



## ASSOCIATION FOR SYMBOLIC LOGIC

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ASL NEWSLETTER

November 2024

- **The 2024 ASL Election.** Enclosed with this newsletter is the ballot for the 2024 election for the new President and Vice-President of the ASL, two at-large members of the ASL Executive Committee, and two at-large members of the ASL Council. All terms are for three years beginning January 1, 2025. For those receiving this newsletter via email, the ballot is included as a separate pdf attachment. Write-in votes are allowed. Please vote! Votes must be received by the deadline of December 31, 2024.

The 2024 Nominating Committee has nominated Natasha Dobrinen (Notre Dame University), the current Vice-President, for President; Matthias Aschenbrenner (University of Vienna) for Vice-President; Su Gao (Nankai University) and Henry Towsner (University of Pennsylvania) for the at-large seats on the Executive Committee; and Juan Aguilera (Technische Universität Vienna) and Xavier Caicedo (Universidad de los Andes) for the at-large seats on the Council. No other nominations have been received. The Nominating Committee consisted of V. Becher, V. Fischer, A. Kechris, J. Kennedy, U. Kohlenbach, R. Miller, and R. Shore (chair).

- **ASL membership renewal for 2025.** Online renewal for 2025 will soon be available at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/membership/asl>. Additionally, paper renewal forms are available at <http://aslonline.org/membership/individual-membership/>, that can be returned by snail mail or email. Members now have the option to choose, for each of our three journals individually, whether to receive print copies or only to have online access to the journal. To make this new arrangement possible, we have reduced the number of options for the term of membership, which will now be available for either a single year or five years. For those who hold multi-year memberships and wish to confirm the expiration date, please log in to your account with Cambridge University Press or send email to [USmemberservices@cambridge.org](mailto:USmemberservices@cambridge.org).

We encourage all those whose memberships expire in 2024 to renew their memberships in a timely fashion! Many logicians, when becoming members of the ASL, opt out of receiving email from Cambridge U.P., which administers the membership program. In such cases, due to European Union regulations regarding opting-out, these members may not receive any electronic notification of the expiration of their memberships, and we know of cases where memberships have lapsed simply because the member was unaware of the expiration date. We believe that we have a better system in place now, still conforming to the EU regulations, but members who may have opted out of email should still pay particular attention and be sure to renew promptly.

- **Cambridge U.P. technical disruption.** Cambridge University Press publishes three ASL journals and the two ASL book series. This past summer, CUP's website suffered a cybersecurity incident and required significant reconstruction. CUP shut down its website, which was then unavailable for a lengthy period of time during its reconstruction. Details are available at <https://www.cambridge.org/universitypress/about-us/news-and-blogs/cambridge-university-press-publishing-update-following-technical-disruption>.

As of this writing, the three journals published by CUP are all available online once again. Moreover, membership services have been restored and appear to be functioning normally once again. (If any members are still encountering difficulties related to the technical disruption, please email [asl@uconn.edu](mailto:asl@uconn.edu) to inform us about them!) The journals are returning to their usual publication schedule, but are not yet fully caught up, so some accepted articles that would normally have appeared online by now are still delayed by a month or two. We expect that this backlog will be eradicated entirely during the winter.

- **Membership is now available to logicians in China.** The ASL continues to remind logicians that as of 2023 we can once again accept members from the People's Republic of China. Under PRC regulations we

remain prohibited from mailing journals to members in China. However, we now can offer online access to the ASL journals through Cambridge University Press for members in China. Logicians employed in China who are interested in joining the ASL as new members are encouraged to apply to the ASL Committee on Membership for a free initial two-year outreach membership by emailing their mailing address and professional affiliation to [asl-membership@googlegroups.com](mailto:asl-membership@googlegroups.com). After two years, outreach members should contact Shannon Miller at [asl@uconn.edu](mailto:asl@uconn.edu) to pay for continued outreach membership at USD 18 per year. Details are available at <https://aslonline.org/membership/individual-membership/>. Questions about this arrangement can be directed to Shannon Miller, Russell Miller or Reed Solomon.

Logicians in China, not being on the current membership list, may not see this Newsletter. We therefore encourage all ASL members to spread the news of this welcome change, especially to colleagues based in China.

- **Links to Articles.** For the convenience of our members, the e-mail edition of this Newsletter includes an attachment providing titles of many articles currently in press for the *Journal of Symbolic Logic*, *Review of Symbolic Logic*, and *Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, along with active links for downloading them from our journal websites. The attachment is also available at <https://aslonline.org/other-information/617-2/>.
- **Open-Access Options for ASL Journals.** Authors of research articles in logic, who may wish to consider submitting those articles to the *Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, the *Journal of Symbolic Logic*, or the *Review of Symbolic Logic*, should be aware that these journals now offer the option of open-access publication. Indeed, many universities now have contracts with Cambridge University Press, our publisher, that allow their researchers to publish open-access articles at no charge. These are often called *read-and-publish* or *transformative agreements*.  
All three journals are now hybrid. They still accept article submissions exactly as before, and they will still publish accepted articles just as before if the author does not opt for open access. However, for authors with mandates to publish open-access articles (or who simply prefer to do so), this option is also available. Details appear at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies>. To ascertain whether your university is among those with an agreement as described above, use <https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies/read-and-publish-agreements>.
- **ASL Sponsorship of Meetings.** The ASL often sponsors research meetings and conferences in logic, all over the world. Sponsorship is granted to those meetings that uphold high standards of scholarship and rigor and whose purpose is in concert with the mission of the ASL. Student members of the ASL may apply to the ASL for travel support to attend sponsored meetings, as described below, and a report on each sponsored meeting subsequently appears in the *Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*. Meeting organizers who are ASL members and wish to request ASL sponsorship of their meetings should do so at least five months before the beginning of the meeting, following the instructions at <http://aslonline.org/sponsorship-of-meetings/>.
- **Call for Conference Proposals.** The Committee on Logic in Europe seeks proposals for hosting the Logic Colloquium in early summer 2026. Inquiries should be sent to the chair: [andrew.arana@univ-lorraine.fr](mailto:andrew.arana@univ-lorraine.fr).

## STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

- **Student Travel Awards: ASL and ASL-Sponsored Meetings.** Student members of the ASL may apply for travel grants to ASL and ASL-sponsored meetings, as identified in the listings below. To be considered for a travel award, please (1) send a letter of application, and (2) ask your thesis supervisor to send a brief recommendation letter. The application letter should be brief (preferably one page) and should include: (1) your name; (2) your home institution; (3) your thesis supervisor's name; (4) a one-paragraph description of your studies and work in logic, and a paragraph indicating why it is important to attend the meeting; (5) your estimate of the travel expenses you will incur; and (6) (voluntary) indication of your gender and minority status. Women and members of minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply. Application by email is encouraged; put "ASL travel application" in the subject line of your message.

The deadline for the 2025 North American Annual Meeting (see page 3) is February 13, 2025, and that for the 2025 Logic Colloquium will be announced soon. For all other meetings, applications and recommendations

should be submitted via email to [asl@uconn.edu](mailto:asl@uconn.edu) or to the ASL Business Office (ASL, Dept. of Mathematics, Univ. of Connecticut, 341 Mansfield Road, U-1009, Storrs, CT 06269-1009, USA). They must be received at least three months prior to the start of the meeting, and membership in the ASL is required. Decisions will be communicated at least two months prior to the meeting.

Official ASL meetings include the Logic Colloquium, the North American Annual Meeting, the Asian Logic Conference (ALC), the Simposio Latino Americano de Lógica Matemática (SLALM), the ASL Winter Meeting, and the ASL-APA annual joint meeting. Many other logic meetings are sponsored by the ASL; these are identified as such in the list of upcoming meetings that appears below.

## ASL MEETINGS

- **2025 ASL Winter Meeting (at JMM)** *January 10–11, 2025, Seattle, Washington, USA.* The 2025 ASL Winter Meeting will take place during the last two days of the 2025 Joint Mathematics Meetings, at the Seattle Convention Center. The Program Committee consists of A. Chernikov (chair), N. Dobrinen, and J. Miller. The invited speakers are M.F. Balcan, A. Bernshteyn, A. Block Gorman, T. Slaman, D. Turetsky, J. Ye, and A. Zucker. The first two days of the JMM, January 8–9, will include the ASL Tutorial in Logic, presented by S. Starchenko, and also the *ASL Special Session on Combinatorial Set Theory*, organized by J. Cummings and S. Unger. A program for the Winter Meeting is attached to electronic copies of this Newsletter.

To participate in either the ASL Winter Meeting or the events of the larger JMM, one must register for the entire Joint Mathematics Meetings, whose website is <https://jointmathematicsmeetings.org/jmm>.

- **2025 ASL Winter Meeting (with APA)** *February 20–22 and February 27–March 1, 2025, virtual.* The 2025 APA Central Division Meeting is fully online and will take place over two consecutive weeks, with the ASL sessions being held between Thursday, Feb. 27 and Saturday, March 1. Registration will give you access to the full online meeting. The website for the APA conference is <https://www.apaonline.org/mpage/2025central>, where registration is available. The ASL invited speakers are D. Blue, C. Franks, S. Gandon, V. Halbach, O. Magidor, and G. Sagi, while the Program Committee consists of B. Halimi, J. Kennedy (chair), and A. Villaveces. A program is attached to electronic copies of this Newsletter.

The APA holds three regional annual meetings each year, one of which (on a rotating geographical basis) is designated as joint with the ASL. In 2025, this one APA regional meeting is being held virtually, while the other two are in-person. The ASL welcomes opinions from participants on the success or shortcomings of this online meeting, as we consider whether to designate the online meeting or an in-person regional meeting as the ASL-APA joint meeting in subsequent years. Such opinions may be sent to [asl@uconn.edu](mailto:asl@uconn.edu).

- **North American Annual Meeting** *May 13–16, 2025, Las Cruces, New Mexico, USA.* The 2025 ASL North American meeting will be held at New Mexico State University. The plenary speakers will be M. Malliaris, A. Poveda, B. Castle, P. Lutz, F. Weilacher, and S. Artemov, with tutorials presented by J. Wolf and M. Soskova. Special sessions are planned in Combinatorics and Logic; Computability Theory; Modal Logic; Model Theory; Proof Assistants; and Set Theory. The Program Committee consists of U. Andrews, V. de Paiva, I. Shapirovsky, C. Terry, and S. Thomas (chair), while the Organizing Committee includes J. Harding (chair), A. Kornell, J. Lucero-Bryan, P. Morandi, B. Olberding, I. Shapirovsky, and S. Tran.

The deadline for both contributed talk submissions and student travel applications is February 13, 2025. Abstracts, which must abide by the Rules for Abstracts (see below), should be sent to Shannon Miller at [asl@uconn.edu](mailto:asl@uconn.edu). Student travel applications should likewise be sent to Shannon Miller, following the rules on p. 2 above. The meeting website is <https://math.nmsu.edu/asl-2025/index.html>.

- **Logic Colloquium (European Summer Meeting)** *July 7–11, 2025, Vienna, Austria.* The 2025 Logic Colloquium will be hosted by the Technische Universität Wien. The Program Committee consists of J. Aguilera, M. Bojańczyk, H. Burnett, N. Gambino, R. Iemhoff, J. Kennedy (chair), S. Müller, D. Palacin, L. Patey, and A. Villaveces. The Organizing Committee includes J. Aguilera (chair), M. Baaz (co-chair), K. van Berkel, M. Gamsakhurdia, M. Iannella, T. Kouptchinsky, A. Lolic (co-chair), S. Mahler, R. Mohammadpour, and G. Stepanov. Updated information will be available soon online at <https://aslonline.org/meet/>.

- **Rules for Abstracts.** The rules for abstracts of contributed talks at ASL meetings (including those submitted “by title”) may be found at [aslonline.org/rules-for-abstracts/](https://aslonline.org/rules-for-abstracts/). Please note that abstracts *must* follow the rules as set forth there; those which do not conform to the requirements will be returned immediately to the authors who submitted them. Revised abstracts that follow the rules will be considered if they are received by the announced deadline.

## ASL SPONSORED MEETINGS

- **2024 Annual Meeting of the Australasian Association for Logic** *November 26–28, 2024, Sydney, Australia.* The annual conference of the AAL will be held in a hybrid format, with its in-person activities at the University of Sydney. The invited speakers are A. Conversano, M. Droste, and N. Greenberg. The website <https://sites.google.com/view/aalogic/aal-conference-2024>, describes how to register for either in-person or online participation. This meeting is organized by G. Badia, S. Rubin, and S. Standefer.
- **Model Theory Meets Geometric Group Theory** *February 3–7, 2025, Münster, Germany.* Model theory and geometric group theory exhibit a rich interplay, and this meeting at the Universität Münster will bring together young researchers in both areas. It will include mini-courses given by S. André, M. Casals, and T. Koberda; and talks by L. Ciobanu, J. Fruchter, R. Gupta, A. Kerr, J. Lopez De Gamiz, and C. Perin. The local organizers are M. Amelio, B. Brück, and Z. Mohammadi. More information is available at [https://www.uni-muenster.de/MathematicsMuenster/events/2025/MT\\_meets\\_GGT.shtml](https://www.uni-muenster.de/MathematicsMuenster/events/2025/MT_meets_GGT.shtml).
- **Computability in Europe** *July 14–18, 2025, Lisbon, Portugal.* CiE 2025 will take place on the campus of the Faculdade de Ciências of the Universidade de Lisboa. The Programme Committee is chaired by A. Beckmann and I. Oitavem. The abstract deadline for submissions to the conference proceedings volume is January 26, 2025, with the full submission due one week later. For details please visit <https://sites.google.com/view/cie2025-computabilityineurope/home>.

## CALENDAR OF OTHER MEETINGS

- **Indian Conference on Logic and its Applications** *February 3–5, 2025, Kolkata, India.* The ICLA is a biennial international conference organized by the Association for Logic in India (ALI). In 2025 the eleventh edition will be hosted by the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata, and will cover a variety of fields involving logic. A special feature of ICLA is the inclusion of studies in systems of logic in the Indian tradition, as well as historical research on logic. The invited speakers include S. Gao, J. Makowsky, A. Nerode, S. Pinchinat, and N. Ramsey. More details about this meeting and several satellite workshops and conferences, including the Asian Workshop on Philosophical Logic, are available at <https://logicindia.org/icla/icla2025>.
- **Very Informal Gathering of Logicians** *February 7–9, 2025, Los Angeles, CA, USA.* The 22nd VIGLA, held at UCLA, will honor Alekos Kechris on the occasion of his formal retirement from Caltech. The meeting is organized by the logicians at UCLA. Invited speakers include G. Sargsyan (giving the Hjorth lecture), O. Ben-Neria, R. Chen, A. Chernikov, C. Conley, M. Harrison-Trainor, J. Lutz, A. Marks, R. McCarty, A. Tserunyan, and J. Warren. It is hoped that travel grants will be available for graduate students and recent PhD’s. For further information, please visit <http://www.logic.ucla.edu/>.
- **Southeastern Logic Symposium** *March 1–2, 2025, Gainesville, Florida, USA.* The University of Florida will again host SEALS, on the weekend of March 1–2, with additional colloquium talks planned on February 28 (by K.M. Ng) and March 3 (TBD). Plenary talks scheduled during the weekend will be given by C. Conley, M. Harrison-Trainor, and P. Larson. Some funding is available for students to travel to this meeting. Information is available at <https://people.clas.ufl.edu/r-tuckerdrob/seals-2025/>.

- **Logicon** *May 19–21, 2025, Mexico City, Mexico.* Logicon, hosted by the Facultad de Ciencias of UNAM, will focus on set theory, logic, and related areas. The local organizers are I. Barrón Jimenez, J.J. Valenzuela Morales, and M. Torres Ruiz. More information will be available at <https://logicon.mx/2024/08/20/logicon-mmxxv-2025/>. (ASL sponsorship pending.)
- **30th Workshop on Logic, Language, Information and Computation** *July 14–17, 2025, Porto, Portugal.* WoLLIC is an annual international forum on inter-disciplinary research involving formal logic, computing and programming theory, and natural language and reasoning. WoLLIC 2025 will be hosted by the Department of Computer Science in the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto. More information will be available through [www.wollic.org](http://www.wollic.org). (ASL sponsorship pending.)

## IN MEMORIAM

- **Nuel Belnap (1930–2024)**

Nuel Dinsmore Belnap, Jr., the Alan Ross Anderson Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh, died on 12 June 2024 in Whitefield, New Hampshire. Born in Chicago on 1 May 1930, Belnap majored in Philosophy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After a two-year stint in the Air Force, he completed his Ph.D. at Yale in 1960, where his dissertation with advisor Alan Ross Anderson was the beginning of their long and fruitful collaboration on Relevance Logic. Belnap was appointed Assistant Professor at Yale in 1960 and moved to the University of Pittsburgh in 1963, remaining there till his retirement in 2011. He received an honorary doctorate from Leipzig University in 2000 and was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2008. In 2020 he moved to New Hampshire to be near his daughter.

Belnap’s contributions to logic and philosophy are broad, deep, and elegant. He co-founded the systems **E** and **R**, whose study has occupied several generations of scholars. He and Michael Dunn isolated the truth-functional fragment of entailment logics, now known as the Belnap-Dunn logic. He pioneered the logic of questions and the logic of agency in branching time, generalizing the notion of branching times to branching space-times to help explain physical as well as mental phenomena. His Display Logic made an important contribution to proof theory. He co-originated the prosentential theory of truth and helped give birth to the revision theory of truth.

Belnap was an outstanding teacher and trained several generations of logicians. His doctoral students include J. Michael Dunn, Mitch Green, Dorothy Grover, Anil Gupta, Glen Helman, Jeff Harty, Kohei Kishida, Virginia Klenk, Michael Kremer, Philip Kremer, Ruth Manor, Robert Meyer, Alasdair Urquhart, Matt Weiner, and Ming Xu. Helping others was second nature to Belnap. All five of his books and many of his papers were co-authored, most often with his students and junior researchers. The physicist Aldo Bressan’s book *A General Interpreted Modal Calculus* owes its existence largely to Belnap’s assistance in converting it into publishable form. He had a special talent for presenting even the most abstract and complex concepts. His comment about Alan Anderson applies equally to himself: his presentations “pleased the sensibilities as well as the intellect.” His sense of humor is visible in much of his work. One of his most influential papers is entitled “Tonk, Plonk, and Plink,” while in “Display Logic” Belnap states the proof of one of the theorems: “by diddling.”

Belnap had many interests and hobbies. He built and made freely available a program for designing mathematical fonts and downloading them into printers. He loved photography, motorcycles, Scottish terriers, and spending summers at the family cottage in Marinette, Wisconsin. He is survived by his three sons, Nuel Belnap III, Christopher Belnap (spouse: Florence), and Tyler Belnap (Paula); by daughter Mary Jo Greene (Chris); and by ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild, and he will be missed by them and many others.

- **M.J. Cresswell (1939-2024)**

Maxwell John (“Max”) Cresswell, eminent modal logician and Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington, died on 22 September 2024 at the age of 84, after a brief illness. He served on the Council of the ASL from 1977-1980 and served terms as President of the Australasian Association of Logic and the Australasian Association of Philosophy. He is best known as a co-author with his colleague and former teacher George Hughes of three textbooks in modal logic: *An Introduction to Modal*

*Logic* (1968); *A Companion to Modal Logic* (1985); *A New Introduction to Modal Logic* (1996). Among Cresswell's results was one of the first Henkin-style completeness proofs for modal predicate logic, the construction of methods to produce complete axiomatisations of certain predicate modal logics over their intended models and incompleteness results for some other systems, and the creation of a correct semantics for C.I. Lewis's logic S1. In the 1970s, he set out a programme in formal/linguistic semantics called "lambda-categorical grammar" and a treatment of indirect discourse. For the latter, he coined the term, *hyperintensional logics*, which has been adopted as a term of art in contemporary philosophy for systems that contain statements in which provably equivalent formulae are not always intersubstitutable.

His programme in semantics resulted in seven books, including *Logics and Languages* (1973), *Structured Meanings: The Semantics of Propositional Attitudes* (1985), and *Semantic Indexicality* (1996). In all, he wrote 13 books and more than 200 articles and reviews.

Cresswell was born in 1939 in Wellington, New Zealand, and graduated from Victoria College of the University of New Zealand with a Masters degree in 1961. From there he went to the University of Manchester to work with the New Zealander Arthur Prior, who had been an examiner of Cresswell's Masters thesis. After he completed his Ph.D. studies he took up a lectureship at the newly created Victoria University of Wellington. He retired (for the first time) from Victoria in 2000 and then took up visiting or temporary positions at Texas A&M, the University of California at Davis, Massey University, and the University of Auckland, before returning to Victoria in 2009 where he taught until 2021.

He is survived by his wife, the philosopher Adriane Rini, his son Jeremy, and his step-daughter, the Oxford University linguist Miriam Meyerhoff.

#### OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (Also see [aslonline.org/announce/](https://aslonline.org/announce/).)

- **Ph.D. Abstracts in the *Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*.** Since 2018, the *Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* has published abstracts of recent Ph.D. theses in logic. Sandra Müller is the editor for this section of the *BSL*. Please visit [aslonline.org/journals/the-bulletin-of-symbolic-logic/logic-thesis-abstracts-in-the-bulletin-of-symbolic-logic/](https://aslonline.org/journals/the-bulletin-of-symbolic-logic/logic-thesis-abstracts-in-the-bulletin-of-symbolic-logic/) for further information or to inform the editor of a newly completed dissertation.
- **Free Individual ASL Membership Program for Individuals in Developing Economies.** The ASL invites applications for an initial two-year free membership in the Association for new and lapsed members from countries classified as developing economies. The list, found at <https://aslonline.org/membership/world-bank-list/>, includes Brazil, Bulgaria, China (see p. 1), Colombia, India, South Africa, and many other countries classified as "upper middle income" or below on the World Bank's annual list for four of the last five years. To apply, please send an email to the ASL Committee on Membership at [asl-membership@googlegroups.com](mailto:asl-membership@googlegroups.com). Include your name, full mailing address, and your academic affiliation. Visit [aslonline.org/membership/individual-membership/](https://aslonline.org/membership/individual-membership/) for information about the ASL and membership benefits. After the initial two-year period, new members under this program pay the reduced membership dues, US\$18 for 2025, as long as their country of residence is on the ASL's list of developing economies.
- **Reduced Dues for Individuals and Institutions in Developing Economies.** The ASL offers reduced dues for individuals and institutions in developing economies. For 2025, the reduced dues are US\$18 for individuals and US\$130 for institutional basic membership, US\$180 for institutional full membership. These dues apply to individuals and institutions in countries whose economies are classified as "upper middle income" or below on the World Bank's annual list for four of the last five years. For more information, visit [aslonline.org/membership/individual-membership/](https://aslonline.org/membership/individual-membership/) or contact the ASL Business Office (address in the Newsletter masthead).

**The next newsletter will be mailed in January 2025. Items to be included should reach the Secretary-Treasurers or [asl@uconn.edu](mailto:asl@uconn.edu) by January 15, 2025.**

Submitted by Russell Miller & Reed Solomon, co-Secretary-Treasurers.