

Purity and Idealization: Essays in Honor of Mic Detlefsen

Introduction

This issue of the *NDJFL* arises from the Purity and Idealization conference held in March of 2019 at the University of Notre Dame. The conference was held in honor of the 70th birthday of our dear friend and colleague, Mic Detlefsen. In the months between that conference and this publication, Mic sadly lost his battle with illness, and we now present this issue as a token of our esteem and our gratitude to Mic, in his memory.

In addition to his many other contributions to the logic and philosophy of mathematics community, discussed in part below, Mic Detlefsen was one of the chief editors of the *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic* from 1984 until his death. It is therefore especially fitting to be able to present this issue of essays in Mic's memory, written by scholars who are all friends or students of Mic's, and reflecting the broad sweep of topics in whose development Mic's work has been influential. We thank those scholars for their contributions, and we thank the University of Notre Dame's Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, Notre Dame's Office of Research, and a number of colleagues in the Departments of Philosophy and Mathematics at Notre Dame for their generous funding of the Purity and Idealization conference.

Michael Detlefsen (October 20, 1948–October 21, 2019) was born and raised in Nebraska. He attended Wheaton College on a football scholarship, graduating in 1971. His graduate education was at Johns Hopkins University, where he attained a PhD in 1976 with a thesis directed by Dale Gottlieb. Mic joined the faculty of the Philosophy Department at the University of Minnesota–Duluth in 1975, where he stayed until 1983. That year, he joined the Philosophy Department at the University of Notre Dame, where he was later appointed the McMahon-Hank Professor of Philosophy, a position he occupied until his death. Mic also held visiting positions at the University of Split (Croatia, 1981–82), the Universität Konstanz (1987–88, 1994), the Université de Paris 7-Diderot (Spring 2007), and the Collège de France (2009, 2011). He was Distinguished Invited Professor at the Université de Nancy 2 and the Université de Paris 7-Diderot, and Senior Chaire d'excellence at the Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France for the period 2007–2011. He was Distinguished Guest Professor at the Université de Paris 7-Diderot from 2012