

FROM THE EDITORS

This issue nicely illustrates the varied range of interests of our readers and contributors.

Jonathan Adler argues for the importance of teaching the distinction between internal and external negation over expressions for belief. Do you believe this distinction is not important? Or do you not believe this distinction is important? Wrong on both counts, Adler contends. The distinction is a nice application of logic to epistemology at a very practical level.

The conventional wisdom has it that Monroe Beardsley originated tree diagramming. **Jean Goodwin** shows that the conventional wisdom is mistaken. The noted early-20th century legal scholar J.H. Wigmore was diagramming legal arguments when Beardsley was in short pants. Goodwin introduces us to Wigmore's diagramming method and some of its virtues, not least of which is the place given to the rhetorical dimension of arguments.

Our policy has been that fallacies should not be multiplied beyond necessity, but **Herman Stark** argues that in the current climate of relativism, it is necessary for teachers to draw attention to the vacuousness of nearly a score of our students'—and our culture's—nuggets of conventional "wisdom."

As part of his ongoing development of a full-fledged, systematic pragmatic theory of argumentation, **Douglas Walton** offers ten dialectical rules for dealing with problems of ambiguity in argumentative discourse, inspired by Grice's rules for collaborative conversation.

Where does "two-wrongs-make-a-right" reasoning originate? **S.K. Wertz** proposes an hypothesis about the answers to this questions. He traces it back to utilitarianism.

The two **Book Reviews** in this issue examine monographs on rationality. **Trudy Govier** has been in dialogue with Ralph Johnson over his concept of the dialectical tier, and we are pleased to publish her critical review of Johnson's latest and fullest statement of his theory of argument. **David Hitchcock** provides a shorter but extensive review of Stovanovich's study of individual differences in reasoning.

We hope that the **Examples Supplement** is useful to instructors. Keep sending in your material to Claude Gratton. See his note about the kind of material he wants, and how to reach him.

FROM THE BOOK REVIEW EDITOR *Jonathan Adler*

We want to renew our call for authors to submit their books to us for review. Right now our backlog is low so book reviews will come out quickly, if reviewers submit them in a timely fashion.

This is a big "if". Some of you may be reasonably upset that your book has not been reviewed in *Informal Logic*, when it was both submitted early and clearly within our purview. In general, it is not because the books received for review have not been sent out to reviewers. It is either that I did not find a reviewer after a couple of tries or those who agreed to review them failed to do so. So I also want to renew my invitation to those of you who are interested in reviewing to please let us know.