbes’s treatment of morals and politics, religion and ecclesiology, and language, mind, and knowledge.

APRIL 24-25

MAY 8
Alan Patten, Princeton University. Lunchtime Seminar on “Accommodating Conscience.”

MAY 12
Tamsin Shaw, Princeton University. Lunchtime Seminar on “Bernard Williams’ ‘Realist’ Account of Political Legitimacy.”
VOLTAIRE, RADICAL PHILOSOPHES & ANTI-PHILOSOPHES

THE STRUGGLE OF MODERNITY’S THREE WORLD OUTLOOKS (1750–1789)

JONATHAN ISRAEL
Modern European History Professor
Institute for Advanced Study

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 • 4:30–6:00 PM • McCORMICK 101
James A. Moffett ’29 Lectures in Ethics

Multiculturalism and Secularism

SPEAKER
Tariq Modood
Bristol University

Thursday, April 24
4:30–6:00 PM • McCormick 101

Co-sponsored by Near Eastern Studies Department • Department of Religion
Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East,
North Africa, and Central Asia • Photograph by Abbas, Magnum Photos
The Ira W. DeCamp Bioethics Seminars

Peter Singer, Director

The Ira W. DeCamp Bioethics Seminars are open to all students, faculty, and interested members of the public. Seminars range across a wide variety of topics at the intersections of philosophy, public policy, and the biological sciences — including ecology, biology, and medicine. Teachers and scholars from Princeton and other universities, as well as practitioners, present papers and deliver lectures, followed by questions and discussion from the floor.

September 26


October 3


October 17

Bonnie Steinbock, State University of New York — Albany. “Designer Babies”

November 5

Bennett Foddy, Princeton University. “Should We Cure Addiction?”

November 14

Lori Gruen, Wesleyan University. “Do Chimpanzees Follow Norms?”

December 5

Frances Kamm, Harvard University. “What Is and Is Not Wrong with Enhancement?”

February 13


March 12

James A. Moffett ’29 Seminar in Ethics & DeCamp Seminar in Bioethics. Guy Kahane, Oxford Uehiro Center for Practical Ethics. “Evolution and Debunking Arguments.”

Political Philosophy Colloquium

Philip Pettit, Director

The Program in Political Philosophy presents a colloquium for graduate students and faculty in which scholars from the University, the Institute for Advanced Study, and other universities present papers, give lectures, and lead seminars on a broad range of topics of interest. The University Center for Human Values and the Department of Politics cosponsor the colloquium. Colloquia speakers this year were as follows:

September 27

Richard Tuck, Harvard University. “How to Think about Voting.”

December 6


February 28

Alex Zakaras, University of Vermont. “Expensive Speech, Illegitimate Power: Corporations and the First Amendment.”

April 3

Elizabeth Anderson, University of Michigan. “Expanding the Egalitarian Toolbox: Equality and Bureaucracy.”
The Democracy and Human Values Project has three broad aims:

**The Foundation of Democracy** To develop the theory of groups so as to explain what is involved in the formation of a democratic community and people and to explore the extent to which the state and government can be organized as group-agents.

**The Role of Democracy** To investigate the role that democratic government might be required to serve under such a foundational theory and, on that basis, to articulate a set of democratic expectations that can provide benchmarks for the assessment of democratic regimes.

**The Design of Democracy** To bring together strands of research among political scientists, sociologists, lawyers, economists, and psychologists in order to identify the institutions that can best implement such democratic expectations; and this, across different contexts — in developed and developing countries, for example, and in international networks as well as domestically.

The director of the project is Philip Pettit. In collaboration with the director of the University Center for Human Values, he coordinates a range of activities among members of the University faculty and student body that are designed, over the lifetime of the project, to advance the three aims. The activities include the pursuit of relevant research programs, the organization of workshops and conferences on selected topics, and the sponsorship of lectures and colloquia in the area of the project.

The initial research focus of the project is on topics in the theory of groups: the nature of group formation, the possibility of group agency, the coherence of the notion of group responsibility, the notion of the demos as a group, and the extent to which states and governments should be constructed as contestable group agents. Christian List joined the project from the London School of Economics in 2006, and he and Pettit are collaborating on a book on “group agency.” This will build on a formal result on “judgment aggregation,” which they published in 2002 (“Aggregating Sets of Judgments,” *Economics and Philosophy*), and on the various related results that have appeared since then, connecting that relatively formal literature with standard topics in democratic theory.

**Project Activities**

In 2005–06, the project sponsored a series of lectures by Christian List on “Democracy and Judgment-Aggregation,” a workshop under the title “From Joint Action to Democracy,” and it cosponsored a conference on Democracy and Deliberation with the Woodrow Wilson School’s Center for the Study of Democratic Politics.

**2007–08 Workshop**

**The People in Political Thought**

**Philip Pettit**, director of the Democracy and Human Values Project, invited a dozen scholars from other universities and 20 faculty, visiting fellows, and graduate students at Princeton to participate in a three-day workshop, May 16-18. The principal speakers were:

**SESSION 1**


**SESSION 2**


**SESSION 3**

**Philip Pettit**. “The Democratic People and the Constitutional System in Modern Political Thought.”

**SESSION 4**

**Jed Rubenfeld**, Robert R. Slaughter Professor of Law, Yale University. “Paradoxes of Commitment: The Role of the People in Democratic Constitutionalism.”
Program in Law and Public Affairs

Kim Lane Scheppele, Director
Leslie Gerwin, Assistant Director

The Program in Law and Public Affairs (LAPA) is a joint venture of the University Center for Human Values, the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and Princeton University. The founding director of LAPA was Stephen Macedo. He was succeeded by Christopher Eisgruber, who served from 2001 until his appointment as provost of Princeton University in July 2004. Kim Lane Scheppele is the current director of the program.

LAPA supports outstanding scholars, lawyers, and judges who devote an academic year in residence at Princeton. Visiting fellows are drawn from the social sciences and humanities, from law schools, and from among individuals who have made a distinguished career in professional and public life. LAPA fellows join the Princeton community to research, write about, and teach law and public affairs and to participate in the activities of the program.

The visiting fellows for 2007–08 were:
Robert Ahdieh, Emory University School of Law
Jeffrey Dunoff, Temple University
Marci Hamilton, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University
Carol Heimer, Northwestern University
Peter Lindseth, University of Connecticut School of Law
Aidan O’Neill, Queen’s Counsel (QC), Edinburgh and London

For more information on LAPA, visit: http://lapa.princeton.edu/

Special Events

Common Minds: Themes from the Philosophy of Philip Pettit

During a career spanning more than 30 years, Philip Pettit, the Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor for Politics and the University Center for Human Values, has made seminal contributions in moral philosophy, political philosophy, philosophy of the social sciences, philosophy of mind and action, and metaphysics. In November 2007, the University Center for Human Values hosted “Common Minds: Themes from the Philosophy of Philip Pettit,” a workshop celebrating the recent publication by Oxford University Press of a volume of critical essays evaluating Pettit’s body of work as a whole. The two main speakers at the workshop were David Braddon-Mitchell and Philip Gerrans, former doctoral students of Pettit’s from the years he spent at the Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, prior to coming to Princeton. Braddon-Mitchell is a reader in philosophy at the University of Sydney and the author, with Frank Jackson, of The Philosophy of Mind and Cognition. Gerrans is a reader in philosophy at the University of Adelaide.

Michael Smith, professor of philosophy and member of the center’s Executive Committee, planned the workshop in honor of Pettit.

The Limits of Constitutional Democracy

Conference

This conference was cosponsored and funded by the University Center for Human Values, the James Madison Program on American Ideals and Institutions, the Program in Law and Public Affairs, and the Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, all at Princeton University.

On February 15 and 16, 2008, leading scholars of constitutionalism and politics met to address the following questions: What is constitutional failure or success? How can constitutions establish effective institutions? How can constitutions deal properly with deep conflict and diversity? How can constitutions cope with emergencies and war? How can constitutions cope with global interdependence?
The conference extended and elaborated upon the project of critically reexamining constitutional architecture, drawing on the tools of political theory and philosophy, social science, and the law, as exemplified by Walter Murphy’s recent book, *Constitutional Democracy: Creating and Maintaining a Just Political Order*. Murphy, the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Emeritus, at Princeton, is among the most distinguished constitutional scholars of the 20th century. A book based on the conference is in preparation and will be edited by Stephen Macedo and Jeffrey K. Tulis.

Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching Workshop: Is It Wrong to End Human Life?

Don Marquis, the 2007–08 Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching, convened this panel discussion, which was moderated by Harold Shapiro, former president of the University. This workshop was cosponsored by the James Madison Program on American Ideals and Institutions.

The following scholars responded to the question from different perspectives:  
Patrick Lee  The Substantial Identity View  
Peter Singer  The Self-Awareness View  
Don Marquis  The Future of Value View  
Jeff McMahan  The Threshold Gradualist View

A panel discussion followed these presentations. Participants were:  
Robert George, Princeton University  
John Haldane, University of St. Andrews  
Elizabeth Harman, Princeton University  
Patrick Lee, Franciscan University of Steubenville  
Don Marquis, Princeton University  
and the University of Kansas  
Jeff McMahan, Rutgers University  
Peter Singer, Princeton University

Princeton University Graduate Conference in Political Theory

The inaugural Princeton University Graduate Conference in Political Theory took place on April 11–12, 2008. In response to the call for papers, the committee received more than 120 paper submissions from universities around the world. After a careful blind review process, the committee selected eight papers from graduate students in American universities, including Harvard, Yale, Chicago, and Berkeley, as well as foreign universities, including McGill and York. Among the topics considered at the conference were John Locke’s theory of punishment, global justice, rights to work, and Isaiah Berlin’s defense of liberal democracy. Each panel included a graduate student discussant from Princeton as well as a chair. This arrangement allowed for an intellectually exciting event on diverse topics in political theory.

Professor Alan Ryan, the warden of New College, the University of Oxford, and professor of politics at Oxford, gave a keynote presentation titled, “Against Democracy.”
Common Minds: Themes from the Philosophy of Philip Pettit

Thursday, November 29, 2007
4:30–6:15 PM
McCormick 101

Reception to Follow

Speakers
David Braddon-Mitchell
Reader in Philosophy at the University of Sydney

Philip Gerrans
Reader in Philosophy at the University of Adelaide
THE LIMITS OF Constitutional Democracy

Friday, February 15 • 9:00 AM–6:00 PM
Saturday, February 16 • 9:00 AM–2:00 PM
Robertson Hall • Bowl 016

For more information and full schedule, go to
www.princeton.edu/~uchv/constitutionalism
Thursday, May 1, 2008
2:30–6:00 pm • Friend 101
Reception to follow

Is It Wrong to End Early Human Life?
Four Answers

MODERATOR
Harold T. Shapiro
Princeton University

PANEL
Robert George
Princeton University
John Haldane
University of St. Andrews
Elizabeth Harman
Princeton University
Patrick Lee
Franciscan University of Steubenville
Don Marquis
Princeton University & University of Kansas
Jeff McMahan
Rutgers University
Peter Singer
Princeton University

Sponsored by The University Center for Human Values and the James Madison Program, Princeton University. This workshop is made possible in part by a gift from the Whitehall Foundation in honor of James A. Moffett ’29.
University Center for
Human Values Film Forum

With generous funding from Bert Kerstetter ’66 and the Office of the Dean of the Faculty, Erika Kiss coordinates this venture, which regularly attracts an overflow crowd of faculty and students to the Rockefeller College theater. Princeton faculty members give comments after each screening, and lively discussions often continue until midnight. Selected undergraduates serve as forum associates. In fall 2006, the Film Forum featured films exploring Ideas of Freedom. In spring 2007, the theme was Americana. The following films were shown in 2007–08:

Fall Series:
Melodrama

*Crisis*, Ingmar Bergman
*A Place in the Sun*, George Stevens
*Stray Dog*, Akira Kurosawa
*Stromboli*, Roberto Rossellini
*The Cranes Are Flying*, Mikhail Kalatozov
*East of Eden*, Elia Kazan
*The Cry*, Michelangelo Antonioni
*Nights of Cabiria*, Federico Fellini
*Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*, Werner Fassbinder
*In the Mood for Love*, Wong Kar Wai
*Faithless*, Liv Ullman
*Talk to Her*, Pedro Almodóvar

Spring Series:
Faith

*Vridiana*, Luis Buñuel
*Miracle in Milan*, Vittorio de Sica
*Mother Küsters Goes to Heaven*, Werner Fassbinder
*The Cloud Capped Star*, Ritwik Ghatak
*Cléo from 5 to 7*, Agnès Varda
*Taste of Cherry*, Abbas Kiarostami
*Stalker*, Andrei Tarkovsky
*The Seventh Seal*, Ingmar Bergman
*Decalogue 1 and 5*, Krzysztof Kieslowski
*Bad Education*, Pedro Almodóvar
*Close-Up*, Abbas Kiarostami
*Contempt*, Jean-Luc Godard
Small Conferences & Distinguished Visitor Grants

The University Center for Human Values, often with other cosponsoring departments and programs, provides support for lectures, small conferences, and special events at Princeton University. Preference is given to departments and programs without extensive speakers’ programs and funds.
Cosponsored events in 2007–08

Center for the Study of Religion
Mormonism and American Politics Conference

Department of English &
The Center for African American Studies
Critical Encounters, an interdisciplinary conversation with Anne Carson (poet) and the Merce Cunningham Dance Company

Department of Spanish and Portuguese
Languages and Cultures
Documentary Film Festival

Center for African American Studies & the Princeton Environmental Institute
Environmental Justice Lecture by Majora Carter

Akwaaba, Princeton African Development Initiative & Program in African Studies
A Colloquium on Challenging Africa Development Paradigms

School of Architecture & Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
The Amman Singstad Lecture by Angus Low, Director, Arup Bridges Group, Ove Arup & Partners, Ltd.

Princeton Committee on Palestine
Edward Said Lecture by Karen Koning AbuZayd, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief Works Agency

Center for Migration and Development
Immigration Roundtable

Center for African American Studies & the Princeton Environmental Institute
Environmental Justice Lecture by Majora Carter

Akwaaba, Princeton African Development Initiative & Program in African Studies
A Colloquium on Challenging Africa Development Paradigms

School of Architecture & Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
The Amman Singstad Lecture by Angus Low, Director, Arup Bridges Group, Ove Arup & Partners, Ltd.

Princeton Committee on Palestine
Edward Said Lecture by Karen Koning AbuZayd, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief Works Agency

Center for Migration and Development
Immigration Roundtable

Center for the Study of Religion
Mormonism and American Politics Conference

Department of English &
The Center for African American Studies
Critical Encounters, an interdisciplinary conversation with Anne Carson (poet) and the Merce Cunningham Dance Company

Department of Spanish and Portuguese
Languages and Cultures
Documentary Film Festival

Center for African American Studies & the Princeton Environmental Institute
Environmental Justice Lecture by Majora Carter

Akwaaba, Princeton African Development Initiative & Program in African Studies
A Colloquium on Challenging Africa Development Paradigms

School of Architecture & Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
The Amman Singstad Lecture by Angus Low, Director, Arup Bridges Group, Ove Arup & Partners, Ltd.

Princeton Committee on Palestine
Edward Said Lecture by Karen Koning AbuZayd, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief Works Agency

Center for Migration and Development
Immigration Roundtable

Center for African American Studies
James Brown Symposium: Ain't that a Groove: The Genius of James Brown

Department of English
Poetry Reading by Robert Hass; with the Princeton Environmental Institute, Conversation with Robert Hass (Poet Laureate of the United States from 1995 to 1997 and chancellor of the Academy of American Poets from 2001 to 2007)
Publications

Regarding *Striking First* by Michael W. Doyle: “Superb and important. The writing is clear and forceful, the tone evenhanded and judicious, the scholarship excellent. The topic could not be more important in the wake of the Iraq invasion and the possibility of a preventive self-defense attack on Iran.”

*David Luban*
Frederick Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy at Georgetown University’s Law Center and Department of Philosophy
**The University Center for Human Values Series**

This is a series of volumes published by the Princeton University Press. Many of these books are based on the Tanner Lectures in Human Values, delivered by the author at Princeton.

**Stephen Macedo**, Editor

*Striking First*
Michael W. Doyle, 2008

*Primates and Philosophers*
Frans de Waal, 2006

**Amy Gutmann**, Editor, 1994-2002

*Democracy, Culture and the Voice of Poetry*
Robert Pinsky, 2005

*Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*
Michael Ignatieff, 2003

*Goodness and Advice*
Judith Jarvis Thomson, 2003

*The Lives of Animals*
J.M. Coetzee, 2001

*Truth v. Justice: The Morality of Truth Commissions*
Edited by Robert I. Rotberg & Dennis Thompson, 2000

*Work and Welfare*
Robert M. Solow, 1998

*Freedom of Association*
Edited by Amy Gutmann, 1998

*A Matter of Interpretation: Federal Courts and the Law*
Antonin Scalia, 1998

*Multiculturalism and “the Politics of Recognition”*
Charles Taylor, 1994

**Conference Proceedings**

*Teaching New Histories of Philosophy*
Edited by J. B. Schneewind, Professor Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University, and the 2002-03 Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching (University Center for Human Values, 2004)

Based on the proceedings of a conference that took place April 4-6, 2003, at Princeton University, this book includes commentary by: Karl Ameriks, Lorraine Daston, Lisa Downing, Jeffrey Edwards, Juliet Floyd, Michael Friedman, Daniel Garber, Anthony Grafton, Knud Haakonssen, Jennifer Herdt, T. J. Hochstrasser, Ian Hunter, Ulrich Johannes, Denis Kambouchner, Donald Kelley, Mark Larrimore, Béatrice Longuenesse, Susan Nieman, Eileen O'Neill, and Nancy Tuana.
Reports from Visiting Faculty & Fellows

“This spring I taught a class called ‘Bioethics: Life and Death Issues.’ I loved it! All of the issues involved are intriguing. The students were interesting and challenging and let me know when I was not clear enough. Princeton students are a delight. I also attended the meetings of the University Center for Human Values Undergraduate Forum and the Undergraduate Bioethics Forum — it is wonderful to support students who are engaged in ethical issues and who give themselves a challenging curriculum above and beyond their classwork.”

Don Marquis
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching
work on Hobbes, I realized, after a month or so at Princeton, that Hobbes had roped me into a separate book project. The center's support of this unexpected turn in my research is real testimony to an intellectual atmosphere that places a premium on pursuing one's natural intellectual path and passions. Above all, when I proposed to hold a research workshop on Hobbes, in part to receive critical feedback on my draft manuscript, the center very generously agreed to invite some of the most prominent thinkers in the field. In fact, this gesture was perhaps the single most significant factor in my productivity this year: As any writer can appreciate, having the looming deadline of a major research workshop concerning the topic of one's as-yet-unwritten tome is all the pressure one needs to buckle down and try to write it!

I leave here with the bulk of a book manuscript done as well as many new colleagues and friends whom I look forward to seeing again in the years to come.

This year at the University Center for Human Values has been among the most intellectually demanding of my life. Never before have I participated in so many excellent discussions on so many different topics in so condensed a period of time. It's been almost overwhelming. Yet as I look back now, at the end of the year, what I want more than anything else is... another year.

My project at the center was to explore Plato's resistance to the idea that the value of things is somehow grounded in our disposition to value them. Princeton turned out to be the perfect setting for my research, not only because some of the most forceful recent defenders of this idea — Gil Harman, Harry Frankfurt, Peter Singer, Michael Smith, and Philip Pettit — have deep roots here, but also because of Princeton's thriving graduate program in ancient philosophy. Everywhere I turned, I found a knowledgeable, curious, critical, and friendly character. My debt to this place, and to Laurance S. Rockefeller for funding my stay, is great and growing.

Over the course of my time here, I managed to make significant progress on three (out of four) chapters of my fitfully developing book, which I plan to call...
Plato’s Reasons. Before I arrived I had been working steadily along several different lines of inquiry: the relation of mind, body, and action in the Phaedo; the nature of belief and desire in the Euthyphro and the Cratylus; and the epistemology of evaluation in The Republic and the Philebus. But I had not yet strengthened and combined these lines of inquiry effectively enough to fashion a unified monograph. It was my discussions with colleagues at the center, as well as long days in Princeton’s magnificent libraries and reading rooms, that finally allowed me to bring my ideas into full focus.

At the risk of sounding selfish, I must report that my most rewarding experience of the year was the presentation of my paper, “Plato on the Possibility of Hedonic Mistakes,” at a February seminar for the faculty and fellows at the center. I’d been trying to complete that paper on and off for six months, and the enterprise was starting to stall. But two hours of probing questions from the group gave me a jumpstart. I was particularly grateful to Anthony Appiah, who brought out some of the broader implications of my work for our understanding of ancient moral psychology; to Philip Pettit, who forced me to consider in much greater detail what it would take for a psychological state to be capable of representational error; and to Liz Harman, who found ways to express my views that were consistently clearer and more incisive than my own. Thanks (in no small part) to them, my paper wound up being accepted at Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy.

It was not only the fellows and faculty at the center that made my stay here so productive. I’m deeply grateful to Sue, Erum, and Jan for being kind and supportive and funny when I turned to them for help with my frequently trivial problems. They are a crucial part of what makes the center the kind of place that scholars dream about. I’m sure I speak for all the Rockefeller Fellows when I say I’m going to miss it.

Adam Kolber

There is no better way to spend a year of research than as a fellow at the University Center for Human Values. The center provides a wonderful opportunity to engage in sustained writing and reflection, enriched by the many interdisciplinary conferences, lectures, and colloquia across the campus.

I spent much of the year examining the concept of punishment severity. When two people commit the same crime under the same circumstances, we tend to think of their punishments as equal when they are given the same prison sentence. In fact, however, one may find a particular term of imprisonment much more distressing than another. When sentencing offenders, we tend to ignore these differences, focusing on punishment severity in objective, non-experiential terms.

At the center, I wrote two articles about punishment severity. The first, “The Subjective Experience of Punishment,” argues that we must take offenders’ emotional distress into account when making judgments of punishment severity. This article has been accepted for publication in the Columbia Law Review and is scheduled to appear in January 2009. The second article expands on the themes in the first and describes some fundamental puzzles in the notion of proportional punishment that apply to both objective and subjective accounts of punishment severity. In addition, I began an ongoing empirical investigation with Prof. John Darley of the psychology department into the ways in which people, in fact, make judgments of punishment severity and how those judgments compare with our best theories about punishment. The collaboration was facilitated by the very welcoming environment at Princeton’s Program in Law and Public Affairs, under the indefatigable leadership of Kim Scheppele.

During my fellowship year, I also wrote about a number of legal and ethical issues related to subjective distress outside the punishment context. For example, in “Freedom of Memory Today,” forthcoming in the journal Neuroethics, I wrote about the use of pharmaceuticals to ease the emotional distress associated with traumatic memories. The article updates and expands my prior scholarship on our rights to control our own memories that I presented at the center in March 2007 as a DeCamp Seminar in Bioethics.

I also revised and completed an article entitled, “A Limited Defense of Clinical Placebo Deception,” that was recently published in the Yale Law & Policy Review. While placebos can ease physical and emotional distress, they do so best when patients are deceived about the placebo nature of the substances they are receiving. In the article, I argue against a
categorical prohibition on physicians' deceptive use of placebos, claiming that such a prohibition is overbroad, insensitive to patient preferences, and likely to have unforeseen consequences.

When not researching and writing, there are numerous activities and events on campus of interest to fellows. I particularly enjoyed the center’s Film Forum, which shows classic films that raise issues of interest to values-minded scholars and hosts a talk and discussion afterwards. I also had the pleasure of serving the campus community more generally as a faculty fellow at Butler College and as a participant in the undergraduate Human Values Forum.

When I first got to campus to begin my fellowship, I made a mental note to enjoy every minute of it, as I was sure the time would fly. I repeated the mental notation periodically, though I am afraid I still failed to slow the clock. The exciting pace here is due in no small part to the dedication of the center's faculty and staff and to the contributions of my cohort of Laurance S. Rockefeller fellows. This has been an extraordinary experience, and I will surely miss my time at the center.

Anne Norton

I have completed several chapters on the work I set out to do “On the Muslim Question.” These concern the debates over Islam and democracy, and Islam and various controversies over freedom of speech in which the Muslim Question played a central role. The lecture and workshop with Tariq Modood were directly related to my research, and I am grateful to Stephen Macedo and the center for arranging them. I have also written an article on a related question, the rhetoric and political effects of “lesser evil arguments.” This was the piece I presented in seminar and I very much appreciate the comments and critiques furnished by those attending. I drafted an outline for my next project, which will address the tension between democracy and liberalism. This was considerably advanced by engagement with faculty in the Department of Politics and the University Center for Human Values.

I learned a great deal from the diverse and engaging Program in Law and Public Affairs. Discussions of the rule of law, sovereignty, and constitutionalism in that venue will continue to inform my work. Kim Scheppele’s capacity to engage with diverse forms of scholarship and to connect the intellectually akin is a great asset to the center.

I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to listen to and question Peter Singer, Bennett Foddy, and visitors who spoke on bioethics. The presence of this current of inquiry in the seminar was a constant delight to me: a source of new and unexpected knowledge marked by a combination of intellectual iconoclasm and moral concern.

The staff of the University Center for Human Values and the Program in Law and Public Affairs were invariably helpful, calm, and charming. I will be sorry to leave them.

I am, happily, not far from Princeton, and hope that the connections between faculty at the University Center for Human Values and those at Penn will grow and strengthen.

Corey Robin

The centerpiece of my year at the University Center for Human Values was the biweekly seminar. It began on a high note — Peter Singer presenting a chapter from his forthcoming book on our obligation to help others, with a spirited response from Adam Kolber, one of the fellows at the center; I also remember an especially pointed intervention during the discussion from Nan Keohane, another colleague at the center — that never diminished, even as we approached the end of the year. For a political theorist of a historicist bent like myself, what was most fruitful was the presence of a group of analytical philosophers, many with an interest in bioethics. Historicists and ethicists are two camps in political philosophy that don’t often talk to each other. So it was quite a thrill to hear people like Anne Norton, Nadia Urbinati, and Keohane (as well as Miranda Spieler, a French historian, and Kim Scheppele, a legal scholar), on one side, engage with philosophers like Singer, Kolber, Liz Harman, Matt Evans, Bennett Foddy, Tori McGeer, and Don Marquis, on the other — with Philip Pettit, Arash Abizadeh, Anthony Appiah, and Stephen Macedo, all of whom seem amazingly at home in both camps, managing the traffic between them. I’d be hard pressed to recall a seminar so vital and simultaneously civil.
In November, I presented a paper to the seminar that set out the argument of a book I’m writing on counterrevolution. I talked about the politics of conservatism and reaction, examining some writings of Joseph de Maistre on the French Revolution and various tracts in defense of slavery in the United States. Thanks to the resources of Firestone Library, I was able to unearth some fairly obscure writings from the antebellum South. The response from my colleagues was invaluable. Arash offered an excellent critique, the implications of which I’m still grappling with more than seven months later, and several members of the center pressed me on the relationship between conservatism and counterrevolution. Miranda gave me an extensive tutorial on the French counterrevolution and the ancient régime, saving me from some embarrassing errors. As I move forward on the project, I’ve got pages of notes from colleagues to guide me.

After my first day at the center in September, my wife asked me what it was like. I thought for a second and said, “It’s like a spa.” The place works so smoothly; all of our needs are taken care of; and the environment is so calming and soothing — it’s hard to imagine an environment more conducive to intellectual work. That the center can make a morning in the stacks seem like an afternoon massage is due in no small part to the excellent work of its staff — Jan Logan, Erum Syed, Sue Winters, Kim Girman, and Andrew Perhac — and the tone of relaxed seriousness set by Steve Macedo, its director. It’s difficult to overstate the gratitude I feel to all of them for making my year so productive and pleasant.

Miranda Spieler

I have spent this year as an historian among theorists and philosophers at the Center for Human Values. Through biweekly seminars and lectures sponsored by the center, I have discovered affinities between my work and that of scholars in other disciplines, enlivened by continuous engagement with new thought styles and working methods. I was especially helped by reading and discussing the work of nonhistorians on topics that include the meaning of personhood, the purpose of punishment, the problem of torture, and the relationship between law and administrative power. In addition to participating in our UCHV seminar, I audited Kim Scheppele’s
“Through biweekly seminars and lectures sponsored by the center, I have discovered affinities between my work and that of scholars in other disciplines, enlivened by continuous engagement with new thought styles and working methods.”

Miranda Speler
Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Fellow

extraordinary graduate class, “The Rule of Law,” which helped me to reframe a number of questions in my book manuscript in light of a broader scholarly literature. I also participated throughout the year in meetings of the Law and Public Affairs seminar and in law-related events at the Woodrow Wilson School.

Outside of Princeton, I delivered a paper on colonialism and punishment at the American Society of Legal History; I presented a chapter of my book (on 19-century convict exile in Guiana) to a faculty workshop on Atlantic History at the University of Florida; I gave a paper (on the reenslavement of former citizens in French Guiana under Napoleon) at Columbia University at a tribute to my former professor, Isser Woloch, on his retirement. At Princeton, I gave a lunch talk in the Department of History on police surveillance in 19-century France, which helped me to frame a new chapter (see below).

This year has allowed me to make a great deal of progress toward the completion of my book manuscript and to work on related writing projects. The project is broadly speaking an exploration of law in relation to violence against marginal groups ranging from convicts to slaves and former slaves. The book is set in French Guiana, which was a small plantation society of slaves (and later former slaves) that served during the 18th and 19th centuries as a site of exile for common and political criminals. I wrote a journal article on the revolutionary structure of French colonial rule, which expands upon a book chapter that I rethought and rewrote this year. I worked through about 3,000 pages of photographed documents from French local archives (collected last summer) and used them to write a new chapter on the surveillance of vagabonds, ex-convicts, and political enemies in France of the early and mid-19 century. I am nearly finished with a chapter, based on newly collected archival materials, concerned with the reenslavement of Guianese people who were emancipated during the French Revolution. I also wrote two review essays for scholarly journals. Throughout the year, I have been immeasurably helped by the collection in Firestone Library (in the stacks and in rare books). I have also profited from easy access from Princeton to the main branch of the New York Public Library and to the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.
The value of my year at the University Center for Human Values lies not merely in the use it has served to advance my own work, but also in the pleasure I have felt at sharing in other people's questions and enthusiasms, whether by reading or conversing, in formal and informal contexts: I have made new and dear friends here.

Nadia Urbinati

The University Center for Human Values is one of those rare places in which a scholar can enjoy the marvelous combination of things that are equally important but that do not come together easily: ample free time, brilliant people to talk with, and the chance to attend excellent lectures and seminars. The Rockefeller fellowship allowed me to start developing a new project on anti-democracy thought and, in particular, on the critics against popular government as they developed in Western societies beginning with the 18th century, that is to say, along with the process of democratization. Since this book-length project was at its early stage when I arrived at the center, it was essential that I had both access to a good library and quotidian tranquility. In Princeton I had both: Firestone Library is all a scholar could desire, and my small apartment was within walking distance of this great resource. At the end of my sabbatical year, I am happy to say that I have been able to collect important material and, above all, to order my ideas so as to be ready in a few months to start writing the first chapter on the republican critiques of democracy.

On the intellectual level, I needed a stimulating and interdisciplinary environment, and the center offered me both. I discovered as soon as I arrived that my research interests were pleasantly complimentary to those of other fellows. Our resulting collegiality contributed to the creation of a true intellectual community and fostered conversation among the fellows that was productive and stimulating. In fact, conversation led some of us to devise interesting initiatives, such as conference and workshops, to be organized in Princeton in the near future.

To be on sabbatical is a luxury also because it means having the leisure to participate in conferences and give papers. During the year, I wrote three new papers: one on the rediscovery of ancient democracy during the French revolution, which I presented at Oxford; one on democratic representation and its critics, which I presented in Berlin; and one on recent forms of nonpolitical interpretation of democracy, which I presented in the fellows seminar (a shorter version of the latter has just appeared in French in the journal Critique).

My happy life in Princeton also included the opportunity to participate in several symposia and seminars in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures, the Department of History, the Department of Politics, and the Institute for Advanced Studies. I also attended regularly, and with great pleasure, seminars on religion and politics and the seminars organized by the Program in Law and Public Affairs.

I guess there is nothing tremendously new and original in saying that my year at the center was an exceptional year. But perhaps it is precisely the inability to say something original that proves the consistent excellence of the center. I am grateful to the University for Human Values for the opportunity to spend the year here.

Report from the Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Professor for Distinguished Teaching

Don Marquis

This year at Princeton was wonderful in many respects! My appointment as a visiting professor with the responsibility for teaching only one course allowed me the opportunity to pursue issues that interested me when they interested me. That is a luxury that few of us have in years when we are trying to carve out time to read and write from within a busy teaching schedule. Early in the fall, I worked on a paper on the relation between the wrongness of killing us and our biological natures. On the one hand, it seems clear that it is not the case that it is wrong to kill us just because we are members of our species. On the other hand, it also seems clear (to me at least) that it is wrong to kill us
because killing deprives us of the value of our future lives and that our having such a future is based on our nature as human beings. Discussion and comments on the resulting paper by the fellows and other faculty at the center were most helpful. Since I was already in the East, I read the essay at places close by and profited from the discussion of it at the City University of New York, the College of New Jersey, and the University of North Carolina. The essay will appear in the *Journal of Medical Ethics*.

I engaged in other intellectual luxuries. According to Epicurus, death is nothing to us, for when we are, death is not and when death is, we are not. If this is so, how is it possible for death to harm us? I used to think that no one had offered an adequate account of how this is possible. I now think that I know how adequately to deal with this conundrum while at the same time being very hard-nosed about the Epicurean difficulty. However, getting the analysis just right is harder than I thought. I greatly appreciate having the time to hack away at something I have long thought intractable without time pressures.

I also had the time this year to draft an essay on why the donation of vital organs in accordance with the donation after cardiac death protocol has not been justified and an essay on whether the choice of physician-assisted suicide should not be honored because it is made by someone whose situation is very disadvantaged. (Think of other choices that have this feature.)

This spring I taught a class called “Bioethics: Life and Death Issues.”

I loved it! All of the issues involved are intriguing. The students were interesting and challenging and let me know when I was not clear enough. Princeton students are a delight. I also attended the meetings of the University Center for Human Values Undergraduate Forum and the Undergraduate Bioethics Forum—it is wonderful to support students who are engaged in ethical issues and who give themselves a challenging curriculum above and beyond their coursework.

I organized a May 1 afternoon panel, “Is It Wrong to End Early Human Life? Four Answers.” Most of the participants were well-known, had written widely on this subject, and were at Princeton or near by. Clear alternatives were laid out. The discussion was civil and thoughtful. Can university life be better than this?

The fact that Princeton offers such a wide variety of good things has greatly increased the value of this year. The Woodrow Wilson School is the academic home of many thoughtful, experienced people in the area of public policy. They draw bright, knowledgeable people into town to give talks. The Woodrow Wilson School talks I heard were among the highlights of this year.

The culture available close by also enriched my year here. Richardson Auditorium, where I heard, among many other things, mesmerizing performances of Mendelssohn's *Elijah Oratorio* and Dvorak's Eighth Symphony, was only an evening stroll away. There is something most satisfying about being able to walk through campus to be engulfed by great beauty at one's destination. McCarter Theatre hosted other fine musical performances. I attended exciting musical events at Westminster Choir College. I took advantage of the fact that the Metropolitan Opera and the New York City Opera are only a train ride away.

Princeton is a lovely place. The buildings on campus, especially the older ones, are magnificent. The 19-century homes close to downtown Princeton are a feast to the eye. How many other people in the world get to look out a Frank Gehry-designed building from their offices?

As I write this, the trees around Lake Carnegie have greened up. Some lovely white seagulls are sitting on trees across the lake. Recently hatched goslings follow their parents around the lawn. This has been a wonderful year in many, many ways.
Report from the Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellow in Bioethics

Bennett Foddy

To hold the Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellowship in Bioethics must be among the most outstanding experiences a recent doctoral graduate could hope for. Above all else, it represents a chance to meet and learn from an incredible wealth of excellent and famous professors in Princeton — not only from bioethics, but in philosophy and other related fields, such as neuroscience, psychology, and economics. I have been keenly aware of the seemingly unlimited intellectual resources of Princeton and its neighbors.

My postdoctoral position — a relative rarity in philosophical fields — grants me a great deal of freedom to write. I arrived in Princeton in August with a handful of half-finished papers and the beginnings of a book project on the ethics of drug addiction. The papers are written, and the book is beginning to coalesce, with some encouragement from Princeton University Press and some very useful feedback from the University’s faculty in philosophy and elsewhere. I hope to finish the manuscript by the end of the summer, which I will spend working in Princeton.

In the spring semester, I gave my first course, an undergraduate seminar, “Freedom, Self-Control, and Addiction.” This has been an extremely rich experience for me, since the topic overlaps significantly with my book project. The students were drawn from various academic disciplines, such as philosophy, neuroscience, psychology, and ecology and evolutionary biology. Most of them were significant contributors to a very rewarding and at times inspiring discussion over the course of the semester.

Coming from five years of immersion in an environment with a narrow focus on bioethics, the interdisciplinary environment of the University Center for Human Values has broadened my academic perspective markedly and, I hope, put a few more tools in my philosophical toolkit. In my view, the center’s mixed focus makes it ideal for forming useful collaborative relationships — I am running an empirical experiment in ethics with the center’s graduate fellow and psychology student, Chris Olivola, and I have also coauthored a paper with Adam Kolber, a Rockefeller visiting fellow, on the use of placebos in clinical practice. Though I will be sad to see the current Rockefeller fellows go, I look forward to the collaborative opportunities that next year’s group will bring.

The center’s programs have also been rewarding. I have particularly enjoyed the De Camp Bioethics Seminar series, for which I contributed one paper and coordinated two more. The Rockefeller Fellows Seminars have been enormously enriching, as have the more extracurricular events such as the Film Forum.

I will take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to the senior faculty, to the administrative staff, and of course to William K. Fung ’70, who endowed the Harold T. Shapiro Postdoctoral Fellowship in Bioethics. I could not have hoped for more.
Princeton University is an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer. The center particularly invites applications from women and members of underrepresented minorities. For information about applying to Princeton and how to self-identify, please link to: http://web.princeton.edu/sites/dof/applicantsinfo.htm

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