

Committee on the Status and Future of the Profession
Submitted by Peter J. Markie

The Committee on the Status and Future of the Profession presently has the following membership: Michael Burke, Cheshire Calhoun (ex officio), Wayne Davis, Betsy Decyk, Leslie Francis (ex officio), Ann Garry, Carol C. Gould (ex officio), Paul Humphreys (ex officio), Patricia Kitcher, Hilary Kornblith, and Paul Roth. Members who left the committee when their terms expired in the past year are Randall Curren, Saul Fisher, and William Lawhead.

The committee has continued its discussions, as reported by (then committee chair) William Mann in last year's report, of how the APA can develop a better system of data collection and management. The committee is currently reviewing a survey instrument developed by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences for Humanities departments.

The committee has reviewed a request from the Women in Philosophy Taskforce that it take on two projects. The first is to develop a statement of best practices for Philosophy journals that would serve as a guide for journals in the ongoing development of their policies. The second is to review the policies and practices of journals relative to the statement of best practices and to make public the variation in journal practices. In response to the request, the committee has endorsed a recommendation to the APA Board that it establish a taskforce consisting of journal editors, members of the Status and Future of the Profession Committee and members of the Committee on Lectures, Publications and Research to draft a best practices statement for review. The committee has also endorsed a recommendation to the Board that, once such a statement is approved, the APA should conduct a review of journal practices relative to it and make the results public, perhaps by updating the 1997 Guide to Publishing in Philosophy, originally developed with the Philosophy Documentation Center.