

## A Word about Daniel Dennett (1942 – 2024)

I met Daniel Dennett many years ago when he came to our department at the University of California, San Diego, where I was a graduate student at the time. I was delighted to have the opportunity to get to know Professor Dennett during his stay. He was a kind man with a true love of philosophy and critical discussion.

In March of this year, I wrote an e-mail to Professor Dennett inviting him to submit an article that we might publish in *Filozofia*. He kindly responded and indicated that he was already committed to writing a couple of articles in other contexts and that it was not possible for him to send us something new at this time. I subsequently asked if he had an article that we might be able to translate into Slovak and then publish in the journal. He was very amenable to this idea and sent me a link to his recent publications and told me to pick something that I found suitable for the readers of *Filozofia*. I selected what I found to be a very intriguing piece entitled “A Route to Intelligence: Oversimplify and Self-monitor.” This work was given as a paper at a workshop, and I appreciated its informal and easy-to-read character. Moreover, I thought that its topic about the nature of artificial intelligence would be a perfect fit for the special monothematic issue that we had planned on the subject. Professor Dennett kindly agreed that we could use this article and assured me that there were no copyright issues with it.

I had a couple of minor questions about references that Professor Dennett answered right away. After this, I then sent the article to Dominik Kulcsár who did the translation very quickly so that we could include the article in the present issue.

At the beginning of April, I sent the translation to Professor Dennett and asked him to check the key words and the abstract, which Dominik and I had added. I waited a few weeks but heard nothing from him. On April 20, I wrote him again as a reminder. Then only a few minutes later I found out that Professor Dennett had just died the previous day. I was deeply shocked and grieved by this unexpected news.

It is thus with a heavy heart that we publish the present issue of *Filozofia*. We are honored to be able to pay homage to Professor Dennett by featuring his article “A Route to Intelligence: Oversimplify and Self-monitor” in Slovak

translation. We are also delighted to include in this issue an obituary by Katarína Marcinčinová that outlines the many achievements of Professor Dennett's long career. This issue is dedicated to the memory of Professor Dennett and everything that he contributed to the study of philosophy.

*Jon Stewart*  
*Editor-in-Chief*