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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

The Axial Age and the Role of the University is the second issue in a series of upcoming volumes that includes contributions presented at the Eighth International Jaspers Conference, Beijing 2018. Two essays by Albrecht Kiel (University of Konstanz, Germany) identify a gap in Jaspers scholarship with regard to the topic of philosophical logic, and provide detailed references within Jaspers' writings that evidence the central placement of this topic for achieving his objective of developing the foundations for an intercultural philosophy. The essay by Helgard Mahrtdt (University of Oslo, Norway) addresses the importance of existential communication for humanity by exemplifying the dialogical correspondence between Jaspers and Hannah Arendt.

Five essays that were presented at the 2018 APA Pacific Division meeting in San Diego address the role and function of the university from a variety of perspectives, comprising a political reflection about free communication, an account of the relationship of virtue to the concept of university, pedagogy at Bard College in the context of teaching Jaspers to college students, Jaspersian pedagogy for teaching philosophy to children, and a comparison of Jaspers with Sartre on the subject of truth.

The Author Meets Critics session featured a book by Eugene Halton (University of Notre Dame), namely his *From the Axial Age to the Moral Revolution* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014). Each one of the four critiques provided valuable details to the history of the concept "axial age," and to the differences and similarities of Jaspers and John Stuart Stuart-Glennie with regard to their interpretations of the great civilizations. Videotaped versions of this and the university session can be found at existenz.us/media.html.

Three candid reviews with regard to the merits of the translation of Karl Jaspers' *Prefaces and Introduction to The Great Philosophers* (*Existenz* 12/1, Spring 2017) are included in this issue. Suzanne Kirkbright (Dorchester, United Kingdom), Michael Steinmann (Stevens Institute of Technology, USA), and Mats Andrén (University of Gothenburg, Sweden) have each of them, from their perspective of interpretation, come to the conclusion that the translation will prove to be a valuable resource for Jaspers scholarship due to its precision and well-informed choice of words.

Helmut Wautischer
Editor-in-Chief

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