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Innovations Affecting Us — Free Books and a Party: What a Concept!

by **Allison P. Mays** (Acquisitions Librarian, Millsaps College, 1701 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39210; Phone: 601-974-1083) <maysap@millsaps.edu>

I had a message on my answering machine from the **Boston University Institute for Philosophy and Religion**, offering me a set of free books. (Yeah, right, I said to myself: what's the catch? Do I have to preview their "product" in my home for 30 days?) So with some hesitation I called the number given and spoke with **Dr. Leroy Rouner** himself, who assured me that, yes, this was a legitimate offer. An official letter had been sent to our college president but it had not trickled down to me. (I suggested to **Dr. Rouner** that they might get better results by sending them to the acquisitions librarians, and he said they had already figured that out.)

Another very interesting part of this is that all they ask in return is that you publicize it, and in some cases, they will hold a reception at **your library which they will pay for**. In the world of acquisitions, it doesn't get any better than this! Please note that they can only have a limited number of these receptions, but we at **Millsaps** will be lucky enough to have one. (If word gets out about this, maybe we can start a new trend in acquisitions.)

Here is the official description of this interesting program, submitted by **Anna Lännström**, the Program Administrator:

Since 1970, the **Institute for Philosophy and Religion** at **Boston University** has been running an annual lecture series on topics of interest where philosophy, theology, and religion meet. The lectures are aimed at a wide audience, and have recently focused on fundamental issues of human experience such as Friendship, Happiness, Death and Immortality, and Courage.

The lectures are published by the **University of Notre Dame Press** as *Boston University Studies in Philosophy and Religion*. The series now includes 21 volumes. The General Editor of the Series — and the Editor of most of the volumes — is **Leroy S. Rouner**, Professor of Philosophy, Religion and Philosophical Theology and Director of the **Institute for Philosophy and Religion** at **Boston University**. Each year he chooses a theme for an annual lecture series which is then implemented by **Ms. Anna Lännström**, the Institute's Program Administrator. **Dr. Rouner** edits the essays which are then copy-edited and seen through the publication process by **Dr. Barbara Darling Smith**, Managing Editor of the series.

A generous grant from the **Lilly Endowment** makes it possible for the **Institute** to offer a complete set of its volumes to interested college, university and seminary libraries. It is hoped that libraries accepting the set of the first 21 volumes will purchase any forthcoming volumes. For further information please contact **Anna Lännström**, at (617) 353-3067; or <lannstrm@bu.edu> or visit us at <http://www.bu.edu/philo/centers/ipr/IPR.html>. To see a complete list of all 21 titles, click on the "Publication Series" link; volume 22 will be available in April.

So in case the letter to your college president didn't trickle down to you and you're interested in the set, contact **Anna Lännström** at the number above. This is on a first-come-first-served basis, so don't delay. 🐼

DR. LEE ROUNER

Lee Rouner was born and raised in New Hampshire, went to prep school at **Choate** in Wallingford, Connecticut, and to college at **Harvard** where he majored in English Literature, rowed on the Varsity Crew, sang in the Glee Club, and chased girls. After graduation, he coached the **Harvard Lightweight Crews** for a year and then spent two years as an Assistant Dean of Freshmen while taking occasional courses at **Harvard Divinity School**. He finished his theological study with an M.Div. (summa cum laude) at **Union Theological Seminary** in New York, and did a philosophy of religion Ph.D. under **John Herman Randall, Jr.** at **Columbia University**.

After five years as Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Theology at the **United Theological College** in Bangalore, India, he had a **Land Rover** shipped out to India and, in the fall of 1966, drove his wife and four small children (ages 10, 8, 6, and 4) overland from South India to England.

He has taught at **Boston University** since January of 1970, and has held various department Chairmanships. Since 1975, he has been Director of the **Institute for Philosophy and Religion**.

He is an alumni member of the **Harvard College Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa**, is listed in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the World*, holds an honorary DHL degree from **Lynchburg College**, and has been a Visiting Scholar for Phi Beta Kappa. He is co-author of 8 volumes in his 22 Volume series *Boston University Studies in Philosophy and Religion*, and the author of three books including a memoir about the death of his second son, Timothy, called *The Long Way Home*. He lives in Center Sandwich, NH, with his wife of 43 years, the family golden retriever, two cats, and a pigeon named Julius whom his wife nursed back to health, and who now refuses to leave.

ANNA LÄNNSTRÖM

Anna Lännström was born and raised in Sweden. After graduating high school in 1989, she and a childhood friend came to the United States for a year of adventures before going to college back home. They planned to be away for a year, but Anna's father laughed and said that they would be home in three months. He was half right. By Christmas, Anna's friend had returned to Sweden where she now has a husband, a four-year-old son, and a little house. In order to prove her father wrong, Anna stayed and kept busy by skiing **Whiteface**, hiking in the **Adirondacks**, and studying at **North Country Community College** in Saranac Lake, New York. The next year, she transferred to the **State University of New York** at Potsdam where she eventually received a B.A. in English and Philosophy (*summa cum laude*). From Potsdam, she moved to Boston and began pursuing a Ph.D. in philosophy and a black belt in **Tae Kwon Do**. Anna is currently writing her dissertation on **Aristotle's ethics** at **Boston University**. Since July, 2000, she is also running the **Institute for Philosophy and Religion** together with **Lee Rouner** (he dreams up the grand visions and she tries to realize them while keeping the Institute financially solvent and the University bureaucracy happy or at least satisfied).

And yes, she received a black belt in **Tae Kwon Do** in 1998 and is now working towards a second black belt in a different school.

And yes, her father regrets laughing.