



Berkeley Briefs

Summer 2006

In Memoriam: Ian C. Tipton (1937-2006)

Charles J. McCracken

Ian C. Tipton, one of the world's great Berkeley scholars and longtime president of the International Berkeley Society, died unexpectedly at his home in Swansea, Wales, on 7 February 2006, at the age of 68. Of the many works about Berkeley that were published in the twentieth century, few rival in importance his *Berkeley: The Philosophy of Immaterialism* (Methuen, 1974). In that work he carefully examined the methods—philosophical, linguistic, and psychological—that Berkeley used in reaching his chief conclusions, and examined, analyzed, and criticized Berkeley's central doctrines about perception, matter, minds, and God. The philosophical insight, combined with the mastery of Berkeley's texts, that Ian brought to this work make it one of the masterpieces of Berkeley scholarship. It is not surprising therefore that, when the Garland Publishing Company brought out, late in the 1980s, a 15-volume collection of major works on Berkeley, Ian's book was one of only two full-length studies of Berkeley published after 1935 to be included.



Ian Tipton was born in Redhill, Surrey, England in 1937. He received an M.A. from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth (where he studied with the noted Locke scholar R. I. Aaron), and an M. Litt. from Oxford. In a teaching career that spanned almost four decades, Ian taught at the University of Keele (1964-67), the University of Wales, Aberystwyth (1967-88), and, from 1988 until his retirement, the University of Wales, Swansea. In 1994 he became president of the International Berkeley Society, a position he held until shortly before his death. His other publications included *Locke on Human Understanding: Selected Essays* (Oxford University Press, 1977), *Berkeley's Principles and Dialogues: Background Source Materials*, with C. J. McCracken (Cambridge University Press, 2000), and numerous articles.

Ian was a great scholar, but more than that, he was a great human being—kind, generous, and witty. In conversation, he could talk penetratingly about philosophy, and then turn to a play or musical or film he had recently been to, making insightful observations about it (and he loved the cinema and the theatre, especially the musical theatre), or recount an anecdote about some place he and his wife, Diana, had traveled to—and he was an avid traveler, who was always thinking of the last trip he'd made or the next one he hoped to make. It was my privilege and good fortune to know him for over twenty years and I'll always be able to picture the mischievous twinkle that would come into his eyes just before he'd tell a funny story, and then the solemn look that would come over his face when he turned to a serious or important topic.

Every Berkeley scholar knew Ian Tipton, at least from his books and articles, and many also knew him personally because of his role in the International Berkeley Society and his frequent participation in scholarly gatherings in Britain, Europe, and the United States. And because Ian and Di spent parts of many summers in residence at Whitehall (the house that Berkeley built in Newport, Rhode Island), no Berkeley scholar was better known than he to the Colonial Dames of Rhode Island, who are the keepers of Whitehall. His passing will be mourned there and everywhere that serious students of Berkeley's philosophy are to be found.

He leaves behind his wife, Diana, who was his beloved companion for more than forty years, his sons David and Huw and their families, including his three grandchildren, and his friends and admirers throughout the world.

Changes in IBS Officers



At the January 21, 2006 annual meeting of the IBS in Newport, Rhode Island, **Stephen Daniel**, professor of philosophy at Texas A&M University in College Station, was elected president of the Society. As vice-president for the past two years, Steve worked closely with **Ian**

Tipton and former IBS president **Lou Alfonso** to revise the Society's By-Laws. He has also been working with **Peter Lloyd** to update the IBS website and move it to its new address at Texas A&M University. Along with his wife **Breaux**, Steve inventoried the library holdings at Whitehall. The list is now posted on the IBS website.

Timo Airaksinen, professor of philosophy at the University of Helsinki and frequent Whitehall scholar-in-residence, is now IBS vice-president. Professor **Nancy Kendrick** (Wheaton College, MA) assumes the responsibilities of secretary-treasurer, a position held for many years by **Maureen Lapan**, who now becomes the Society's first archivist. **Joanne Dunlap** turns over her duties as membership secretary to Dr. **Genevieve Migely** (Cornell College, Iowa). Another long-time officer, **Dana Magee**, is stepping down as recording secretary; her successor is yet to be named. Professor **Margaret Atherton** (University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee) is the philosophy associations coordinator.

Dues Now Payable On-line

The \$15 membership dues and other donations for the IBS can now be paid on-line using a credit card or personal account on PayPal. For members in the U.S. and abroad, this should be much more efficient than surface mail. Due to excessive costs, the IBS will no longer accept checks from foreign banks. To join or pay dues on-line, simply follow the instructions at our new site (<http://georgeberkeley.tamu.edu/form.html>).

Donations of books to Whitehall should still be sent to the International Berkeley Society, Honyman Hall, Queen Anne's Square, Newport, RI 02840, USA.

Turbayne Berkeley Essay Prize

The biennial Turbayne International Berkeley Essay Prize, established by Colin and Ailsa Turbayne in conjunction with the Philosophy Department of the University of Rochester, will be offered again this year. The deadline for submissions is November 1, 2006. The winner will be announced on March 1, 2007 and will receive a prize of \$2,000. Submitted essays should be unpublished treatments of some aspect of Berkeley's philosophy and should be written in English and not exceed 5,000 words. All references to Berkeley should be to Luce & Jessop, and a MLA or similar standard for notes should be followed. Submissions are blind reviewed by a panel selected by the Department of Philosophy of the University of Rochester. Past winners are listed on the [IBS website](#).

Submissions should be sent on paper (not e-mail) to:

Chair, Department of Philosophy
University of Rochester
P.O. Box 270078
Lattimore 532
Rochester, NY 14627-0078

"The Dean of Thin Air": Pamphlets Available

In her role as IBS archivist, **Maureen Lapan** has unearthed twenty-five copies of the viewer's guide to "The Dean of Thin Air," a 1983 film about Berkeley produced by WSBE, a Rhode Island public television station and Irish National Television. The *New York Times* reported that the hour-long documentary was "decidedly modest, [but] has a generous share of illuminating moments." Filmed at several venues in Rhode Island, including Whitehall, Smith's Castle (North Kingstown), Casey Farm (Saunderstown), and "The Elms" (Newport), the movie is available for viewing only in select university libraries. The 23-page pamphlets are available for the cost of the postage on a first-come first-served basis to any member of the Society. Simply contact Maureen at aisling.cois.fharrage@cox.net.

International Berkeley Society: By-Laws

Revised and approved 1/21/06

Preamble: The International Berkeley Society, in accord with the general laws of the state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, is a non-profit organization founded in 1975 to enable its members to share their interest in George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne and eminent philosopher and theologian, and to become more aware of his impact on the philosophy, theology, science and culture of western civilization, both past and present. The Society holds meetings, conferences, and symposia and publishes the results of scholarly research in all parts of the world. The Society also promotes and encourages scholarly meetings, conferences, and scholarship through sponsorship. It brings attention and information, both old and new, about George Berkeley and his works to an international audience.

Organization:

A. Officers

- 1. President:** The two main duties of the President are (a) to provide stimulation, leadership, and coordination of the multiple activities of the IBS and (b) to preside, whenever possible, at annual meetings or executive meetings of the IBS.
 - a.** If during the term of the President a vacancy occurs in Executive Committee Membership, the President will, after consultation with the Executive Committee, designate a replacement for the remainder of the President's term. At the beginning of the next election cycle the vacated office will be filled by election of the members attending the annual meeting.
 - b.** If the President cannot fulfill his/her term, the Vice-President will automatically become President for the balance of the President's elected term.
 - 2. Vice-President:** The chief role of the Vice-President is to provide the necessary leadership and activity to aid the functioning of the IBS.
 - 3. Immediate Past President:** The Immediate Past President will provide information, advice, and consultation to the current President.
 - 4. Secretary-Treasurer:** The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for keeping and reporting the finances of the IBS, maintaining primary records of the Society, and assisting the President in arranging meetings of the Society.
 - 5. Membership Secretary:** The Membership Secretary will be responsible for increasing or sustaining membership and keeping records.
 - 6. Recording Secretary:** The Recording Secretary will record minutes of meetings.
 - a.** In the event that the annual meeting or Executive Committee meeting is held in conjunction with a major conference and the Recording Secretary is not in attendance, the President may appoint an ad hoc Recording Secretary for that meeting.
 - 7. Corresponding Secretary:** The Corresponding Secretary will be responsible for correspondence with members of the Society.
 - a.** The Corresponding Secretary will be appointed by the President.
 - 8. Archivist:** The Archivist is responsible for maintaining Society materials and making recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the preservation of documents relating to the Society.
 - a.** The Archivist will be appointed by the President.
 - 9. Moderator:** In the absence of the President or Vice-President, the Moderator will chair the annual meeting. Normally, the Moderator is not an elected position but is a President Emeritus of the Society appointed by the President.
 - 10. Coordinators:** The President, in consultation with members of the Executive Committee, may appoint state, national, or philosophical association site coordinators to plan, help plan, execute, or coordinate activities associated with the Society and to keep the Society informed of related activities. Two coordinators are standing appointments: Philosophy Associations Coordinator and Ireland Coordinator.
 - 11. National Ambassadors:** The President, in consultation with members of the Executive Committee, may name members in their countries to the honorary position of National Ambassador of the Society. Ambassadors, through their professional and scholarly activities act as good will liaisons in exchanging information about the Society and its benefits to individuals, organizations, and scholars.
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B. Committees

1. **Executive Committee:** The Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, other Past Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Archivist, Moderator, and Philosophy Associations Coordinator.
2. **Ad hoc Committees:** Ad hoc committees may be established by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee to promote and encourage the activities and goals of the Society.

C. Dues

Dues will be set annually (\$15 dollars as of this date) and may be changed by recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval of the membership at the annual meeting.

D. Selection of Officers

1. The President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Membership Secretary will be elected for three year terms at the annual meeting or a Society-sanctioned conference. Usually the annual meeting will be held concurrently with the January Arrival Dinner commemorating Berkeley's Arrival in Newport, but it may be held in conjunction with a major Berkeley conference.
2. The Immediate Past President holds the position *ex officio* until his/her successor ceases to be President.

E. Berkeley Briefs

The IBS will publish at intervals Berkeley Briefs, information about scholarly projects and other activities of the IBS and its members. All dues-paying members shall receive a copy.

F. Berkeley Newsletter

The IBS will assist in the financing and distribution of the Berkeley Newsletter.

G. Web Site Coordinator(s)

The President shall appoint up to two Web Site Coordinators to maintain and update the society's web site. The web site shall include links to the Berkeley Briefs and the Berkeley Newsletter as part of the web site construction.

H. Whitehall:

The IBS will assist in a variety of ways the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, the Friends of Whitehall, and any other groups interested in the preservation and restoration of Berkeley's house in Middletown, Rhode Island.

From the President

In the 41 years after its founding in 1975, the International Berkeley Society had only four presidents: **Ray Houghton** (Rhode Island College), **Phil Cummins** (University of Iowa), **Lou Alfonso** (Rhode Island College), and **Ian Tipton** (University of Wales, Swansea). Under their leadership the Society increased the appreciation of the life and writings of George Berkeley throughout the world by supporting research, sponsoring conferences, and encouraging exchange among scholars and the general public. Over the years IBS members (especially those in Rhode Island) have enthusiastically promulgated the goals of the Society, so that today the IBS has 135 members in twenty countries, and through its website it touches many more.

Having been involved in Berkeley research for the past decade and having organized a conference on Berkeley at Texas A&M University in 2003, I have come to value the work of the officers of the IBS. When I was elected president at the annual Newport meeting this January, I knew I could call on any of our four past presidents (especially Ian Tipton, my immediate predecessor) for insights about the history and workings of the Society. Over a comparatively short three-year span, I learned from Ian the importance of balancing the Whitehall-based heritage of the Society's Rhode Island roots with the need to enhance the organization's international standing. Along with others at the January meeting, I was glad that Ray Houghton, Lou Alfonso, and Maureen Lapan had prepared a plaque containing a seldom-seen portrait of Berkeley to send Ian in recognition of his contributions to the Society. From what his son Huw reports, Ian very much appreciated the plaque, which he received the day before he died. Most of us will never know about all the great and small things done by people like Ian and the IBS charter members to promote our organization's success. We will always be in their debt.

~ *Stephen Daniel*

Berkeley Session at APA Eastern Division Meeting

There will be an IBS-sponsored session on "Mind and Language in Berkeley" at the Eastern Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association in Washington, D. C. on Dec. 28, 5:15-7:15, in the McKinley Room of the Marriott Wardman Hotel.

Genevieve Migely (Cornell College, Iowa) will speak on "Berkeley's Actively Passive Mind" (comment by **Timo Airaksinen**, U of Helsinki), and **Seth Bordner** (U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) will speak on "Word and Object in Berkeley" (comment by **Marc Hight**, Hampden-Sydney College, Virginia). For information, contact the session chair, **Margaret Atherton** (U of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) at atherton@uwm.edu.

International Berkeley Conference **University of Helsinki, Finland** **6-9 August 2007**

In anticipation of the 300th anniversaries of Berkeley's *Essay towards a New Theory of Vision* (1709), *Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge* (1710), and *Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous* (1713), distinguished international scholars will gather for an IBS-sponsored conference on Berkeley at the Department of Philosophy of the University of Helsinki August 6-9, 2007. For more information, please contact one of the organizers:

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Conference on George Berkeley: Religion and Science in the Age of Enlightenment

Gaeta, Italy, 27-29 September 2007

George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne (1685-1753), was considered "the most engaging and useful man in Ireland in the eighteenth century." This hyperbolic statement refers both to Berkeley's life and thought; in fact, he always felt himself a pioneer called to think and do *new* things. He was the author of a *new* theory of vision, of the celebrated "*new* principle" of immaterialism, of a "*new* argument" to prove the existence of God, of a bold criticism of Newtonian infinitesimals, of a "*new* method of indivisibles," of *new* proposals to improve Irish economy, of a *novel* panacea (i.e., tar-water). Moreover, he was a very active Christian, one of the most progressive landowners in Southern Ireland, a zealous bishop always residing in his diocese. He planned the foundation of St. Paul's College in Bermuda for the religious and philosophical education of the natives. Berkeley was an empiricist well versed in the sciences, an amateur of the mechanical arts, spending many hours in the foundries learning metallurgical techniques.

The University of Cassino is organizing a three-day international conference (27-29 September 2007) on Berkeley's contributions to various scientific disciplines, in the context of eighteenth-century science, philosophy and religion. The conference will be held at the seaside resort of Gaeta, between Rome and Naples.

Junior scholars without home institutional funding whose papers are accepted for presentation will have their travel and lodging costs covered by the University of Cassino. Senior scholars will be asked to have their home institutions contribute their travel and lodging costs. There will, however, be a fund in order to provide subventions for those whose home institutions cannot cover the full amount.

Those involved in the scholarly study of the subject are welcome to submit abstracts for proposed 30-minute presentations. The deadline for the receipt of abstracts is **31 August 2006**. Send abstracts or questions to the conference organizer:

Silvia Parigi
University of Cassino
silpari@libero.it

Houghton Receives Honorary Doctorate



On May 20, 2006, **Raymond W. Houghton**, first president of the International Berkeley Society, received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Rhode Island College in Providence. A long-time member of the faculty at the College, Ray was honored

for his outstanding work in teacher education and promoting educational opportunities for disadvantaged urban youth. He was recognized also for his teaching, research, and service at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, and founding and serving as Director of Saor Ollscoil na h'Eireann (The Free University of Ireland). Noted for his efforts to promote Rhode Island civic organizations such as Notre Dame Hospital and the Salvation Army, he was praised for his service as President of the International Berkeley Society, the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Guidance and Personnel Association, the Rhode Island Educational Theater Association, and the Rhode Island Philosophical Society. Obviously, our first president is someone of whom we are justly proud.

For more information on Ray and this honor, go to:
www2.ric.edu/news/displayNews.php?id=news-291

Five Berkeley Conferences Planned for 2007-2010

As noted in this issue, two major conferences on Berkeley are scheduled for 2007, one in August in Helsinki, Finland, and another in September in Gaeta, Italy. Other conferences being planned include: Newport, RI (2008); Karlsruhe, Germany (August 2009); and Neuchâtel, Switzerland (2010). The 2009 conference will be a special commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the publication of Berkeley's *New Theory of Vision*; and the 2010 conference will commemorate the 300th anniversary of the publication of Berkeley's *Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*.

IBS Offices Move to Texas A&M; New IBS Website Address

The daily operations of the International Berkeley Society are now housed at the Department of Philosophy at Texas A&M University in College Station. The Department provides a server on which the IBS website is maintained, and it covers the costs of preparing, distributing, and mailing the *Berkeley Briefs*. Our mailing address is listed in the IBS logo on the first page of the *Briefs*. The Department phone number is 979-845-5660. The email address for Steve Daniel is sdaniel@philosophy.tamu.edu. The new website address is <http://georgeberkeley.tamu.edu>.

Although the Society's corporeal functions are now in Texas, its spiritual home remains in Newport, where our annual meetings are held in January.

Daniel Succeeds Belfrage as Editor of Berkeley Newsletter

After serving as the senior editor of the *Berkeley Newsletter* for two years, **Bertil Belfrage** (Bodafors, Sweden) is shifting his attention to help organize several upcoming Berkeley conferences and finish his multi-year project of preparing a new critical edition of Berkeley's works. With the help of **Marc Hight**, **Silvia Parigi**, **Laurent Jaffro**, and **Tom Stoneham**, Bertil spearheaded the effort to resume publication of the *Newsletter* (which had been discontinued in 1998) as an Internet journal in 2005. Earlier issues (# 1-15: 1977-98) are now available on a website hosted by Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. The two most recent on-line issues (# 16-17: 2005-06) include book reviews, updates to bibliographic references on Berkeley scholarship, brief notes, articles, and news.

For more information, go to the *Newsletter* site:
<http://people.hsc.edu/berkeleynews/index.php>

In addition to editing the *Berkeley Briefs*, IBS president **Stephen Daniel** will succeed Bertil as the senior editor of the *Berkeley Newsletter*, beginning with volume 18 (2007).

Colin Murray Turbayne (1916-2006)

Colin Murray Turbayne, an early and enthusiastic supporter of the IBS, died in his native Queensland, Australia on May 16, 2006 at the age of 90. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1950, Turbayne taught in the U.S. for more than thirty years (mainly at the University of Rochester) and was known for his discussions of the role of metaphor in modern science and Berkeley's doctrine of nature as a system of signs. He edited several of Berkeley's works and two volumes of scholarly interpretation, including a collection of essays from the first major IBS conference in 1979. His student and friend, **Paul J. Olscamp**, has written a warm and informative account of him in issue #17 (2006) of the *Berkeley Newsletter* (<http://people.hsc.edu/berkeleynews>).

“Berkeley Briefs” Now Available in Color by E-mail

You can now receive *Berkeley Briefs* directly as e-mail attachment in an Adobe Acrobat format. That way, you receive your copy sooner and can link directly to Internet and e-mail sites mentioned in the *Briefs*. Plus, if you want to follow up on an article or contact someone whose e-mail is given, you are already on-line. And the photos are in color!

All IBS members will continue to receive the *Briefs* by regular surface mail unless they choose the e-mail option. We encourage international members in particular to consider this option because it is more dependable and less expensive than surface mail. However, if you get the *Briefs* by e-mail, you will need to notify the membership secretary Genevieve Migely (GMigely@cornellcollege.edu) when you change your e-mail address.

The Acrobat Reader is available for free at <http://www.adobe.com>.

Whitehall Resident Scholars 2006-2007

Every July and August, Berkeley's Rhode Island residence, Whitehall, is home to scholars who take advantage of the opportunity to live in the house he designed and in which he wrote *Alciphron*. Located three miles from Newport, Whitehall has a modest library of more than 300 books and articles, most of which are by and about Berkeley. (For the library's holdings, go to the link at the [IBS website](#).) Each scholar stays for a week or two (sometimes longer) and conducts tours for occasional visitors on Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other guides are available on Tuesdays.

This summer's resident scholars were:

Nancy Kendrick, Wheaton College, MA
Alan Baker, Swarthmore College, PA
Timo Airaksinen, University of Helsinki
Richard Brook, Bloomsburg University, PA
John Troyer, University of Connecticut

In 2007 (which is booked up!), the list includes:

Cynthia Grund, University of Southern
Denmark
The Ven. Dr. Michael Ipgrave, Archdeacon of
Southwark, London, England
Samuel C. Rickless, University of California,
San Diego

For information about Whitehall, see our [website](#) or call 401-846-3116. For information about resident scholars, contact Joanne Dunlap at 401-847-7951 or randjdunlap@cox.net.

