

From the Editors

In This Issue

In his article, "Towards a Research Agenda for Informal Logic and Critical Thinking," Mark Weinstein argues that the recent concern for informal logic and critical thinking be redirected from its general philosophical focus toward a greater appreciation of the particulars of practice in the various domains of human understanding.

In "Perhaps by Skill Alone," Connie Missimer contrasts what she terms the Character View of critical thinking—the view that certain character traits are necessary for critical thinking—with the Skill View—the view that a critical thinker is someone who practices the skills of a critical thinker. Missimer argues that the Skill View, which has for the most part been disparaged by theorists, is in fact correct.

Typically, we would run two other articles. However, we have chosen to make room for a comprehensive bibliography of recent work on informal logic compiled by our Assistant, Hans V. Hansen, with the assistance of J. A. Blair. Frankly, we think this bibliography is worth the price of the issue, for not only is it the most complete and up-to-date informal logic bibliography we know of, but as well it contains an index, thus making it far more useful to the researcher. We expect it, and its future updates, to be an indispensable research tool for scholarship in informal logic. □

Ave atque vale

Finally, and with great regret, the editors announce the departure of two valued members of staff, Professor Peter Wilkinson and Hans Hansen. Each has put

his unique imprint on the operation of the journal, as those of you who have corresponded with either of them will know.

Professor Wilkinson has been the Managing Editor of Informal Logic, and its predecessor, **informal logic newsletter**, almost since its inception. In this position, he has spent countless hours on a variety of often mundane and almost always thankless tasks such as doing the books, responding to inquiries about subscriptions, overseeing the mailing, and many other duties too numerous to catalog here. He has done all this for no real compensation save that of helping us (and you) and we are deeply grateful to him. Peter, it would not have been possible without you. We wish you all the best in your retirement.

Hans V. Hansen has been our assistant for the last two and a half years. When he came on the job, he faced the daunting task of regularizing the editorial operation which was not efficiently organized and behind schedule. He set about the task of getting us back on schedule with characteristic energy and imagination and very quickly became an essential member of our operation. Hans was a quick study and became an invaluable source of ideas and suggestions about editorial matters, as well as handling correspondence and the entire production side. It was our good fortune that Hans came along when he did and we will miss him. The good news is that he has agreed to remain on as a Consulting Editor, a fact that you will see reflected on the new masthead in the next issue. Hans, we are in your debt for your unstinting service.

In the next issue we have an announcement about new faces at Informal Logic for 1991. □