

FROM THE EDITORS

Revisiting classic issues

Each of the four articles in this issue deals in some fashion with a familiar topic on which the author, in our judgement, sheds new light.

Louise Cummings deals with one of the most familiar of fallacies: *petitio principii*. She argues that the rhetorical and dialectical approaches are unnecessarily proscriptive and she develops an approach that takes context more seriously—a fresh look at a familiar fallacy. **Nicholas Rescher** argues for an informal approach to references to items that have already been identified, which he applies to the Russellian paradoxes that emerged in the early 20th century—a fresh look at an old problem. **Bram van Heuveln** looks at how textbook presentations have frequently garbled the sense of Mill's Methods, and offers a corrective interpretation intended to be consistent with the various texts—a fresh look at a classic. **Peter Facione** looks carefully at the issue of dispositions in critical thinking and particularly the empirical evidence, and on that basis claims that focus on skills alone is not enough to teach critical thinking dispositions—a fresh look at an ongoing debate.

Teaching Supplement

We are pleased to present the first issue of the new *Informal Logic Teaching Supplement* which will now become a regular feature of the journal. We have long been aware that many readers have been anxious to have a regular source of material and ideas that will enrich the teaching of informal logic and critical thinking. Under the able editorship of **Claude Gratton**, the *Teaching Supplement* is now a reality and we encourage readers to support it with their own material.

New Co-editors

With this issue we also welcome two longtime colleagues whom we have invited to share with us the co-editorship of the journal: **Hans V. Hansen** and **Christopher W. Tindale**. Both have published widely in the field of informal logic. They will be known to many as the team who have co-chaired and co-organized the three highly successful Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation (OSSA) conferences that were held at Brock University in 1995, 1997 and 1999. We look forward to the organizational skills, energy, good judgement, and fresh outlook they bring.

Upcoming OSSA Conference

Set aside May 17-19, 2001 for the next OSSA Conference, to be held at the University of Windsor. Check the OSSA URL for the call for papers: <http://www.uwindsor.ca/OSSA>.