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From The Editor

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FROM THE EDITOR

Mark C. Murphy

I blame no one for regretting that Tom Flint is no longer editor of this journal. Tom spent eight years guiding *Faith and Philosophy*, and anyone who has kept up with it has seen the evidence of Tom's hard and intelligent work deciding what is to be published in its pages. Having now taken over and looked behind the curtain, through the archives of past submissions and decision-making records, I am amazed at the work that Tom put into this role. Aside from the conscientious efforts to fulfill his editorial duties, for an enormous number of submissions Tom acted, in effect, as an additional referee, writing the equivalent of a full report (or more) for the sake of the improvement of the author's work. His efforts were works of love for the community of Christian philosophers, and seeing the sheer volume of those efforts is humbling.

Tom would be the first to note that the work of this journal is widely distributed. David Hunt, the Associate Editor, does the initial screening of manuscript submissions, and consistently offers constructive and generous feedback to authors whose papers do not go out for further review by referees. And of course the work of referees is indispensable; we rely on the willingness of experts—especially, but not exclusively or even primarily, those on F&P's Board of Editorial Consultants—to advise the Editor and to improve the work of authors. I am gratified at how readily my fellow philosophers take on this work and produce reports that are not only useful for editorial decision-making but engage fruitfully with the ideas in the submissions.

Faith and Philosophy is, as the journal's subtitle notes, the "Journal of the Society of Christian Philosophers," and it is unsurprising that its Editors, the vast majority of its editorial board members, and indeed most of its referees have been members of the SCP. I want here to note a special debt of gratitude that we members of the SCP owe to those referees who are not members of the SCP who have nonetheless generously responded to requests to serve the journal by evaluating and commenting on submissions.

One such philosopher who was a friend to the SCP and to *Faith and Philosophy* was William Rowe, who died on August 22, 2015. It is nearly impossible to work in philosophy of religion and not to engage with Rowe's work on the problem of evil, or on the cosmological argument, or on the divine attributes. Multiple works of his qualify as philosophical classics, and he appears to many of us as one of the giants in the revival



of philosophical reflection on theism. But the testimony of his students, colleagues, and friends speaks to Rowe's being above all else a partner in discussion and dialogue and in a commitment to getting at the truth. In that spirit he generously served this journal as an editorial board member from 1987—only three years after the journal's founding—to 2012. We grieve his passing. William Rowe, rest in peace.

My predecessors in this post, at the conclusion of their initial "From the Editor" communications, have asked for prayers from the readers of *Faith and Philosophy*. I follow their example. I ask that you pray for me, and for the journal, that it continue to serve the good of the authors that submit their work to it, the good of the community of Christian philosophers, and the good of the broader philosophical community.