

Philosophy of religion: a critical survey of Internet resources¹

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Abstract: In a survey of Internet resources available to philosophers of religion, the authors critically discuss philosophy sites, e-journals, virtual libraries etc that are relevant to philosophy of religion. They conclude that the Internet is increasingly becoming a helpful and even indispensable source of information.

Introduction

A widely-held opinion among those who do not regularly ‘surf’ the Internet, also known as the Worldwide Web (www), is that the information provided on the Internet is utterly unreliable, and that there is no point in wasting one’s time wading through a morass of dubious information. However, this view is as misplaced as its opposite – ‘that the Internet is already a limitless source of information, or that “the entirety of the Library of Congress is on the Net”’, and so the Internet already provides for everything one would like to know and more.² It is true that the Web offers ample examples of ‘the ravings of crackpots on whatever subject interests them today’,³ or, more commonly, information that is just irrelevant or worthless. However, there are also many sources of high quality information and research, and these are rapidly growing in number and size. The appearance of the full text of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (<http://www.britannica.com>) and *The Oxford English Dictionary* (www.oed.com) are two further indications that the Internet has come of age.⁴ This development of the Internet as a research tool is in part due to the increasing efforts of academics and research institutions, as well as the fact that the Internet has proved to be a highly effective method of communicating ideas. The resources that are presently available are sufficiently good to merit the attention of those with a scholarly interest in a subject like the philosophy of religion. Moreover, for those who are not yet

online, or who do not use online facilities, this is a very good moment to try out what the Internet has to offer. Access to the Internet has never been easier, and, more importantly, those who acquire the relevant skills while the amount of information is still limited, will be able to grow with the Internet, and will in the near future have an important advantage over their technophobic colleagues.

Here, we will not attempt a general introduction to the Internet, or to the basics of ‘surfing’ the Internet. Introductory guides are readily accessible elsewhere, and fall outside the concern of this journal. Rather, we intend to provide an introduction to the Web for philosophers of religion. Much of what we have to say will also be relevant to philosophers engaged in other fields, as well as to theologians. Where can philosophers of religion find high quality materials, and which sites are of particular interest? We will concentrate on the sites we believe are most useful and forego comment, entertaining though it would be, on those which are less good – they range from being merely unhelpful to hilariously awful. The speed with which new sites appear and established sites are updated and improved is such that a comprehensive guide in hardcopy is impossible. Moreover, while we believe we have identified most of the important pages at time of writing, there are also, no doubt, sites of value that we have omitted to mention. So, where suitable, we refer the reader to ‘umbrella sites’ that collect together links to other sites, both good and bad, concerning the subject matter in question.

General resources

The best umbrella site to philosophy in general is *Philosophy in Cyberspace* (<http://www-personal.monash.edu.au/~dey/phil>), based at Monash University, Australia, which divides links to a huge number of pages into categories such as online journals, libraries, universities, etc., much like this article. Also useful is *Episteme Links* (<http://www.epistemelinks.com/index.asp>), a simple and unspectacular arrangement of links to philosophy pages. Both of these sites only list links without further comment, and, at best, offer very brief descriptions; links are included to any page of philosophical interest, irrespective of whether it meets minimal critical standards.⁵ Another helpful tool is the *WWW Philosophy Virtual Library* (<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/Depts/Philosophy/VL/>), located at the University of Bristol, hosted jointly by the Department of Philosophy and the Institute for Learning and Research Technology. A selection of philosophy links is given, along with some helpful reviews. This virtual library section is provided in collaboration with SOSIG, the Social Science Information Gateway.

Covering similar ground as these resource pages, but with special attention to philosophy in current news stories is the *Philosophy News Service* (<http://www.philosophynews.com/>). The main news items are a mix of book notes, discussions of recent lectures and conferences, and links to online newspapers with features of interest to philosophers (most aimed at the US audience). This is not

merely a page of links: many of the discussions and reviews are stored on the site's pages, and contributions are encouraged. Also worth investigation is the *Guide to Philosophy on the Internet* maintained by Peter Suber, Earlham College, Richmond, IN (<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/philinks.htm>). Finally, Blackwell Publishers' *Philosophy Resources* site (<http://www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/philos/>) offers much more than just a catalogue of the books published by Blackwell's. In addition to a useful list of philosophy sites on the Web, the Blackwell server supports the *Gourmet Report* (<http://www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/Gourmet/>), which provides university research ratings and lists of recent academic retirements and moves.

A second way to find information is with a search engine. General search engines, like *Yahoo!* (www.yahoo.com), primarily categorize sites by their subject matter; others, such as *Alta-Vista* (www.alta-vista.com), search through the text of a large proportion of Internet pages (though most search engines now offer both kinds of search). Searches of the latter type should be conducted carefully, in particular for widely used expressions. For example, a search for 'Wittgenstein' on *Alta Vista* will now yield tens of thousands of results, most of them linking to sites of at best marginal interest. No search engine is exhaustive, and trying search criteria in different engines can prove fruitful. A comprehensive list is provided by *Search Engine Colossus* (www.searchenginecolossus.com). Also useful are *Hippias* (<http://hippias.evansville.edu/>) and *Ariadne* (<http://homehobel.phl.univie.ac.at/cgi-win/ariadne.exe>), limited-area search engines that index only preselected academic sites on philosophy. This type of search engine yields fewer hits than general search engines, but they are usually more relevant. The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* site is also a useful starting-point, because it provides numerous links to a selection of other sites, and uses a ranking system to indicate the level of quality one can expect.

Reference works

Online philosophy encyclopaedias are still at an early stage of construction. There are presently two under development. James Fieser's *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy (IEP)* (<http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/>) is largely dependent on external contributions. It already has a large number of entries, but of varying quality. Edward N. Zalta's *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP)* (<http://plato.stanford.edu/>), a publication of the Metaphysics Research Lab of Stanford University, California, has the potential to become an excellent resource, given the quality of talent already involved. Only a few entries are currently online, but on this evidence the quality threshold is high. In time, this may offer some serious competition to commercial philosophy encyclopaedias – especially since Paul Edwards's *Encyclopaedia*, though still useful, is now outdated, and the *Routledge Encyclopaedia* is not only extremely expensive, but often fails to meet the high

quality of Edwards's work. There are several other reference works of less importance, and some of these can be searched via Andrew Chrucky's *Meta-Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (<http://www.ditext.com/encyc/frame.html>). This tool allows one to search various reference works at once, including *SEP* and *IEP*.

A useful collection of links to reference works can be found on the page for dictionaries and glossaries in Peter Suber's *Guide to Philosophy on the Internet* (<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/gpi/dicts.htm>). An interesting German resource, still under construction, is *Phillex* (<http://www.pyrrhon.de/phillex/index-ll.htm>). It provides links to numerous '*Nachschlagewerke*', several of which are neither mentioned in our article nor covered by Chrucky's *Meta-Encyclopedia*. The most important of these may well be the *Biographisch-bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon* (<http://www.bautz.de/bbkl/>). Finally, Blackwell Publishers offer a highly amusing and entertainingly unfair *Philosophical Lexicon* edited by Daniel Dennett (<http://www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/LEXICON/default.htm>).

Journals and journal articles

Most academic journals are represented online. An extensive list sorted alphabetically and by topic is available on Peter Milne's site (<http://www.ed.ac.uk/%7Epmilne/links.html/journals.html>). Journals from leading publishers like Cambridge University Press, Blackwell, Kluwer and Oxford University Press (see details in the next section below) can be reached through their web pages. Consulting these resources is usually free. The information available typically includes editorial addresses, tables of contents for recent issues, and instructions for authors. In addition, an increasing number of publishers also offer full text issues of the journals to individual subscribers, or those affiliated to a subscribing institution, and with a computer connected to the institution's network. The text can usually be viewed and printed using *Adobe Acrobat Reader* (a freely available item of software). Since 1995, *JSTOR Journal Storage* (<http://www.jstor.org/>) has offered online, searchable, archives for a number of central philosophy journals. Their current list includes: *Ethics*; *International Journal of Ethics*; *Journal of Philosophy*, *Psychology and Scientific Methods*; *Journal of Symbolic Logic*; *Mind*; *Nous*; *Philosophical Perspectives*; *Philosophical Quarterly*; *Philosophical Review*; *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*; and *Philosophy and Public Affairs* (and many other, nonphilosophical academic journals). All of these journals are at present accessible to institutional subscribers only.

As the number of different online journals increases, it is useful to have a central point from which to access all journals. *Ingenta.com* (<http://www.ingenta.com>) tries to fulfil this function. *Ingenta* presents itself as 'the global research gateway'. It provides access to a wide range of bibliographical services, along with browseable full text journals and the possibility to search more than one journal

simultaneously. This is a promising development, because one can search different journals and resources from one site. Presently, however, only a few philosophically relevant journals and resources are available, the focus being mainly on natural science. While most paper journals are accessible online, there are some important exceptions, notably the *Journal of Philosophy* and *Faith and Philosophy*, though the searchable text of *all* back issues of the former is available on JSTOR.

Several analytic philosophy e-journals have already been established. Some of them, also usually the most lively ones, are for undergraduate or graduate students. Other journals have promising homepages, editorial boards and calls for papers, but have not yet published their first issue. No journal specializes in the philosophy of religion. Aside from this, there are few active professional journals in analytic philosophy that are exclusively online. The best examples include *The Electronic Journal of Analytic Philosophy* (<http://www.phil.indiana.edu/ejap/ejap.html>), supported by the Philosophy Department of the University of Indiana; and *Disputatio* (<http://bruxelas.inesc.pt/~jlb/disputatio/web/home.htm>), a peer-reviewed Portuguese journal with articles in both Portuguese and English. Both journals are available free. Similar to *Disputatio*, but not free, is the Spanish journal *Sorites* (<http://www.ifs.csic.es/sorites.htm>). It is a refereed all-English electronic international quarterly of analytical philosophy.

Also notable is *The Philosopher's Magazine Online* (<http://www.philosophers.co.uk/index.htm>) which features articles, news items, philosophy events, online discussion, links and much else. Current articles can be viewed for free, but access to the article archive requires subscription. *Textual Reasoning: The Journal of the Postmodern Jewish Philosophy Network* (http://web.bu.edu/mzank/Textual_Reasoning/home.html), founded by Peter Ochs, should also be mentioned here. The network in question is AAR-related, and the journal is both innovative and has the quality that is associated with Peter Ochs.

The Web also offers the possibility of making preprints available to a wide audience, which allows an author to discuss a paper with other scholars before its official publication. There has been a significant acceleration in the number of preprints online in recent months, and one of the problems has been finding where they are, since many scholars tend to publish their preprints on their own sites and it takes some effort to trace these. The obvious solution is to link these personal sites to a general index and search engine. The most successful attempt to do this is *Noesis*, hosted by the University of Evansville, IN (<http://noesis.evansville.edu/>). One can submit a philosophy essay which, once accepted, is listed in the *Noesis* index. Contributions by anyone with a Ph.D. degree are accepted without peer review. *Noesis* not only comprises preprints submitted by individuals but also official preprints and e-journal essays such as articles from *The Analyst* (a now inactive preprint e-journal associated with *Analysis*). Similar to *Noesis* in scope, but with fewer contributions is *The International Directory of*

Online Philosophy Papers (<http://www.hku.hk/philodep/directory/>), maintained by Joe Lau of the University of Hong Kong. Also relevant is *The Paideia Project Online Proceedings of the Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy* (<http://www.bu.edu/wcp/PaidArch.html>). The site covers many topics from most philosophical fields. The texts are accessible by topic or by keyword.

In general, *Noesis* and the *International Directory* are the most important starting points for those who want to search the Web for preprints on a particular philosophical topic. However, three pages are worth exploring for anyone attempting to track down a paper by a particular philosopher, such as Alvin Plantinga's 'Advice to Christian philosophers'. Peter Chalmers's *People with Online Papers in Philosophy* (<http://www.u.arizona.edu/~chalmers/people.html>) provides a long list of philosophers on the Web, divided by philosophical disciplines or particular expertise. Franz Kiekeben's site *Individuals' Philosophy Pages* (<http://members.aol.com/kiekeben/links2.html>) has an alphabetical list. Some links are to papers that have been published somewhere on the Web, others are to the home pages of philosophers of religion. We will return to these latter in the following section. Of special interest to philosophers of religion is *Origins* (<http://www.origins.org/>), a site with scholarly and popular resources concerning intelligent design and philosophical theism. *Origins* includes contributions by Alvin Plantinga, William Lane Craig, Richard Swinburne, Paul Davies, Eleonore Stump and many others.

Institutions, societies and individuals

Information about faculties and departments of philosophy are available from the *Gourmet Report* (<http://www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/Gourmet/>), which provides university research ratings in philosophy and lists of recent academic retirements and moves. The site also gives links to all philosophy departments in the United States, and to the main ones in the United Kingdom. Rankings given in the *Gourmet* are not, of course, always representative of the strength of research in the philosophy of religion in a department, nor does it take account of research done in this area in theology departments. The *Center for Philosophy of Religion* (<http://www.nd.edu/~cprelig/CPR.html>), based at the University of Notre Dame, IN, merits a mention for of its reputation in the field and deserves investigation for the extensive information on its web pages.

A web page gives a society the opportunity to announce meetings and provide membership details that is both immediate and inexpensive, with access to an international audience. Despite this, surprisingly few societies are presently online (particularly European ones), and those which are do very little with their pages; we expect this to change rapidly. Two of the best with interest to philosophers of religion are: *The American Philosophical Association* (<http://www.udel.edu/apa/>) and *The American Academy of Religion* (<http://scholar.cc.emory.edu/scripts/>)

AAR/AAR-MENU.html). These both provide extensive information about society activities and also much else of general interest. Many of these societies' publications – notably the APP's *Jobs for Philosophers* – are now available online, though access requires a password available only to members. Also of interest are: The *American Catholic Philosophical Association* (<http://www.acpa-main.org/>) and *The Society of Christian Philosophers* (<http://www.siu.edu/departments/cola/philos/SCP/>).⁶

SCP provides information about individual members, such as addresses and e-mail-addresses. There is a growing number of philosophers of religion who have home pages. Some of the more well-known philosophers of religion include: William Lane Craig (<http://www.leaderu.com/offices/billcraig/menus/index.html>), Alfred J. Freddoso (<http://www.nd.edu/~afreddos/>), Jonathan Kvanvig (<http://kvanvig.tamu.edu/kvanvig-vita.html#top>), Alan Padgett (<http://home.apu.edu/~padgett/index.html>), Alvin Plantinga (<http://id-www.ucsb.edu/fscf/LIBRARY/PLANTINGA/index.html>) and Barry Whitney (<http://www2.uwindsor.ca/~whitney/>). Good quality home pages *about* persons whose work is highly relevant to the philosophy of religion including René Descartes (in French: (<http://bisance.citi2.fr/DESCARTES/>), Emmanuel Levinas (<http://pwl.netcom.com/~cyberink/lev.html>) and Thomas Aquinas (<http://www.ktu.ruu.nl/thomas/>). Other home pages can be found through, e.g., *Theistic Philosophers on the Web* (<http://www.accessone.com/~pmartin/theistic.html>), while the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* provides a list with ratings for pages about philosophers. *Yahoo!* gives numerous links to sites on individual philosophers (<http://www.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/Philosophy/Philosophers/>).

Online access to books: libraries traditional and virtual, publishers and bookshops

Among the resources available on the Internet, 'virtual public libraries' are very much worth investigating. While few would enjoy reading an entire book from a computer screen, access to the full text makes it possible to quickly check references and trace arguments and positions to their sources. For copyright reasons, the texts to which one has access are mostly – but not exclusively – texts of books whose author has been dead for over fifty years. But while the range of philosophy books on the Web is quite limited, the available texts form a good reference library, especially when it comes to classics. A useful starting point is the above-mentioned *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Here, one finds a 'philosophy text collection' that includes works by Plato (*Republic*, *Crito*), Descartes, William James (*The Will to Believe*), Kant, Leibniz (*Monadology*) and others. An excellent collection is to be found at *The Hume Archives* (<http://www.utm.edu/research/hume/hume.html>), also edited by James Fieser. There are the complete texts of *The Natural History of Religion*, *Dialogues Concerning*

Natural Religion, An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding and many others. Especially interesting is the collection of eighteenth-century reviews of Hume's work, and of early commentaries on his writings. All texts can easily be printed, and may freely be distributed for classroom purposes.

The single most comprehensive web page with links to classic philosophical texts (and scientific and literary texts as well) is *The Internet Public Library Online Texts Collection* (<http://www.ipl.org/reading/books/>) edited by Joseph Janes and hosted by the School of Information at the University of Michigan. Here, one finds links to thousands of texts made available by, e.g., the *Gutenberg Project* (<http://promo.net/pg/>), the *Perseus Project* (<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>) and in the *Christian Classics Ethereal Library* (<http://ccel.wheaton.edu/>). The IPL library can be browsed by Dewey category, so it is easy to search on specific subjects. Available e-texts include the full text of the Dominican translation of Aquinas's *Summa Theologiae*, numerous works by Aristotle, Augustine, Berkeley, Calvin, Darwin, Descartes, Diderot, Kant, Plato, Russell and many others. It covers over 20,000 titles. One comes across texts in Latin, English, French and German, but texts in less common languages (e.g., Italian and Swedish) are also available. One can search for authors and titles, but, unfortunately, there is no possibility to search the texts themselves. For a philosopher's second-best choice for a virtual library we suggest *ATHENA* (<http://un2sg4.unige.ch/athena/html/athome.html>), edited by Pierre Perroud (Geneva, Switzerland). *ATHENA* is currently one of the most comprehensive web sites on textual resources in general; it covers almost 10,000 texts, of which many are not referenced by IPL (e.g., texts by Cyprian of Carthago and John Duns Scotus). This site is especially strong in French texts and translations.

Even after checking both *ATHENA* and *IPL*, one cannot be certain that a certain text is not somewhere online. Important texts may be found elsewhere. For example, Anselm's *Proslogion* and *Monologion* are both available on CCEL (in English); and though both *IPL* and *ATHENA* include links to *CCEL*, they fail to mention Anselm. A third major virtual public library that is worth checking is *The On-line Books Page* (<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/serial-criteria.html>) edited by John Mark Ockerbloom at Carnegie Mellon University. This page concentrates on texts in the English language only. It covers a large selection of books (approximately 10,000, including Anselm) and has links to other sites, though these have been less carefully compiled. For those especially interested in Latin and Greek texts, *Greek and Latin Classics Texts: A Library of Congress Internet Resource Page* (<http://lcweb.loc.gov/global/classics/clastexts.html>) is the best starting point. It lists many texts that are unavailable in either *IPL* or *ATHENA*, in both Greek and Latin and English translations. *The Latin Library at Ad Fontes Academy* (<http://patriot.net/~lillard/cp/latlib>) should also be mentioned, because it contains numerous Latin texts that are not linked by other sites, such as *De Trinitate Dei* by Augustine and a Latin edition of the *Summa* of Thomas

Aquinas. A selection of Latin texts can be searched through the *Index Antiquus*, based at Rutgers University NJ, (<http://harvest.rutgers.edu:8765/>). Finally, for those with an interest in religious plurality and interreligious dialogue, the *Digital Buddhist Library* (<http://ccbs.ntu.edu.tw/>), includes texts by and about John Hick as well as many others.

The Internet also offers access to the catalogues of numerous traditional libraries. This can be very useful when one wants to find out which library owns a particular book, what the bibliographic details of a book are, whether there are books on a specific topic, etc. But where to start? A list of libraries with links can be found on the main resource pages mentioned in *Resources* above. Most libraries can be accessed through *Telnet*, and many now also have web pages with searchable catalogues, admission procedures, contact details, and sometimes online ordering or book fetching services. To search the catalogues of several libraries at once, the best option for Britain and Ireland is the University of Manchester's *COPAC* (<http://copac.ac.uk/copac/>). This has an extensive and expanding collection of catalogues including the university libraries in Cambridge, Oxford, London, and Trinity College Dublin. It does not include the *British Library* (<http://www.bl.uk>), which offers searching and ordering of documents through its web site, as well as many additional 'priced services'. In the United States, the natural place to start a search is the *Online Catalogue of the Library of Congress* (<http://catalog.loc.gov/>), which has links to many other American libraries. In Germany, the *Online Kataloge* site of the Bibliotheksservice-Zentrum Baden-Württemberg (<http://www.bsz-bw.de/bibldienste/bibliotheken.html>) provides links to libraries not only in Germany, but all over the world (notably in Africa and Asia).⁷

Libraries are useful, but in some cases it is better to own a book. As mentioned above, even if the full text of a book is available online, this is useful for reference purposes rather than for reading. The best known (though not necessarily the best) online bookshop is *Amazon.com* (<http://www.amazon.com>), which started in the US but now has offices in the UK (<http://www.amazon.co.uk>) and Germany (<http://www.amazon.de>) as well. *Amazon*, and many of its rivals, gives reviews for some books, offers authors the possibility of commenting on their own books, and readers the possibility of making comments. In some cases, this can give a very good guide to the content and usefulness of a book before making a purchase. Some bookshops have taken to offering free national or international delivery: *Blackwell's* (bookshop.blackwell.co.uk) is presently free in the UK, and for books in German, *Buecher.de* (<http://www.buecher.de/>) do not charge shipping costs within the EU. For books in French, *Alapage.com* (<http://www.alapage.com>) is helpful. A full list of English-language bookshops is found on *Yahoo!*.

A large proportion of book buying is now carried out on the Internet, so it is no surprise to find that most significant publishers are now represented online. An extensive list of philosophy publishers can be found on *Philosophy in Cyberspace*

(see **Resources** above), and a list of journals and their associated publishers is provided by Peter Milne (see **Resources**). Four sites are particularly notable. *Basil Blackwell* (<http://www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/>) split their pages into subject listings, subdivided into topic pages which list their publications according to philosophical field. The site has a simple no-frills organization, and could be rather more informative about new books. All Blackwell's journals have pages which in some cases offer full text access for subscribers. All books can, of course, be purchased at Blackwell's bookshop which is now fully online, though the links between the publishers and the bookshop are surprisingly poor. *Kluwer Academic Publishers* (<http://kapis.www.wkap.nl/kaphtml.htm/HOMEPAGE>) have a similarly uninspired interface, with full coverage of their books and journals. Notably, free sample copies are available for some of their journals, such as *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*. The *Oxford University Press* site (<http://www.oup.co.uk/>) has pages devoted to their publications in philosophy and in religion. These list new and forthcoming books, and provide sample text for new books. There are also links to various resources and the option signing up to an e-mail service which sends details on new publications on a regular basis (one for philosophy, another for religion). Oxford books can also be bought online at the publisher's site. *Cambridge University Press* (<http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk>) have recently made substantial improvements to their site. They now offer excellent coverage of many of their books and journals, and give full details of new books. CUP journals are fully searchable, though to read the full text of articles requires registration.

Also interesting is *MIT Press* (<http://mitpress.mit.edu/>), which has built up an excellent range of philosophy texts in recent years. Its well-designed pages give the usual details as well as very good coverage of new books. The site also has a searchable catalogue and bookstore. Other sites, such as *Harvard University Press* (<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/Default.html>), and *Princeton University Press* (<http://www.pupress.princeton.edu/>) offer what are basically online versions of their printed catalogues. Links to numerous university presses all over the world is given by *The Association of American University Presses* (<http://aaup.princeton.edu/>), from which one can also order books.

The rest of the Web: jobs online, teaching materials and mailing lists

A limited number of course syllabi and teaching resources can be found through the *Internet Guide* of the Wabash Center (<http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/Internet/philosph.htm-syllabi>), or through *Course Materials in Philosophy* (<http://antioch-college.edu/~andrewc/pedagogy.html>), a web page maintained by Andrew Carpenter. These fail to list *Cornell's Program in Science and Religion* (<http://www.cornell-iowa.edu/science-religion/index>).

html). This is one of the few sites which contains the full texts of a series of lectures.

For jobs in America, the *AAR* and *AAP* home pages provide wide coverage, though membership is required to access the details. In the UK, *The Times Higher Education Supplement* (<http://www.thesis.co.uk>) provides a searchable database of its recent adverts that does not require a subscription. Also excellent is www.jobs.ac.uk, a free online list that sometimes differs from *THES*. The University of Hamburg supports an *International Directory of Jobs in Philosophy* (<http://www.sozialwiss.uni-hamburg.de/phil/ag/jobs/>), which lists jobs in Europe, America and Asia/Africa/Australasia.

A well-run mailing list can be a useful source of information, and sometimes a good place to pose a question to other researchers. However, high quality mailing lists are hard to find. Details on many of them are given on the *Philosophy in Cyberspace* site. Two that are worth considering are *The Society of Christian Philosophers* and *Philos-L*, based at the University of Liverpool. One can subscribe to the *SCP* mailing list by sending an e-mail to: scp-request@calvin.edu, with the subject 'subscribe' (no quotes). The messages, questions and announcements that one receives through this mailing list are of varying quality, but there are sometimes interesting discussions going on. An archive of *SCP*'s Internet mailing list is accessible through their homepage. Details about *Philos-L* can be found on (<http://listserv.liv.ac.uk/archives/philos-l.html>) from where one can also search its archives and subscribe. Messages are aimed mainly at UK and European philosophers.

Conclusion

It has become increasingly common to find references in paper journals and books to articles published on the Web. Even response articles to online papers have begun to appear.⁸ Already, there are some areas of philosophy of religion where one would certainly be missing out if one were not aware of research exclusively online. The science–religion debate is a case in point, and in particular the implications of Darwinism for religious belief.⁹ It seems a safe prediction that these areas of Internet activity are, as in many other areas,¹⁰ set for a dramatic expansion in the coming months.¹¹

Notes

1. To our best knowledge, there are as yet no published introductions to philosophy of religion on the Internet. There are three books about philosophy in general on the Internet, though none of them were particularly helpful in the preparation of this article: Daniel J. Kurland and Sean Cearley (eds) *Surf Philosophy: Travels on the Internet* (Belmont CA: Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1997) (a superficial introduction that, after a general introduction to the Internet, covers the whole of philosophy in nineteen pages); Paul Tiedemann *Internet für Philosophen: Eine praxisorientierte Einführung* (Darmstadt: Primus Verlag, 1997, 2nd ed., 1999) (generally useful, but very German in orientation);

- Alexander Day (ed.) *Philosophy in Cyberspace: A Guide to Philosophy-Related Resources on the Internet* (Bowling Green OH: Philosophy Documentation Center, 1995) (outdated, but a revised version is available online; see **Resources**).
2. Charles K. Bellinger 'An online guide to Internet resources for the study of religion', *Religious Studies News*, 14/3 (September 1999), 13.
 3. *Ibid.*
 4. Other freely accessible general encyclopaedias include *Funk and Wagnalls* (<http://www.funkandwagnalls.com/>), a site that also hosts an English dictionary, and *Meyers Lexikon: Das Wissen A-Z* (<http://www.iicm.edu/ref.m10/>).
 5. A good German equivalent is the site *Philosophie im Internet* maintained by the University Library of Konstanz (<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/ZE/Bib/zs/zsph.html>).
 6. Of a different character is the *Sea of Faith Network* connected with Don Cupitt. This is not an academic society, but it does maintain a site (<http://www.sofn.org.uk/index.shtml>) with materials that might interest philosophers of religion.
 7. The *Bibliothèque Nationale de France* (<http://www.bnf.fr/>) is worth mentioning separately. The School of Theology at the University of Innsbruck offers online searches for theological literature, including journal articles. The scope of their *THEOLDI* database (<http://starwww.uibk.ac.at/theologie/theologie-en.html>), however, is very limited; a search for the publications of Richard Swinburne, for example, gives only two German articles written by him.
 8. K. B. Korb and J. L. Oliver 'A refutation of the Doomsday Argument' *Mind*, 107 (1998), 403–410. This responds in part to a paper by Nick Bostrom (LSE), whose thoughts on the subject, as well a full guide to the Doomsday Argument and extensive links to other papers on the subject can be found at <http://www.anthropic-principle.com>.
 9. *The World of Richard Dawkins* (<http://www.world-of-dawkins.com/>), while primarily a tribute to Dawkins, provides an excellent collection of links to a large number of sites and articles of relevance to the religion–science debate – including, for example, recent discussions of irreducible complexity in biochemistry.
 10. A November 1999 IDC and University of Texas report forecasts a US\$2.8 trillion Internet economy by 2003. A January 2000 report by Inktomi and NEC Research Institute verifies that the Web has grown to over one billion unique pages (<http://www.inktomi.com>).
 11. We should like to thank our colleagues Gijsbert van den Brink, Eef Dekker, Jan Hastrich, Jacob van Sluis and Mark Wynn for their valuable suggestions and comments.