
RIGHTS, EQUALITY, AND JUSTICE: A CONFERENCE INSPIRED BY THE MORAL AND LEGAL THEORY OF DAVID LYONS

EDITORS' FOREWORD

David B. Lyons is one of the most preeminent moral and legal philosophers of our time. He is a Law Alumni Scholar and Professor of Law and Philosophy at Boston University, where he has taught since 1995. Previously, he was a distinguished faculty member of Cornell University from 1964 to 1995. Not only has Professor Lyons published a number of significant books and journal articles in moral, political, and legal theory, he also puts his theories of justice and morality into practice. He has been involved with civil rights and anti-war activities since the 1940s and is currently involved with human rights organizations including the BU Faculty for a Humane Foreign Policy and the BU Inter-Faculty Human Rights Consortium.

Boston University School of Law honored Professor David Lyons with a conference on March 12-13, 2010. This conference featured many outstanding scholars in law and philosophy giving papers and commentaries on important topics about which Professor Lyons has written. Professor Lyons contributed a previously unpublished paper to the conference and provided an insightful response to the participants. The principal papers, along with Professor Lyons's response, are published in the following pages. The paragraphs below outline the panels presented at the conference.

- I. *Paper:* David Brink, University of California, San Diego
Commentator: Wendy Donner, Carleton University
Moderator: Daniel Dahlstrom, Boston University
- II. *Paper:* Nicholas Sturgeon, Cornell University
Commentator: Daniel Star, Boston University
Moderator: Stephen Sullivan, Edinboro University
- III. *Paper:* David Copp, University of California, Davis
Paper: Aaron Garrett, Boston University
Commentator: Richard Boyd, Cornell University
Moderator: Nir Eisikovits, Suffolk University

- IV. *Paper:* Richard Miller, Cornell University
Commentator: William Nelson, University of Houston
Moderator: Amelie Rorty, Boston University
- V. *Paper:* A. John Simmons, University of Virginia
Commentator: Susanne Sreedhar, Boston University
Moderator: Hugh Baxter, Boston University
- VI. *Paper:* Gerald Postema, University of North Carolina
Commentator: James Fleming, Boston University
Moderator: Jules Coleman, Yale University
- VII. *Introduction:* Sterling Harwood, Lincoln Law School
Response: David Lyons, Boston University

The *Boston University Law Review* is pleased to publish the outstanding contributions of these law and philosophy professors in honor of Professor Lyons. We would like to thank all the contributing scholars, including our own Boston University professors who participated in and wrote for the conference. Above all, we thank David Lyons for his many contributions to the *Law Review*, in this conference and elsewhere.

This conference was co-sponsored by Boston University School of Law and Boston University's Department of Philosophy, with support from the BU Humanities Foundation. Sterling Harwood initially conceived the idea of holding this conference; thanks also go to David Brink for approaching Boston University about organizing the conference – he has been a valuable consultant from the beginning. Our gratitude goes to Dean Maureen O'Rourke for her generous ongoing support of the *Law Review* and this conference. Thanks also to Daniel Dahlstrom, Chair of the Department of Philosophy at Boston University, and Aaron Garrett, Associate Chair, for being co-organizers and co-sponsors of the conference along with Professor James Fleming, *Law Review's* tireless faculty advisor, who greatly assisted in this publication. Finally, this special issue would not be possible without the hard work of our dedicated *Law Review* editorial board and staff.

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