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David Schrader
Executive Director
American Philosophical Association
University of Delaware
Newark, DE 19716

Dear Executive Director Schrader,

The UNC Philosophy Department was delighted that the APA Board of Officers in December 2011 approved a \$3,500 grant for our proposal, "Chapel Hill Philosophy in the Community: The Outreach Program Initiatives." This is my report on our efforts.

The grant was for funding for the High School Ethics Bowl and for expanding our Outreach Program to the Carol Woods Retirement Community in Chapel Hill. I will describe the results of these two efforts in turn.

We began the High School Ethics Bowl in 2011; this year marked the second of what we hope will be an annual event. The Bowl took place on February 11, 2012 and included fourteen teams in total: twelve from nine area high schools and two comprised of local home-schooled students. Over one-hundred high school students attended along with many members of the university community as well. (By comparison, the previous year's Bowl included seven teams from six local high schools.) The event was modeled on the collegiate Ethics Bowl, with teams of up to five students presenting and rebutting arguments about complex moral cases drawn from actual events. The teams were judged on the clarity, force, and logical strength of their arguments, as well as on their ability to respond to counter-arguments from the opposing team and to questions from the judges.

The Outreach Program provided coaches for each team that requested one. The coaches were drawn from the philosophy graduate students and faculty at UNC. Each coach met with his or her team on at least six occasions before the Bowl. Coaches helped to give their team a basic understanding of ethical theories, and they also assisted their team in developing effective arguments. Six graduate students served as coaches. (Funding from the APA's grant was used to support coaches' honoraria, transportation, and teaching materials.) The Outreach Program also worked to secure judges and moderators for the event; nine graduate students and eight faculty members played these roles.

The feedback from the high school students, teachers, and administrators was overwhelmingly positive. There is every reason to think that this event will continue to grow next year, and in addition, the Department will be the headquarters and site for a national high school ethics bowl next year. Some initiatives under consideration for next year's local ethics bowl are to allow coaches to coach multiple teams via Skype or a virtual classroom of some sort, as well as to hold the Bowl over two days so that each team gets the chance to compete against every other team.

Carol Woods is an award-winning, non-profit retirement community established more than thirty years ago. We selected Carol Woods as our pilot for expanding our Outreach Program to encompass area retirement communities. Typically, a team of two or three graduate students settled in advance at a topic in consultation with the Carol Woods Life Enrichment Facilitator (who, in turn, consulted the residents). Then during their visit, the graduate students gave an introductory twenty-minute presentation. They then facilitated discussion among the residents for the remainder of the hour. This was an excellent opportunity to engage intellectually with people who can draw upon a wide range of life experiences, but who for many reasons are not accustomed to thinking systematically about philosophical issues. (Funding from the APA's grant was used to support honoraria, transportation, and teaching material for the facilitators.)

Graduate students visited Carol Woods on eight occasions and led discussions on a wide range of topics: the right to healthcare, the pessimistic induction in the philosophy of science, the ethics of food, the nature of punishment, the problem of evil, the ring of Gyges problem, the nature of art, and the experience machine. Having the topic set in advance turned out to work very well; both the residents and the graduate students had ample time to prepare in advance for their discussion. Graduate students took especial care to relate each topic to the residents themselves.

The residents seemed to enjoy the philosophy discussion sessions very much. The Carol Woods Life Enrichment Facilitator reported that they often continued their discussion long after the graduate students had left, and several residents requested that we hold more than eight sessions next year. Several residents also asked that we continue the sessions over the summer. The graduate students' reaction to the Carol Woods outreach initiative was generally positive, although the students did note the need to be patient with some older residents who had difficulty grasping the concepts, as well as the difficulties that arise when one of the more talkative, opinionated residents would de-rail the conversation. However, most of the graduate students involved said that it was a worthwhile experience, and several were willing to continue it into the summer. We hope to collaborate with other local retirement communities in the future.

Once again, we are very grateful to the APA for its support of our Outreach activities.

Sincerely,

Marc Lange
Perdue Distinguished Professor
and Philosophy Department Chair