



## PREFACE

This issue of *Tradition & Discovery* is devoted to the topic of biosemiotics, an interdisciplinary field that connects biology, philosophy, linguistics, and communication theory. In the lead-off essay, Phil Mullins offers a primer to the field by introducing us to key thinkers and ideas. He also points to places where their work intersects with the ideas of Michael Polanyi. In the second article, Dániel Bárdos and Gábor Á. Zemplén offer a more detailed analysis of the work of leading biosemiotician Jesper Hoffmeyer. In the third article, Walter Gulick adds an analysis of *Retrieving Realism* by Hubert Dreyfus and Charles Taylor that brings more depth and perspective to the topic. In addition, we have reviews of two books on biosemiotics.

The issue is not all about biosemiotics, however. Spencer Case, now Book Review Editor, contributes a review of a book on knowledge in Chinese traditions. We also have the usual updates in News and Notes; be sure to check there for the latest information about matters of interest to readers of *Tradition & Discovery*. The e-reader instructions and Society information are can now be found in the website.

Do note, too, that this February issue is now the first issue of vol. 43 as we have now matched the publication schedule to the calendar year and made the deadline for dues Dec. 31 of each year. Remember to check your mailing label for the expiration date of your membership.

*Paul Lewis*

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**Dániel Bárdos** (bardos.daniel@filozofia.bme.hu) is a PhD student in Philosophy and History of Science at Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary (BME). His main interest is philosophy of biology and the philosophy of the historical natural sciences, especially questions surrounding paleobiology, emergence, and reduction within evolutionary theory.

**Spencer Case** (casesj@colorado.edu) is a PhD candidate at University of Colorado, Boulder where he is currently working on a dissertation defending moral realism. A veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and a 2012-2013 Egypt Fulbright grantee, he also writes political commentary for *National Review Online* and other outlets.

**Walter Gulick** (WGulick@msubillings.edu) has left the position of *TAD*'s book review editor after 25 years, but that does not mean he is turning away from Polanyian studies. He and Phil Mullins will share in the teaching of a course on Polanyi's thought this May at BME in Budapest, where several young scholars do good work on Polanyi's thought.

**Phil Mullins** (mullins@missouriwestern.edu) is Professor Emeritus at Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, MO and former *TAD* editor. He has long been interested not only in Polanyi's philosophical ideas but also those of Charles Sanders Peirce. His recent interest in biosemiotics came through work on Peirce whose work in semiotics has been assimilated by many biosemioticians.

**Gábor Á. Zemplén** (zemplen@filozofia.bme.hu) is Associate Professor at BME. An intellectual historian, his interests include metahistoric and historiographic problems, the history of philosophy of science, social epistemologies, and expertise. He is on the Editorial Board of *Polanyiana* and *Science and Education*.