

PREFACE

The papers contained in this volume comprise the contributed papers for the 1986 Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association. This was a four-society meeting in Pittsburgh, where PSA met along with HSS, 4S, and SHOT.

Since 1976, PSA itself has published the Proceedings, utilizing "camera-ready typewritten copy supplied by the authors." Proceedings have been published in two volumes--Volume 1 containing the contributed papers and Volume 2 containing the symposia papers.

The practice, which this volume continues, has been to publish the contributed papers in advance of the meeting. This eliminates the need for a full presentation of the paper at the meeting and instead allows the time to be primarily devoted to discussion with an audience that has been able to inform itself of the author's views in advance of the session.

The preparation of this volume involved many hands. The Program Committee (Merrilee Salmon, Clark Glymour, George Gale, Ernan McMullin, David Malament, Robert Richardson, Kristin Shrader-Frechette, and Ron Laymon), with Peter Machamer as its chair, chose the papers that were to be presented. Arthur Fine and Micky Forbes took the submitted papers, ensured that they were camera ready and, with the help of the PSA Business Office, saw the volume to its completion.

Thanks are due to the Program Committee for their timely, true decision procedures. Thanks, too, are due to authors, who complied with our tight time tables with grace and precision.

In Pittsburgh, Jenifer Trout was largely responsible for coordinating the work of the Program Committee and for seeing that authors were notified. HPS staff members Jane Carugati and Marlene Daurora also helped considerably. In Palo Alto, the facilities and Staff of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, and Katherine Holm in particular, provided the resources and know-how without which the papers could not have been properly prepared. We are very grateful to Northwestern University for financial support for the editorial work. Indeed, we thank you all.

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