

NOTICES

- **IN MEMORIAM: ROBERT K. MEYER.** Robert Kenneth (Bob) Meyer, a major contributor in the field of non-classical logics, and a central figure on the Australasian logical scene, died in Canberra on May 6, 2009 at the age of 76, after a long struggle with cancer. Before his retirement as Professor in 1998, Meyer spent more than twenty years at the Australian National University, first in Philosophy at the Research School of Social Sciences, and subsequently in the Automated Reasoning Project, of which he was a founder.

Meyer was born on May 27, 1932 in Philadelphia. He received a Bachelor of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1956. After studying Japanese in Kyoto, he served as a missionary at the Christian Institute of Industrial Relations in Osaka from 1959 to 1962. Impelled by questions about the foundations of his religious beliefs, he enrolled as a graduate student in Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh, receiving a Ph.D. in 1966 under the supervision of Nuel Belnap. From 1965 to 1974, he taught in Philosophy departments at West Virginia University, Rice University, Bryn Mawr College, Indiana University, and the Universities of Toronto and Pittsburgh. From 1974 until his retirement in 1998, he was at the Australian National University. Meyer served as the President of the Australasian Association for Logic in 1982 and was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in the same year.

Meyer was famous for his work in relevant logic and entailment. An early major contribution in the area was his proof (with J.M. Dunn) of the admissibility of the rule γ in the logics R and E . His best known work in the area is his series of papers with Richard Routley, expounding the relational semantics for relevant logics, and proving completeness theorems and many other results with its aid.

Bob Meyer's brilliance as a logician and his infectious enthusiasm stimulated the growth of the Australian school of logic. In the 1980s, the research group surrounding him pioneered the use of computers in investigating logical problems. This group formed the nucleus of the Automated Reasoning Project, that later morphed into the Logic and Computation Group (both at ANU).

Bob was noted not only for his enormous and unquenchable enthusiasm for logic, but also for his wit and humour. From 1969 onwards, he was the Maximum Leader of the Logicians Liberation League; for the manifesto of the LLL see <http://users.rsise.anu.edu.au/~rkm/manifesto.html>. Remarkable also is his contribution to rational theology, "God Exists!" (published in *Noûs* 21: 345-61, 1987), in which he proves that God's existence (under a certain interpretation) is equivalent to the Axiom of Choice. Bob is remembered fondly by his family and his many friends and colleagues as a remarkable logician, and a wonderful human being.

- **THE 2009 ASL ELECTION.** At the end of this year the ASL will elect a President and Vice President, two members of the Executive Committee of the Council, and two members of the Council. All terms are for three years beginning January 1, 2010. The ballot will be sent to all ASL members in mid-November. The 2009 Nominating Committee has nominated Alex J. Wilkie (Manchester) as President, Alasdair Urquhart (Toronto) as Vice President, Phokion Kolaitis (Santa Cruz) and Greg Restall (Melbourne) for the Executive Committee positions, and Moti Gitik (Tel Aviv) and Alf Onshuus (Los Andes) for the Council positions. The Nominating Committee consisted of Jeremy Avigad, Rod Downey, Erich Grädel, Alexander Kechris (Chair), Donald A. Martin, Charles Parsons, Richard Shore, and Carol Wood.