

Editorial Statement

Beginning in 1951, the Philosophical Association of Japan (PAJ) started its annual journal 哲学 *Tetsugaku, Philosophy*. Indeed, the sixty-eighth issue has just been published. Each issue of the journal contains some 20 articles on various topics in philosophy, most of them written in Japanese. Although we believe that the quality of the articles is consistent with an international standard, it is regrettable that they can hardly be read outside of Japan due to the language barrier. The journal allows English, German and French papers, but scholars and students in Japan find it better to contribute their works in these languages to foreign journals. Thus, for a long time now our Philosophical Association has stood in need of an independent journal especially designed for an international audience. In 2015 a committee of the PAJ appointed the Editorial Board for this new international journal, *Tetsugaku: International Journal of the Philosophical Association of Japan*. The committee decided to publish it on the website in the Spring of each year.

For this first issue, we have selected three articles by PAJ members, which are written in English, French and German, respectively. Also, in the winter of 2015 we circulated call for papers for the Special Theme, “Philosophy and the University.” We are happy to receive many submissions from in and outside Japan and were able to finally select seven excellent papers. In addition to these, we invited special contributions, in order to make the philosophical activities in Japan better known in the world. The first issue presents, then, an article by our current President and one by his predecessor.

During the editorial process, several scholars from abroad gave us valuable advice. In addition, Dr. Andrew J. Mason, an independent scholar living in Japan, kindly offered his help in giving the authors comments on style. We appreciate their kind support.

The Special Theme for the second issue is “Philosophy and Translation”. We hope that our international journal will encourage philosophical activities and dialogue between Japan and the world.

1 April 2017

Editors of *Tetsugaku: International Journal of the Philosophical Association of Japan*