

## NOTES AND NEWS

### *Forthcoming Special Issues*

Topic: "Wittgensteinianism and Religion"

Date: October 2001

Advisory Editor: D. Z. Phillips

Deadline for submission: January 1, 2001

Philosophy of religion in the twentieth century has been significantly influenced by the work of Ludwig Wittgenstein. The journal will devote a special issue to this topic on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. Papers are invited on the impact of Wittgenstein and Wittgensteinianism on philosophy of religion, theology and religious studies, on the relation of Wittgensteinianism to other movements in the philosophy of religion, or on specific topics in the Wittgensteinian tradition.

Topic: God and Freedom

Date: October 2002

Advisory Editor: John Martin Fischer

Deadline for Submission: January 1, 2002

The cluster of topics pertaining to God and freedom has been of great interest to philosophers throughout the history of philosophy, as well as currently. Papers for this issue of the journal could explore historical treatments of the issues; alternatively, they could take an ahistorical, analytic approach. Perhaps the most salient question is whether God's omniscience is compatible with human freedom. Authors could explore different conceptions of God's knowledge, including temporal and atemporal conceptions, and conceptions on which God is said to have beliefs and those on which God is not construed as having beliefs. If God is thought to have beliefs, how are these belief-states similar to (and different from) human belief-states? Also, papers could investigate more and less "robust" views about the range of God's knowledge of future events. Similarly, submissions might consider different conceptions of human freedom and how they relate to God's omniscience; for example, some philosophers have argued that whereas God's foreknowledge rules out human freedom in the sense that involves alternative possibilities, it does not rule out a different sort of freedom (that does not involve alternative possibilities). In addition to these topics, submissions could address other related questions, including, "Does God have freedom (and in what sense)?" and "What is the relation between God's freedom and human freedom? (Are they similar or different? Is human freedom rooted in God's freedom and, if so, how? Does God's freedom limit human freedom? And so on.)"

Topic: Augustine  
 Date: October 2003  
 Advisory Editor: Gareth B. Matthews  
 Deadline for submission: January 1, 2003

Augustine is widely recognized to have set the terms of debate on several of the most philosophically contentious issues in Christian thought, including the problem of evil and the problem of God's foreknowledge and human free will. His discussion of time in the *Confessions* and some of his views on language have received considerable philosophical scrutiny. Commentators have disagreed among themselves about whether Augustine invented the notion of the will, and if so, why, and whether doing so was a good thing. Augustine's anti-Pelagian views have been claimed by some to be philosophically problematic and, by others, to be morally offensive. Contributions are invited on any of these topics, as well as on topics that have been relatively neglected by philosophers, such as Augustine's Biblical hermeneutics and his views on science and religion.

### *Conferences*

#### Conference on Christian Philosophy

Date: November 10-11, 2000  
 Place: Franciscan University of Steubenville

The theme of this conference is Christian Personalism. Keynote Speakers: Norris Clarke, S.J.; Kenneth Schmitz; Josef Seifert; John Crosby. For additional information, contact

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### *Seminars*

#### Thomas Institute Conference

Date: December 14-16, 2000  
 Place: Utrecht, the Netherlands

The Thomas Instituut of the Catholic Theological University at Utrecht announces a conference to explore the rich variety of theological and philosophical positions that are inspired by the thought of Thomas Aquinas.

Main speakers are Prof. Thomas O'Meara OP (University of Notre Dame) and Prof. Fergus Kerr OP (Oxford University). For more information about the Thomas Instituut's conference and about submitting paper proposals, see website: <http://www.ktu.nl/thomas>

### *Announcements*

The Morris Institute for Human Values in Wilmington, NC, is seeking to appoint one or more Speaking Fellows to assist in its mission of bringing ancient wisdom into modern life. We currently have four fellows and are looking for philosophers of any age who have a passion for bringing powerful ideas into the broader culture. Institute Fellowship is a status that brings with it occasional writing duties and speaking responsibilities to clients of the Institute. Fellows typically remain in their home institutions and travel to Morris Institute functions. We are seeking exceptional, practical philosophers with serious academic credentials who are lively, energetic, funny, and wise, and yet almost too humble to admit all this. Duties can involve speaking to large groups of business people or leading small discussions of top executives on retreat- Compensation for keynote speeches can range from one to five thousand dollars for an hour. Weekend retreats as a whole fall into the same range. Applicants must operate at the level of the best award winning classroom teachers nationwide. Backgrounds in moral philosophy or history are helpful but not necessary Presentation topics often include ethics, decision making, leadership, success, happiness, and aligned issues. To apply, send a letter of interest (maximum two pages) describing your desire to serve the institute and the nation as a public philosopher, a one page bio or abbreviated academic vita, and a video tape of one of your talks to a group of people, preferably not a classroom lecture, unless it is incredibly good. After a review of these materials, applicants may be asked to submit letters of recommendation at a second level of consideration. Applications are accepted year round Appointments are extremely highly selective and are made only when the right candidate is found. To get a feel for what the Institute does, visit our website <[www.MorrisInstitute.com](http://www.MorrisInstitute.com)>. Address applications for fellowship status to Tom Morris, Chairman, and mail to: Morris Institute for Human Values, 1213 Culbreth Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405.