The Wisconsin-Alpha Chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, the International Honor Society for Philosophy at Marquette University, each year invites a scholar to deliver a lecture in honor of St. Thomas Aquinas. The 2011 Aquinas Lecture, *Perception as a Capacity for Knowledge*, was delivered on Sunday, February 27, 2011, by John McDowell. Prof. McDowell is a Distinguished University Professor of Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh.


Prof. McDowell has held visiting appointments at Harvard University, the University of Michigan, UCLA, and Princeton University. He was invited to give the John Locke lectures at Oxford University in 1991 and the Woodbridge Lectures at Columbia University in 1997. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters of the University of Chicago.

A central theme in much of his work is the harmful effects, in modern philosophy and in modern reception of premodern philosophy, of a conception of nature that reflects an understanding, in itself perfectly correct, of the proper goals of the natural sciences. In a number of contexts, he has argued that we can free ourselves from characteristic sorts of philosophical anxiety by recalling the possibility of a less restrictive conception of what it takes for something to be natural.

To Prof. McDowell's distinguished list of publications, Phi Sigma Tau is pleased to add: *Perception as a Capacity for Knowledge*. 