



May Term 2007 Reunion
16 April 2008

The Henry J. Leir Retreat Center
Ridgefield, Connecticut

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Henry J. Leir
1900-1998
Industrialist,
Humanist, Patron



Arthur Hoffman
President of the
Leir Charitable Foundations



Margot Gibis
Vice-President of the
Leir Charitable Foundations



Walter Wright received his B.A. from Yale and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt. He came to Clark in 1968, as an Assistant Professor in the Philosophy Department. He has taught courses on Kant, Hegel, and metaphysics along with courses that treat the philosophy of religion and concepts of the self.

In addition to being a highly praised teacher, Wright has served in various administrative capacities. He has been Dean of the College twice before and is now serving again in that capacity. As Dean, Wright has developed and encouraged learning as a journey of the mind, during which the greatest danger posed is the avoiding of challenges and complex questions.

Wright's research focuses on classical German idealism, especially on the works of Johann Gottlieb Fichte. Most recent among his publications is his much needed translation of Fichte's very difficult work.



Joe Whalen received his Master's degree in Education at Western Connecticut State University. He completed educational administrative certifications at Fordham University, executive training at the Institute for Not-for-Profit Management at Columbia University and the MBA Executive Program at The University of New Haven.

Whalen has been with Green Chimneys for 36 years and holds the position of Executive Director. In this position, he provides leadership and guidance for employees in attaining the goals of Green Chimneys; creates and maintains a culture which promotes a positive, safe, and productive environment for all involved; and, works closely with The Board of Directors to insure the organization has the resources to accomplish its goals.