

# AAPT Candidate's Statements 2012

## Member At Large

### ***Bill Anelli, Modesto Jr. College***

My involvement this past term as member-at-large included helping to organize the AAPT session, APA Pacific meeting (2012), “*The Craft of Structuring Writing Assignments*,” chairing the AAPT session, APA Eastern (2011), and participating in the AAPT Teaching Fellows award selection committee. In addition I presented at the biennial AAPT conference in Austin and the APA/AAPT session in Seattle.

Presently I teach a range of philosophy courses including environmental ethics, political philosophy, and critical thinking, at Modesto Jr. College, a community college located in the central valley of California about 90 miles east of San Francisco. I am also advisor to our philosophy club and active on many campus committees including professional development where I work to effect cross-discipline pedagogy discussions on our campus.

As member at large I would also bring an important voice to the board – the perspective of those who teach at two-year community colleges, often with 5-5 loads.

### ***Galen Foresman, North Carolina A&T State University***

At the recent AAPT workshop/conference I was excited about the work, plans, and direction of the current board and members. I see the AAPT playing an important role in advocating for philosophy programs and teachers around the country, while simultaneously developing good practices and standards in our discipline through evidence based research. I have not been on the board in the past, but I did serve on the most recent Programs Committee and am currently serving on the Elections Committee. I have experience with institutional and program level assessment as a Teagle Assessment Scholar through the Center of Inquiry in Liberal Arts, and I was recently awarded a grant from the Council of Graduate Schools to work on assessing Ethics Education in Graduate International Collaborations. My faculty position is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at North Carolina A&T State University.

### ***Mara Harrell, Carnegie Mellon University***

I am an Associate Teaching Professor of Philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University. I have been a member of the AAPT for quite a number of years now. I gave a presentation at the first AAPT conference I attended in 2006 and most recently I attended the AAPT conference this summer in Austin. I am currently the Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Philosophy Department. Part of my job is to oversee the training of our graduate students to become teachers, and another part is to coordinate all of the sections of our introductory course, which I teach every semester. I have been at CMU for 9 years, and before that I taught at Colorado College for three years. My original research was in Philosophy of Physics, but as soon as I moved to CMU, my research focus switched to undergraduate education. I would love to be a member-at-large of the AAPT as I think it is one of the most important resources we have as teachers, and I want to help the organization grow and flourish as much as possible.

***Tziporah Kasachkoff, Ben Gurion University of the Negev and City University of New York***

I have spent most of my teaching career as a philosophy teacher at two ends of the educational spectrum: at a community college teaching incoming students, and at a graduate center teaching advanced courses—both at the City University of New York. Aside from my interest in ethics, social, and political philosophy, my major interest is in teaching itself, an interest reflected in my joint-editorship (since 1986) of the *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Teaching Philosophy*. In addition to numerous articles, I have published three anthologies, two on the teaching of philosophy (and one on morality and public policy). In 2000 I received the AAPT's Award for Merit for *Outstanding Leadership and Achievement in the Teaching of Philosophy*. Being a participant and contributor to AAPT is a joy and an honor, and I view service to the organization as a Board member in that light.

***Joyce Lazier, Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne.***

As an award winning teacher in the area of Enhancement of Learning for my work with mobile technology in the classroom, and as the faculty fellow for Project #mobileEDU at IPFW, I would bring to the AAPT a wealth of ideas and information about how to harness the various enhancements that mobile technology offers. As an at large member of the board, I would facilitate connections between philosophy faculty using tools such as VoiceThread, and ShowMe's, to share and explore philosophic topics and teaching strategies with members (and the public). I would make use of TEDed to make a bank of AAPT philosophy videos that could be customized by members as well as any other interested philosophy teacher (see <http://ed.ted.com/>). After presenting at the 2012 conference, I was invigorated by many members of the AAPT and want to use these tools to design easy, fun ways to stay in touch during our busy semesters of teaching and scholarship while also promoting the vision of the AAPT to a wider audience. (Example of a Voice Thread here: <https://voicethread.com/share/3277264/>)

***Mimi Marinucci, Eastern Washington University***

I have been involved with AAPT since 1994, when I participated in the graduate seminar at the workshop-conference at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. The experience was so valuable to my teaching and my professional life that I vowed to attend as many future AAPT conferences and events as possible. Since then, I have not only attended, but I have presented many sessions, both at the biennial workshop-conference and at AAPT sessions at APA Pacific Division meetings. I have served on the program committee several times, and for two consecutive conferences (2002, 2004), I served as program committee co-chair. I served as an at-large board member from 2003-2004, and I would like to once again offer to serve in that role. I have a long history with the organization, and I look forward to fostering its continued growth and success.

***Scott McElreath, Peace College***

I am an Associate Professor of Philosophy at a liberal arts university with 700 students. I am the program coordinator for our Liberal Studies major. I have served on or chaired numerous committees that require a good working relationship with almost all positions on campus: promotion and tenure, curriculum, technology, and ethics-across-the-curriculum. I am comfortable working with people with a broad range of backgrounds on what is best for a

large group. I value consensus, clear communication, establishing and following protocol, healthy dialogue, and practical solutions. I presented papers at five AAPT workshop/conferences and was on the program committee for four of them. The AAPT has been a wonderful source of meaningful relationships, encouragement, and intellectual stimulation. As an AAPT board member, I would bring enthusiasm for the AAPT, over 10 years of active participation with the AAPT workshop/conference, and values that correspond with working collaboratively in diverse groups.

***Andrew Mills, Otterbein College***

Ever since I discovered the AAPT, I have believed in the value of its work, and my appreciation for that work has grown as I have increased my involvement in the organization. The AAPT is a uniquely valuable resource for the community of philosophy teachers. I attended my first workshop in 2002, presented for the first time in 2008, and co-organized the workshop in 2010. I was elected to the AAPT board in 2010, and hope that my work there has helped to improve the teaching of philosophy. In addition to participating in meetings and adding my voice and counsel to decisions faced by the board, I organized the AAPT sessions at the Eastern Division APA meetings in 2011 and 2012. I believe the organization should continue to reach out to philosophy teachers by providing them with the resources to improve as pedagogues, but also connect with the larger community of academics working in the scholarship of teaching and learning. The challenge for our organization is to figure out how to grow without losing the intimacy, collegiality and friendliness of our meetings, and I am confident we have the ability to do just that.

***Jennifer Wilson Mulnix, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth***

I have been an active member of AAPT since 2004, when I was first a participant in the Graduate Student Seminar, and since then, I have given many AAPT conference presentations. I also currently serve on the APA Committee on Teaching Philosophy. Much of my research is in the scholarship of teaching and learning, and I have published articles in *Teaching Philosophy* and *Educational Philosophy and Theory*. I also have administrative experience from running my University's Honors Program for four years. I would like to be an AAPT board member-at-large because I can offer my skills, experience, and dedication in order to contribute in meaningful ways to this organization. The AAPT has helped me in so many ways to think critically about my teaching, and if elected, I will continue to promote reflective teaching as well as reach out to more people who could also benefit from this valuable organization.

***John Rudisill, College of Wooster***

As a dedicated teacher I work continuously to find ways to innovate and improve the learning experience for my students, and am aligned fully with the mission of AAPT. I have received: a Bingham Program for Excellence in Teaching Stipend by Transylvania University supporting my participation in the seminar: *Twenty-first Century Liberal Education: A Contested Concept*; a Hewlett-Mellon Grant to support my collaborative work to improve student learning by establishing assessment procedures; and, a Teagle Foundation Grant supporting my participation in an effort (involving faculty from The Five Colleges of Ohio Consortium) to develop tools to assess creativity and critical thinking as outcomes of a liberal arts education. I presented at the 2006 AAPT meeting and, in the spring of 2011, contributed

to the first of its kind AAPT Midwest Workshop on Teaching and Learning in Philosophy at Ball State University. I am the recipient of the 2012 Lenssen Prize.

***Maria Sanders, Lone Star College – CyFair***

I am currently a full-time Philosophy Professor with Lone Star College – CyFair (Houston, Texas) and have taught philosophy at the college level for twenty years. My doctorate in Philosophy is from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and I am a licensed attorney. My areas of specialty include applied ethics, philosophy of law, and philosophy of education and I am currently a member of the Advisory Editorial Board for the peer-reviewed journal, *Inquiry: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines*. I firmly believe in the AAPT and its immense contributions to the philosophy teaching profession, and would welcome the opportunity to utilize my skills and expertise as an AAPT board member to continue the sharing of resources and opportunities for philosophy teachers as they navigate through a changing landscape in higher education.

***Thomas Urban, Houston Community College/Northwest***

Discipline-specific faculty development with an emphasis on teaching Philosophy is a core concern of mine, evidenced by my establishment of an ongoing “Seminar in Teaching Philosophy” for faculty in 2004. Since that time, the seminar has flourished and I believe is directly responsible for the strength of Houston Community College’s program today, a program that emphasizes first-rate teaching. Since then, the AAPT has become the primary resource for these bi-monthly faculty development meetings and an additional source of ideas for our Program Committee’s oversight of curriculum and effective student learning. I am currently Associate Chair of the APA Committee for Philosophy in Two-Year Colleges and will become Chair in July 2013. I am a firm believer in the AAPT’s mission and seek to promote greater cooperation between this subcommittee of the APA Teaching Committee and the AAPT. My current CV is available online at:  
<http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/thomas.urban>

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## Vice President

***Andy Carpenter, Ellis University***

From my first interactions with the AAPT in 1996, I have valued greatly our members' friendliness and generosity of spirit – I have learned much from many of you. I am grateful for the stability and inclusiveness that Emily Esch and Nils Rahaut have brought to the organization's leadership, and am honored by David Concepcion's nomination to serve as his Vice President and, later, as his successor.

I have led the AAPT's program, teaching, and speakers and awards committees and have participated in many other initiatives, including the teaching seminar, the teaching fellows committee, and the current efforts to publish an AAPT-sponsored volume on learning and pedagogy and to organize a mini teaching seminar at the 2014 Pacific APA. I have extensive administrative and leadership experience in higher education (currently as a provost and earlier as a center of teaching and learning director) and possess strong planning and organizational skills.

If you elect me, you can expect me to ask you about how the organization can best serve you. You can also expect me to work hard and to collaborate effectively in a manner that respects individuals and supports openness, inclusiveness, and collegial democratic dialogue.

***Jack Green Musselman, St. Edwards University***

I'm an Associate Professor at St. Edward's University in Austin, and an ethics center director. My first AAPT conference in Montreal in 1994 as a seminarian demonstrated to me what our collegial and dedicated teaching organization contributes to our profession.

I've spent ten years teaching philosophy at a large public university, a community college and liberal arts colleges, so I've experienced many of the teaching challenges and opportunities we face today.

I've also spent four years working in my college's teaching center providing confidential one-on-one feedback to instructors about their teaching methods. That work informed my successful proposal to the AAPT Board of Directors at our last conference that created an ad hoc committee for assisting graduate students and new teachers preparing teaching portfolios for the job market.

We should advance similar efforts, even personally recruiting AAPT members from community colleges and high schools—and colleges in our home towns—since these schools have many dedicated philosophy teachers.

These plans, plus serving on the AAPT Nominating/Elections Committee (2008) and its Finance Committee (2011-present), and as the host for our last conference, demonstrate my commitment to advancing the AAPT's goals. Thus, I humbly ask for your vote. Thank you.