

A Letter to Jeroen, Martin, and Frank

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Dear Jeroen, Martin, and Frank,

One of the greatest blessings I've received in my life was the opportunity to study with you all as a student in the ILLC Masters in Logic Program (2001-2002). My time at the ILLC has had a profound effect on both my personal and professional life, and was a pivotal moment in my becoming the person I am today. I'd like to take this opportunity to write you all a long-overdue personal note of thanks.

Jeroen and Frank, as members of my thesis committee, you both have my deepest appreciation for your careful reading of and extremely thoughtful comments on that work. That thesis was, of course, the extremely raw work of an especially inexperienced and arrogant person; it was also unusually long for a master's thesis (see the aforementioned 'arrogance' remark). Frankly, looking back, I can't believe I had the temerity to ask the two of you (and Johan!) to read the thing! The fact that you nevertheless did, and offered such extremely thoughtful and supportive comments, speaks volumes to your generosity of spirit and your devotion to the education and furtherance of young scholars.

Frank, I'd also like to mention that my memories of the times spent in your office learning about vagueness, dynamic semantics, and what the heck 'definitely' actually means are some of my fondest. If not for you and your support, I would have never found a suitable thesis topic, and would never have been able to successfully complete the program. Thus, where I am today is in no small part thanks to the kindness and patience you showed me.

Martin, although I did not have the pleasure of taking your courses while at the ILLC (except for a brief period auditing your philosophy of language course), your papers with Jeroen were what fomented my passion for logic and semantics, and what first drove me to seek out the ILLC Masters program. Thus, if not for your work, my life would again have taken a very different direction.

Congratulations to you all on your retirement! I am extremely proud to be among those with the privilege of having learned from you!

Sincerely,

Seth Cable
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