July 2015

Daniel Stepping Down after 10 Years; Kendrick to Assume Presidency

After ten years as president of the International Berkeley Society, Stephen Daniel, professor of philosophy at Texas A&M University, will hand over the leadership of the IBS to current vice-president Nancy Kendrick, professor of philosophy at Wheaton College (MA). Kendrick’s selection will be formally approved by members at the IBS-sponsored international conference in Jerusalem in January. She will be the first woman president in the IBS’s 41-year history.

Prior to becoming president in 2006, Daniel was vice-president for the last two years of Ian Tipton’s 1994-2006 presidency. Tipton had been impressed by Daniel’s enthusiasm and skills in organizing a 2003 conference that brought 25 internationally recognized Berkeley scholars to Texas A&M University in College Station. When Ian saw how Daniel appreciated the continued involvement of the original Rhode Island founders of the IBS—some of whom were not philosophers or historians—he knew he had found someone who could continue his endeavors.

As vice-president, Daniel helped revise the IBS by-laws and moved the Society’s website to Texas A&M University. One of his first acts as president was to make dues and donations payable online, which simplified domestic and international payments and ultimately helped increase membership by 16% and expand the number of countries in which members reside from 17 to 25. Today, almost all dues payments and donations are done online. In 2012 he oversaw a dues increase from $15/yr to $25/yr, and he introduced multi-year and lifetime memberships that have more than doubled the IBS’s annual income. Under his direction, the additional resources were used to support eleven international Berkeley conferences (including one in Newport, RI that he helped organize in 2008), as well as fund young scholar research and wireless internet service at Whitehall. As editor of the Berkeley Briefs, he expanded its coverage of news items, doubled its size, added color photos, and cut mailing costs by making the Briefs available online and sending it by email to members. In 2007 he received permission to make DVD copies of the 1983 movie about Berkeley, “The Dean of Thin Air,” available to members, and to this day he continues burning discs, generating additional income for the Society. Besides being IBS president, Daniel is a lifetime member of the Society, senior editor of the online journal Berkeley Studies, and regular contributor to scholarly publications on Berkeley’s philosophy.

Nancy Kendrick has been vice-president of the IBS since 2013, and before that was the secretary-treasurer for seven years. She is a frequent visitor to Whitehall and is the Society’s point person with the Colonial Dames of Rhode Island (who administer Whitehall) regarding the library and wireless service at Whitehall. A noted teacher, she has published articles on Berkeley, Descartes, Malebranche, Arnauld, and Hume, and has given presentations in the U.S. and Europe on Berkeley and figures in the feminist history of philosophy (e.g., Mary Astell and Mary Wollstonecraft). She recently was named the winner of the 2015 Turbayne Essay Prize for her examination of Berkeley’s treatment of willing and agent causation.
**Summer Whitehall Resident Scholars; Renovations Proceed**

Each summer IBS members spend from two to four weeks rent free at Whitehall, Berkeley’s Rhode Island home, in the “philosopher in residence” program. They give short tours of the house when visitors drop by, have access to the internet and the collection of Berkeley research materials in the IBS study center, and enjoy summer days in fashionable Newport.

The 2015 residents are **Alan Baker** (Swarthmore) and his wife Shelly Costa and their daughters Chloe and Sage; **Scott Breuninger** (South Dakota), his wife Melanie and their kids Hudson and Evelyn; **Richard and Susan Brook** (Bloomsburg); and **Nancy Kendrick** (Wheaton).

Last year’s plans to convert the attic storage area into a bathroom were postponed to replace rotten boards and clapboard siding and repaint the exterior of the house. Everything looks really nice now, but for the time being, residents will have to trek downstairs to the bathroom.

### Time to Pay 2015 Dues

IBS membership dues were due on **March 12**, Berkeley’s birthday. If you have not yet paid, send checks ($25 US/yr) to the Texas A&M University address listed above or use PayPal online (**http://georgeberkeley.tamu.edu/form.html**). Having a PayPal account is not required; a regular credit card is sufficient. You are also encouraged to donate to the Staley Research fund (to support conferences, publications, and travel to conferences by younger scholars) and the Whitehall Library fund (so that we can add resources to the study center at Berkeley’s Newport, RI home). You can become a lifetime member for $1000 ($500 for dues, $400 for research, $100 for Whitehall) and even stretch payments over five years (as long as you don’t miss two consecutive years of payments).

### Nancy Kendrick Wins Turbayne Essay Prize

The winning essay of this year’s Colin and Ailsa Turbayne International Berkeley Essay Prize Competition is “The ‘Empty Amusement’ of Willing: Berkeley on Agent Causation” by IBS vice-president Nancy Kendrick (Wheaton College, MA). It is available in the latest issue of Berkeley Studies 25 (2014): 3-15. Past winners are listed on the IBS website (**georgeberkeley.tamu.edu/turbayne.htm**).

The $2000 prize-winning essay is chosen every two years by a panel selected by the University of Rochester Philosophy Department. Fewer than 15 essays are usually submitted. The next deadline for submissions is November 1, 2016; the winner will be announced on March 1, 2017. Essays, which should be less than 5,000 words (in English), should be on some aspect of Berkeley’s philosophy, unpublished, and set for blind review. References should be to Luce-Jessop, using the MLA or a similar format. Send submissions to phtadmin@philosophy.rochester.edu, or Chair, Department of Philosophy, University of Rochester, P.O. Box 270078, Lattimore 532, Rochester, NY 14627-0078.
Jerusalem Conference Slated for January 11-14, 2016

Hebrew University in Jerusalem will host the next major international Berkeley conference on January 11-14, 2016. The IBS-sponsored event will feature presentations that indicate the breadth of current research on Berkeley and his international appeal. Ofra Shefi (Hebrew U Jerusalem) is coordinating trips to some of the many points of interest in Jerusalem and possibly the Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, and Nazareth. The conference organizers are Bertil Belfrage (Lund) and Meir Buzaglo (Hebrew U Jerusalem). Speakers and their topics include:

- Bertil Belfrage (Lund): “George Berkeley’s New Philosophy (after 1721)”
- Artem Besedin (Moscow St): “Scholastic and Cartesian Models of Intuition in Berkeley’s Philosophy”
- Richard Brook (Bloomsburg): “Berkeley’s De Motu”
- Matteo Bonifacio (Turin): “George Berkeley and the Way of Ideas”
- Meir Buzaglo (Hebrew U Jerusalem): “An Idealistic View on ‘Disappearing’”
- Georges Dicker (SUNY Brockport): “Berkeley’s Critique of Locke’s Theory of Perception”
- Keota Fields (Massachusetts, Dartmouth): “Berkeley on Skepticism and Empirical Psychology”
- Adam Grzeliański (Nicolaus Copernicus): “Siris and Berkeley’s Late Social Philosophy”

Marc Hight (Hampden-Sydney): “Berkeley’s Strange Semi-Occasionalist Mystery”
A. David Kline (North Florida): “Berkeley, Empirical Equivalence and Anti-Realism”
Tali Leven (Open U Israel): “Ghost of Departed Quantity”
Ville Paukkonen (Helsinki): “Berkeley’s Conception of Substance”
Luc Peterschmitt (Lille): “How did Berkeley Read Newton?”
Marc Pickering (Lynn U): “The Ideas in God’s Mind”
Timothy Quandt (Sacramento City C): “Berkeley’s Vulgar Defense of Defect and Suffering”
Michael Roubach (Hebrew U Jerusalem): “Berkeley and Husserl’s Notion of Abstraction”
Ofra Shefi (Hebrew U Jerusalem): “A Question of Reason: On Berkeley’s Attitude to Teleology”
Mark Steiner (Hebrew U Jerusalem): “Borrowings from Berkeley in Hume’s Treatise of Human Nature”
Piotr Szalek (Catholic U, Lublin): “Berkeley’s Non-cognitivism”
Marta Szymańska-Lewoszewska (Nicolaus Copernicus): “Unity, Diversity and Order: On Natural Religion in Berkeley’s Works from 1730s to 1750s”
Bartosz Żukowski (Lodz): “Berkeley and Collier: A Case of Fortunate Coincidence”

New IBS Officers to Be Elected at Jerusalem Conference

New IBS officers will be elected in Jerusalem for three-year terms. Current nominations include:

- **President and Archivist:** Nancy Kendrick, philosophy professor, Wheaton College, MA; IBS vice-president 2013-16, secretary-treasurer 2006-13
- **Vice-President:** Tom Stoneham, Graduate Research Dean, philosophy professor, University of York
- **Secretary-Treasurer:** Keota Fields, associate professor of philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth; IBS secretary-treasurer 2013-

- **Membership Secretary:** Genevieve Migely, associate professor of philosophy, Cornell College, Iowa; IBS membership secretary, 2006- 
- **Philosophy Associations Coordinator:** Seth Bordner, assistant professor of philosophy, University of Alabama; IBS philos. assoc. coordinator, 2014- 
- **Recording Secretary:** Ville Paukkonen, PhD student, University of Helsinki

Others who would like to be nominated should contact Steve Daniel (sdaniel@tamu.edu).
Donations to Whitehall Library

The IBS library at Whitehall houses more than 100 books and scores of articles on Berkeley’s life and thought (see georgeberkeley.tamu.edu/whlibrary.pdf). Even though some works are purchased with money from the IBS’s Whitehall Library fund, most of the materials in the library were donated by supporters or by the authors themselves. Those donations allow us to use our limited resources to fill in gaps in the collection. Recent donations include:


If you would like to make a work of yours available to researchers at Whitehall, please send it to Nancy Kendrick, IBS Vice-President, Wheaton College, Dept. of Philosophy, Norton, MA 02766, USA; email: nkendric@wheatonma.edu.

2014 Financial Report

Secretary-Treasurer Keota Fields reports that in 2014 the IBS had an income of $4955: $2750 dues, $830 in contributions to the Staley Research fund, and $375 for the Whitehall Library. $800 (29%) was ear-marked for 2015-2017 dues. One lifetime membership of $1000 was received. We now have three people with lifetime memberships.

2014 expenses ($1003.41) included support for the Dublin conference ($301.37), a $200 young scholar award to help with travel costs to the conference for Kenny Pearce (Southern California), Whitehall internet costs/router ($278.04), a donation to the Colonial Dames for Whitehall ($200), $24 for bank checks and deposit tickets, and $22 state fees. Of our $20,616.59 end-of-year holdings, $2487.93 was committed to Whitehall and $2264.73 to research.

Conferences Lead to Publications

In September Berkeley Revisited: Moral, Social and Political Philosophy, edited by Sébastien Charles (U Québec, Trois-Rivières), will be published by Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment. The collection of sixteen English and French essays arose out of a 2012 IBS-sponsored conference at the University of Sherbrooke campus in Longueuil near Montréal. Another volume, based on a conference sponsored by the IBS and held at Trinity College Dublin in 2014, is currently being reviewed by Oxford University Press. Edited by Stefan Storrie (Trinity College Dublin), Berkeley’s Three Dialogues: New Essays will include a dozen studies of Berkeley’s Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous (1713, revised 1734).

IBS Session at APA Eastern in Washington January 7

This year’s IBS session at the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association meeting (January 6-9, 2016) will feature discussions of two topics similar to those addressed last year. Slated for January 7 at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C., this year’s session will begin with a presentation by Melissa Frankel (Carlton U) on Descartes and Berkeley on sensory perception; her commentator will be IBS membership secretary, Genevieve Migely (Cornell C., Iowa). Nathan Sheff (U Connecticut) will then speak on the dilemma Berkeley poses to temporal absolutists; his commentator will be Eric Schliesser (Ghent). IBS president Stephen Daniel (Texas A&M) will chair the session.

Belfrage Announces 2016 Conference on “The Querist”

Bertil Belfrage has announced plans for an autumn 2016 conference devoted to Berkeley’s 1735-37 work, The Querist. The conference will complement his publication of Berkeley’s Works on Economics, the first volume of a new critical-text edition of Berkeley’s works prepared according to the standards of modern textual scholarship. Belfrage points out that “the importance of The Querist is not generally recognized, partly because of confusing editions, and partly because Berkeley’s later philosophy remains a neglected area of research.” He expects that some of the conference presentations will form chapters of a book on the historical background, context, and importance of The Querist in economic theory and in the development of Berkeley’s philosophy. Scholars interested in participating in the conference should contact Belfrage at belfrage.research@telia.com.