APA Committee on Philosophy and Law, Annual Report 2010-11
Submitted by Thom Brooks, Chair

The Committee on Philosophy and Law engaged in several activities during the 2010-11 academic year. First, the committee sponsored invited sessions and plans future invited sessions at divisional meetings. Secondly, the committee has published issues of the APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Law, edited by Steven Scalet and Christopher Griffin. These activities will be spelled out in further detail below.

1. Panels at Divisional Meetings

Eastern Meeting 2010. The committee sponsored two invited sessions. The first was on the theme of ‘Retributivism and Preventive Detention in the Criminal Justice System–Can They Be Reconciled?’ The session was organized and chaired by Alec Walen (Rutgers University). Speakers included Stephen Morse (University of Pennsylvania) ‘Desert-Disease Jurisprudence and the Logic of Prevention’, Kim Ferzan (Rutgers) ‘The Irreconcilability of Prevention and Punishment’, and Dan Markel (Florida State University) ‘Should Retributivists Care About Preventive Detention?’

The second panel was entitled ‘Nussbaum’s From Disgust to Humanity: Author Meets Critics’. The session was organized by Thom Brooks (Newcastle University–UK). Speakers were to include Suzanne Goldberg (Columbia University), Yoel Inbar (Harvard University), Helga Varden (University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign), and Martha C. Nussbaum (University of Chicago). Unfortunately, this panel was ultimately cancelled because of the adverse weather.

Central Meeting 2011. The committee sponsored an invited session on ‘Shapiro’s Legality: Author Meets Critics’ organized by Kevin Toh (University of Texas–Austin). Speakers included William Edmundson (Georgia State University), Don Loeb (University of Vermont), and Scott Shapiro (Yale University).

Pacific Meeting 2011. The committee sponsored an invited session relating to the winning Berger Prize article by Gideon Yaffe (University of Southern California). The session was chaired by David Lefkowitz (University of Richmond). Speakers included Yaffe, Alex Guerrero (New York University) and Mark Greenberg (UCLA).

2. Proposed Future Panels

Eastern Meeting 2011. Ken Eherenberg (Buffalo) will be organizing a session on “Jurisprudential Methodology: Are We at an Impasse?” Speakers will include Jules Coleman (Yale), Dennis Patterson (Rutgers), and Ken Himma (Seattle Pacific).

Pacific Meeting 2012. Kevin Toh (San Francisco State University) is organizing a panel on causation in law. Speakers will include Jonathan Schaffer (Rutgers) and Carolina Sartorio (University of Arizona). Commentators will include Sara Bernstein (Duke University) and Brad Weslake (Rochester University).

Matt Lister (Penn) is planning to organize a panel on international criminal law for a future panel for a forthcoming division meeting.

3. APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Law

Steven Scalet and Christopher Griffin edit the APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Law. Our current newsletter is on the work of Jean Hampton. Contributors include David Silver (University
of British Columbia), Linda Radzik (Texas A&M University), and Richard Dagger (University of Richmond). Future newsletters will focus on the work of Larry Alexander and a second newsletter on the work of Jeremy Waldron. Contributors will include Steven Sciaraffa (McMaster University), David Lefkowitz (University of Richmond), Anthony Reeves (Binghampton University), and Joshua Kassner (University of Baltimore). We will also soon publish the papers from the panel on Gideon Yaffe’s Berger Prize winning essay. Contributors will include Yaffe, Alex Guerrero, and Mark Greenberg.

4. Committee Membership
The CPL membership for 2010-11 were Thom Brooks (Chair) (2012), David Lefkowitz (2011), Melinda Roberts (2011), Michael Steven Green (2012), Kevin Toh (2013), and Alec Walen (2012) with Steven Scalet and Christopher Griffin ex officio members as editors of the Newsletter. Let me take this opportunity to thank my committee members for their outstanding efforts and contributions with another promising year of activities ahead.