

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR INFORMAL LOGIC AND CRITICAL THINKING (AILACT), May, 2004

This newsletter is to inform you of calls for papers and approaching meetings; and to remind you of our AILACT Essay prize and our membership renewal for 2004(in case you have forgotten).

Calls for Papers

The consensus from a recent e-mail informal discussion among people interested in AILACT policies is that any paper that is submitted for presentation at an AILACT session should not be published before submission. Not precluded are papers that the author intends to submit for publication, or papers submitted for publication, or papers given at other conferences (assuming that the prospective audience will at least mostly be different). The main goal is to have interesting discussions of important ideas on which the author is working. Another goal from the point of view of authors is to secure feedback that will help them improve their work.

(Incidentally, if you are not a participant in these informal discussions of AILACT operational topics, and would like to participate, write Michael Gilbert (gilbert@yorku.ca) or me (rhennis@uiucl.edu) to be added to the AILACT-D discussion list. This list is tantamount to a continuing virtual AILACT meeting. It does not replace the Board of Directors, which is ultimately responsible for AILACT policy decisions.)

For the AILACT sessions, I urge you to submit a paper on which you are working this summer, and get the reactions of your colleagues in a friendly environment.

For Spring, 2005, AILACT Group Session(s) at the Pacific Division, APA, San Francisco

AILACT meets in conjunction with the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association in Spring of 2005, March 23-27, in San Francisco, California, at the Westin St. Francis Hotel. Papers on any topic in informal logic, critical thinking, or argumentation are welcome. Papers should be no longer than 12 pages or a 30-minute reading time.

Deadline for submissions is September 1, 2004, and notification is by October 17, 2004

Send submissions as attachments in MS Word or WordPerfect to <donald.hatcher@bakeru.edu> or to:

Donald L. Hatcher
Center for Critical Thinking
Baker University
Box 65
Baldwin City, KS 66006

For Spring, 2005, AILACT Group Session(s) at the Central Division, APA, Chicago

AILACT meets in conjunction with the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association in Spring of 2005, April 27-30, 2005, in Chicago at the Palmer House Hilton. Two separate types of sessions are under consideration. – one a traditional paper presentation and the other a discussion focused on pedagogical topics. Whether it will be possible to hold both types of sessions has not yet been determined. In hopes that it will be possible two different invitations are included below.

(1) Papers on any topic in informal logic, critical thinking, or argumentation are welcome. Papers should be no longer than 12 pages or a 30-minute reading time.

(2) Also sought are suggestions for topics and potential participants as discussion leaders on issues, approaches, and useful resources for teaching informal logic, critical thinking, or argumentation.

Deadline for both types of submission is a deadline of October 1, 2004, and notification on paper acceptance is by November 22, 2004.

Send submissions as attachments in MS Word or WordPerfect to the program chair, Peter D. Asquith, Michigan State University at asquith@msu.edu.

Joint Calls and Meeting Announcements

**A conference sponsored by the Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation
May 18-21, 2005, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada, on the topic,
“The Uses Of Argument”**

Keynote speakers:

J. ANTHONY BLAIR, University Professor of Philosophy, University of Windsor
JEANNE FAHNESTOCK, Professor of English, University of Maryland, College Park
STEPHEN E. TOULMIN, University Professor and Adjunct Professor of
Anthropology, International Relations, and Religion, University of Southern California

The Programme Committee invites proposals for papers on any topic in the theory of argumentation. It particularly encourages proposals on the two conference themes:
1) the uses of argument (including taxonomies of the functions of argument and the implications of recognizing one or more identified functions of argument)
2) contemporary research using the Toulmin model for the layout of arguments, first presented in his *The Uses of Argument* (Cambridge, 1958).

For further information, see <<http://ossa.mcmaster.ca/>><http://ossa.mcmaster.ca/>

Abstracts, prepared for blind refereeing, must be submitted electronically no later than September 7, 2004, and should be between 400 and 500 words long. Submissions should be accompanied by a separate statement (maximum 300 words) of the author's relevant interests and background. Graduate students* are also encouraged to apply.

(The J. Anthony Blair Prize is awarded to the best student paper presented at the conference.)

Abstracts (with the heading $\text{\textcircled{E}}$ OSSA 2005,) should be sent to: hitchckd@mcmaster.ca

Programme Committee: David Hitchcock (organizing committee), Mark Vorobej (organizing committee), David M. Godden, Hans V. Hansen, Christopher W. Tindale

*Canadian graduate students who need assistance in order to attend should advise the Organizing Committee when they submit their proposals.

Fall, 2004, Meeting of the Long Island Philosophy Society.

Our next meeting is at NYIT at Old Westbury, LI, NY on Sat., Oct. 16, 2004. We have a general call for papers. Papers can be sent to Jim Friel, email: Frielkelly@aol.com or snail mail: 20 Vail St., Northport NY 11768; or to Dr. Margaret Cuonzo at LIU Brooklyn Campus, Brooklyn, NY or email to mcuonzo@liu.edu. Length should be about ten pages and have a cover sheet (name, institution, paper title). Papers are blind reviewed.

Other Upcoming Meetings

Canadian Philosophical Association, Annual Congress, May 29 to June 1, University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

Details can be found at <http://www.acpcpa.ca/framee.htm>.

American Association Of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT), 15th International Workshop-Conference, August 4-8, 2004, hosted by the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio. For details see <http://aapt-online.dhs.org>.

AILACT Group Session at the Eastern Division, American Philosophical Association, December 27-30, 2004, Boston, MA, Boston Marriott

AILACT ESSAY PRIZE OF 2004

PLEASE POST

The Association for Informal Logic and Critical Thinking invites applications for its first annual AILACT Essay Prize

The value of the AILACT Essay Prize is US\$500. The prize may, in extraordinary circumstances, be divided among entries judged to be of about equal merit.

Essays related to the teaching or theory of informal logic or critical thinking will be considered for the prize. An essay may be unpublished, forthcoming or previously published. There are no restrictions on authorship. Published papers must have appeared on or after January 1st, 2003. Essays should be in the neighbourhood of 3500-5000 words.

The essays will be assessed on the basis of, in no particular order: their originality, their scholarship, if applicable (papers that ignore the relevant literature will tend to go to the bottom of the pile), their argument (needless to say?), their style (lucid, delightful-to-read papers will tend to rise to the top), and their importance to the field (measured by how high they register on the "Everyone should read this paper-and soon!" scale).

The jury members for the 2004 AILACT Essay Prize, approved by the AILACT Board of Directors, are Tony Blair (chair), Merrilee Salmon and Michael Scriven. The verdict of the jury is final.

To submit a paper, attach an electronic file to an e-mail with AILACT ESSAY ENTRY on the "Subject" line, or mail three paper copies, to the appropriate address below. Please send the paper ready for blind-reviewing (the author not identified on the paper or file containing the paper, and self-identifying references removed from the text, notes and References).

The deadline for receipt of papers to be considered for the 2004 AILACT Essay Prize is 31 August 2004. Send to:

tblair@uwindsor.ca

or

Prof. J.A. Blair
Department of Philosophy
University of Windsor
Windsor, ON
CANADA N9B 3P4

The winner will be announced by 1 December 2004. AILACT will publicize the name of the winner. For AILACT information, see <http://ailact.mcmaster.ca>.

AILACT 2004

The Association for Informal Logic and Critical Thinking

The Association (AILACT) was formed in 1983 to promote research, teaching, and testing of informal logic and critical thinking at all levels; to increase the extent and quality of such research, teaching, and testing; and to facilitate discussion among its members. AILACT sponsors sessions at each APA divisional meeting and other meetings, has a Web site, <http://ailact.mcmaster.ca>, and is developing a job information exchange.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FOR 2004

I would like to become a member of AILACT (US\$6*/ calendar year)

I would like to renew my membership (US\$6*/ calendar year)

(Make checks payable to AILACT)

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please fill in the following, unless you are sure that the information is in our records:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____ **(Very important! Much of our business will be conducted primarily electronically -- but you will not be disenfranchised if you do not have an e-mail address.)**

What would you like to see AILACT do, or do better?: _____

Mail to: Donald Hatcher, AILACT Treasurer, Center for Critical Thinking, Baker University,
Baldwin City, KS 66006 USA Email: dhatcher@idir.net or hatcher@harvey.bakeru.edu

*or the equivalent

This newsletter was prepared by Bob Ennis, AILACT President, rhennis@uiuc.edu

