

#### **DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**

#### **COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

# Philosophy @ DePaul

# Spring 2018

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DePaul University Department of Philosophy 2352 N. Clifton Suite 150 Chicago, IL 60614

las.depaul.edu/philosophy

# Greetings from the

It's been an eventful six



months since our last Newsletter. In addition to our visiting speakers Nathan Ross, Fredrika Spindler, Yannik Thiem, and Thomas Claviez, our graduate students convened a workshop on Foucault and Adorno, featuring keynote speaker Deborah Cook; we hosted a conference on New Materialisms with Silvia Federici; and held a one-day workshop on German Romanti-

cism. In the midst of all this came our graduate recruitment season, featuring several of our current graduates who spoke at the Colloquium, and which turned out to be one of our most successful recruitment seasons ever. At the other end of the doctoral program, Amanda Parris, Neal Miller, and Kieran Aarons all successfully defended their PhD dissertations and will be moving on to greater things. See inside for further details on all of these events.

Our department is currently undergoing a comprehensive 2-year Academic Program Review, part of which we have been able to integrate with the effort to undertake a review of our undergraduate curriculum. Both processes are ongoing and will hopefully result in various enhancements to our academic offerings.

Among our faculty, Bill Martin has retired after 28 years of service. We wish him the best for a happy and productive retirement. And Elizabeth Rottenberg was successfully promoted to full professor. Our

congratulations to Elizabeth on her richly deserved promotion!

On the administrative side, one of our two staff assistants, Jennifer Burke, unexpectedly decided to retire in February, which left us scrambling to manage the myriad tasks that Jennifer previously took care of for us. We are still in a period of adjustment, and I want to thank Mary Amico especially for stepping up to help with many of the things that Jen previously did for us.

One of those many things that Jen did was, of course, the production of our biannual Newsletter. The Newsletter you are now reading has been the work of our diligent and creative student assistants, Jessica Olsen, Kendall Duwal, and Katie Esslinger. If you like what you see, please stop by and voice your appreciation!

I wish everyone a happy and productive summer.

William McNeill

W.UM. Wall

Professor & Chair, Philosophy

# Visiting Speakers

The Department of Philosophy invites distinguished professionals to present their research and scholarship to our academic community. We invite researchers and specialists from the Continental Philosophy discipline, covering a broad range of topics.

The Department of Philosophy wishes to thanks all of our visiting speakers for their memorable presentations during WQ & SQ 2018.



Frederika Spindler, Södertörn Unviersity

Subjects and Subjectifications:

Four Movements in Deleuze

March 9, 2018

Thomas Claviez, University of Bern Grey Metonymy: Contingency and Community in Agamben and Esposito

April 13, 2018



# Visiting Speakers

Nathan Ross, Oklahoma City
University

"Walter Benjamin's First Philosophy:
Experience, Truth, and Perception"
February 9, 2018





Yannik Thiem, Villanova University

"The Unbearable Whiteness of Genderqueerness under Neoliberalism"

April 6, 2018

# Recent Conferences & Workshops

**PEG BIRMINGHAM, JETA MULAJ** and **BRADLEY RAMOS** put on a noteworthy conference on Marxism and New Materialisms in April.



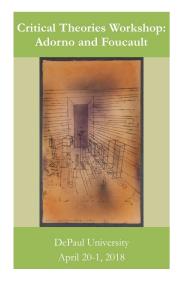


Conference attendees enjoying keynote speaker, Silvia Federici.

MARIA ACOSTA presented her work in collaboration with the Chicago Torture Justice Center and the Chicago Torture Justice Memorials at the Undergraduate Philosophy Conference at Loyola, Chicago, and Uppsala University in Stockholm. Part of the project has been funded by a Wicklander Fellowship during the last two academic years. The Business Ethics Institute has put out an interview about this, link is here: <a href="https://youtu.be/wxBRKd2fank">https://youtu.be/wxBRKd2fank</a>. Maria also co-organized with Eric Santner the International Workshop on Philosophy and Literature, Violence Incorporated, that took place at University of Chicago on March 23rd and 24th.

**ELIZABETH MILLÁN** hosted the Palgrave Workshop on "German Romanticism Philosophy" in May, and it included speakers from a variety of universities participating in three panels to unpack the topic.





ASHLEY FLESHMAN put on a graduate Critical Theories Workshop on "Adorno and Foucault" in April. The two-day workshop included a keynote address on "Open Thinking: Adorno's Exact Imagination," by Deborah Cook from the University of Windsor.

FANNY SÖDERBÄCK contributed to a panel on solidarity at the Swedish Anthropological Association (SANT) and Finnish Anthropological Society (FAS) conference on vulnerabilities at Uppsala University in Sweden, titled "Solidarity Across Space and Time: Judith Butler and the Coloniality of Presence." She was invited to give talks at Södertörns Högskola in Stockholm, Sweden ("Proximity, Distance, and the Coloniality of Presence: A Response to Judith Butler"); at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas ("Paradoxes of Birth"); and here at DePaul University in the Humanities Center Salon ("Paradoxes of Birth: Women and Procreation"). Finally, she participated in a panel on Adriana Cavarero's most recent book Inclinations at the Society for Italian Philosophy Conference at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Rochester, New York, titled "Maternal Inclination: Birth, Vulnerability, Power.."







Fanny
Söderbäck
presenting at the
Humanities
Center Salon.

#### **DUOS Presentations**

DUOS Presentations in May were a huge success! Eight pairs of undergraduate and graduate students showcased their hard-work in presentations on May 18th.

David Maruzzella & Léna Picanpresented "Deconstruction of the subject in Heidegger and Derrida."





Rachel Silverbloom & Dominic Blanco presented "Reason, Passion, and Alienation in Hegel and Sartre."

Khafiz Kerimov & Nathaniel Leon-hardt presented "On the Relationship between Kant's Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals and Critique of Practical Reason."





Miguel Gualdrón & Kelsey Cruz presented "Queerness as disruption of aesthetic realms: modern and contemporary approaches to the beautiful and compulsory heterosexualism."

Paul Turner & Kelly Cunningham presented "'World' in Laozi's Daodejing: A Heideggerian Approach."





María Salvador and Jude Lee presented "Laughing Matters: Philosophy's Other Bodies."

Ashley Fleshman & Margaret Nicosia presented "Liberal Passions: On the Foundations of Social Contract Theory and their Neoliberal Vicissitudes."





Jeta Mulaj & J Maxwell presented "Positive Law and Sovereignty."

# **Events**





Philosophy faculty and students enjoying dinner together after a visiting speaker event.





Top left: Michael Naas speaking at a Humanities Center event.

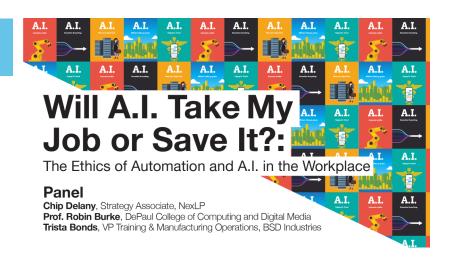
Right: Humanities Center event.



Top right: Danielle Meijer playing Tony Clifton at a Humanities Center event.

#### THE A.I. EVENT

The Institute for Business & Professional Ethics, with Managing Director Daryl Koehn, held a panel titled, "Will AI Take My Job or Save It? The Ethics of AI and Automation in the Workplace" at the Union League Club of Chicago on May 24<sup>th.</sup>







# Faculty & Staff News





#### JENNIFER BURKE

After 12 years service, our administrative assistant Jennifer Burke decided to retire in February. Although greatly missed, she assures us from her new vantage point that "retirement is awesome!" We wish her all the best in her awesome new adventures!

Upper picture: Ian Moore, Mary Amico, and Jennifer Burke pose with matching purple sweaters.

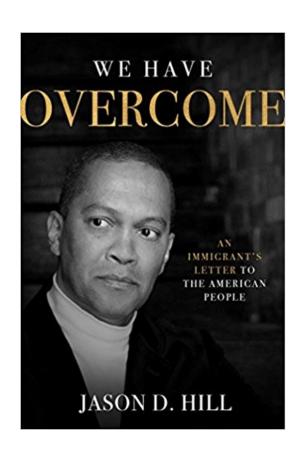
Lower picture: Jennifer and Will McNeill pose for the classic "selfie."

#### **BILL MARTIN**

After 28 years, Bill Martin is retiring and moving to live in the middle of Kansas, so that he can devote himself full-time to writing philosophy and other things, and to making music.



JASON HILL recently published his first non-academic book entitled: "We Have Overcome: An Immigrant's Letter to the American People." It is available for pre-order on Amazon now, link <a href="here">here</a>. You will be able to pick up a copy at major book stores beginning July 10th. Very exciting!





WILL MCNEILL delivered a paper titled
"The Last Word of Phenomenology" at the
Dallas Area Heidegger Symposium in
McKinney, Texas, on April 28, 2018. He also
gave a paper on "The Challenges of Teaching
Being and Time" at The Heidegger Circle
conference at Goucher College, Baltimore,

MARIA ACOSTA gave a number of lectures on her current project on "Grammars of Listening: Philosophical Approaches to Memory after Trauma" and on her more recent project on decolonial conceptions of time at the University of Southern California in LA invited by the Spanish and Portuguese Department, at



the APA in Chicago, at Universidad Diego Portales in Santiago de Chile invited by the Instituto de Humanidades, at the University of Chicago invited by the Franke Institute and the German Studies Department, at Södertörn University in Stockholm invited by the Philosophy Department, and at the Phenomenology Rountable at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

**FANNY SÖDERBÄCK** published two articles: "Natality or Birth? Arendt and Cavarero on the Human Condition of Being Born" which appeared in the most recent issue of *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy* and



"Liminal Spaces: Reflections on the In-Between" which came out in an issue of *Architecture and Culture*. She also just received a book contract for her monograph *Revolutionary Time: On Time and Difference in Kristeva and Irigaray*, which is now forthcoming with SUNY Press next year.

**KIMBERLEY MOE** taught an Inside-Out class on restorative justice at Cook County Jail which was featured on the front page of the Chicago Tribune on February 25, 2018: <a href="http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-met-depaul-university-jail-justice-course-20180118-story.html">http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-met-depaul-university-jail-justice-course-20180118-story.html</a>





**PETER STEEVES** gave the following conference talks:

May 2018 "Colony and Resistance: Hawai'i from The Brady Bunch to Beyond the Ideology of Empire," Oceanic Popular and American Culture Association Meeting, Honolulu, HI.

April 2017 "Are We Living in a Dream?," DePaul Honors Admissions Day. Mini-lecture to 400+ high school students who have been admitted to DePaul and to the Honors Program. Chicago, IL. (Invited.)

April 2018 "May I Come Inside for a Second?': Liberalism, Communitarianism, and Immigration in The Eyes of My Mother," A Celebration of Slashers, The DePaul Pop Culture Conference, Chicago, IL.

Mar 2018 "Space Race: In the Orbit of Laika," The Popular and American Culture Association National Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

Feb 2018 "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Thirtieth Anniversary of the FWPCA," The Far West Popular and American Culture Association, Las Vegas, NV. (Invited keynote conference speaker.)

# Adjunct Faculty News

## **JESSICA ELKAYAM**

Elsewhere: The Question of Ontology in World Travelling" at the Heidegger Circle, Goucher College, Baltimore, May 4-6, 2018.



# Graduate Faculty News



#### KAROLIN MIRZAKHAN

is moving to Atlanta this fall to begin a lectureship in Philosophy at Kennesaw State University. Her 8 years of faithful teaching in the DePaul Philosophy Department has been greatly appreciated!

## Graduate Student News



**GRADUATE STUDENT COLLOQUIUM** 

JENNIFER GAMMAGE responded to
Babette Babich's paper "Being on Television:
Wisser—Heidegger—Adorno" at the
Heidegger Circle, Goucher College, Baltimore,
May 4-6, 2018.





RYAN FROESE attended and presented at the 32nd International Hegel Conference June 5-8 in Tampere, Finland, funded by a GRF. He is also taking 8 weeks of German language courses in Berlin now through July, through the support of the DePaul philosophy department.

## Graduate Student News

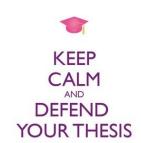
CAMERON COATES recently had an article accepted for publication. The title of the article is "Cosmic Democracy or Cosmic Monarchy?: Empedocles in Plato's *Statesman*". The article will appear in *Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought* (Brill). A pre-print version is available on his Academia.edu profile.





HÉCTOR RAMOS participated in the ongoing series of conferences this spring which have been organized and hosted at the ENS by the République des savoirs. He gave his own presentation, "Maine de Biran, une philosophie proto-existentialiste?" as part of the series on May 11th. Relevant information here in the attached link. In June, he also participated in the week-long Seminar organized by Irigaray on her own thought at the University of Warwick. Ramos also presented a paper at the conference, "Thinking of and with (Sexuate) Nature," which was well received.

# Dissertations Successfully Defended



AMANDA PARIS successfully defended her dissertation entitled: "The Logic of Imagination: A Spinozan Critique of Imaginative Configurations of Freedom?" on Friday, February 23.





**NEAL MILLER** successfully defended his dissertation entitled: "Foucault's Critique of Neoliberalism" on Friday, May 11th.

**KIERAN AARONS** successfully defended his dissertation entitled: "The Political Logic of Destituent Power: Time, Subjectivity, and Revolutionary Violence in the Philosophy of Giorgio Agamben" on Friday, June 1st.

# Graduate Courses 2018-2019

PH 415 – Aristotle I Aristotle's Metaphysics Sean D. Kirkland T 3:00-6:15 [H-I]  PHL 516 – Hegel I Hegel's Phenomeology María Acosta M 3:00-6:15 [H-II]  PHL 577 – Derrida I Theory Adriana Cavarero: A Philosophy in the Singular  Fanny Söderbäck W 3:00-6:15 [NP]  PHL 551 – Heidegger II Tendes Aristotle I Aristotle's Metaphysics Spinoza's Ethics Richard A. Lee, Jr. TH 3:00-6:15 [H-III]  PHL 557 – Topics in Continental Philosophy Hegel's Science of Logic  Kevin Thompson T 3:00-6:15 [H-III]  PHL 577 – Derrida I Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 578 – Derrida II Derrida: Performativity and the Event  PHL 579 – Trends ary PHL 579 – Special Topics Michel Henry's Phenomenology of	Autumn	Winter	Spring		
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TEACHING PRACTICUM					
PHL 697 – Teaching Practi- cum 2nd Year Student En- rollment Requirement		cum 2nd Year Student En-			
Jason D. Hill TBA					

# Undergraduate News

#### VERITAS UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE



**LEAH HASDAN** represented DePaul University, and presented her paper titled "Theory and Praxis of the Soviet Avant-Garde" at the Veritas Undergraduate Conference at Goucher College, Baltimore, on April 7, 2018. Hasdan's paper is published in the fifth issue of *Dianoia: The Undergraduate Philosophy Journal of Boston College*.

**ERIC GLIEM** represented DePaul University in March, 2018 at Saint Louis University's 6th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference presenting on *The Spatiality of the Work of Art*.

#### AMANDA LOEFFELHOLZ

presented her paper, "Demographics of Capability and Political Jurisdiction", at conferences at the University of Toronto and the University of Florida.



# Undergraduate Courses 2018-2019

Autumn	Winter	Spring	
	HISTORY SEQUENCE		
PHL 293 – Ancient Philosophy MW 11:20-12:50	PHL 293 – Ancient Philosophy TTH 2:40-4:10		
Naas, Michael	Kirkland, Sean		
PHL 295 – Early Modern Philosophy TTH 1:00-2:30	PHL 294 – Medieval Philosophy MW 11:20-12:50	PHL 296 – Kant and the 19 <sup>th</sup> Century TTH 9:40-11:10	
Goldman, Avery	Lee, Richard	Goldman, Avery	
		PHL 297 – 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy MW 9:40-11:10	
		Seyler, Frédéric	
	COGNITIVE SKILLS		
PHL 280 – Critical Thinking MW 9:40-11:10	PHL 282 – Symbolic Logic I MW 2:40-4:10	PHL 281 – Basic Logic Online	
Froese, Ryan	Ramos, Bradley	Larrabee, Mary Jeanne	
	SYSTEMATIC THEMES		
PHL 315 – Survey of Political Philosophy TTH 2:40-4:10	PHL 341 – Aesthetics MW 11:20-12:50	PHL 314 – Survey of Ethics MW 11:20-12:50	
Hill, Jason	Acosta, Maria	Daryl Koehn	
	PHL 320 – Metaphysics TTH 11:20-12:50		
	White, David		
PHL 369 – Kant TTH 9:40-11:10	PHL 325 – Basic Concepts of Phenomenology MW 4:20-5:50	PHL 342 – Philosophy of Law TTH 1:00-2:30	
Goldman, Avery	Seyler, Frédéric	Birmingham, Peg	
		PHL 373 – Nietzsche TTH 9:40-11:10	
		McNeill, Will	
PHL 381 – Dramatic Theory: Comedy TTH 6:00-9:00			
Steeves, Peter			
SENIOR CAPSTONE			
PHL 391 – Capstone MW 2:40-4:10		PHL 391 – Capstone TTH 4:20-5:50	
Naas, Michael		Hill, Jason	

## Alumni News



JAMES GRIFFITH was interviewed by the APA. Read the full article here: <a href="https://blog.apaonline.org/2018/04/27/apa-member-interview-james-griffith/">https://blog.apaonline.org/2018/04/27/apa-member-interview-james-griffith/</a>.

**YOHANNES BERCHMANNS,** our former Vincentian masters student, is teaching philosophy to seminarists in the Solomon Islands.





JOSH SHEPPARD (BA 2001), now works as an Assistant Professor in Media Studies at Catholic University in Washington DC. Next year he'll be a "Humanities and Information Fellow" at Pennsylvania State University and a lead faculty advisor on an NEH Grant that looks at the origins of public broadcasting in the U.S. He's also under contract to co-author the official history of public broadcasting (NPR, PBS, and their affiliates) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and trade public media journal Current. This is on top of his continuing work as a task force director for the Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Board. He states, "I'd argue that philosophy

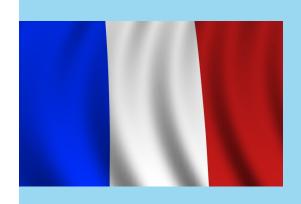


training at DePaul is partly responsible for the historiographical goals of one of the federal governments largest historical memory projects. We currently have over 250 professors on the project across 200 colleges and universities."

## Alumni News

**HAJRIJE KOLMIJA** (BA Philosophy & English, 2017) has been awarded a Fulbright International Scholarship for study in Albania.





**ASHA BACCHUS** (2016) has been accepted to the University of Kent's M.A. program in Paris, France, in the History and Philosophy of Art.

THE MARÍA LUGONES CONFERENCE, on "Towards Decolonial Feminisms," at Penn State in May had great DePaul representation. Brooklyn Leonhardt and Cindy Marrero-Ramos, former undergraduate students, and currently working on PhDs at Penn State, presented on "Native Two-Spirit and Trans Latinx Lives: A Revision to the Colonial/Modern Gender

System" and "Creando una Matria: Poiesis of the Special Period" respectively. María Salvador and Amelia Hruby presented as well, and Don Deere and Selin Islekel were part of María's panel, along with Heather Rakes, a graduate of DePaul.



Brooklyn Leonhardt presenting at the conference.

## Cheers to the 2017-2018 Academic Year

# END-OF-THE-YEAR CELEBRATIONS were

held at Fiesta Mexicana in June. The attendees enjoyed food and beverages as well as each others company at our traditional year-end dinner!







# GRADUATIING SENIORS were

celebrated at a special dinner with students and faculty. We wish them the best on their future endeavors!