

Jacqueline Ann Kovacevic Kegley

Jacqueline Kegley holds academic degrees from Allegheny College, Rice University and Columbia University, where she wrote a dissertation on Josiah Royce's theory of knowledge. Since 1969, she has taught a broad range of philosophy courses at the California State University in Bakersfield. She is welcome speaker at national and international meetings, having spoken throughout the United States, and in Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Hungary, Israel, Italy, the Philippines and Spain.

Her published work is extensive and diverse, and uniformly of the highest quality. She is responsible for numerous books—as author, co-author, or editor. She has written over a hundred essays and reviews. She has served a Principle Writer and Director for ten different grants for academic research. As a side endeavor, she had aided academicians and librarians by reviewing more than a hundred books for *Choice*. The themes of these publications have ranged broadly: Teaching and Education; Technology and the Philosophy of Science; Ethics, Bioethics, Genetics and Health Care. Underlying all of this work is her special emphasis upon Community. In addition, she has carefully examined the work of such American philosophers as: Marjorie Grene, Charles Hartshorne, John J. McDermott, Charles Sanders Peirce, Richard Rorty, Paul Wiess and Alfred North Whitehead. And, of course, she has repeatedly explored that rich mining lode of thought of her beloved Josiah Royce.

More than just a scholar, Jacqueline Kegley has been an active member of the academic community at Bakersfield, serving at all levels, from Department Chair to Chair of the Academic Senate, and as member of the Academic Senate of the entire California State University System. In 1988 she was named outstanding professor not only for California State at Bakersfield, but also for the entire California State University system, which then embraced far more than a dozen campuses. She has also worked to advance the teaching efforts of the American Philosophical Association. As for the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, she has, over the years, served two terms on the Executive Committees (1974-79, 2004-07), been both Chair (1992) and Co-chair (2006) of the Program Committee, and hosted an annual meeting on her campus (2005). She has also been a frequent participant on the program.

As principal agent, she has inspired and guided the efforts of the Kegley Institute of Ethics to broaden our communal understanding of the importance of morality. The activities of this Institute—workshops on ethics education, symposia on ethical topics, guest lecturers and consulting services—all serve to demonstrate the practical importance of moral ideas.

In all of these activities, Jacqueline Kegley has been informed by her deep understanding of the American philosophical tradition. She has lived out and carried forward a complex message, for she has promoted a wise and wholesome provincialism,

exercised the art of mediation through skillful interpretation and, through it all, practiced genuine loyalty to all her communities and to each of their individual members. From Royce especially, she has drawn such “life in the unity of the spirit” as shows itself in that balanced union of serious endeavor and gracious humor, of fitting assertiveness and humility, and as Royce put it, of “that unearthly confidence that, beyond all sorrow, all shall be, for the dutiful, somehow good.”

Postscript: a Jackie story, from an anonymous yet reliable eyewitness: in the early of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Jackie and one John McDermott showed great interest in kicking up their heels. Perhaps as an antidote to all the talk at the meetings during the day, these two would, after dinner, go drinking and dancing Jackie was and is “a wonderful dancer.” True, next morning there may have been sore legs and bleary eyes. But this confirms what many may not know; namely, that under Jackie’s calm scholarly exterior, there is a volcano of life-energy.

Frank Oppenheim

Xavier University