Contributors

Frank Tortorello, Jr. is a Ph.D. student in sociocultural anthropology at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign). He holds a Masters degree in American History from the University of Pennsylvania, and a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Georgetown University. Frank's doctoral research focuses on United States military culture; specifically on conceptions of "courage" (and "cowardice") among American combat soldiers. His theoretical approach utilizes the notion of moved human values as articulated in Drid Williams's semasiological theory and Brenda Farnell's semasiologically grounded research. His theoretical interests also center on the problem of 'structure' and 'agency' in the social sciences.

Charles Varela is a Research Associate in the anthropology department at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign). He holds an M.A. degree in psychology and a Ph.D. in sociology from New York University, and was a professor of Sociology and Psychology at Union County College, New Jersey, from 1960-1998. His scholarly interests focus on fundamental theoretical problems at the intersection of the natural and social sciences mediated by the philosophy of science and unified by the issues of human agency, embodiment and causality. His recent papers in this area are 'Determinism and the Recovery of Human Agency' (Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior 29:4, 1999); 'The Impossibility of Which Naturalism?' (JTSB 32:1, 2002) and 'Biological Structure and Embodied Human Agency: The Problem of Instinctivism' (JTSB 33:1, 2003). He is currently working on a co-authored book (with Rom Harré) entitled Science for Humanism: Determinism and the Problems of Structure and Agency. His papers on the problem of dynamic embodiment include 'Harré and Merleau Ponty: Beyond the Absent Moving Body in Embodied Social Theory' (JTSB 24:2, 1994); and 'Cartesianism Revisited: The Ghost in the Moving Machine or the Lived Body' (In Farnell ed., 1995).

Drid Williams has conducted fieldwork in England, the USA, Australia and Kenya. She has taught anthropology of the dance and human movement studies in all four countries. She holds a D. Phil in social anthropology from St. Hugh's College, Oxford. In addition to numerous book chapters and articles, her publications include Anthropology and Human Movement, 1: The Study of Dances (1997, Scarecrow Press), Anthropology and Human Movement, 2: Searching for Origins (2000, Scarecrow Press). A revised version of her first book, Ten Lectures on Theories of the Dance (1991), retitled Sociocultural Anthropology and the Dance: Ten Lectures, has recently been published (2004, University of Illinois Press). A forthcoming work is Signifying Bodies, Signifying Acts: New Ways of Thinking About Human Movement. Dr. Williams is the founder and Senior Editor of JASHM.