

## Michael Morgan

*Chancellor's Professor of Philosophy and of Jewish Studies*

Professor Michael Morgan received a B.A. from Syracuse University in 1965, Rabbinic ordination and a Master of Hebrew Letters degree from the Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion in 1970, and a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Toronto in 1978. He was a member of Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1973–1974. Dr. Morgan came to Indiana University in 1975, and in 1990 he became a full professor of philosophy and Jewish studies.

In his years at IU Dr. Morgan has established himself as a leading historian of philosophy whose research has ranged from ancient Greek philosophy to philosophy, religious thought, and political theory in the twentieth century. His work on Plato's philosophy places it within the context of fourth-century Greek history and religious life, and his treatment of figures such as Spinoza, Hobbes, Mendelssohn, Buber, and Rosenzweig similarly explores their philosophical and religious thinking in historical context. Professor Morgan is an expert on the work of Emil Fackenheim, the preeminent post-Holocaust Jewish thinker, and he has published extensively on the impact of the Holocaust on Jewish thought, Western culture, and philosophy. He also works in ethics, political philosophy, and aesthetics. His most recent books include a study of the twentieth-century French philosopher Emmanuel Levinas, the *Cambridge Companion to Modern Jewish Philosophy*, and an inquiry into the feeling of shame as a response to the Holocaust.

Morgan's teaching, marked by the same range that distinguishes his scholarship, could sustain the curriculum of an entire philosophy department, covering ancient Greek philosophy, the philosophy of religion, ethics, early modern philosophy, and modern Jewish thought/philosophy. Partly because of his deep familiarity with the history of philosophy, he is widely viewed as the most compelling lecturer in philosophy's distinguished graduate program. His excellence as a teacher was recognized by the Amoco Foundation Distinguished Teaching Award presented to him in 1982. Beyond the classroom, Michael has had a shaping hand in a number of important educational initiatives. He created the IU Summer High School Philosophy Institute, served as associate dean for undergraduate education in the Office of Academic Affairs from 1994 to 1996, and has lectured around the country as one of the most popular public educators in the American Jewish community. In recognition of these accomplishments, IU awarded Dr. Morgan a Chancellor's Professorship in 2004.

*Steven Weitzman and Timothy O'Connor*