

**From:** "Hinrichs, Nova I - (nhinrich)" <[nhinrich@EMAIL.ARIZONA.EDU](mailto:nhinrich@EMAIL.ARIZONA.EDU)>  
**Date:** December 15, 2011 1:00:34 PM MST  
**To:** "[VOTING\\_FACULTY\\_COGSC@LISTSERV.ARIZONA.EDU](mailto:VOTING_FACULTY_COGSC@LISTSERV.ARIZONA.EDU)"  
<[VOTING\\_FACULTY\\_COGSC@LISTSERV.ARIZONA.EDU](mailto:VOTING_FACULTY_COGSC@LISTSERV.ARIZONA.EDU)>  
**Subject:** Mike Harnish Memorial Lecture on February 3  
**Reply-To:** "Hinrichs, Nova I - (nhinrich)" <[nhinrich@email.arizona.edu](mailto:nhinrich@email.arizona.edu)>

Dear Members of the Cognitive Science Community,

I write with sadness to inform you that Professor of Philosophy Robert M. Harnish died on October 24, 2011. Twenty-five years ago, Mike was instrumental in establishing the Cognitive Science Program and GIDP. He remained an active member and contributor to the Cognitive Science community for many years.

To honor Mike's contributions to Cognitive Science at the UA, we have invited his long-time friend and former UA colleague, Alvin Goldman, to give the Robert M. Harnish Memorial Lecture at noon on Friday, February 3, in SPH 205. (This is the usual Cognitive Science Colloquium time and place.) Alvin Goldman is Board of Governors Professor of Philosophy and Cognitive Science, at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. His talk will be about his own work on embodied cognition, but some remarks will be made about Mike at the beginning of the talk.

On the evening of February 3, Lynn Nadel and I will host a celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Cognitive Science Program and GIDP. It is fitting to have this celebration on the day of the Mike Harnish Memorial Lecture because the program owes so much to Mike. Faculty members of the Cognitive Science GIDP and graduate students who are Cognitive Science Minors are invited to attend. If you plan to attend the party, please RSVP to Nova Hinrichs ([nhinrich@email.arizona.edu](mailto:nhinrich@email.arizona.edu)) by January 9.

Below, I forward an announcement of Mike's death sent by Chris Maloney last month. Chris summarizes Mike's academic life and mentions Mike's explicit desire that there not be an official funeral or memorial service. Chris also provides the address of Mike's widow, Csilla Pasztor, should anyone wish to write to her. Csilla will attend the Mike Harnish Memorial Lecture and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on February 3.

I want to close by expressing my gratitude to Department of Philosophy for co-sponsoring the Mike Harnish Memorial Lecture and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Sincerely,  
Mary A. Peterson  
Professor and Director of the Cognitive Science Program  
Professor of Psychology

---

Chris Maloney's announcement follows:

Friends,

I am sad to say that University of Arizona Professor of Philosophy Robert M. Harnish died today, 24 October 2011, in his sleep at his home in Tucson, Arizona after a long illness. Mike is survived by Csilla Pasztor, his wife, and their children Agnes and Tomas.

Those wishing to contact Csilla by mail might wish to write to her at  
Csilla Pasztor  
6476 W. Lost Canyon Dr.  
Tucson, AZ 85745

In accordance with Mike's explicit and determined wishes, there will not be a funeral or public ceremony commemorating his life. His many friends will know that Mike's directive is true to his character.

Mike's distinguished career, represented by over 60 articles and many books, included major contributions to the philosophy of language as well as cognitive science, linguistics and the history of early analytic philosophy. He was a deeply dedicated teacher, whose host of students at all levels recognized his deep commitment to his disciplines and his pupils.

Mike's graduate studies in philosophy began at the University of California – Berkeley, where he worked with John Searle and Paul Grice before moving to M.I.T. to conclude the doctorate in philosophy in 1972, having studied under Jerry Katz, Richard Cartwright, Noam Chomsky and Judith Thompson.

From 1971 through his (nominal) retirement in 2005, Mike was a member of the Philosophy Department at the University of Arizona, where he was also a founding member of the Cognitive Science Program. During his long career he was also Visiting Professor at numerous institutions including the University of Provence, the University of California – Irvine, the Karl-Franzens University, the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences, Monash University, the Janus Pannonius University, the University of Budapest, the Central European University, Simon Fraser University, and the Goethe University.

Mike's outstanding scholarship enjoyed the well-deserved recognition signaled by many of the academy's most prominent fellowships and awards, including those of the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Fulbright Scholars Foundation, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Long before waking the sun each day, morning would first rouse Mike with the promise of black bitter espresso. At sunset he'd be jogging one last loop around campus before loping home to dinner with his family. He filled his life to the brim with what wanted, never wasting a drop. This man loved his family deeply. Mike Harnish will be long and much missed by all of us who cherished and admired him.

J. Christopher Maloney  
Head and Professor  
P.O. Box 210027  
Department of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721-0027  
(520) 621 5046