General Announcements

At the Eastern Division, American Philosophical Association, meeting in New York, in late December, ISEE held three sessions, two of which were joint sessions. The first session, on December 28, chaired by Eric Katz, New Jersey Institute of Technology, had an overflow crowd of about sixty people and heard papers by Gary E. Varner, Texas A&M University, "A Critique of Environmental Holism," with Peter S. Wenz, Sangamon State University, as commentator; and David Abram, SUNY at Stony Brook, "On the Ecological Consequences of Alphabetical Literacy," with Bruce Morito, University of Guelph, as commentator.

The second session, chaired by Laura Westra, University of Windsor, and John M. Abbarno, D'Youville College, Buffalo, NY, was held jointly with the American Society for Value Inquiry on the theme, "Advocacy and Values." Tom Regan, North Carolina State University, spoke on "The Proper Business of the Moral Philosopher," and Kristin Shrader-Frechette, University of South Florida, Tampa, spoke on "Ethical Advocacy and Environmental Values." The commentators were Robert K. Fullinwider, University of Maryland and William Aiken, Chatham College. Both speakers related personal episodes of persecution and unpleasantness with either academia or government officials, arising from their philosophical stances and research, in an effort to define the relation between philosophical beliefs and both advocacy and activism. This session, on December 28, had a crowd of about 90 persons, started at 7.30 p.m. and continued until after 10.00 p.m., over an hour past the stated ending time.

The third session was held jointly with the Society for the Philo- sophic Study of Genocide and Holocaust and the Radical Philosophy Association, December 29, on the theme, "Holocaust, Genocide, Ecocide." Eric Katz argued in "The Death of Nature" that a comparison of genocide with ecocide raises questions about the basis of a nonanthropocentric environmental ethics. Other papers were by Alan Rosenberg, CUNY Queens College, "Notes for the Left on the Holocaust," and Roger Gottlieb, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, "How Can We Face the Truth?" About forty persons attended.

Central American Philosophical Association meets in Louisville, KY April 24-25, 1991. There will be two ISEE sessions, the first Friday, April 24, 7.30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m., a critical analysis of Max Oelschlaeger's new book, THE IDEA OF WILDERNESS FROM PREHISTORY TO THE PRESENT (Yale University Press, see ISEE Newsletter, Winter, 1990, p. 10). Commentators will include Holmes Rolston and Eugene Hargrove, with a response by Oelschlaeger. Chair of the session will be Laura Westra.
The Second Session, of contributed papers, will be Saturday, April 25, 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. The papers are Ned Hettinger, College of Charleston, SC, "Bambi Lovers vs. Tree Huggers: Are Environmentalists Plant Chauvinists: Must Animal Activists Hate Nature?" (a critique of Holmes Rolston); Vincent Medina, Seton Hall University, South Orange, N. J., "The Nature of Environmental Values," Peter S. Wenz, Sangamon State University, "Shaking the Land Ethic's Foundations," and William Vitek, Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY, "Aristotle and Agriculture: Outlines of an Environmental Ethics."

There will be an ISEE session at the Pacific APA, Portland, Oregon, March 25-28, 1992. Contact: Ernest Partridge, Department of Philosophy, California State University, Fullerton, CA 92634.

The ISEE Program for the American Academy for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting, Chicago, February 6-11, 1992 is "International Law and Environmental Ethics." The session is Saturday, February 8, at 2.30 p.m. The speakers are: John E. Carroll, Department of Natural Resources, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, "International Ethics, Sustainability, and Natural Resources Development"; Laura Westra, Department of Philosophy, University of Windsor, Ontario, "International Law and the Question of Integrity"; Mark Sagoff, Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, University of Maryland, "Overlapping Consensus in International Regime Form> 

Transfer interrupted!


ISEE will hold a meeting in conjunction with the American Catholic Philosophy Association, San Diego, CA, on March 28, 1992. There will be a joint panel on the "Fate of the Earth and Human Responsibility. The chair, also a commentator, will be Kenneth Schmitz, who is the 1992 Aquinas Medalist. Speakers will include Thomas Berry, "The Fate of the Earth and Human Responsibility," Bill Devall, "Integrity, Biodiversity, and Deep Ecology," and Laura Westra, "Integrity of Creation and Sustainability."

ISEE will hold a joint meeting with the Society for Conservation Biology, June 28-July 2, 1992, at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA. The Society for Conservation Biologists is the largest world-wide organization of conservation biologists, with over 4000 members. Attendance is expected to exceed 500. The ISEE joint program will include one session on "Facts and Values in Conservation Biology," with three or four papers and commentators, and a roundtable on "Environmental Ethics and Conservation Biology," with a panel of three environmental ethicists and three conservation biologists. Paper submissions and proposals are invited. Especially desired are papers examining the implications of recent developments in epistemology and philosophy of science as they relate to conservation biology.
(for example, the demise of logical positivism and its implications for conservation biology). Contributions by philosophers, conservation biologists, and related disciplines are welcome. Authors should keep in mind that most of the audience will not be trained in philosophy. Preferred length is 10-14 pages; send three copies in a format suitable for blind review. Include a brief CV. Materials will not be returned. Persons interested in being commentators should send a brief CV. Nominations for the roundtable are welcome. Deadline for papers: March 1, 1992. Send papers, inquiries, and other correspondence to Jack Weir, ISEE-SCB Program Chair, Department of Philosophy, UPO Box 0662, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351. Phone 606/784-0046. Fax 606/783-2678. Another contact is Bryan G. Norton, Georgia Institute of Technology, Fax 404/853-0535.

ISEE will hold two sessions at the International Conference on Human Violence and Coexistence, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, July 11-13. The first is "Ecofeminism and Environmental Violence," with speakers Mary Anne Warren, Michael Fox, and Mary Mahowald. Paper topics to be announced. The second session is of contributed papers, send paper proposals to Laura Westra by February 28. Contact Laura Westra, address below.

A "Conference on Earth Rights and Responsibilities: The Confluence of Human Rights and Environmental Protection," sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and hosted by Yale Law School, will be held at Yale University, April 3-5. The conference will seek strategies for broader recognition of the right to a healthy and sustainable environment and mechanisms to implement this right. The conference call notes that "Tragically, the less powerful and affluent people of virtually all societies suffer disproportionately from environmental risks and often experience severe government suppression of their views. A series of panels and action oriented workshops will focus on conceptualizing, developing standards, and implementing rights to a healthy and sustainable environment, or environmental rights." The conference immediately follows the final preparatory meeting in New York for the UNCED Rio de Janeiro conference, and will be coordinated with it. Other sponsors include the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Churches Center for Theology and Public Policy, the Center for International Environmental Law, and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. Holmes Rolston is a participant. Contact Amy Crumpton, Science and Human Rights Program, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Phone 202/326-6795.

The Second International Conference on Ethics and Environmental Policies will be held at the University of Georgia on April 5-7, 1992. The Conference is sponsored by the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program of the University of Georgia and the Fondazione Lanza (Padua, Italy). The theme of the conference is "Theory Meets Practice" and its objective is to bring new environmental thinking (e.g. ecofeminism, deep ecology) to a practical basis. For more information, write Peter G. Hartel, Department of Agronomy, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. Phone 404/542-0898. Fax 404/542-0914.

The School of Philosophy of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil, in cooperation with the Center for the Advancement of Applied Ethics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, will hold the "International Conference on Ethics, University and Environment," May 24-29, in conjunction with UNCED in Rio de Janeiro. The conference will
be in Porto Alegre, a coastal city about 800 miles south of Rio de Janeiro, and the capital of the state of Rio Grande do Sul. Participants include Dr. Jose Lutzenberger, Secretary of State for Environment in Brazil, Maurice Strong from the United Nations, Dr. Jean-Pierre Dupuis from France, Holmes Rolston and J. Baird Callicott from the United States, Andrew Brennan from the United Kingdom (and Australia), Laura Westra from Canada. The conference organizer is Dr. Fernando Jose R. Da Rocha. Contact: Professor Fernando Jose R. da Rocha, Instituto de Filosofia e Ciencias Humanas, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Av. Bento Goncalves, 9500 - Campus do Vale, 91500 Porto Alegre, RS, BRAZIL. Fax: 55 (512) 36.17.62. A U. S. contact is Peter Madsen at Carnegie Mellon, 412/268-5703.

See in "Issues," below, for comment on UNCED in Rio de Janeiro.

The Third International Conference on Ethics and Development will be held at the Universidades Nacional Autonoma de Honduras, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, June 21-27, 1992. Sponsored by the International Development Ethics Association (IDEA), the theme of the meeting is "The Ethics of Ecodevelopment: Culture, the Environment, and Dependency." This conference follows UNCED in Rio de Janeiro, about a week later. The deadline for advanced registration is April 30, 1991. Contact David A. Crocker, IDEA, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 80523. Fax 303/491-0528. Telephone 303/484-5764.

"The Global Village: Ethics and Values in a Shrinking, Hurting World," will be held February 27-29 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Miami, FL, sponsored by Barry University, Miami Shores, FL. A main emphasis is higher education and the environment and the keynote address is "Crisis in Values and Ethics in Higher Education and the Environment." Contact Center for Applied and Professional Ethics, Barry University, 11300 NE 2nd Avenue, Miami Shores, FL 33161-6695.

"Stability and Change in Nature: Ecological and Cultural Dimensions," a biophilosophical analysis of concern for the environment, will be held March 16-18 in Budapest, Hungary. The conference is sponsored by the International Forum for Biophilosophy in collaboration with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society (USA). Contact Guido Van Steendam, Conference Coordinator, International Forum for Biophilosophy, Craenendonck 15, B-3000 Leuven, BELGIUM. Phone +32 (0)16 23.11.74. Fax +32 (0)16 29.07.48

Mark Sagoff has been chosen a 1991 Pew Scholar, one of ten chosen for this prestigious award, bringing $ 50,000 a year for three years. Sagoff will work on moral, aesthetic, and cultural issues in preserving biodiversity. Sagoff is Director of the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, University of Maryland. Holmes Rolston is an independent nominator for the Pew Scholars Foundation for the 1991 awards.

Patricia Werhane, Loyola University in Chicago, and the Society for Business Ethics invite the ISEE to cosponsor with them a special issue of the BUSINESS ETHICS QUARTERLY, March 1993, devoted to "Business and the Environment." ISEE members and others are encouraged to submit papers, from which about five will be selected for publication in this theme issue. Send papers and address inquiries to Laura Westra, Department of Philosophy, University of Windsor,
A new academic journal in Britain, ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES, is planned. The journal will be interdisciplinary and international, with particular reference to philosophy, economics, and law. The first issue is expected in early 1992. An editorial board has been named with persons from the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Canada, Poland, Germany, and from the fields of geography, philosophy, economics, politics, and natural resource policy. Papers are invited, to be sent to the editor: Alan Holland, Department of Philosophy, Bowland College, University of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YT, United Kingdom. Another contact is Andrew Johnson, The White Horse Press, 10 High Street, Knapwell, Cambridge CB3 8NR, United Kingdom. Phone 095 47 527.

The 1991 American Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Welfare Forum, November 7, in Chicago, was on the theme "The Veterinarian's Role in the Welfare of Wildlife." Palmer House Hotel in Chicago. Holmes Rolston gave an opening address, "Ethical Responsibilities to Wildlife." Papers from this symposium will be published in a March issue of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Nicolas M. Sosa, teaching at the University of Salamanca, Spain, announces a master's program in "Environmental Science" there. The two-year program has two major components in the first year: The environmental problem and the natural environment; the second year concentrates on the human environment, treating human impact on the environment. Professor Sosa is the author of ETHICA ECOLOGICA, see recent books below.

The Cajun Prairie Preservation Society has been formed by Bruno Bursari, who teaches biology at Louisiana State University at Eunice, in collaboration with colleagues. They publish a journal and organize meetings devoted to conserving natural Cajun Prairie plants and wildlife. Contact Bruno Bursari, Biology Department, Louisiana State University at Eunice, P. O. Box 1129, Eunice, LA 70535. Phone 318/ 457-7371.

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL JOURNAL OF INDIA will publish a special 1993 issue on "Environmental Ethics and Power of Place." Article proposals should be submitted to Professor Rana P. B. Singh, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL JOURNAL OF INDIA, No. B29/12A Lanka, Varanasi, U. P. 221005, India.

The Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council has adopted a strategic funding program for Applied Ethics, and about a quarter of the grants under that program over the last two years have been on environmental topics and sustainable development.

The McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law has received a major grant of $ 750,000 over five years from Hydro Quebec for work in environmental ethics. Contact Margaret A. Somerville, Director, McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law, 2020 University, 24th Floor, Montreal, Quebec H#A 2A5, Canada.

The Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics (CSSPE) has pursued environmental
themes in recent programs in conjunction with ISEE. The next meetings of the CSSPE will take place at the Learned Society meetings at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown, PEI, on May 27-30. A major theme of these meetings will be normative issues related to "Aboriginal Self-Government and Land Claims and Canadian Land Use Decisions: Social and Environmental Implications." Papers or abstracts may be sent to Professor Sylvie Tourigny, Sociology Department, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5189.

CSSPE also publishes a newsletter three times a year. Contact: Peter Miller, Department of Philosophy, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9, Canada. E-mail: MILLER@UWPGO1.UWINNIPEG.CA. Membership costs $10. (Thanks to Peter Miller for the Canadian items.) Schumacher College, Dartington, Devon, UK, is holding two short courses this spring. The first is on Deep Ecology, led by Arne Naess, with contributions from a number of others. The systematic basis of deep ecology will be explored, both as a philosophy and a social movement. The course is running from January 6 - February 6. The second course is Bioregionalism, led by Kirkpatrick Sale, from March 16 - April 3. The course investigates the organization of communities according to natural formations rather than political boundaries. Contact: The Administrator, Schumacher College, The Old Postern, Dartington, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6EA, United Kingdom.

The Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers will be held this year at the Central Division APA in Louisville, KY. The Nominations Committee is making the following recommendations this year: President: Holmes Rolston, III, term to expire spring 1994 Vice-President: Eric Katz, 1994 Secretary, Laura Westra, 1995 Treasurer, Peter Miller, 1993 The Nominations committee also recommends a constitutional change to separate the office of President from the Editorship of the Newsletter.

Members of the Nominations Committee are: Jack Weir, Chair (Department of Philosophy, UPO Box 0662, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351, phone 606/784-0046, fax 606/783-2678), Kristin Shrader-Frechette (Department of Philosophy, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620-5550, phone 813/974-2447), George Sessions (Department of Humanities, Sierra College, Rocklin, CA 95667, phone 916/624-3333, Department of Humanities, ext. 2264, office), Robin Attfield (Philosophy Section, University of Wales, P. O. Box 94, Cardiff CF1 3XE, United Kingdom, phone (0222) 874025, fax (0222) 371921. Members represent Eastern, Central, and Pacific Divisions of APA, and an International member. This committee will continue in 1993, when, pending the outcome of the April business meeting, only one officer (Miller) may need to be replaced.

Andrew Brennan has accepted a position as professor of philosophy at the University of Western Australia. Address: Department of Philosophy, University of Western Australia, Perth WA 6009, Australia. Phone 09 380 2107. Fax 09 380 1057. E-mail: abrennan@au.oz.uwa.cc.uniwa. Brennan was formerly the contact person for ISEE in the United Kingdom, and his replacement will be announced in the next newsletter.

Robert Elliot is the contact person for Australia and New Zealand. Send membership forms and
dues in amount $15.00 Australian ($7.50 for students) to him. Address: Department of Philosophy, University of New England, Armidale, N.S. W. 2351, Australia. Telephone (087) 7333. Fax (067) 73 3122. Arrangements are underway to have a special contact person for Eastern Europe, Russia, and the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Persons elsewhere in Europe, Asia, and South America may remit to any of the above persons, or to Laura Westra, address below, as seems convenient in any of the four currencies.

Members and others are encouraged to submit appropriate items for the newsletter to Holmes Rolston, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, who is editing this newsletter. Phone 303/491-5328 (office) or 491-6315 (philosophy office) or 484-5883 (home). Fax: 303-491-0528, 24 hours. News may also be submitted to Laura Westra, Department of Philosophy, University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada N9B 3P4, and Canadian news is best directed to her. Items may also be submitted to other members of the Governing Board. Include the name of an appropriate contact person, where relevant and possible. International items are especially welcomed.

Dues for 1992 are now payable. See form at the end of the newsletter. Members with dues unpaid for 1991 will find a pink slip accompanying your newsletter. About 220 persons have paid 1991 dues. In addition, $87 was received in donations. The balance before reproducing and mailing this newsletter is about $800.00. A financial statement will be published in the next newsletter.

**Jobs in Environmental Ethics, Philosophy, Policy, and Conservation**

Three positions that involve environmental ethics have been recently advertised. Other positions have been advertised in related areas. In some cases the application deadlines may have passed, but others are still open.

University of North Texas, Denton, TX. Senior level position, starting fall 1992, with an applied specialty in the field of environmental ethics, and a traditional specialty in either philosophy or religious studies. Contact Dr. Eugene C. Hargrove, Chair, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of North Texas, P. O. Box 13525, Denton, TX. Phone 817/565-2266.

University of Colorado, Boulder. AOS: Any area of moral, social, political, or legal philosophy. AOC: Bioethics, environmental philosophy, feminism. Preference to candidates at the assistant level, but other levels considered. Contact: Professor James W. Nickel, Search Committee Chair, Campus Box 232, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0232.

Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, Department of Philosophy, has listed a position at the assistant professor level. AOS: applied ethics, open to business ethics, environmental ethics, gender and ethics, computer ethics, ethics and religion, but excluding bioethics. AOC philosophy
of law or social philosophy preferred.

Tulane University has endowed a chair in environmental policy and is seeking the first person to fill the chair. They are seeking a senior person with a national reputation for research on environmental policy. Salary and related matters are negotiable. Contact Professor James Wright, Chair of Search Committee, Department of Sociology, 220 Newcomb Hall, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118.

University of California, Santa Cruz. The Board of Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz, is recruiting for a full-time tenure track position in the field of applied environmental policy analysis. Rank: Assistant Professor. Position available September 1992. Contact Michael SoulÇ, Environmental Studies Board, University of California, Santa Cruz, 95604.

University of California, Santa Cruz. Third World Ecological Sustainability. A second position is available in this area.

New Jersey Institute of Technology has up to five positions open:
1. Social scientist in environmental policy with specialization in environmental economics.
2. Environmental studies, specialization open.
3. Social scientist, political theorist, or philosopher in technology, environment, or public health policy.
5. Global studies historian.
These positions are part of a rapidly expanding interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate program in Science, Technology, and Society. Contact: Personnel Office, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ 07102.

Recent Books, Articles, and Other Materials

--THE MONIST, April 1992, is a special issue on values in the natural world, edited by J. Baird Callicott.

--Freya Mathews, THE ECOLOGICAL SELF. London: Routledge, 1990, is also being published in the United States by Barnes and Noble. Savage, Maryland, 1991. Mathews claims here the first book-length treatment of the metaphysical foundations of ecological ethics. The author seeks to provide a metaphysical illumination of the fundamental ecological intuition that we are in some sense "one with" nature and that everything is connected to everything else. She considers and rejects the dominant atomistic metaphysics implicit in Newtonian physics. Drawing on Einsteinian cosmology, modern systems theory, and the philosophy of Spinoza, she elaborates a new metaphysics of interconnectedness. The normative implications of this new metaphysics for our conceptions of nature and the self are analyzed in this provocative study.
A sample passage, on intrinsic value. "A being may be said to be endowed with telos, self-interest and agency even if it is not in the ordinary sense conscious at all. The criteria for these features are systems theoretic rather than intentional. ... A further categorically new feature of such beings, which needs to be emphasized here, is their power of self-envaluation: a being with self-interest--which is to say, a being with an interest in its own perpetuation--is a being which values its own existence. Again, this value which the being in question may be said to have for itself may not be a function of consciousness, or conscious awareness. Rather, it is constituted by the being's actively seeking to maintain itself in existence. Self-realizing beings, in other words, embody value, just as they embody telos. To be actively self-maintaining is just what it is, on this account, to be valuable to oneself. Such activity is the primitive form of value, the preconscious form in which value first enters the world. It is not that an organism seeks to maintain itself because it values it existence, but rather that seeking to maintain itself is constitutive of its valuing itself. Since the very existence or continued existence of such beings is mute testimony to the value that they possess for themselves, I propose that such beings be described as intrinsically valuable" (pp. 104-105). A fine study with a terrible price, $ 62.50 for 200 pages.

--Nicolas M. Sosa, ETICA ECOLOGICA, Universidad Libertarias/Prodhufi, S. A., 1990. This is billed as the first book in Spanish to treat environmental problems from the standpoint of ethics. More details when available.

--ZWIERZETA I MY [ANIMALS AND US], a Polish journal devoted to animal welfare issues, published its first issue, Number 1, in September 1991. The editor and founder is Alina Kasprowicz, and a supporting group is the Polish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The editorial statement says that the purpose of the journal is to change present social consciousness and attitudes toward nonhumans and to promote a new way of thinking about the nonhuman environment, a new approach called an ecological conscience. Opening articles include one by a Catholic author and one on law and animals. Jan Wawryzyniak has a short article, "Podstawowe informacje dla obroncow nieludzkich istot zywnych" [Basic Information for Defenders of Nonhuman Living Beings], directing Polish readers to many sources available in the West. There will be six issues a year, one in English. Editor's address: ul. Dabrowskiego 25 m 3, 60-840 Poznan. Phone 462-85.

Routledge announces plans to publish a series, ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHIES, edited by Andrew Brennan. Written as discussions of the theoretical and philosophical underpinnings of current environmental thinking, volumes in the series will be addressed to a wide readership. They will be critical and informed; the authors will mainly be philosophers chosen for their ability to communicate clearly and effectively. Each book will be about 65,000 words in length and will be a complete introduction to its field within (or related to) environmental philosophy. Volumes commissioned so far, with provisional contents and dates of publication, are:

1. ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHIES, 1992, Andrew Brennan (Western Australia). The title volume briefly surveys the whole area to which the series is devoted. A feature of this volume is an overview of likely future trends.

2. DEEP ECOLOGY, 1992, Eric Katz (New Jersey Institute of Technology). Over the last
twenty years, a clear schism has developed between those thinkers labelled 'light green' and others who are 'deep green.' Katz brings readers up to date with this debate, considering the issue of whether our ethical and political thinking can ever take seriously the deep ecologists' claims on behalf of interspecies equity. Katz focuses critically on some of the key themes of deep green thinkers, assessing the metaphysical as well as practical strengths and weaknesses in their positions.


4. ECOLOGY, POLITICS AND POLICY, 1993, John O'Neill (Sussex). In the wake of the Brundtland and Pearce reports on the environment, and the management of our common resources, there is need for a sober analysis of the underpinnings of environmental policy. Among others, O'Neill considers such critical issues as the relationship between liberalism and the new environmentalism, and the ethical limits of the market.

5. ETHICS, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY, 1984, Paul B Thompson (Texas A & M). Food production sustains all human society, while the food and agrochemical industry is also implicated in some of our most severe environmental problems, as well as problems in social and international relations. Thompson considers whether it is time to consider a new ethic of farming and land-use.

Plans for future volumes include foundational studies of environmental education, ecology and war, ecology and religion, and risk analysis. For further information about the series or suggestions about future volumes, please contact the editor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Western Australia, Perth, WA 6009, Australia. Proposals for volumes in English by authors outside North America and outside the United Kingdom are especially welcomed.


--Conrad G. Brunk, Lawrence Haworth, and Brenda Lee, VALUE ASSUMPTIONS IN RISK ASSESSMENT: A CASE STUDY OF THE ALACHLOR CONTROVERSY. Waterloo, Ontario: Wilfred Laurier University Press, 1991. Increasing reliance by public policymakers on scientific advisors is motivated in part by an assumption that such advice can be value-free. This study, based on the alachlor pesticide case, shows that risk assessors were divided by the fact that they held differing values, not by differences concerning the purely empirical aspects of the risk assessment. The authors concludes that risk assessment is as much a normative as it is a scientific enterprise. (Thanks to Peter Miller).

--EARTHKEEPING NEWS is a newsletter of the North American Conference on Christianity and Ecology, recently launched. Address: North American Conference on Christianity and Ecology, 1522 Grand Ave., #4C, St. Paul, MN 55105.

--INSIGHTS ON GLOBAL ETHICS is a newsletter published by the Institute for Global Ethics, Box 563, 21 Elm Street, Camden, ME 04843. Phone 207/236-6658.

--CARING FOR CREATION: VISION, HOPE AND JUSTICE is a study booklet, 28 pages, by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Environment Task Force, released August 1991. Contact: ELCA Distribution Service, 426 South Fifth Street, Box 1209, Minneapolis, MN 55440. Phone 800/328-4648.

--Vera K. White, and others, HEALING AND DEFENDING GOD'S CREATION: HANDS ON! PRACTICAL IDEAS FOR CONGREGATIONS. Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) informational, loose-leaf booklet, about 60 pages, with sections on "Discipleship and Worship," "Learning and Teaching," "Lifestyle," "Reusing, Reducing and Recycling," and "Legislation, Public Policy, and Community-Involvement." Supplements will be issued periodically. $ 4.95. Contact: Office of Environmental Justice, Social Justice and Peacemaking Ministry Unit, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202. Phones 502/569-5809 and (for orders only) 800/524-2612.


--Richard Sylvan, "War and Peace IV: Tao and Deep-Green," 23 page typescript. Taoism and deep-green environmental theory diverge over war. Taoism is not a pacifist doctrine but is committed to skilful defensive militarism, limited defensive military operations for specific purposes. Deep-green theory stands opposed to professional militarism, and is committed to a principled pacifism. Conveniently, a route through Taoism leads to problems of pacifism and toward a deep green theory. Both papers are available from Richard Sylvan, Department of Philosophy, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, P. O. Box 4, Canberra ACT 2600, Australia.

--Ruth Kirk with Jerry Franklin, THE OLYMPIC RAIN FOREST: AN ECOLOGICAL WEB. Seattle: University of Washington Press, June 1992. Franklin was chief plant ecologist for the U.S. Forest Service and is now professor of ecosystem analysis at the University of Washington.

--John Kleinig, VALUING LIFE. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1991. The main aim is to argue for the value of life in various human settings (chapter 7, "Towards a Morality of Life"), but Kleinig analyzes "organismic life" (chapter 3), "plant life" (chapter 4), and "animal life" (chapter 5).

--Peri Knize, "The Mismanagement of the National Forests," ATLANTIC MONTHLY, October 1991, pp. 98-112. The U.S. Forest Service, protected from congressional scrutiny by pork-barrel politics and imaginative booking, is devastating America's national forests through needless and unprofitable timber sales. A feasible and inexpensive policy alternative is available. The once-proud and formerly revered U.S. Forest Service, the administrators of the national forests, are losing credibility as forty years of forest devastation come to light.


Copies of the above three articles, for those who do not have access to these journals, can be obtained from Riley E. Dunlap, Departments of Sociology and Rural Sociology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-4006.


--Larry Rasmussen, "Toward an Earth Charter," CHRISTIAN CENTURY 108 (no. 30, October 23, 1991):964-967. The Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro is inviting NGO's, including Christian Churches, for guidance in formulating an Earth Charter. What might Christian say, drawing on the World Council of Churches' Canberra Assembly? Models are dominion, stewardship, partnership, sacramentalism, ecofeminism, a prophet-teacher model, and an evolutionary. Rasmussen proposes an evolutionary sacramentalist cosmology. The Rio conference is really an assignment in philosophical metaphysics that can be made operational on a global scale.

--Clifford W. Cobb and John B. Cobb, Jr., "The Costs of Free Trade," CHRISTIAN CENTURY 108 (no. 30, October 23, 1991):967-969. The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will allow transnational corporations to escape environmental responsibility. The transnationals are subject to no government, and move to another country if they dislike the standards of one. They push standards down; no developing nation has the power to raise them higher than the average. Corporations control governments, rather than governments regulating corporations. Clifford Cobb is a free-lance writer; John Cobb is recently retired from Claremont Graduate School in theology.

--Brad Knickerbocker, "Biodiversity: Top Concern in Saving Species," December 23, 1991; "Extinctions 'Reduced to a Trickle'," December 24, 1991; and "Species Act Pits Property Rights Against Nature," December 27, 1991, in CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. "The political battle over the Endangered Species Act reaches far beyond the wisdom or cost of saving this or that plant or animal. It involves deep philosophical questions of mankind's place in nature and the rights of a free society--the responsibilities that come with the power to exploit natural resources and the freedom to use private property for economic gain with as little government interference as possible."

--W. Michael Hoffman, "Business and Environmental Ethics," BUSINESS ETHICS QUARTERLY 1(no. 2, 1991):169-184. Argues for biocentrism in environmental ethics. Business has obligations to protect the environment over and above what is required by law. There is danger in "good ethics is good business" as a basis for environmental ethics in business, and both business and environmentalists need to be wary of this. Business and environmental ethicists ought to promote deeper moral perspectives than ones based on mere self-interest or human interest. The environmental movement must find ways by which business can incorporate and protect the intrinsic value of animal and plant life and other natural objects that are integral parts of ecosystems. This article was originally the president address to the Society for Business Ethics, August 1990.


--Dale Jamieson, "Rights, Justice, and Duties to Provide Assistance: A Critique of Regan's Theory of Rights," ETHICS 100(January 1990):349-362. Regan's CASE FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS solves the predation problem by claiming that we humans are required to assist those
who are victims of injustice, but we are not required to help those in need who are not victims of
injustice. We have no duty to assist the sheep about to be eaten by the wolf, since the wolf is not
committing an injustice. But that is an inadequate reply. Consider a case where a human is about
to be injured by a boulder rolling down a hill? If the boulder is set in motion deliberately by
another human wishing to kill the victim, we are required to assist. But if the boulder is set in
motion by an animal inadvertently, we are not required to assist. We are required to help those
about to be harmed regardless of whether moral agency in present at the source of harm. But
with this Regan's reply about predation fails, and the predation problem is unsolved in the animal
rights' view. Jamieson is at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

--Dieter T. Hessel, ed., AFTER NATURE'S REVOLT: ECO-JUSTICE AND THEOLOGY.
Santmire, Larry Rasmussen, Heidi Hadsell, George Kehm, Holmes Rolston, III, George Tinker,
Carol Johnston, and Phil Hefner rethink aspects of doctrine, spirituality, and lifestyle in ways
that are critical of anthropocentrism in Christianity. Rolston's article is "A Christian
Understanding of Wildlife and Wildlands."

--James A. Nash, LOVING NATURE: ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY AND CHRISTIAN
the major dimensions of today's ecological crisis and the accompanying ethical issues. Claims
that the precepts of Christianity offer a strong foundation for a responsible environmental ethic.

"The traditional shaman ... is in many ways the 'ecologist' of a tribal society. He or she acts as
mediary between the human community and the larger ecological field, regulating the flow
of nourishment, not just from the landscape to the human inhabitants, but from the human
community back to the local earth. By his or her constant rituals, trances, ecstatics, and
'journeys' the shaman ensures that the relation between human society and the larger society of
beings is balanced and reciprocal, and that the village never takes more from the living land than
it returns." "Sadly, our society's relation to the living biosphere can in no way be considered a
reciprocal or balanced one. ... From an animistic perspective, the clearest source of all this
distress, both physical and psychological, lies in the ... violence perpetrated by our civilization;
only by alleviating the latter will we be able to heal the former. ... We are human only in contact
and conviviality with what is not human. Only in reciprocity with what is Other will we begin to
heal ourselves."

--Michael Satchell, "Any Color but Green," U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, October 21,
1991, pp. 74-76. The "wise-use" alliance rising to battle the environmental movement, now
organized as a coalition, and said by some to be the most serious challenge to environmentalism
in two decades. The wise-use movement regards "wilderness, wetlands, and endangered species
as an unholy trinity responsible for most of its gut worries." Charles Cushman, a spokesman,
says, "The preservationists are like a new pagan religion, worshipping trees and animals and
sacrificing people. It's a holy war between fundamentally different religions."

--ENVIRONMENTAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PHENOMENOLOGY. The winter 1992 issue
marks the start of this multidisciplinary newsletter's third year. This issue focuses on "place and
place experience" and includes book reviews and poetry as well as essays by composer R. Murray Schafer, philosopher Antony Weston, and geographers Edward Relph and J. Douglas Porteous. The theme of the spring 1992 issue is "phenomenology and environmental ethics." Contributors include naturalist Paul Krapfel and philosophers Ralph R. Acampora, Joseph Grange, and Jeffrey Wattles. Annual subscription $ 6 ($ 8 foreign). Contact: Dr. David Seamon: Architecture Department, Seaton 211, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506.

--John Bellamy Foster, "Capitalism and the Ancient Forest," MONTHLY REVIEW 43(no. 5, October 1991):1-17. Summary of events in the Pacific Northwest over recent years, with a focus on capital's destruction of the forest, "a story of how capital has sought to weather a growing political crisis associated with the destruction of the ancient forest by turning its two main enemies--the workers and the environmentalists--against each other." Foster teaches sociology at the University of Oregon.

--Jacklyn Cock, "Towards the Greening of the Church in South Africa: Some Problems and Possibilities." 26 page typescript, in press, available from the author, who is at the Department of Sociology, University of the Witwatersrand, 1 Jan Smuts Avenue, Johannesburg, South Africa. Probably the principal paper available for assessing the power and prospects for Christianity as a force for environmental conservation, as well as for human development, in South Africa. The author has also formed, with Eddie Koch of the Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL, GEM, Group for Environmental Monitoring, that seeks to do research in and provide education for environmental issues in South Africa, especially as this affects those who have been the victims of apartheid.

--U. De V. Pienaar, "An Overview of Conservation in South Africa and Future Perspectives," KOEDOE: RESEARCH JOURNAL FOR NATIONAL PARKS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA 34 (no. 1, 1991):73-80. With particular concern for a national environmental plan and policy that will arrest and reverse current resource and environmental deterioration while at the same time promoting approaches to attaining a better quality of life for all South African


--Vicki Hearne, "What's Wrong with Animal Rights," HARPERS, September 1991. An animal trainer claims that many domestic animals gain their fullest satisfaction from the right kind of training. Animals benefit from demanding work that challenges their potential. "The logic of the animal-rights movement places suffering at the iconographic center of a skewed value system." "The problem with the animal-rights advocates is not that they take it too far; it's that they've got it all wrong." "Work is the foundation of the happiness a trainer and an animal discover together." Of her dog, Drummer, she says, "I have enfranchised him in a relationship to me by educating him, creating the conditions by which he can achieve a certain happiness specific to a dog." "Only Drummer's owner has the power to obey him--to obey who he is and what he is capable of--deeply enough to grant him his rights and open up the possibility of happiness."
--Thomas Berry and Thomas Clarke, edited by Anne Lonergan and Stephen Dunn, 
BEFRIENDING THE EARTH: A THEOLOGY OF RECONCILIATION BETWEEN 
HUMANS AND THE EARTH. 158 pages, paper $ 7.95. Two Catholic priests discuss the role of 
religion in the ecological movement. Religion has failed to address the despoiling of Earth, 
which is the greatest crisis in the history of the planet. Mystic, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 

--Andrew Linzey, "The Theological Basis of Animal Rights," CHRISTIAN CENTURY, October 

--Larry Rasmussen, "The Late Great Planet Poll," CHRISTIAN CENTURY, October 9, 1991. A 
satire relating a poll among Earth's species whether the arrival of humankind was a good thing.

--Michael Frome, REGREENING THE NATIONAL PARKS. 250 pages. $ 19.95. Tuscon: 
University of Arizona Press, 1992. The original mission of the U. S. National Parks has been 
dermined by politicization and bureaucratization. Visitor enjoyment is a higher priority than 
the protection and perpetuation of natural systems.

--Bret Wallach, AT ODDS WITH PROGRESS: AMERICANS AND CONSERVATION. 255 
a distinctively American expression of uneasiness about the character of the modern world.

--Patrick C. West and Steven R. Brechin, eds., RESIDENT PEOPLES AND NATIONAL 
PARKS: SOCIAL DILEMMAS AND STRATEGIES IN INTERNATIONAL 

--Bonnie J. McCay and James M. Acheson, eds., THE QUESTION OF THE COMMONS: THE 
CULTURE AND ECOLOGY OF COMMUNAL RESOURCES. 439 pages, $ 14.95 paper. 

--Rolf Edbert and Alexei Yablokov, eds., EAST MEETS WEST ON GLOBAL ECOLOGY. 210 
bioigist focus on mutually perceived threats to the survival of life on earth.

ethics of environmentalism and its place in Christian teaching are joined in the teaching of Jesus 
about the Kingdom of God. Calvin DeWitt is professor of environmental studies at the Institute 
for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin. He directs work at the Au Sable Institute of 
Environmental Studies.

--Art and Jocele Meyer, EARTHKEEPERS: ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVES ON 
The root causes of environmental degradation and what Christians can do to reverse this.

--Ed McGaa, Eagle Man, MOTHER EARTH SPIRITUALITY: NATIVE AMERICAN PATHS TO HEALING OURSELVES AND OUR WORLD. 230 pages. $14.95. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1990. A Sioux Indian with a law degree from the University of South Dakota, also a Marine Corps veteran of over 100 combat missions in Viet Nam, argues that "a reversal of world values, a spiritual concept of the earth as God-created and sacred, is in order before we two-leggeds can be environmentally effective on a global basis." (Thanks to Nick Smith-Sebasto).


ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS IN INTRODUCTORY ETHICS CLASSES. Environmental ethics and animal rights issues are appearing with increasing frequency as sections in introductory textbooks on ethics. Some samples follow. Perhaps an analysis of such texts, an account of the adequacy or inadequacy of readings and issues chosen, and commentary on the role these issues play in teaching introductory ethics would make a good discussion article in ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS or in TEACHING PHILOSOPHY.

The chapter on environmental ethics is new to the fourth edition. Other issues are sexual morality, pornography, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, job discrimination, and corporate responsibility.


--Claudia Mills, VALUES AND PUBLIC POLICY. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992. Chapter 2 is on "Nature, the Environment, and Animal Rights." Short articles, drawn from the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy's quarterly, QQ, by Claudia Mills on endangered species; Mark Sagoff on biotechnology, property rights and environmental law, and animal liberation and environmental ethics; C. A. J. Coady defending human chauvinism; and Robert Wachbroit on patenting animals. Chapter 1 is on "Technology, Risk, and the Environment." Two introductory texts still in print are:


Videotapes and media

The Video Project has a catalog of environmental videotapes with a focus on global and international problems. There are 30 new releases and several hundred videos and films in the 1992 catalog. Phone 800/475-2638.

WHERE THE BUFFALO ROAMED. Loss of wildlife, due to the dramatic changes in Great Plains and Rocky Mountain landscapes since Europeans arrived, in contrast to the American Indian harmony with nature. Part I is a summary history. European attitudes of conquest and exploitation. Plains Indians relationship to the bison. Anasazi culture and agriculture. Indian use patterns shifted often and Indians could be opportunists. Part II is on contemporary hunting, antihunting, and a land ethic. Hunting by Indians a necessity, but hunting today a recreation. But the same contact with nature can be there; hunters defending the benefit of hunting in understanding nature. Poachers convicted and jailed. Convicted American Indian poacher defends his right to hunt. Trophy hunter defends trophy hunting even violating laws. Bambi attitudes toward nature, urban attitudes to wildlife can be unrealistic. Needed, some return to the old natural rhythms constraining development. Need for balance, in the human self-interest as well as for welfare of wildlife. Produced by Colorado Division of Wildlife and Denver Museum of Natural History. 56 minutes.

"The Wrong Stuff," placing Sam Beckett of "Quantum Leap" into the body of a laboratory chimpanzee was aired on NBC November 6, 1991. The hero, Sam Beckett, projected back into the 1970's where he inhabited the body of a research chimpanzee set to die or suffer severe injuries in a crash-impact test. Biomedical research advocates, especially the Foundation for Biomedical Research, had requested NBC to cancel or alter the program. Holmes Rolston has a copy.

Environmental Ethics in China

CHINA'S ENVIRONMENT. China has 1/14th of the total land area on Earth, 1/4 of the world's people. The land area is approximately the size of the United States, the population over four times that of the United States. There is immense variation in topography, climate, soils, ecology, and ethnic peoples. The altitude ranges from 300 meters below sea level (in the Turpan Depression of northern Xinjiang) to 8800 meters (in the Himalayas, the "roof of the world"); ecosystems range from tropic to alpine, rainfall varies from over 250 cm. annually to under 1 cm. China is unique in Eurasia in having an unbroken forest from the tropics to boreal regions. The flora is among the richest in the world, some 30,000 species (U.S. about 20,000), including 5,000 woody species, 2,800 tree species (U.S. less than 700).

China has three of the longest rivers in the world, rivers that do not always flow peacefully, due to enormous catchment basins, often steep and barren, that shed water rapidly, and due to the
erosion of loess soils that build up downstream deposits subject to periodic breakthrough and flooding. The Huang (Yellow) River ("China's Sorrow") has killed more people than any other feature of Earth's surface. In China, forestry is especially important in relation to soils and sedimentation and downstream water flow. Although the Chinese have lived more or less in harmony with their landscape for millennia, they today more nearly press the carrying capacity of their landscape than do most other peoples. Human development and environmental conservation are as integrally related in China as anywhere else on earth.

The immense Chinese population is very unevenly distributed on the landscape, due to the variation in climate and topographic features. In general China is about twice as elevated in landscapes as is the United States. Eastern China is densely populated, but the interior is often lightly populated and some parts are almost unpopulated. Some 90% of China's population live on little more than 15% of the land surface. The massive size of the population, together with the large and diverse land areas, pose problems of governability faced by no other country in the world. The climate is regarded as being more erratic and unpredictable than in most other nations.

China as a nation is not especially well-watered; the runoff is about one-fifth what it would be in other large nations. The actual water caught and used in the United States is about the same as the total amount of rain that falls on China, areas of comparable size. The result is a large population, unevenly distributed, an uneven rainfall, and strain on water resources.

The United Nations Environment Program reports that there are over 300 environmental awareness groups in China. There are also over 60 universities in China teaching courses on environmental engineering and ecology. A monthly English language journal, CHINA ENVIRONMENT NEWS, is published with UNEP assistance, together with a quarterly Chinese language journal, WORLD ENVIRONMENT.

ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS IN CHINA. Holmes Rolston visited China in October 1991 at the invitation of the Institute of Philosophy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, to speak at several Beijing Universities and governmental agencies on environmental ethics. The comments that follow result from a brief visit and are inevitably impressionistic.

For most leaders and intellectuals in China, environmental ethics, if a legitimate inquiry at all, is rather simple theoretically, though sometimes complex operationally in practice. The problem is maintaining an environment that will support human development. Old China was a backward nation due to the exploitation of the masses by the elite, but New China (Marxist China, since 1949) is--so the official argument runs--ideally competent at large-scale, long-term planning, and citizens can be expected and even required to put the common good first. Environmental pollution and the inequitable distribution of resources is capitalism's problem.

Nevertheless China discovered that it had problems in the sixties and seventies, and the current Marxist account is that leaders then mistakenly assumed a maximum exploitation mode, sometimes through ignorance of the feedback loops between nature and culture, sometimes through overweening greed. That has since been rectified, a model of "rational use of nature" has
replaced an irrational model. Society in harmony with nature is a better model than society exploiting nature.

The ethical issues are thought to arise mostly with distribution of what is desired and undesired. Much of China is subject to erratic and uncertain rainfall; usually there is either too much water or not enough. The question is who gets it when there is not enough and who gets it when there is too much. Likewise with food and pollutants. Especially with the Marxists, these may not be considered ethical questions, but questions of sound scientific management. Managers, it can be assumed will know and seek the optimal common good. Citizens do not have the expertise to follow technical analyses of pollution distribution, although they may have to be educated what to do in the required cleanup.

Such issues at once intersect with the population problem, which is perhaps China's number one problem. This IS thought of as an ethical problem, though not particularly a problem in environmental ethics. Again early leaders of the New China made a serious mistake, thinking that rapid exploitation of nature under the new socialist regime would automatically take care of the population problem. Now, stern measures are required. Policies differ in regions of the country, especially in the autonomous regions, but the following is typical. One child is permitted and will receive a free high school education, free health care, and other benefits. With the second child, such benefits are canceled. With a third child various punitive measures begin; adverse pressures in the work unit step up; with a fourth child the parents are subject to being dismissed from their jobs. Reports (which need to be verified from better sources) are that in sections of the country where boy children are particularly desired, this sometimes means that girl babies are less well cared for in early infancy, or even let die, in the hopes of having a son the second time around.

In "urban management" style environmental ethics, wildlife, wildlands, endangered species, ecosystem integrity, animal rights will never be mentioned. The native wildlife has been gone for centuries, although the pariah species of civilization remain (English sparrows, pigeons, magpies, mice, rats). The streams do need to be kept pure enough for edible fish and invertebrates (prawn, shrimp) that the Chinese enjoy. The markets are full of animals to eat, still alive or recently slaughtered (no refrigeration), including dogs. If asked whether there any vegetarians by conviction, one gets the reply that some Buddhists formerly believed this (following from AHIMSA, non-injury, the first Buddhist commandment), but that Buddhism is gone, and that the vegetarian Buddhists were mostly under the excessive sway of Indian Buddhists anyway. Most Chinese Buddhists were too practical to be serious vegetarians.

Dogs are not permitted in the cities, though cats can be kept as pets. Many fox skins were for sale in the stores.

THE CHINESE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY. The Chinese Academy of Sciences was one unit until 1977, when, for political reasons, it was separated into the Chinese Academy of (Natural) Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. There are about 80,000 persons in the Chinese Academy of Sciences. There are about 5,000 persons now attached to the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and it does not receive particularly good support as the government is not altogether happy with some of the free-
thinking elements there. Within the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences there are various institutes, one of which is the Institute of Philosophy. The Chinese do not have any field called the humanities, though they do have art, music, and literature, outside the social sciences.

The Institute of Philosophy contains about 260 philosophers in about ten departments: Department of Historical Materialism, Department of Dialectical Materialism, Department of History of Traditional Chinese Philosophy, Department of Dialectics of Nature, Department of Ethics, Department of Aesthetics, Department of History of Western Philosophy, Department of Modern Western Philosophy, Department of Logics.

The Chinese do philosophy of nature under the term "dialectics of nature," which for them also includes philosophy of science. In addition to the Department of Dialectics of Nature in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences has a Department of the Dialectics of Nature in the Graduate School.

A principal philosopher interested in environmental ethics is Professor Yu Mouchang, who is a research professor with the Institute of Philosophy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He has been there over thirty years, been reading environmental philosophy for ten years. See bibliography below.

Rolston lectured at the following places:

(1) Graduate School, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. (2) People's University. (3) Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of Philosophy. Hosts included: Professor Chen Ying, Director, Department of Ethics, Institute of Philosophy, and Secretary, Chinese Society of Ethics; Professor Luo Guojie, Vice-President of the People's University of China and Chairman, Chinese Society of Ethics; Professor Wei Ying-Min, Director, Section of Ethics, Department of Philosophy, Beijing University, and Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Society of Ethics; Dean Li Bochun, Department of Dialectics of Nature, Graduate School, Chinese Academy of Sciences; Qiu Renzong, Senior Researcher, Institute of Philosophy.

(4) Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Department of Systems Ecology. Host: Dr. Zhao Junghsu, Professor and Deputy Director. The Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences has about 700 persons, with about 30 in the Department of Systems Ecology. These thirty mostly study facets of human ecology.

(5) Qinghua University. Hosts: Professor Liu Yuang-Liang, Vice-Chairman, Department of Social Science, Tsinghua University; Professor Quan Yi, Department of Environmental Engineering, Director National Laboratory of Environmental Simulation and Pollution Control; Zeng Xiaoxuan, Department of Social Science.

(6) Beijing Agricultural University. Hosts: Professor Han Chun-Ru, Department of Agronomy; Professor Wang Hong Kang, Director of the Environmental Protection Major; Professors Zhang Xiang-Qin and Zheng Wufu, Social Science Department.

(7) Suzhou Institute of Urban Construction and Environmental Protection, with dinner at Suzhou
BIBLIOGRAPHY

--Qiu Renzong, editor-in-chief, GUOWAI ZIRANKEXUE ZHEXUEWENTI 1990 (INTERNATIONAL PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEMS IN NATURAL SCIENCE 1990), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of Philosophy. Beijing: Social Science Press, 1991. ISBN 7-5004-0885-4/B 181. There are section introductions, but all the articles are translations from Western books and journals. Section I is on Philosophy of Science: Scientific Materialism. Section II is on Science and Society: The Relationship between Human Beings and Nature. The section editor is Yu Mouchang, Institute of Philosophy, who gives an introduction to environmental ethics, "Current Focus of the Study of the Relationship between Human Beings and Nature." The section contains three articles (1) G. A. Davedova, "Problems of the Relationship between Human Beings and Nature in Marxist Historical Philosophy" (pp. 104-129, translated from Russian; (2) M. B. Kushkova, Human Beings and Nature (pp. 130-145, translated from Russian; (3) Holmes Rolston, III, "Is There an Ecological Ethic" (pp. 146-157, translated by Ye Ping (Northeast Forestry University, Harbin) from English in PHILOSOPHY GONE WILD, originally in ETHICS. Section III is on Philosophical Problems of Nature: the Self-Organization of Nature. It contains a dozen articles, for example Ilya Prigogine on irreversible thermodynamics and several articles inquiring how evolutionary creation has taken place through the self-organization of nature. The book has just been released; they claim it has sold well, though many books of this kind in China are as much "distributed" to libraries and agencies as sold. Already about 3000 copies have been sold or distributed.

--Yu Mouchang, SHENG TAI LUN LI XUE (ECOLOGICAL ETHICS). Xi'an (in Shaanxi Province): Science and Technology Press, forthcoming. The manuscript was completed in 1988, but is still in press.

--Yu Mouchang, SHENG TAI XUE ZHE XUE (ECOLOGICAL PHILOSOPHY). Kunming: People's Press of Yunnan Province. The manuscript was completed in 1991, and the work is likely to be in press several years.

--Yu Mouchang, SHENG TAI XUE DE XIN XI (ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION) Shenyang (in Liaoning Province): Science and Technology Press of Liaoning Province, 1982). Written for a popular audience to introduce some fundamental ecological ideas, at a time when ecology was a new subject in China.


Two articles from ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS have been translated into Chinese. The first is Richard Cartwright Austin, "Beauty: A Foundation for Environmental Ethics" (Fall 1985), translated by Yu Hui (the daughter of Yu Mouchang, above, who teaches English at Beijing University) and appeared in ZIRANKEXUE ZHEXUEWENTI (PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEMS IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES) 1988, no. 1, pp. 85-92.


This journal was published by the Institute of Philosophy from 1978-1990, but they were forced to stop publication when their financial support from the government was withdrawn.

--Wang Rusong, editor in chief, Zhao Jingzhu and Dai Xiaolong, editors, HUMAN ECOLOGY IN CHINA: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SYSTEMS ECOLOGY 1989, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Beijing: China Science and Technology Press, 1990. 251 pages, all in English. The reports are apparently seldom printed in English but this one was made possible by a UNESCO Man and the Biosphere grant.

--NONG YE ZHE XUE JI CHU (THE BASIS OF A PHILOSOPHY OF AGRICULTURE), by a Working Group of the Chinese Society of Dialectics of Nature. Beijing: Science Press, 1991. 361 pages. Entirely in Chinese. A contact and one of the working group is Zhang Xiang-gin, Beijing Agricultural University, Beijing China. She is also one of the authors.

--Holmes Rolston, III and James E. Coufal, "A Forest Ethic and Multivalue Forest Management," translated into Chinese, and used in an inside staff news source, INFORMATION ABOUT ECOPHILOSOPHY, at Northeast Forestry University. Publication forthcoming. Translated by Ye Ping, Social Science Department, Northeast Forestry University, 150040 Harbin, China.

--Leopold, Aldo, "The Land Ethic," translated by Ye Ping, a philosopher at Northeast Forestry University.


Both are translated into Chinese in a special issue of INFORMATION OF ECOPHILOSOPHY, an occasional publication of the Research Office in Ecophilosophy of the Northeast Forestry University, Harbin, 1989, No. 2.


--Ye Ping (see above) has a series of six short articles on environmental ethics in LIN-YEH

--Lester Ross, ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN CHINA. Bloomington, ID: Indiana University Press, 1988. 240 pages. Ross maintains that "exhortation and environmental ethics" (p. 60) have been massively tried in China and massively failed. By this he means that earlier Marxist environmental campaigns, such as those for reforestation, exhorted the Chinese to good environmental citizenship, to do what was in the larger public interest, such as plant trees for future generations, and that, although this resulted in the largest tree planting program in human history during waves of enthusiasm, the tree programs failed because there was no sustained monitoring and interest waned as soon as the enthusiasm passed. The trees died for lack of care. No one owned them; everybody owned them. In contrast, all that will work is programs that appeal to the self-advantage of the person over a foreseeable future, such as woodlot planting for fuel. Somebody owns the trees. Or at least is entitled to the wood and responsible for their care. Incentive changes behavior, not moral exhortation. Richardson, see below (p. 180), is not so sure.

--S. D. Richardson, FORESTS AND FORESTRY IN CHINA (Corvelo, CA: Island Press, 1990). 353 pages. Excellent, thorough, by a New Zealand forester who has observed forestry in China over thirty years. Balanced portrayal of the successes against the massive failures. An earlier book, of which this is a major revision, is FORESTRY IN COMMUNIST CHINA, 1966.

--Vaclav Smil, THE BAD EARTH: ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN CHINA. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, Inc. and London: ZED Press, 1984. 245 pages. Extensive account of serious environmental degradation and highly critical of the Maoist government and massive, bumbling Chinese bureaucracy. Deforestation and resulting erosion and flooding is China's most serious environmental problem. Much of this results from Marxist idealism about growing grain in unsuitable areas. The land use mistakes, when coupled with population growth, have China on a disaster course. The silting of the Huang (Yellow) River is one of the most intractable environmental problems on Earth. The most fundamental problem is not population size, or relative poverty, or political instability; it is a staggering mistreatment of the environment, which will prove the most serious check on China's reach toward prosperity. Smil is a geographer at the University of Manitoba.

--Li Wenhua and Zhao Xianying, CHINA'S NATURE RESERVES (Bejing: Foreign Languages Press, 1989), 190 pages. Li Wenhua is one of China's foremost ecologists; Zhao Xianying is a geobotanist who has studied in the United States. Quite useful general introduction to nature reserves in China. The rationale they give: resources, aesthetics, scientific research, environmental protection, education, tourism. Humans have, in the past, had the wrong attitude toward nature, one of exploitation. "We once judged our ability to squeeze nature for all its worth as an important indication of humankind's civilization and progress. Often as not, the cost
of our conquests over nature was the devastation of those elements so vital to our own existence - the earth's environment and natural resources. We were, in effect, destroying our own life-support system. Living in harmony with our planet means cherishing and protecting the natural world" (pp. 1-2).

China was late forming any conservation strategy. The first reserve was in 1956, and nineteen reserves were set up by 1966, but most of these gains lost in the Cultural Revolution. Since 1976 there has been steady improvement. By late 1981 there were 76 reserves, by 1986 there were 383. A goal is 500 reserves by 2000. But one must use considerable care; many of these are paper reserves only (the designation as a reserve of the forests that remain on a former Buddhist temple site, although the area may be much used).


URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. China never had and still does not have a long-distance food transportation system. Energy costs are too high and spoilage too great, without refrigeration. Farmers near the big cities supply locally, and most of what is eaten in Beijing is grown within 100 kilometers of the city. For several thousand years the urban wastes, mostly food wastes and excrement, all easily biodegradable, was recycled on the fields near the cities. Farm animals ate the garbage and the nightsoil went on the fields. Repeated crops of rice and vegetables did take their toll on soil nutrients and farmers were often eager to go to the cities and receive the free fertilizer. All that changed when the cities industrialized. Chemical fertilizer is available, cheaper if one takes into account the time and cost spent collecting the natural mature. Herbicides and insecticides are available and can be combined with the fertilizer (all applied by hand or with very simple machines. And the stuff coming down the sewers from the industries is toxic or not biodegradable.

Issues

Momentum is gathering for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, June 1-15. Organizers are predicting that between 25,000 and 40,000 persons will attend the Earth Summit, or any of the dozens of pre, post, and simultaneous meetings taking place. There are delegations from 150 countries. The head of the U. S. delegation is E. U. Curtis (Buff) Bohlen, Assistant Secretary of State. Bohlen was formerly a Senior Vice-President with the World Wildlife Fund-U.S. The U. N. planning group is a Secretariat, operating out of Geneva, Switzerland, and New York. Three results have been hoped for, in particular: An Earth Charter, Agenda 21, and several Conventions. The Earth Charter will be a Magna Carta for the planet. Agenda 21 will be an environmental/development framework for institutional modification over the next decade, as the millennium turns to the 21st century. Four conventions have been attempted: (1) Forests, (2) Biodiversity, (3) Biotechnology, and (4) Climate, but it seems unlikely that more than two will survive the negotiating process. The U.S. has pushed for a binding agreement on forests, but developing nations meet this with some skepticism, the U.S. effort being undercut by the deliberately vague Bush position on the U.S.
old growth forests. The principal stumbling blocks on biodiversity and biotechnology conventions revolve around questions of access to genetic resources and technology transfer. The principal impediment to a climate convention is the U.S. unwillingness to accept the need for setting specific CO2 reduction targets as part of a strategy for stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2000. The other major industrialized nations have all agreed to setting explicit national targets. Four meetings of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) have been or are being held, in Nairobi, Kenya in August 1990, in Geneva in March 1991, in Geneva, August-September 1991, and in New York, March 1992. AN INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO THE EARTH SUMMIT is available from U. S. Citizens Network on UNCED, 300 Broadway, Suite 39, San Francisco, CA 94133.

President Jean Mayer of Tufts University convened an international meeting of presidents and other high administrative officers from twenty-two different nations. An outcome of this conference that has become known as the Talloires Declaration invites each University to subscribe to ten actions in the interest of environmental conservation and a sustainable future. The declaration is being widely circulated and many universities are adopting it.

The President's Environment and Conservation Challenge Awards are designed to recognize and encourage innovative solutions to environmental concerns. The President of the United States will present the awards annually at a White House ceremony, in connection with a symposium on the winning programs. Featured are quality in environmental management, building partnerships for environmental quality enhancement, innovative technology, and education and communication, with an "emphasis on educational programs that contribute to the development of a conservation and environmental ethic." Associated groups are the Council on Environmental Quality, the National Geographic Society, the Hearst Corporation, The Business Roundtable, and the World Wildlife Fund. Application forms and information from: President's Environment and Conservation Challenge Awards, The White House, Council on Environmental Quality, 722 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, DC 20503. Phone 202/395-1154.

National Environmental Networks. A list of electronic networks, for computer modem access, is supplied by Douglas M. Smith, Phone 202/547-5171, and the list can be downloaded via computer. The list is divided into public access systems and private (at cost) systems. About a dozen networks, such as Econet, Global Action Network, and Environet (Greenpeace) are discussed, their advantages and disadvantages. (Thanks to Michael Losonsky.)

The Educational Testing Service has dropped an animal use question, under protest from Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, especially the University of Iowa chapter. The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Text/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is used to test high school students for their vocabulary. The 1990 version of the test contained the following question:

Viewed against a century of public apathy, these long overdue stirrings of concern about the abuse of animals in scientific research are nothing short of ________________.
A. a travail.
B. an oversight.
C. a breakthrough.
D. a legacy.
E. an eon.
The ETS considers "C" correct. The Iowa Chapter President, Dr. JosÈ Rodr-guez, protested, "The teaching of biology in public schools is in danger of being hampered by those 'animal rights' activists who disseminate the emotionally charged and erroneous message conveyed by your [the ETS] question. When an assertion of this type appears in a test distributed by a nationally respected company, it might be regarded as validation of the opinion expressed." More in SIGMA XI NEWSLETTER, November 1991, vol. 2, no. 1.

A "National Biodiversity Conservation and Environmental Research Act" has been proposed by Representative James Scheuer and Senator Daniel Moynihan, both New York Democrats. The proposal would make biological diversity a national goal, require that all federal programs be consistent with that goal, set up a senior interagency group to develop strategies to carry out the goal, and establish at the Smithsonian Institute a national center for biological diversity and conservation research.

Stephen Jay Gould on nature and ethics, "The pathways that have led to our evolution are quirky, improbable, unrepeatable and utterly unpredictable." We are here by a series of outrageously lucky accidents. "We may yearn for a 'higher' answer but none exists. This explanation, though superficially troubling, if not terrifying, is ultimately liberating and exhilarating. We cannot read the meaning of life passively in the facts of nature. We must construct these answers ourselves--from our own wisdom and ethical sense. There is no other way." From THE MEANING OF LIFE by David Friend and the editors of LIFE, Little, Brown.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Commission on Plant Genetic Resources, has drafted an INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLANT GERMPLASM COLLECTING AND TRANSFER, growing out of a meeting in Rome, April 15-19, 1991, continued in a meeting in Rome, November 9-28. The draft is 13 pages long, with chapters on licensing, responsible collecting, responsibilities of users, and monitoring the code. "Without prejudicing the concept of Farmers' Rights and in order that the caretakers and the host country may also benefit directly from such collecting, the users of the germplasm should consider providing ... some form of compensation for the benefits derived from the use of its germplasm in the development of new, improved varieties and other products, on mutually agreed terms" (Chapter V, "Responsibilities of Sponsors, Curators and Users). Available from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Distribution and Sales Section, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 - Rome, Italy. Telephone: 57971.

Three animal rights groups have twice sued the New England Aquarium in Boston for mistreating the fish. The New England Aquarium last fall filed a $ 5 million countersuit against its animal rights critics, claiming defamation and harassment.

The "Issues" section has to be shortened in this newsletter, due to space limitations.

Recent and Upcoming Events
Nov. 5-12, 1991. Greek Orthodox Church conference on Orthodoxy and Environmental Conservation, on the island of Crete. This was the first such conference in the history of Orthodoxy. A contact is Martin Palmer, 9a Didsbury Park, Manchester M20 OLH, United Kingdom.

1992

--January 20-22. Ethics and Simulation in the Service of Society, part of the 1991 Society for Computer Simulation Multiconference on Computer Simulation, Hyatt Newporter, Newport Beach, CA. With papers on the simulation of ecology and environmental issues, including risk assessment and evaluation, and the relations of computer simulation to biological conservation ethics and policy. Contact Helena Szczerbicka, Institut fÄr Rechnerentwurf und Fehlertoleranz, Universitàt Karlsruhe, 7500-Karlsruhe, Postfach W- 6980, Germany, Tel: Europe (+49) 721 608 4216, or SCS, P. O. Box 17900, San Diego, CA 92177.


--February 2. National Multidisciplinary Conference on Ethics and the Professions, University of Florida, Gainesville, includes an address by Laura Westra, "The Role and Function of Professional Codes of Ethics in Agriculture."

--February 10-21. 4th World Congress on Protected Areas, Cacacas, Venezuela.


--March 9-April 4. UNCED Final PrepCom Meeting, New York.


--March 20-22, Midwest Environmental Ethics Conference, "Ecological Feminism," at Iowa 4-H Education and Natural Resources Center, Madrid, Iowa. Speakers: Elizabeth Dodson Gray, Karen Warren, Kristin Cashman, Andy Smith, Margot Adler, Pat Boddy, Danielle Wirth, Judith Plant. Co-sponsors include Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa State University, and Iowa Department of Education. Contact: Iowa 4-H Foundation, Midwest Environmental Ethics Conference, 33 Curtis Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011. Also, Teri Peterson: 515/294-1017 or Danielle Wirth: 515/242-6491 (w) or 515/438-2363 (h).

--March 28. ISEE panel jointly with American Catholic Philosophy Association, San Diego, CA. See details above.

--March 30-31. "International Perspectives on Business Ethics," conference at the Center for Business Ethics, Bentley College, Waltham, MA 02154-4705. Phone 617/891-3433. One of the themes is "the impact of multinational corporate operations on the environment and culture of host countries."


--April 3-4. "Reconnecting with the Natural World," 1992 Mid-Atlantic Conference on College Teaching and Classroom Research, at Salisbury State University on the Eastern Shore, Maryland. Contact: Dr. B. A. Fusaro: Faculty Development Committee, Salisbury State University, Salisbury, MD 21801. Fax 301/543-6068.

--April 5-7. "Theory Meets Practice," International Symposium on Environmental Ethics, at the University of Georgia, Athens. Sponsored by the University of Georgia and the Fondazione Lanza (Padua, Italy). See details under announcements.


--April 24-25. Central APA at Louisville, KY. Annual business meeting of ISEE. Program and details under announcements.

--May. World Conference of Indigenous Peoples on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

--May 17-20. Fourth North American Symposium on Social Science in Resource Management, University of Wisconsin, Madison. One of the general themes is environmental ethics; another is ethnic minorities and the environment. Contact: Donald R. Field, School of Natural Resources, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, 1450 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706.


--June 1-12. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

--June 9-11, The Second International Conference on Public Service Ethics takes place in Siena,
Italy. The theme is, "The Ethical State and the Efficient State: Are They in Conflict." Contact Edwin M. Epstein, Walter A. Haas School of Business, 310 Barrows Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. Phone 415/642-4849. Fax 415/642-2826. Conference fees are $300.00 U.S. and hotel prices from $70 for singles.


--June 28-July 2. Joint ISEE meeting with the Society for Conservation Biology, at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA. See details earlier.


--July 25-August 1. "Global Ecology and Human Destiny," will be the theme of the Star Island Conference, the annual conference of the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science (IRAS), held on Star Island, a Unitarian retreat center off the coast of Portsmouth, NH. Speakers include Holmes Rolston, Frederick FerrÇ, and Paul E. Lutz. Contact the conference chair, Karl Peters, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Rollins College, Winter Park, FL 32789.


--October 2-4, "Human Ecology: Crossing Boundaries," Sixth Meeting of the Society for Human Ecology, Snowbird, Utah. The meeting emphasizes the role of human ecology in spanning boundaries between traditional disciplines, theory and practice, individuals and society and the social, biological, and physical environments. A wide variety of papers and presentations is planned, with papers on environmental ethics encouraged. Submit papers and contact: Scott D. Wright, FCS Department, University of Utah, 228 AEB, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112. Phone 801/581-8750. Fax 801/581-3007.


1993

--July 20-23, 1993. Royal Institute of Philosophy Conference, Philosophy and the Natural Environment, Cardiff, Wales. Contact Robin Attfield and Andrew Belsey, Philosophy Section, University of Wales College of Cardiff, P. O. Box 94, Cardiff CF1 3XE, U.K.
--August 22-28, 1993, 19th World Congress of Philosophy, Moscow. This will include sessions on environmental ethics and philosophy. ISEE has been invited to organize sessions also. Roundtable discussions can have no more than two persons from the same nation. Deadline for submitted general papers is August 30, 1992. Contact Congress Secretariat, Volkhonka 14, Moscow 119842. Fax (7095) 200-32-50.


Your 1992 membership dues are now payable. Membership is on a calendar year basis; members who FOR THE FIRST TIME join in October, November, or December of any year by their initial dues payment are paid through the following calendar year. Your prompt cooperation reduces bookkeeping and secretarial time and expense.