

CRRAR

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

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## CRRAR

### Background to the Centre

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CRRAR is the acronym for the *Centre for Research in Reasoning, Argumentation and Rhetoric* (*Centre de Recherches sur Raisonnement, Argumentation et Rhétorique*) at the University of Windsor. The idea for such a research centre grew out of earlier initiatives, a short-lived national Network for the Study of Reasoning (NSR, 2005-2006), and an informal group of researchers at the University Windsor called the Windsor Group for Research in Argumentation and Informal Logic (W-GRAIL, 2000-2005). At the initiative of Professors Blair and Johnson, in 2006 the University decided to create a research centre to take advantage of the prominence both in numbers and reputation of the scholars engaged in research in reasoning, argumentation and rhetoric. In particular, there was a desire to build on Windsor's international reputation as the place where informal logic was conceived and developed.

The purpose of the Centre is to (a) encourage the collaboration and mutual support of its members in their research, (b) attract visiting scholars to enhance the research profile of the University, (c) encourage student research and courses, (d) organize conferences, (e) publish a journal (*Informal Logic*), (f) encourage in the University research and collaboration related to argumentation across fields (e.g., law, psychology, computer science, communications), and (g) investigate the feasibility of graduate programs. The CRRAR web site (<http://www1.uwindsor.ca/crrar/>) now displays the following mission statement:

The mission of the *Centre for Research in Reasoning, Argumentation and Rhetoric* is to become a national and international leader in individual and collaborative research into the theory and practice of reasoning, argument and argumentation, and rhetoric from the perspective of all related academic disciplines, and a leader in the application and dissemination of this research. CRRAR will collaborate with regional, national and international groups, such as the Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation (OSSA), the national Network for the Study of Reasoning (NSR) (Canada), the American Forensic Association (AFA) (USA), Association for Informal Logic and Critical Thinking (AILACT)(USA and Canada) and the International Society for the Study of Argumentation (ISSA) (The Netherlands), as well as with the national organizations representing the various scholarly disciplines to which its members belong.

In August 2006 CRRAR began operating with a budget supplied by the Office of the Vice-President, Academic. Professors J. Anthony Blair and Ralph H. Johnson were Co-Directors. Since then the Centre has been building its membership, structure and

identity. Dr. Hans V. Hansen served as Director from 2009- 2011. The current Director is Dr. Christopher Tindale (2011-2014).

CRRAR's initial home was in Parker House, but was moved to Essex Hall in the fall of 2012. In the main suite of offices on the third floor is space for the Director, the Administrative Assistant, Visiting Fellows, Senior Fellow, Dr. Douglas Walton, and a small seminar room. We also share the conference room (which we have jointly furnished) on the second floor with the Cross-Border Transportation Studies Institute. The journal office continues to be in Chrysler Hall North.

Current Staff include the half-time administrative assistant (also half-time with Physics); a web site manager (contract); and the *Informal Logic* intern (covered under the SSHRC grant). The Director receives a one-course release annually.

CRRAR

Fellows and PhD Faculty

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*Director*

Christopher W. Tindale

*Distinguished Research Fellow and Assumption Chair in Argumentation*

Douglas Walton

*Senior Research Fellows*

J. Anthony Blair  
Ralph H. Johnson (FRSC)  
Robert Pinto

*Research Fellows:*

Pierre Boulos  
Marcello Guarini  
Leo A. Groake  
Hans V. Hansen  
Catherine Hundleby  
Dale Jacobs  
Stephen Pender

*Visiting Research Fellows*

Jens Kjeldson, Professor of rhetoric and visual communication at University of Bergen/Södertörn University, Norway; Visiting Professor, Northwestern University, and President of the Rhetoric Society of Europe (RSE): April.

Andrew Aberdein, Humanities and Communication, Florida Institute of Technology, and Visiting Researcher, Informatics, University of Edinburgh: May.

Marcin Koszowy, Dept. of Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of Bialystok: May-June.

Stephen Patterson (Marygrove College, Detroit), September –June.

*Student Research Fellows*

Jason Boose (Politics)

Jamie Sewell (Philosophy)

*Visiting Student Research Fellow*

Charles Sendegeya (Nigeria)

[Supported by a fellowship from the Friends of Makerere in Canada.]

*Assistant to the Director*

Anna L. Marro

*Informal Logic Intern*

Sandra Vreugdenhil

*Web Site Manager*

Dean Goorden

*PhD Faculty (in addition to current fellows)*

Lori Buchanan (Psychology)

Camille Cameron (Law)

Tanya Collet-Najem (Linguistics)

Cheryl Collier (Politics)

Michael Darroch (Visual Arts)

Karen Engle (Visual Arts)

Michael Potter (CTL)

Antonio Rossini (Languages)

**Mercier Symposium: October 4/5, 2102**

THE EVOLUTION OF ARGUMENTATION: THE SPERBER/MERCIER THEORY

- Fri, 10/05/2012 - Sat, 10/06/2012

KEYNOTE Speaker: HUGO MERCIER University of Neuchâtel

Panelists:

- Dr. Mark Aakhus, Communications, Rutgers University
- Dr. Lori Buchanan, Psychology, University of Windsor
- Dr. Ian Hacking, Philosophy, University Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto; Permanent Chair in the History and Philosophy of Scientific Concepts, Collège de France
- Dr. Burkhard Schafer, Computational Legal Theory, School of Law, University of Edinburgh

<http://www1.uwindsor.ca/crrar/the-evolution-of-argumentation-the-sperbermercier-theory>

**Workshop on Visual Argumentation: April 26, 2013**

*Speakers:*

**Leo A. Groarke** (CRRAR) "Going Multi-modal: What is a Mode of Argument and Why does it Matter?"

**J. Anthony Blair** (CRRAR) "Is Visual Logic Different?"

**Jens E. Kjeldsen (President: Rhetoric Society of Europe)** "Virtues of Visual Argumentation"

**International Conference: Virtues of Argumentation: May 22-25, 2013**

One hundred and forty visitors (105 papers) over three days:

**Keynote speakers:**

Daniel H. Cohen, Department of Philosophy, Colby College

Marianne Doury, Communication & Politics, CNRS – Paris

G. Thomas Goodnight, Annenberg School of Communication, University of Southern California

<http://ocs.uwindsor.ca/ocs/index.php/PC/virtues/index>

### **Summer Institute in Multi-Media Argumentation, May 26-31, 2013**

In conjunction with the conference 'Virtues of Argumentation', CRRAR offered a summer institute on multimodal arguments, open to graduate students and post-docs.

One trend in the development of argumentation theory is an increasingly broad conception of argument that recognizes (among other things) the use of "multi-modal" elements – images, music, and other non-verbal components – as key components of many arguments. In this course we considered the questions that this raises.

Instructors: **Leo Groarke** (Course Director) CRRAR; **Gabrijela Kišiček**, Dept. of Phonetics; University of Zagreb; **Georges Roque** Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris; **Paul van den Hoven**, Tilburg School of Humanities, Tilburg University, NL; **Christopher Tindale**. Director of CRRAR.

CRRAR Seminars: (Visitors):

Jens Kjeldson, 'Four Rhetorical Potentials'.

Steve Patterson: 'Cooperative Intentions in Argumentation'.

Andrew Aberdein, 'Arguing over Mathematics: Mathematical Practice and Malpractice'.

Marcin Koszowy, 'Informal Logic and Pragmatic Logic: Toward Bridging the Gap'.

**CRRAR Seminars (Fellows):**

Douglas Walton: 'Forensic Evidence in Fine Art Attribution: Is the Painting a Genuine Da Vinci?' October 1, 2012.

Christopher Tindale: 'Inventing Arguments' October 26, 2012.

Stephen Pender, 'Urbanity, Counsel, and Therapy' November 16, 2012

Catherine Hundley: 'Aggression, Politeness, and Abstract Adversaries' December 12, 2012

J. Anthony Blair: 'Are Conductive Arguments Really not Possible?' January 18, 2013.

Ralph Johnson: 'Is Defeasibility a Virtue of Argumentation?' February 1, 2013.

Hans V. Hansen" 'John Stuart Mill and the Great Business of Life' March 23, 2013.

***Informal Logic:***

Published Volumes 32 #&4; 33 1&2

[The journal *Informal Logic* began as a quarterly newsletter at the University of Windsor in 1978. It became a refereed journal with an editorial board in 1984. The founding editors, Blair and Johnson, were joined by Hansen and Tindale as co-editors in 2000. Since 1996, *Informal Logic* has been funded under SSHRC's aid to scholarly journals program. In 2008, it became an open access electronic journal. The journal operates with a 30-member international editorial board of distinguished researchers and has a significant rejection rate. CRRAR's administrative assistant works as managing editor, assisted by the student intern.]



## **Additional Major Projects:**

1. Windsor Studies in Argumentation (WSIA), Open Source Electronic book series. General Editors: Leo A. Groarke and Christopher W. Tindale (with support from Leddy Library). First Volume (Fall, 2013): *What do We Know about the World?* Edited by Gabrijela Kišiček

2. Political Argumentation: “How Do You Argue? Let Us Count the Ways”  
The Ontario Provincial Election, 2011

### REPORT ON A PILOT STUDY

Project Leaders: Hans V. Hansen & Douglas Walton, CRRAR Fellows.

Supported by:

Sam Atkin, Dillon Fowler, Laura Nicola & Shane Perron, *FASS Students*

<http://www1.uwindsor.ca/crrar/ontario-provincial-election-a-pilot-study>

3. Special Issue of *Informal Logic*: Honouring Canadian philosopher and argumentation theorist, Trudy Govier: Guest Editor: Catherine Hundleby (published May, 2103)

4. Special Issue of the journal *Philosophy and Rhetoric*: Title: ‘Rhetoric’s Contributions to Argumentation: Guest editors: Ralph H. Johnson & Christopher W. Tindale

5. *Riel’s Defense*: Collection of Essays from the 2010 CRRAR conference on the Speeches of Louis Riel. Compiled for McGill/Queen’s Press, Editor: Hans V. Hansen. Forthcoming Fall 2013.

6. Completion of research project: ‘Stem Cell Research: Canadian and German Perspectives: J. Anthony Blair, Ralph H. Johnson, and Christopher W. Tindale, with partners at Hamburg University ( funded by a Humboldt Foundation grant 2008-2012)

**CRRAR**  
**Grants received 2012-13**

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Dr. Douglas Walton is the recipient of a \$315,246 five-year research grant (2012-2017) from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

**Title of Grant: The Carneades Argumentation System**

Conference grant: Catherine Hundleby: SSHRC \$40,000.

Title: Virtues of Argumentation

Journal Grant: Christopher Tindale: SSHRC \$62,000 (3 years)

Title: *Informal Logic*

**Student Fellows:**

Fall term: Jason Boose, Politics; (the second recipient declined the fellowship since she was overcommitted. It was decided not to offer it to another applicant).

Winter term: Jason Boose, Politics; Jamie Sewell, Philosophy.

As part of his involvement with CRRAR, Mr. Boose worked with Dr. Hansen on his study of the argumentation used by parties in the Alberta provincial election.

As part of her involvement, Ms. Sewell developed a project “**Reasoning Through Narratives and the Social Contexts of Evaluation**,” which she presented to the group in May.

**Journal Intern:** Ms. Sandra Vreugdenhil worked as the intern for *Informal Logic*, assisting Ms. Marro and Professor Blair in preparing and proof-reading the issues. She also worked on a style manual for the journal.

Ms. Vreugdenhil is entering a PhD program at Waterloo in September 2012 and a new intern will be appointed.

**Web Site Manager:** Mr. Dean Goorden provided assistance as our web site manager on a contractual basis. He is now in a PhD program in Belgium. While he continues to maintain the site for us, he will be replaced in the fall.

**PhD Program, Research Assistant:** Mr. Justin Morris has been working as the assistant on the preparation of the PhD program in Argumentation Studies. Since he is entering a PhD program at McMaster this fall, he will be replaced. (The PhD application is funded under an award from the Strategic Priorities Fund)

**Undergraduate Researchers:**

Four FASS students were involved in collecting and analyzing data in the Pilot Study: “How Do You Argue? Let Us Count the Ways”

Students: Sam Atkin, Dillon Fowler, Laura Nicola & Shane Perron

Project Leaders: Drs. Hansen & Walton

**Virtues of Argumentation Conference:**

Student involvement (covered under SHHRC Grant):

Conference Manager: Jamie Sewell

Assistant: Anne-Marie Romanko

IT Support: Elisa Durante

Staff:

Conor Allard; Beverley Anger; Sam Atkin; Brigham Bartol; Jason Boose; Lauren Earle; Cameron Fioret; Tamilyn Mulvaney; Katie Sulatycki; Sandra Vreugdenhil.

**Mercier Symposium:**

Students from across the university attended the talks of the Mercier Symposium in October. Eight students were among the 20 participants of a separate seminar with Hugo Mercier.

**Visiting Research Fellows 2013-14:**

Marc Angenot, D. PHIL. & LIT., MSRC - Professeur, Chaire James-McGill D'Étude du Discours Social, McGill University, Directeur, Division «Lettres et sciences humaines». Académie I, Société royale du Canada. Three-day visit in late November. Details to be arranged. (Funded by CRRAR).

Daniel Fasko, Jr., Professor of Educational Psychology, School of Educational Foundations, Leadership & Policy, Bowling Green State University, August-December 2013 (visit funded by a Bowling Green sabbatical).

Professor Guo Qiao, Deputy Director, School of Philosophy and Public Administration, Henan University, Kai Feng, China. September 2013-August 2014. (Visit funded by the China Scholarship Council).

Wei Chen, Associate Professor at School of Philosophy, Fudan University, Shanghai, China. (Visit sponsored by a special collaboration grant from Fudan University).

Professor Bruno Leclercq, Department of Philosophy and Logic, l'Université de Liège, Belgium. March 1-June 30, 2014. (Visit funded by the Belgium National Fund for Research).

**Visiting Student Research Fellow:**

Charles Sendegeya (Nigeria) will continue with us until December 15, 2013.

**Major Event:**

Conference in April, 2014: 'Diagramming Evidence: Visualizing Connections in Science and the Humanities'. A conference built around the visit of professor Leclercq. Details and participants to be confirmed.

**Further Collaborations**

The Department of Humanities of the Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano in Bogotá is opening a new Master program in Argumentation, Rhetoric and Reasoning (ARR). "In recognizing the leadership and experience of the Center for Research in Reasoning, Argumentation and Rhetoric (CRRAR), we would like to have CRRAR as an academic ally in this important enterprise." They are sending one of their professors, Professor Danny Marrero "to present our project in person with the terms of cooperation we would like to have from CRRAR." The visit is scheduled for September, 2013.

**Continued Activities:**

*Informal Logic.*

CRRAR Seminar series.

Visiting Fellows 2014-15:

Currently, we have inquiries/requests from several interested professors.

**Next International Conference:** May 2015 or 2016.

**Continued Collaborations:**

**Lisbon:** Major grant request was submitted earlier in 2013 by the Argumentation team at the New University of Lisbon to the Portuguese Science Foundation. CRRAR is a partner in the application (which involves joint research projects and graduate student supervisions.) Six CRRAR members agreed to support the programme and are part of the official application. (There is no expectation of partnership funding.)

**Guangzhou, China:** We continue our collaboration with the Institute of Logic and Cognition at Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, P.R. China. The Vice-director, Professor Minghui Xiong spent one year at CRRAR as a Visiting Fellow (2010-2011) to establish the connection. Dr. Tindale is Visiting Professor there through 2015, and will next visit in 2014. Dr. Hansen will give lectures there in December, 2013.

**Santiago, Chile:** We have the prospect of further exchanges with the Centre for the Study of Argumentation and Reasoning, Faculty of Psychology, Diego Portales University, along the terms agreed between Neil Gold and Professor Cristián Santibáñez Yáñez (Director). No specific exchanges are currently planned.

**Amsterdam:** We have an ongoing formal relation (through grad studies and the Philosophy department) with the Department of Speech Communication, Argumentation theory & Rhetoric, where the International Society for the Study of Argumentation is centred. No current activities are planned, although CRRAR co-founder, J. Anthony Blair is to receive a Distinguished Research Award there in July, 2014.

**Development of the PhD Program:** PDC application form has gone through a number of drafts and is finally complete, as is the collection of faculty CVs. External reviewers have been chosen and invited by the Dean of Graduate Studies. A site visit is expected in the fall of 2013.