

Editors' Introduction

One of the major recent events in our field has been the 2014 publication of *The Concept of Argument: A Philosophical Foundation* (Springer), an English translation of Professor Harald Wohlrapp's *Der Begriff des Arguments* (2008).

A long time in development, this monograph provides a rich and thoughtful account of argument from a philosophical perspective. The breadth of detail in the book can create a number of challenges for readers unfamiliar with Wohlrapp's work. So, in the interest of making it available to the wider audience that it deserves, a special panel was dedicated to discussing *The Concept of Argument* at the last conference of the Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation, in 2016. There, Professors Derek Allen, Trudy Govier, David Hitchcock, Ralph Johnson, and Katharina Stevens gave careful critical appraisals of some of the core ideas involved. Together, their presentations provided a fine introduction to this powerful and original conception of argument.

In this special issue, we are fortunate to be able to publish those panel papers, now fully revised, preceded by Wohlrapp's own précis of his book. The order in which we present the papers, reflects the order of the chapters of the text on which each commentator is most focused: Allen (Chapters 1 and 4); Stevens (Chapter 5); Govier (Chapter 6); Johnson (Chapter 7); and Hitchcock (Chapter 10).

The December issue of *Informal Logic* will carry a full response from Professor Wohlrapp, which will further add to the understanding of his important work.