

NOTES AND NEWS

The Editors note with sorrow the death of Jacques Derrida on October 8, 2004, at the age of 74. Born in El-Bair, Algeria, Derrida graduated in 1956 from the École Normal Supérieure in Paris, coming to America briefly as a visiting scholar at Harvard University. He returned to Paris to teach at the Sorbonne in 1960, joining the faculty of École Normal Supérieure in 1965 where he remained until 1984. Beginning in the 1970s, he began dividing his time between the École Normal Supérieure and regular visiting appointments in the U.S., first at Johns Hopkins University, then at Yale University from 1975–1986. He went on to take an appointment at the University of California, Irvine, which he held until 2003, when illness required he reduce his teaching schedule.

Derrida was a remarkably prolific writer, publishing countless essays and well over 40 books in French. He first came to the attention of American academia with his 1966 lecture at Johns Hopkins entitled “Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences.” The following year, he published three major works: *Speech and Phenomena, Of Grammatology*, and *Writing and Difference*. Other major publications include *Positions, Dissemination, Margins of Philosophy* (1972), *Glas* (1974), *Spurs: Nietzsche’s Styles* (1979), *The Postcard: From Socrates to Freud and beyond* (1980), and *The Truth in Painting* (1987).

Derrida was very active in the intellectual life on the Continent, and was involved in work against apartheid in South Africa and supporting the rights of Czech dissidents. He was one of the conveners of the Estates General of Philosophy in 1979, and helped found the Collège International de Philosophie in 1983, becoming its first director. Also in 1983, Derrida was elected directeur d’études at the Ecole des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris, a position he held until his official retirement at the age of 67. Derrida was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as an Honorary Foreign Member and was awarded honorary degrees from numerous institutions.

The Editors note with sorrow the death of Paul Edwards in early December 2004, at the age of 81. He received his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Melbourne and received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University in 1954. Edwards taught at New York University in the 1960s, at Brooklyn College from 1966 to 1986 and at the New School for Social Research from the late 1960s into the 1990s. Edwards was the author of *The Logic of Moral Discourse* (1955), *Buber and Buberism: A Critical Evaluation* (1971), *Reincarnation: A Critical Examination* (1996), and *Heidegger’s Confusions* (2004). He is best known as the editor of *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, a multi-volume work first published in 1967 and still very much in use to this day.