

Special Issue in Honour of Trudy Govier

Preface

On the occasion of Trudy Govier's retirement from the University of Lethbridge after a 42-year career of scholarship and teaching there and elsewhere, the Editors of *Informal Logic* take great pleasure in presenting this Special Issue of the journal assembled in her honour. These papers are written out of respect for her signal contributions to the theory of argument, and of informal logic, over more than three decades.

Trudy Govier received her Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Waterloo in 1971, following a B.A. (History) from the University of Alberta and an M.A. (Philosophy) from the University of Calgary. She was a member of the Philosophy Department at Trent University 1971-1982, an independent scholar 1982-2005, and a member of the Philosophy Department at the University of Lethbridge 2005-2012, retiring as a full professor.

During her 23-year hiatus between full-time university positions, Govier taught part time at the Universities of Calgary, Simon Fraser, Lethbridge, Amsterdam and Winnipeg. A life-long public advocate for peace and reconciliation, she organized two conferences on issues of ethics and peace in Dubrovnic, and a conference on dilemmas of reconciliation in Calgary; several workshops and conferences for Project Ploughshares (a peace research, education and action NGO on whose executive board she sat); and numerous public lecture series. She also contributed to several Canadian government commissions. During this period she wrote nine books and edited two others, and published over 40 scholarly articles.

Trudy Govier was honoured by the argumentation scholarly community as an invited keynote speaker at the 1999 Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation and as an International Society for the Study of Argumentation Award winner in 2005.

Govier attended the First International Symposium on Informal Logic held at University of Windsor, 26-28 June 1978. Thereafter she became one of the principal contributors to the develop-

ment of the fledgling movement, publishing several papers in the *Informal Logic Newsletter* and later in this journal, and serving on its editorial board from the beginning. Govier presented papers at the Second International Symposium on Informal Logic (1983) and at the Third International Symposium on Informal Logic (1989). Her highly-regarded textbook, *A Practical Study of Argument*, in print for 28 years and currently in its seventh edition, illustrates how developments at the level of theory can be integrated into undergraduate instruction.

The articles in this issue discuss Govier's influence in the development of the theory and practice of informal logic and of argument theory more broadly, and also attest to the influence of her views on topics of current theoretical interest in these fields.

We focus here on Govier's work in areas covered by the mandate of *Informal Logic*. A broader collection of papers that will make reference also to her extensive scholarly work on the topics of peace, reconciliation and trust, is being prepared under the editorship of Catherine Hundleby, and will be available within the year.

The list of Govier's scholarly publications included at the back of this issue has been developed from her most recent *Curriculum Vitae*, with some additional information and corrections by the editors.

J. Anthony Blair & Ralph H. Johnson
Special Issue Editors