Note on My M&L Reading

My reading for the March 4th M & L session is chapter 5, “Vagueness and Indeterminacy,” of my book *The Things We Mean* (OUP, fall 2003). The chapter is pretty self-contained, but it does allude to what I call my doctrine of pleonastic properties. Perhaps all you need to know about this is that it’s an attempt to cash the metaphor that properties are shadows of predicates, and that ‘pleonastic’ alludes to the fact that ‘Fido has the property of being a dog’ is a pleonastic equivalent of ‘Fido is a dog’. For those wanting the fuller story, I’ve included the first 22 pages of chapter 2, where the notion of a pleonastic property, and of pleonastic entities generally, gets its official explanation. I’ve also included the “Works Cited” section for those who want to know what works I’m referring to in chapter 5.

Stephen Schiffer