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PHILOSOPHY at the Graduate Center

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Newsletter by Lauren Alpert

CUNY Philosophers at the American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting. (L-R: Laura Di Summa-Knoop, Kate Wojtkiewicz, Zoë Cunliffe, Saul Fisher, John Dyck, Javier Gómez-Lavin)
Letter from the Executive Officer

Dear Colleagues, Alums, Students, and Friends of the Program,

Greetings to you all. As we approach the end of my first year as Executive Officer, I think it’s safe to say that we are continuing to show the energy and the productive pluralism that have marked the philosophy program for years.

Let me begin by thanking Professor Iakovos Vasiliou, my immediate precursor in this office, for his nine years of vigorous and imaginative leadership. We now have three former Executive Officers still active in the program – Iakovos, John Greenwood, and Michael Devitt – who between them have piloted Philosophy since 1999. I am grateful for the growth they brought to our program, and also practically grateful to have them around as advisers.

In fact, the most pleasant surprise for me during this first year has been how many people are engaged in running the department. Faculty members hold assigned positions but also step up to handle unassigned tasks. Our Assistant Program Officer Natile Clarke coordinates every event in the program as if it were easy; this year she has been excellently aided by our College Assistant Eric Janken.

In the wake of Professor Godfrey-Smith’s departure last year, we are looking ahead to a search that, if all goes well, will begin in the fall of 2018. We have made some remarkable hires during my years with the program, and I have every reason to expect that next year’s search will end remarkably as well.

Other people are leaving now too, but under the happy circumstance of having completed their degrees. This year ten students completed and defended dissertations on a range of topics from the theory of proper names to causation and ontological structure; from a theory of meaning and intention to the placebo effect.

And then we have the new arrivals, the Ph.D. and M.A. students entering in fall 2018. Yet again we received a record number of applications from supremely qualified students. Professor Jesse Prinz chaired our Admissions Committee with a degree of creativity and engagement that would surprise only those who don’t know him. Professors Miranda Fricker and Charles Mills, and the student members of the committee Kathryn Wojtkiewicz and Eric Bayruns Garcia, put in long hours studying the applications. (As you can imagine, the more applications we get, the longer the hours for the admissions committee!)

It is my privilege to hold the position of Executive Officer of a program as distinguished and productive as this one. Thank you all for your help.

Prof. Nickolas Pappas
Executive Officer
Cognitive Science

The Interdisciplinary Concentration in Cognitive Science exists to facilitate the pursuit of interdisciplinary work among several fields: philosophy, experimental psychology, cognitive and developmental psychology, linguistics, cognitive neuroscience, and computer science. The concentration supplements the Graduate Center's Ph.D. and M.A. programs in those and related fields, and like other interdisciplinary entities is run out of the Provost's office.

The Concentration's main activity is our weekly speaker series, which draws on faculty and graduate students from universities across the U.S. and abroad, as well as faculty and graduate students from CUNY programs. Some highlights among outside speakers this past year include Michael Pauen (Berlin), Paul Skokowski (Stanford and Oxford), Ian Phillips (Princeton and Birmingham), Biyu He (NYU), Jessie Munton (NYU), Frédérique de Vignemont (Jean Nicod), Taylor Webb (Princeton), Jean Rémi King (NYU and Max Planck), and Hakwan Lau (UCLA).

Plans are in the works for the fall series. Talks are Friday afternoons, followed by drinks at a neighborhood pub; they've been well attended by CUNY graduate students and others from NYU, Rutgers, and other nearby universities. We continue to have graduate students, both from philosophy and other programs, do the modest additional interdisciplinary coursework to qualify for the Concentration.

Prof. David Rosenthal
Director, Cognitive Science

Logic & Metaphysics Workshop

The Logic and Metaphysics Workshop runs weekly during semester (Mondays, 4.15-6.15). Talks are on anything that fits the rubric, liberally interpreted; and can vary from quite technical papers in logic to non-technical papers in metaphysics (and all points between). They may be very finished products, or work in progress (and all point between). The Workshop is a vehicle for talks by local faculty and graduate students, and the many interstate and international visitors who pass through NYC. Those who wish (which normally includes the speaker) adjourn to a local bar to continue the conversation or start others. Meetings are open to all interested.

For more information and upcoming talks, see logic.commons.gc.cuny.edu. In the Spring Semester 2018, the Workshop is being run by Yale Weiss since I am on leave. My grateful thanks to him. To be added to the mailing list, contact Graham Priest: priest.graham@gmail.com or (inclusive) Yale Weiss: yweiss@gradcenter.cuny.edu.

Prof. Graham Priest
Workshop Coordinator

Prof. Linda Martin Alcoff speaking on a panel at the Association of American Colleges and Universities 2018 Conference.
This year the Saul Kripke Center won a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to publish Professor Kripke’s *Princeton Seminars on Truth*. To this end, we have partnered with Eduardo Barrio’s Buenos Aires Logic Group and started work on the manuscript. Meanwhile, Professors Kripke and Padró toured Europe and South Africa, lecturing at the Paris-Sorbonne University, the 2nd World Congress on Logic and Religion at the University of Warsaw, as well as at both the University of Witwatersrand and the University of Cape Town. Back at CUNY, we kicked off our Young Scholars Series with a talk by Yale Weiss. We also welcomed Susanna Siegel, who gave the fourth Saul Kripke Lecture, as well as Jonas Dagys, our visiting scholar from Vilnius University. Professor Kripke’s paper “Free Choice Sequences: A Temporal Interpretation Compatible with Constructive Mathematics” will appear in the special issue of *Indagationes Mathematicae*: L.E.J Brouwer, fifty years later, Volume 2.

**Saul Kripke Center**

**Prof. Oliver R. Marshall**
Assistant Director, Saul Kripke Center

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**Center for Global Ethics & Politics**


With support from the Advanced Research Collaborative at the Graduate Center, we researched the problems involved in understanding jokes across cultures (with Paul Butterfield from Philosophy) and the growing support for authoritarianism (with Saira Rafiee of Political Science). The Center received able research and organizational help from our Senior Fellow and Center Assistant Sumru Atuk (Political Science) and from our Research Assistant, Pedro Monque (Philosophy), as well as from our videographer, Emily Crandall (Political Science).

**Prof. Carol Gould**
Director, Center for Global Ethics & Politics

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PhD student **Yale Weiss** presenting a paper in the Saul Kripke Center’s Young Scholars Series.

**Recent PhD Tommy Kivatinos** (second from right) with his dissertation committee (Barbara Montero, Jonathan Schaeffer (Rutgers), Graham Priest) after a successful dissertation defense.

**Prof. Serene Khader** (left) presenting at the APA Central Division Meeting.
Student Highlights

Jesse Atencio, Joseph Bendaña, Amanda Huminski, and Jessica McCormack presented their research in the Cognitive Science Speaker Series.

Jonathan Kwan, Nicolas Porot, and Jennifer Ware were awarded Dissertation Completion Fellowships for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Eric Bayruns Garcia presented “Traditional Epistemology and Power Relations” at the 3rd Annual Latinx Philosophy Conference at Rutgers New Brunswick.

Shannon Brick presented “Can Pictures Make Us Morally Better?” at the NY-MAPWorks Workshop at NYU.

Christopher Brown will present “Epistemic Contextualism Entails That We Know Nothing” at the 2nd Context, Cognition and Communication Conference (Contexts, Concepts, Objects) June 2018 at the University of Warsaw, and “The Hope and Horror of Physicalism” at the First International Conference on Philosophy and Meaning in Life, August 2018 in Hokkaido, Japan.

Zoë Cunliffe presented “Epistemic Injustice and the Role of Narrative Fiction” at the CUNY Naturalized Aesthetics of Film Workshop and the American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting, and “The Political Value of Angry Blame” at the Social and Political Philosophy Working Group Workshop.

John Dyck’s “Spatial Music” won the award for Best Postgraduate Paper at the British Society for Aesthetics 2017 Annual Meeting. He also presented on a panel titled “Hearing-in and the Twofoldness of Audio Recording” at the American Society for Aesthetics 2018 Pacific Division Meeting, and will present “There Are No Aesthetic Obligations” at the Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting. He co-organized the A.S.A. 2018 Eastern Division Meeting.


Sarah Gohkale presented “Subaltern Voices & The Standard of Taste” at the American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

PhD Completions (more on p. 11)

Carl J. Brownson, III
“Evil and the Ontological Disproof”
(Advisor: Steven Grover)

Ross Colebrook
“A Philosophical Defense of Judicial Minimalism”
(Advisor: Steven M. Cahn)

Cory A. Evans
“Towards a Science of Morals”
(Advisor: Jesse Prinz)

Edward Freeman
“On A and B Theories of Time”
(Advisor: Michael Levin)

Phoebe Friesen
“Demystifying the Placebo Effect”
(Advisor: Peter Godfrey-Smith)
(Advisor: Linda Alcoff)
(Advisor: David Papineau)

Javier Gómez-Lavin
“The Fragmented Mind”
(Advisor: Jesse Prinz)

Amanda Huminski
“Experimental Philosophy and Feminist Epistemology: Conflicts and Complements”
(Advisor: Linda Alcoff)
More Student Highlights

Javier Gomez-Lavin presented “Working Memory is Not a Natural Kind” at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting, “Music and the Aesthetic Self” at the American Society of Aesthetics Annual Meeting, and “Pernicious Disbelief” (with Joerg Fingerhut) The Digital Humanities and Experimental Philosophy Collaborative (DHEPCAT) Workshop (led by alumnus Mark Alfano). Forthcoming publications include “Normativity in Joint Action” (with Matthew Rachar) in Mind and Language and “Parole and the Moral Self: Moral Change Mitigates Responsibility” (with Jesse Prinz) in Journal of Moral Education. (below, with Kate Pendoley at the SSPP in San Antonio, TX)


Zoey Lavallee won a Graduate Student Travel Award to support her presentation of “The Illusory Divide Between Compulsion and Choice Models of Addiction” at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX. She also presented the same paper at the Association for the Advancement of Philosophy & Psychiatry Annual Meeting.

Antonella Mallozzi published “Two Notions of Metaphysical Modality” in Synthese. She presented “The In-Essential Powers of Modal Imagination” at the Philosophy of Imagination Conf. in Bochum, Germany, and presented in an invited symposium on “The Metaphysics and Epistemology of Modality” at the Pacific APA 2018.

Pedro Monque López led a course titled “Piensa En Grande” (“Think Big”) for Spanish-speakers in the Young Philosophers of New York series, run by the Gotham Philosophical Society.

Ian Olasov was one of the awardees in the APA’s 2017 Public Philosophy Op-Ed Contest, for his article “‘How Did ‘All Lives Matter’ Come to Oppose ‘Black Lives Matter’? A Philosopher of Language Weighs In”.

Kathryn Pendoley won a Graduate Student Travel Award to support her presentation of “Fitting Emotions and a New Form of Epistemic Injustice” at the Pacific APA Meeting. She presented “Does the Feeling of Emotion Have Qualitative Character?” to an NVU discussion group, and “What’s So Special About Cognitive Reappraisal? Problems with the Empirical Work on Emotion Regulation” at the PoPRocks Philosophy of Perception group.


Jules Salomone presented “Grades of Realism in Social Ontology” at the Critical Social Ontology Workshop at Saint Louis University, and “From Coordination to Cooperation: Switching to Team Reasoning” at the 5th Conference of the European Network on Social Ontology (Lund University, Sweden).

Joanna Smolenski presented “Editing the Genome: How CRISPR/CAS9 is Changing the Game” at Brooklyn Public Philosophers’ “Philosophy in the Library” event on “The Ethics of Emerging Technologies”. (below)

Jesse Spafford won a Graduate Student Travel Award to support his presentation of “Legitimacy, Consent, and Initial Appropriation” at the Pacific APA Meeting.

Alexander Steers-McCrum presented “We Could All Use a Good Cry: In Defense of Sadness in Political and Moral Life” at Marquette Graduate Conference on Philosophy of Emotions, and “Self-Determination After the Deluge” at Globalization and Its Critics in the 21st Century: University of Toronto Center for Ethics Graduate Student Conference. His article “Out of the Binary and Beyond the Spectrum: Redefining and Reclaiming Native American Race” will be published in Critical Philosophy of Race in summer 2018.


Jennifer Ware was honored at the NYC Alliance against Sexual Assault’s Annual Celebration of Excellence, for her work as a volunteer advocate with the Mount Sinai SAVI Program.

Yale Weiss gave the inaugural talk in the Saul Kripke Center’s new Young Scholars Series, “Sextus Empiricus’ Fourth Conditional and Containment Logic”.

Kathryn Wojtkiewicz presented “Creating the Social Imaginary: Fiction Creators and Their Hermeneutic Responsibility” at the American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting.
Alumni Highlights

Mark Alfano, Carrie Figueur, and Robert Talisse will each present at the inaugural conference of the Social Epistemology Network in Oslo, May 2018.

Frank Boardman, Laura Di Summa-Knoop, Saul Fisher, Marilyn Johnson, and Bill Seeley all presented papers or commentary at the American Society for Aesthetics Eastern Division Meeting.


Georgina Campelia and Carolyn Neuhaus presented papers at the 2017 American Society for Bioethics & Humanities Conference.


Laura Di Summa-Knoop presented “Naturalized Aesthetics and Criticism: On Evaluative Judgments” at the CUNY GC Naturalized Aesthetics of Film Workshop. Profs. Noël Carroll and Jesse Prinz were also on the program.

Nancy Fraser gave the Presidential Address at the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting and was a featured speaker at a CUNY Graduate Center event titled “Spiraling out of Control: On the Fate of Capital and Capitalism in the Twenty-First Century”.


Adriana Renero presented “Kripke’s Unpublished Knowledge Argument” at the NYU Center for Mind, Brain, and Consciousness. (photo above, second from left)

Derek Skillings presented “From Integrated Individuals to Multi-Species Communities: Identifying the Spectrum of Holobiont Interactions and Why It Matters” at the IV Bordeaux-San Sebastian Workshop on Philosophy of Biology, Medicine, and Cognitive Science. (photo below)

Robert Talisse gave a keynote address on “The Real Problem with Polarization” at the Political Epistemology Conference in London, May 10-11. He has signed a contract with Oxford University Press for a forthcoming book, Putting Politics in its Place.


Josh Weisberg was Chair of the Philosophy Program at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX. Alumni Nada Gligorov, Myrto Mylopoulos, Jake Quilty-Dunn presented papers, alongside CUNY Philosophy faculty John Greenwood, Eric Mandelbaum, and David Rosenthal.

Nancy Fraser delivering a Saul Kripke Center lecture on “Perceptual Uncertainty and Perceptual Confidence”

Quayshawn Spencer giving a Colloquium Talk on “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem”.

Susanna Siegel (Harvard) delivering a Saul Kripke Center lecture on “Perceptual Uncertainty and Perceptual Confidence”
CUNY Graduate Center alumna Carrie Figdor (Associate Professor, Depts. of Philosophy and the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience at the University of Iowa) presented “The Proper Domain of Psychological Predicates” at the Philosophy Colloquium on our Annual Alumni Day, December 6th, 2017. Alumni were encouraged to attend the event and dinner. Figdor completed her dissertation in 2005.

**What are you up to these days?**

At the time of this writing (May 2018), I’m eagerly awaiting the first published copies of my monograph *Pieces of Mind: The Proper Domain of Psychological Predicates* (OUP, 2018). I’m also planning a sabbatical that would start a year from now; getting packed for another summer in Edinburgh; keeping an eye on students (graduate and undergraduate) who are writing longer (thesis or dissertation) projects under my direction; starting the process for promotion to full professor; preparing the next-in-line manuscript for journal submission; pulling some grant proposal ideas together; revising slides for some conference presentations coming up this summer; and otherwise wrapping up the academic year. In other words, more or less the usual.

**What are your future projects?**

I’m working on various projects that were either set aside while I focused on my book, or are outgrowths of that book, or are newer interests I’ve developed along the way (in particular, science communication/social epistemology), or are likely to contribute to the next book project, which will be on the theoretical integration of psychology and neuroscience. I also have some ideas for empirical studies that would require collaborators, and I’m hoping to find interested parties.

**What advice would you give to students on the job market?**

I try to have a zen attitude to the extent possible. Failure rates for anything are very high, and bromides about persisting and eventually succeeding make dealing with failure almost impossible. Of course, it’s the opposite error to assume failure, but it’s a very tricky psychological balancing act. For me, the best advice I finally bumped into was from a blog post by Ken Chung (kenchung.org; Ken died in 2017, 18 months after a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, age 39.) He wrote: “Try to see what we’re playing with odds there, and that even though we know that the harder we work, the greater the disappointment, greater too is the likelihood of success.” You can’t not try – on the job market, with publications, with grant proposals – but deep disappointment there will be, and maybe some success.

**What is your fondest memory from your time at the GC?**

I learned an enormous amount from excellent teachers – Jerry Katz, Steven Schiffer, David Rosenthal, among others – and got a top quality philosophical education in both breadth and depth. CUNY was a tough place then – they had large incoming classes and it was sink-or-swim, without much financial or other support. On the other hand, since I had no philosophical background at all when I applied (I did not major in it, and I had been working as a journalist for over a decade), it’s likely I would not have been offered admission otherwise. So I took advantage of an opportunity that I might not have had several years later. Luck can’t be overrated at any stage of this business. •
Faculty Highlights

Samir Chopra gave a talk on “Artifacts & Agency” at Brooklyn Public Philosophers’ Philosophy in the Library event on “The Ethics of Emerging Technologies” (photo, top left).


Virginia Held delivered the John Dewey Lecture at the APA Eastern Division Meeting.

Eric Mandelbaum won a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for a project entitled “Propaganda and Belief in the Modern World”. His paper “Troubles with Bayesianism: An Introduction to the Psychological Immune System” is forthcoming in Mind & Language, and he gave a talk based on that paper at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm.

Charles W. Mills delivered the Presidential Address at the APA Central Division Meeting.

Barbara Montero will give a keynote address at the British Society for Aesthetics Postgraduate Conference, “Movement and Aesthetics”.

Jennifer Morton’s paper “Grit” (with Sarah K. Paul) is forthcoming in Ethics.

David Papineau was honored with a “Philosophy of David Papineau” Conference in London. He gave a talk on mental representation at the “Thinking About Thinking” symposium at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm.

Graham Priest gave a Saul Kripke Center lecture on “Metaphysical Necessity: A Skeptical Perspective” (photo, left). He published a paper with the same title in Synthese’s special issue “New Directions in the Epistemology of Modality”.

David Rosenthal published “Consciousness and Confidence” in Neuropsychologia, “Measuring Away an Attentional Confound” (with Jorge Morales et al.) in Neuroscience of Consciousness, and “Seeming to Seem” in The Philosophy of Daniel Dennett (OUP, 2018). He presented “Armstrong and Qualitative Character” at the University of Sydney Conference “A Materialist Theory of the Mind: 50 Years On”, “Qualities and Consciousness” at the SSPP Annual Meeting, and “Content and Inference”, a keynote address at the CUNY-Milan Interdisciplinary Workshop on Belief.


In Memoriam: Erik C. Banks

CUNY Philosophy alumnus Erik C. Banks (PhD, 2000) passed away at the age of 47 on August 18th, 2017, following a massive hemorrhagic stroke. He was a Professor of Philosophy at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. “Let us raise a glass to Erik Banks, to an examined life, to a life of energy, engagement, work, joy and play. To a life that fueled life,” his obituary reads.

Banks’ family has established the Erik Banks Memorial Scholarship in his memory. To contribute to this fund, “donations should be made out to the Wright State University Foundation, with a note that the contribution should be directed to the Philosophy Program Fund in memory of Erik Banks. These donations may be sent to the attention of Sara Woodhull, WSU Foundation, 3640 Col. Glenn Hwy., Dayton, Ohio 45435.” (Ava Chamberlain, Chair of WSU Philosophy)
Spotlight on The Night of Philosophy and Ideas

Ian Olasov, PhD Candidate & founder of Brooklyn Public Philosophers, was interviewed by the New York Times about the “Ask a Philosopher” booths BKPP runs in city Greenmarkets, as well as the Night of Philosophy and Ideas, an “all-night marathon of philosophical debate, performances, screenings, readings, and music” at the Brooklyn Public Library. Some sessions of The Night were presented in partnership with the NYTimes philosophy column, The Stone.
An estimated 7,600 New Yorkers attended this year’s event in late January 2018.

Alum Ben Abelson and PhD students Dana Grabelsky, Vincent Peluce, Arina Pismenny, and Joanna Smolenski led “Dilemma Series” sessions on specific topics.

Profs. Linda Martin Alcoff, Omar Dahbour, Frank Kirkland, and Massimo Pigliucci also gave talks.

Alumni Gregg Caruso and Robert Talisse catching up at the 2018 Pacific APA Meeting.

PhD Candidate Eric Bayruns-Garcia (far left) at the 3rd Annual Latinx Philosophy Conference

Spotlight: Grad Student Conference

The 2018 Graduate Student Conference, “Self and Other”, was co-organized by Shannon Brick, Zoe Cunliffe, Ryan Felder, Dana Grabelsky, Julia Kolak, Maria Victoria Salazar, Alexander Steers-McCrum. Dr. Akeel Bilgrami (Columbia) and Dr. Daniel Kolak (William Paterson University) were keynote speakers. Eight graduate students from departments across the U.S. and abroad gave 30-minute talks spanning a broad array of research areas.

Prof. Kripke (far left) with alumnae Adriana Renero and Romina Padro (center), with colleagues from NYU.
PhD Completions
(continued from p. 5)

Jongjin Kim
“Morality as Social Software”
(Advisor: Rohit Parikh)

Thomas Kivatinos
“Grounding, Causation, and
the Unity of Ontological Structure”
(Advisor: Graham Priest)

Daniel Mailick
“The Psychology of Plato’s Republic:
Taking Book 10 into Account”
(Advisor: Nickolas Pappas)

Antonella Mallozzi
“Essence, Explanation,
and Modal Knowledge”
(Advisor: David Papineau)

Arina Pismenny
“The Syndrome of Romantic Love”
(Advisor: Jesse Prinz)

Jesse Rappaport
“Unarticulated Constituents
and Theories of Meaning”
(Advisor: Stephen Neale)

Daniel S. Shabasson
“The Two Indexical Uses Theory of Proper
Names and Frege’s Puzzle
(Advisor: Barbara Montero)

Daniel Weissglass
“Naturalizing Aboutness: The Infodynamic
Control Model of Intentionality”
(Advisor: Jesse Prinz)

Kenneth Weisshaar
“Scanlon’s Contractualism and its Critics”
(Advisor: Sibyl Schwarzenbach)

Philip Zigman
“Theories of Perception and
Recent Empirical Work”
(Advisor: David Rosenthal)

Faculty & Alumni Books

Linda Martin Alcoff
Rape and Resistance
Polity Press

John D. Greenwood
Forbidden Hill:
Singapore Saga, Vol. 1
Monsoon Books

David Pereplyotchik
Psychosyntax: The Nature of
Grammar and its Place in the Mind
U. of Chicago Press

Gregg Caruso
(Ed., with Owen Flanagan)
Neuroexistentialism: Meaning, Morals,
and Purpose in the Age of
Neuroscience
Oxford University Press

Moti Mizrahi
The Kuhnian Image of Science
Time for a Decisive Transformation?
Rowman & Littlefield

Massimo Pigliucci
(Ed., with Maarten Boudry)
Science Unlimited?:
The Challenges of Scientism
U. of Chicago Press

Gregg Caruso
(Ed., with Owen Flanagan)
Neuroexistentialism: Meaning, Morals,
and Purpose in the Age of
Neuroscience
Oxford University Press

Moti Mizrahi
The Kuhnian Image of Science
Time for a Decisive Transformation?
Rowman & Littlefield

Massimo Pigliucci
(Ed., with Maarten Boudry)
Science Unlimited?:
The Challenges of Scientism
U. of Chicago Press
Spotlight: Racial Inequality Conference

Profs. Linda Martin Alcoff and Charles W. Mills co-organized a two-day interdisciplinary conference on “the enduring problem of racial inequality, and how it is perpetuated in a democratic society.” Prof. Frank Kirkland presented “Inequality and the Social/Racial Contract” alongside seventeen other invited scholars from “philosophy, political theory, ethnic studies, critical psychology, urban studies, gender theory, and anthropology.”

The conference was co-sponsored by the Center for the Humanities.

Spotlight: The 1st Annual CUNY-Milan Workshop

Philosophers at the CUNY Graduate Center and the University of Milan collaborated to produce a two-day interdisciplinary conference on belief. Keynote addresses were delivered by Sergei Artemov, David Rosenthal, and Giuliano Torrengo.

Five CUNY Philosophy PhD students – Yuval Abrams, Jessica McCormack, Jenn McDonald, Jules Salomone, and Yale Weiss – presented their research, alongside graduate students & faculty from other institutions. Thanks to MA student Kasey Malette for live-tweeting the workshop proceedings with the hashtag #CUNYMilan2018!

Pictures from the final keynote address, in which Sergei Artemov argued for the addition of hypertheories to classic Kripke epistemic models, which include common knowledge of the models themselves

@CUNY_Philosophy #CUNYMilan2018

Jennifer McDonald (top) and Jessica McCormack presenting papers.
Donate

Events like those featured in this newsletter are made possible through generous donations made by alumni, faculty, students, and friends of the department. We ask that you continue to give and keep the CUNY philosophy community thriving. To make a donation send a check to “PUG Fund” c/o Nickolas Pappas to the address listed above.

Thank you for your contribution to the continued success of our program.

Graduate students recreating Plato’s Symposium in the Thesis Room, as a birthday celebration for PhD student Vincent Peluce (center).