

Department of Philosophy

Summer 2020 Newsletter

College of Liberal Arts and
Social Sciences
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

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DEPAUL PHILOSOPHY

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A Letter from the Chair



Our summer Newsletter arrives as most of us try to catch our breath after a tumultuous and challenging spring quarter. When I last wrote back in December, none of us could have foreseen what lay ahead in terms of the COVID-19 pandemic that arrived suddenly at the end of winter quarter, followed soon after by the social and political unrest in the aftermath of the senseless killing of George Floyd. Negotiating all of this undoubtedly made for a very difficult spring quarter for everyone. As we migrated at very short notice to fully remote teaching, most of our spring quarter events had to be canceled, including a major conference that had been planned for over two years, a workshop, and scheduled visiting speaker events. Still, as we began to adapt to the new reality, several Philosophy Circle events were held via Zoom, and proved very successful. Meanwhile, we began to plan for next academic year and have several remote visiting speakers already on the calendar for fall quarter.

In light of these unprecedented challenges of spring quarter, I want to acknowledge the terrific work of our faculty and teaching fellows in rapidly adapting to teaching online. I know that everyone without exception put in a tremendous amount of extra work for their courses, and the results certainly reflect this. Students were very appreciative of the excellent quality of instruction they received, as attested by the many positive comments on spring evaluations. As we prepare to teach remotely once again in fall quarter in less than ideal circumstances, I am greatly encouraged by the dedication that you all bring to serving our students both in the classroom and beyond.

Given how much has transpired since mid-March, last winter quarter must seem like a distant memory to many of us. Nevertheless, it was a busy and very successful quarter in many respects. We completed a faculty job search and are delighted to be welcoming Rafael Vizcaíno as a new colleague working in Latin American and Decolonial thought. We also conducted a very successful recruitment cycle for our incoming cohort of graduate fellows. And we enjoyed presentations by Scott Davidson and José Medina, as well as by our job candidates.

In our graduate program, special congratulations are due to J.D. Singer and Amelia Hruby, both of whom successfully defended their dissertations in spring quarter, and to Khafiz Kerimov, who was hired for a tenure-track position at St. John's College in Annapolis. See inside for details of these and many other events and accomplishments.

As we look ahead to the next academic year, much remains uncertain. This past quarter has been a salutary reminder that no matter our scientific and technological prowess, the future remains unforeseeable. Indeed, we see that science and technology may even—and perhaps must of necessity—produce the unforeseeable. In that respect, we need more than ever that virtue that Aristotle called *phronēsis* (usually translated as prudence or practical wisdom). It is a virtue that all of us will no doubt have ample opportunity to cultivate in the days that lie ahead.

I wish everyone a healthy and productive summer.

William McNeill
Professor and Chair, Philosophy

Visiting Speakers



Scott Davidson
University of West Virginia

The Afterlife and the Life
After Life: A Phenomenology
of Immortality

DePaul Philosophy Department Presents

**The Afterlife and
the Life After Life:
A Phenomenology
of Immortality**

Professor Scott Davidson
University of West Virginia

Richardson Library 300
Friday, January 24th, 4:00-6:00 pm

Event is free and open to the public



José Medina
Northwestern University

Epistemic Injustice and
Collective Epistemic
Resistance in a County Jail

VISITING SPEAKER

José Medina
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

**Epistemic Injustice and
Collective Epistemic
Resistance in a County Jail**

Within the American criminal justice system inmates have very limited epistemic agency. It may appear that it is in the very nature of detainment to be deprived of agency in general and therefore also of epistemic agency as well. However, although some constraints on epistemic agency unavoidably come with the deprivation of freedom, the institutional structures of the American criminal justice system set unfair constraints on inmate's epistemic agency as well as unfair negative consequences on the exercise of their epistemic agency. In the two sections of this paper I will try to do two things. First, I will analyze the specific forms of epistemic injustice that result from unfair obstacles and constraints set on the voices of inmates by the American criminal justice system. Secondly, I will discuss ways in which inmates can augment and protect their epistemic agency through what I call epistemic activism, that is, resistant collective epistemic action carried out by them collectively and sometimes in coordination with allies outside the detention center. The aim of this essay is to elucidate how agentially produced epistemic injustices that inmates suffer within the criminal justice system can be resisted by them and by their allies in practices of epistemic activism through strategies for pooling epistemic resources, coordinating the exercise of epistemic agency (inside and outside carceral contexts), and developing a collective voice or epistemic collective group agency.

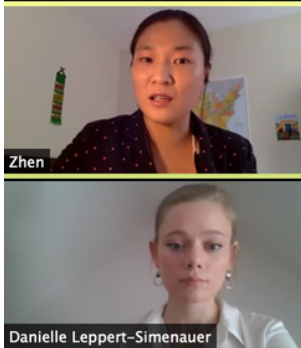
FEBRUARY 14, 2020 | 4:00-6:00PM
RICHARDSON LIBRARY 300

Contact Elizabeth Millan at emillan@rocketmail.com for more information.

DUOS (Doctoral & Undergraduate Opportunities for Scholarship)

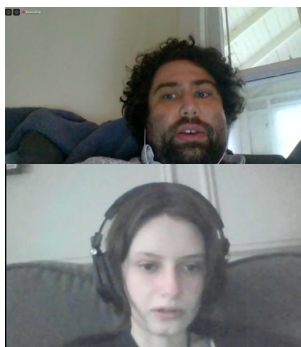
DUOS PRESENTATIONS

Nine pairs of undergraduate and graduate students received DUOS awards this year and presented their work on May 29, 2020 virtually.



Inquiries into the History and Philosophy of the Concept of Time

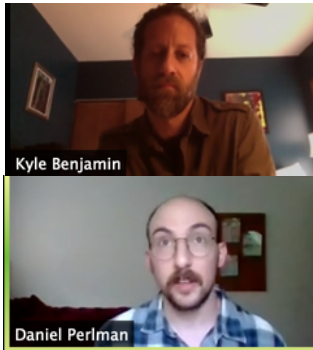
Undergraduate Student: Danielle Leppert-Simenauer
Graduate Student: Zhen Liang



Pathos as the Source of Action (The Phenomenology of Life and the Phenomenology of Action)

Undergraduate Student: Sarah Ferrara
Graduate Student: Hector Ramos

DUOS (Doctoral & Undergraduate Opportunities for Scholarship)



Transcendental Subjectivity in Naturalized Phenomenology

Undergraduate Student: Kyle Benjamin

Graduate Student: Daniel Perlman



Ontology and Alterity: Understanding Levinas's and Irigaray's Conflicting Approaches to Ethics

Undergraduate Student: Kay Herron

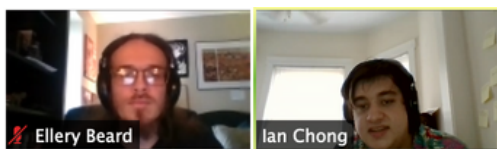
Graduate Student: Sarah Simms



Freedom and Necessity in Hegel

Undergraduate Student: Christopher Modlin

Graduate Student: Ryan Froese

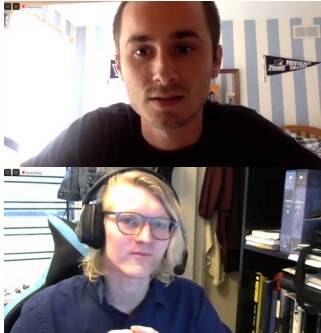


Blood & Bile Must Boil: Soul and Life in Platonic Thought & Radical Phenomenology

Undergraduate Student: Ian Chong

Graduate Student: Ellery Beard

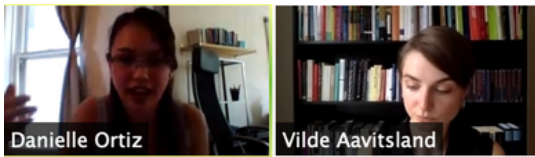
DUOS (Doctoral & Undergraduate Opportunities for Scholarship)



The Time of Becoming: On the Relation between Temporality and Ethics in Deleuze and the Stoics

Undergraduate Student: Riley O'Brien

Graduate Student: Eric Aldieri



Foucault's Theory of Biopolitics

Undergraduate Student: Danielle Ortiz

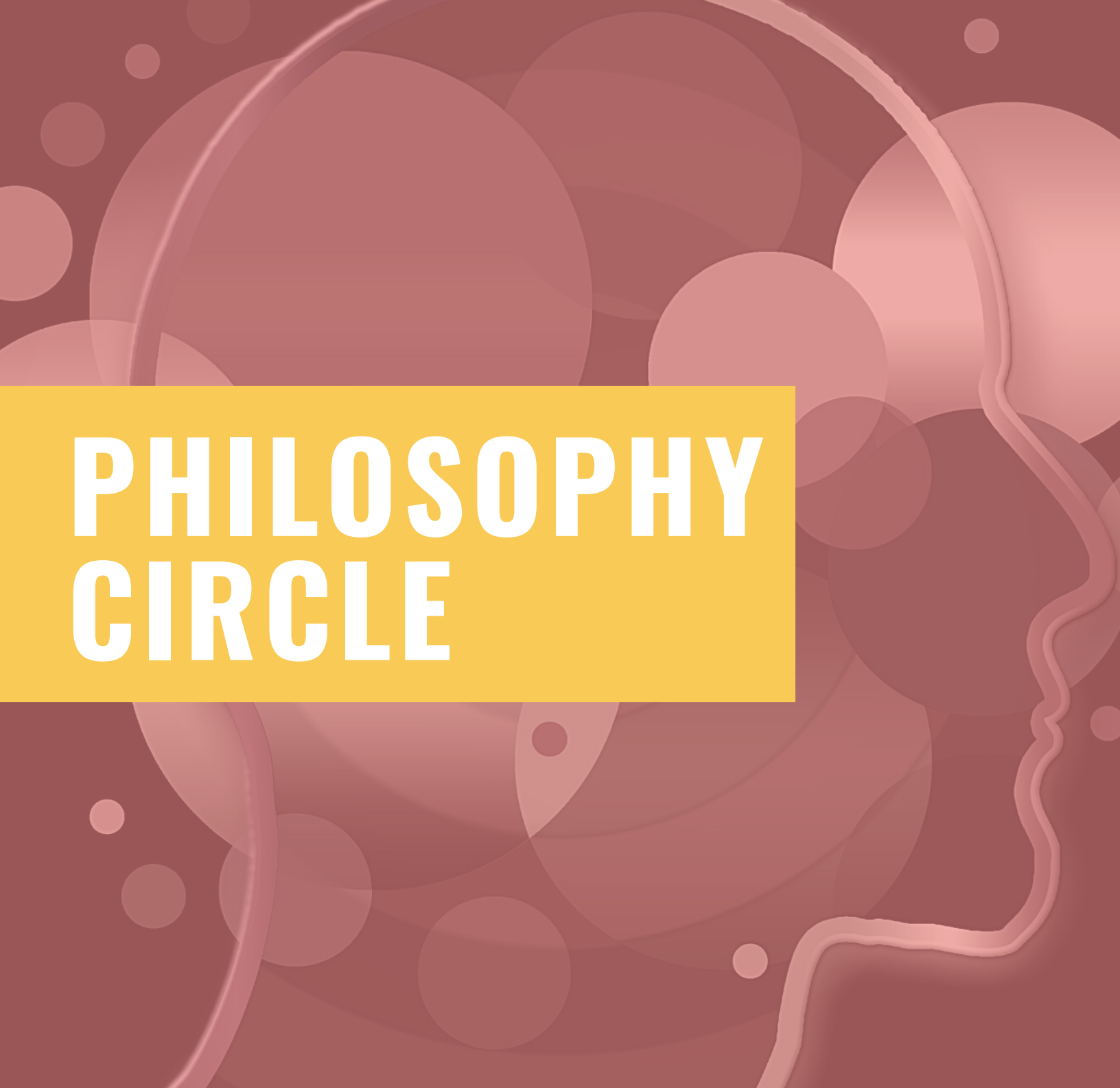
Graduate Student: Vilde Lid Aavitsland



Gender Trouble and Cultural Attitudes

Undergraduate Student: Elizabeth Baughman

Graduate Student: Bradley Ramos



PHILOSOPHY CIRCLE

PHILOSOPHY CIRCLE EVENTS

Winter Quarter 2020

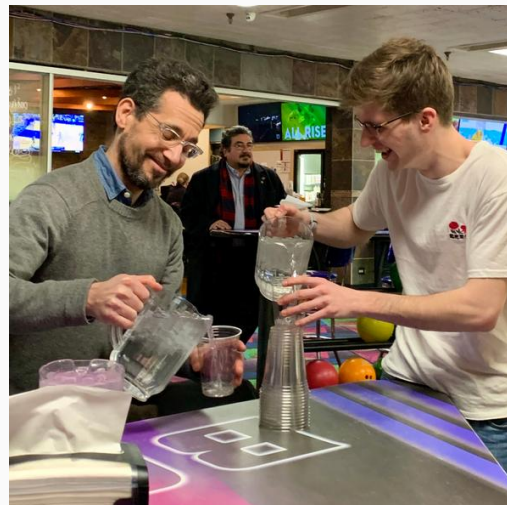
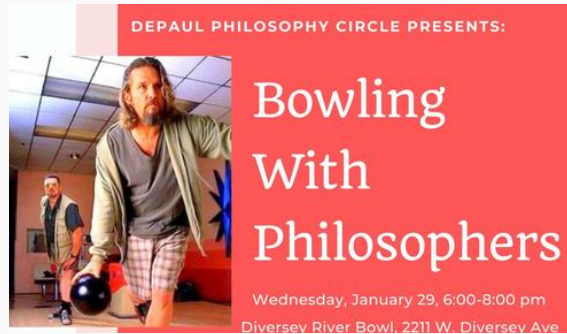
Spring Quarter 2020

Summer 2020

Philosophy Circle

BOWLING WITH PHILOSOPHERS

Philosophy Circle kicked off Winter Quarter with bowling at Diversey River Bowl.



MINORITIES AND PHILOSOPHY

On Wednesday, February 12, 2020 we hosted a Philosophy Circle event on the question "What does it mean to be a minority in Philosophy?" The event was hosted by our MAP (Minorities and Philosophy) chapter.

DePaul Philosophy Circle Presents:

What Does it Mean to be a Minority in Philosophy?

An event sponsored by DePaul's chapter of Minorities and Philosophy

MAP
MINORITIES AND PHILOSOPHY

Wednesday, February 12, 6:00-7:30
2352 N. Clifton, room 145

DePaul Philosophy Circle
With Professors Avery Goldman & Rick Lee

PHILOSOPHY IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC

Wednesday, April 29 · 6-7:30PM
Meeting via Zoom

Please e-mail philosophy@depaul.edu with your name and ID# for a link to Zoom.

PHILOSOPHY IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC

The Philosophy Circle reconvened on Zoom on Wednesday, April 29th, offering a chance to discuss the changes, personal, educational, and political, that we were all going through.

PHILOSOPHY FILM FESTIVAL 3: GROUNDHOG DAY AND THE NATURE OF EVIL

On Wednesday, May 20, Professor Daryl Koehn hosted our first Philosophy Film Festival on Zoom. We watched movie clips from the film Groundhog Day and had a wide ranging discussion that addressed, amongst other topics, virtue, evil, and the nature of time.

DEPAUL PHILOSOPHY CIRCLE
PHILOSOPHY FILM FESTIVAL 3

GROUNDHOG DAY AND THE NATURE OF EVIL

Presented by Daryl Koehn



DEPAUL PHILOSOPHY
CIRCLE PRESENTS:

WHAT NEXT?

Wednesday, June 17
6:00-7:30PM

Meeting via Zoom.

WHAT NEXT?

What's Next? The question was meant to be ambiguous, invoking both the personal and the political.



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



"Singularity in the Wake of Slavery: Adriana Cavarero's Ontology of Uniqueness and Alex Haley's *Roots*"

Fanny Söderbäck's article was accepted for publication with *Philosophy Compass*.



"Alexander Von Humboldt: Critic of Nature"

Elizabeth Millán published this chapter in *Critique in the German Philosophical Tradition* with SUNY Press.



"Time for Love: Plato and Irigaray on Erotic Relations"

Fanny Söderbäck published this article in *Thinking Life with Luce Irigaray: Language, Origin, Art, Love*.



"Robert Egger's *The Witch*: A Feminist Folktale of Fear and Floating"

Peter Steeves published this article in *Popular Culture Review* V. 31, N. 1 (Spring 2020): 51-70.

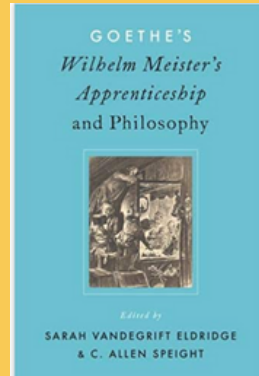


FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



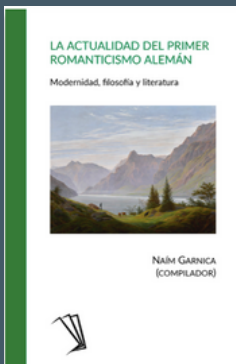
"Learning to See Nature, Learning to Love Nature: Lessons from Alexander von Humboldt"

Elizabeth Millán published this article in *Minding Nature* 13.1 (2020).



"Goethe's Wilhelm Meister: A tendency of Romantic Philosophy"

Elizabeth Millán published this chapter in *Goethe's Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship and Philosophy*.



"el revival de la Frühromantik en la filosofía anglofona"

Elizabeth Millán published this chapter in *La actualidad del primer romanticis aleman*.



"Fichte and the Emergence of Early German Romanticism"

Elizabeth Millán published this chapter in *The Bloomsbury Companion to Fichte*.



"On Bees and Anarchy"

Peter Steeves published this article in *Political Theory*, ED. The article was translated into Persian by Hamid Malekzade.



Faculty News



MARY JEANNE LARRABEE'S presentation "Walls or Gateless Gates? Guides from Husserl, Yogacara, and Zen." was accepted for the East/West Philosophy Conference at the University of Hawai'i in Honolulu, May 2020. This has been delayed for May 2021.

SEAN KIRKLAND received a QIC Excellence in Teaching award. He was also awarded a faculty fellowship from the DePaul Humanities Center.



MICHAEL NAAS was awarded the Wicklander Fellowship with the Institute for Business and Professional Ethics.

Faculty News



ELIZABETH MILLÁN presented "Shall We Dance? Fichte's Aufforderung, Intersubjectivity, and the Emergence of the You," remarks in response to Tobias Rosefeldt's "A Gricean Interpretation of Fichte's Summons" at the Society for German Idealism and Romanticism session at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting in Chicago on February 26, 2020. She was also invited to talk on "How Humboldt made Nature Legible and Why that Still Matters" at the Humboldt Commemoration at Duke University in November, 2019. Elizabeth Millán was also invited to talk at Rice University in October, 2019 on "Humboldt's Naturgemälde and the Unity of Nature". She also gave a talk entitled "Diversity, Inclusion, and Gracia's Role in Shaping the Field of Latin American Philosophy" for the 2019 book launch of *A Collection of Individuals: the Philosophical Legacy of Jorge J. E. Gracia* at the State University of New York, Buffalo in October, 2019. Additionally, Elizabeth Millán completed a review of Paola Mayer's "The Aesthetics of Fear in German Romanticism" for *Choice Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* in June, which is forthcoming.



FANNY SÖDERBÄCK held the DePaul University Center for Latino Research Faculty Fellowship for her work on a new project putting Julia Kristeva into conversation with Gloria Anzaldúa around issues of foreignness and strangeness. She also gave the talk "Sexual Violence as Ontological Violence: Narration and Relational Selfhood" in the Department of Comparative Literature at Södertörn University in Sweden. Fanny Söderbäck completed work on her essay "Material Enigmas: Kristeva and the Paradoxes of Motherhood," which is forthcoming in *Library of Living Philosophers: Julia Kristeva*. Several of Fanny Söderbäck's book panels on her recent monograph *Revolutionary Time* were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Her book was selected for a book session at the upcoming meeting of SPEG, which was scheduled for the fall of 2021 in Rochester, New York.

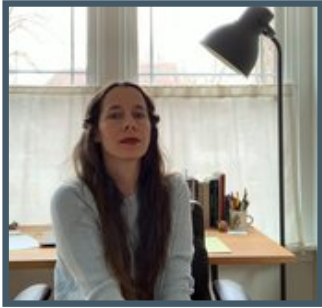
Faculty News



PETER STEEVES spoke on an international panel in April 2020 organized by A71 on the world premiere of the film *Dreamland*, along with the film's director, writer, and stars, discussing the philosophical meaning of the films *Pontypool* and *Dreamland* (both directed by Bruce McDonald). For the last 4 years, he has been the "production philosopher" on the film. He also gave two presentations in February in Las Vegas, NV at The Far West Popular and American Culture Association, entitled "In the Shadow of Truth: The Philosophy and Fine Art of Faking the Facts" and "This (Still) Be the Verse: Teaching Poetry and Philosophy." At this conference, he was the recipient of "The 2020 Felicia Campbell Award" for extraordinary scholarship in, and service to, popular and American culture. He was also interviewed in January 2020 for 90 minutes by CNN reporter Patrick McCarty for his podcast on "Artificial Intelligence, Techno-Science, and Phenomenology."



Graduate Student News



JEN GAMMAGE will be serving a two year term on the APA Graduate Student Council beginning in July and participated in the APA Mentoring the Mentors Workshop which was held virtually in conjunction with the Pacific APA. She was also scheduled to present "The Production of Trauma: Anzaldúa's Autohistoria-teoria and the Creation of History" at the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) in Chicago in March and will now present this next year at the ACLA. Jen was also scheduled to present "Beyond Justice: Ethical responses to Histories of Violence" at the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World in July, and will now be presenting in 2021. Additionally, she was slated to present at the Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition annual conference on Anarchy in September, presenting a paper titled "Nietzsche's Historical An-archism", which has also been moved.

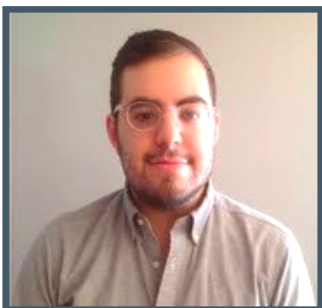


CAMERON COATES co-authored a journal article entitled "Aristotle on the Unity of the Nutritive and Reproductive Functions" with James G. Lennox (University of Pittsburgh, emeritus) which is forthcoming in *Phronesis*, 2020.



GIL MOREJON and DAVID MARUZZELLA edited and translated a collection of 21 texts by the famous french Spinoza scholar Alexandre Matheron (who passed away in January of this year). This is the first volume of its kind and currently the only collection of Matheron's pioneering works in English.

GIL MOREJON submitted a paper to the 2020 SPEP conference and was accepted. He was given honorable mention for Best Paper by a Junior Scholar. He will now present in 2021.



DAVID MARUZZELLA submitted a paper to the 2020 SPEP conference and was accepted. He was given honorable mention for Best Paper by a Graduate Student.

Undergraduate Student News



GRACE BAFFOE is this year's top graduating philosophy major.



AMANDA LOEFFELHOLZ is headed to the Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado with a full stipend.

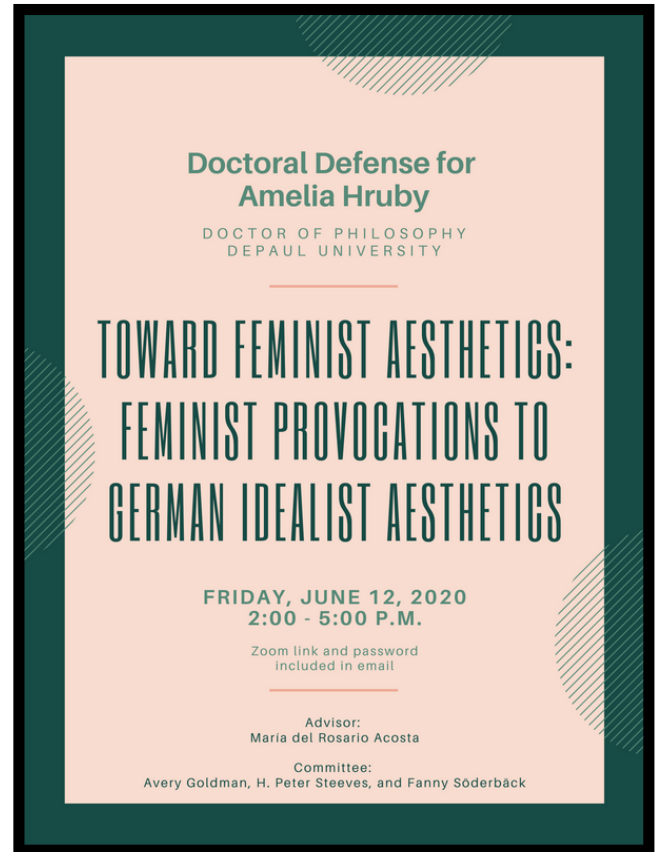


SIMON HANDMAKER received the Creating Knowledge Award for his paper entitled "No 'Thyself': How One Becomes, What One Is, and How One Becomes What One Is." The paper was originally written for Professor William McNeill's Spring 2019 PHL 373: Nietzsche.

Successfully Defended Dissertations

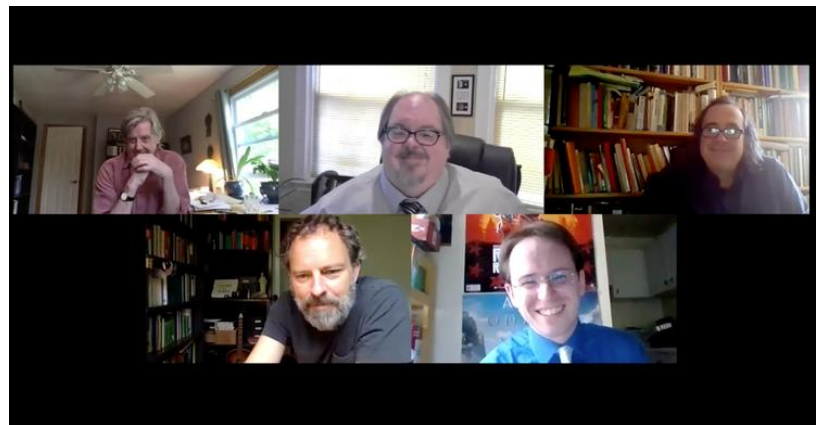
AMELIA HRUBY

Amelia successfully defended her dissertation, "Toward Feminist Aesthetics: Feminist Provocations to German Idealist Aesthetics" on June 12, 2020.



J.D. SINGER

J.D. successfully defended his dissertation titled "Sharing 'the Flesh of the World': Alterity, Animality, and Radical Community in Merleau-Ponty's Philosophy".



ALUMNI NEWS



KHAFIZ KERIMOV (PhD 2019) was hired for a tenure-track position at St. Johns College in Annapolis, Maryland.



ANJA GLEICHER (2016) graduated from law school at Villanova on May 18 and is preparing for her bar exam.



EVAN EDWARDS will be taking on a position at Thoreau College in Viroqua, WI in the fall where he will be preparing food for students as well as teaching them how to cook, farm, and forage. Additionally, he will be running a seminar on food philosophy and will continue working on his dissertation.



HAJRIJE KOLIMJA was accepted with a tuition stipend to the Master of Arts Program in the Humanities at the University of Chicago.

Student Employee News



KENDALL DUWAL

Kendall Duwal graduated at the end of March with a BA in Public Relations and Advertising and a Minor in Graphic Design. Kendall has been a friendly and welcoming presence at our front desk for the past four years, and we shall miss her. We wish her all the best for her future.

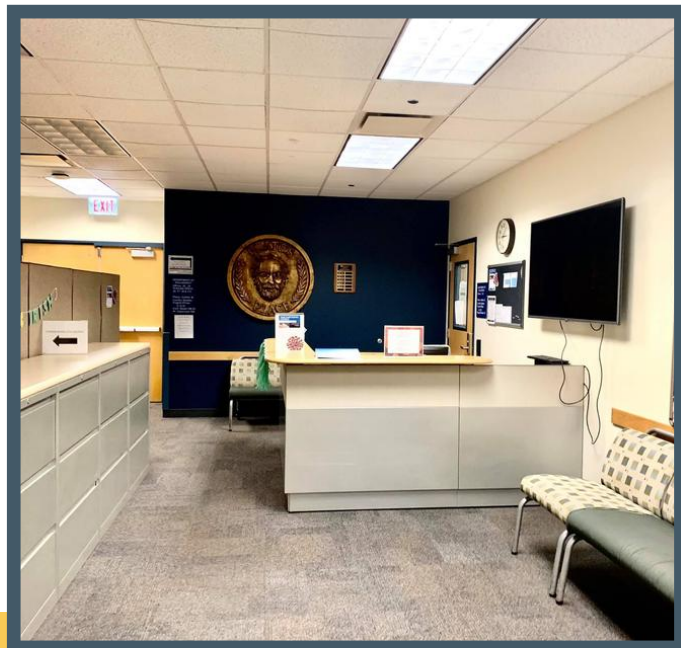


SAHARA BRATLAND

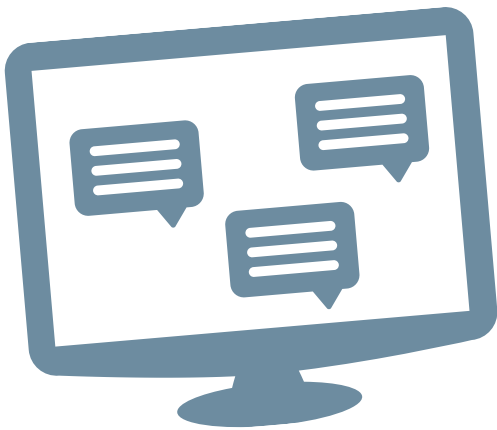
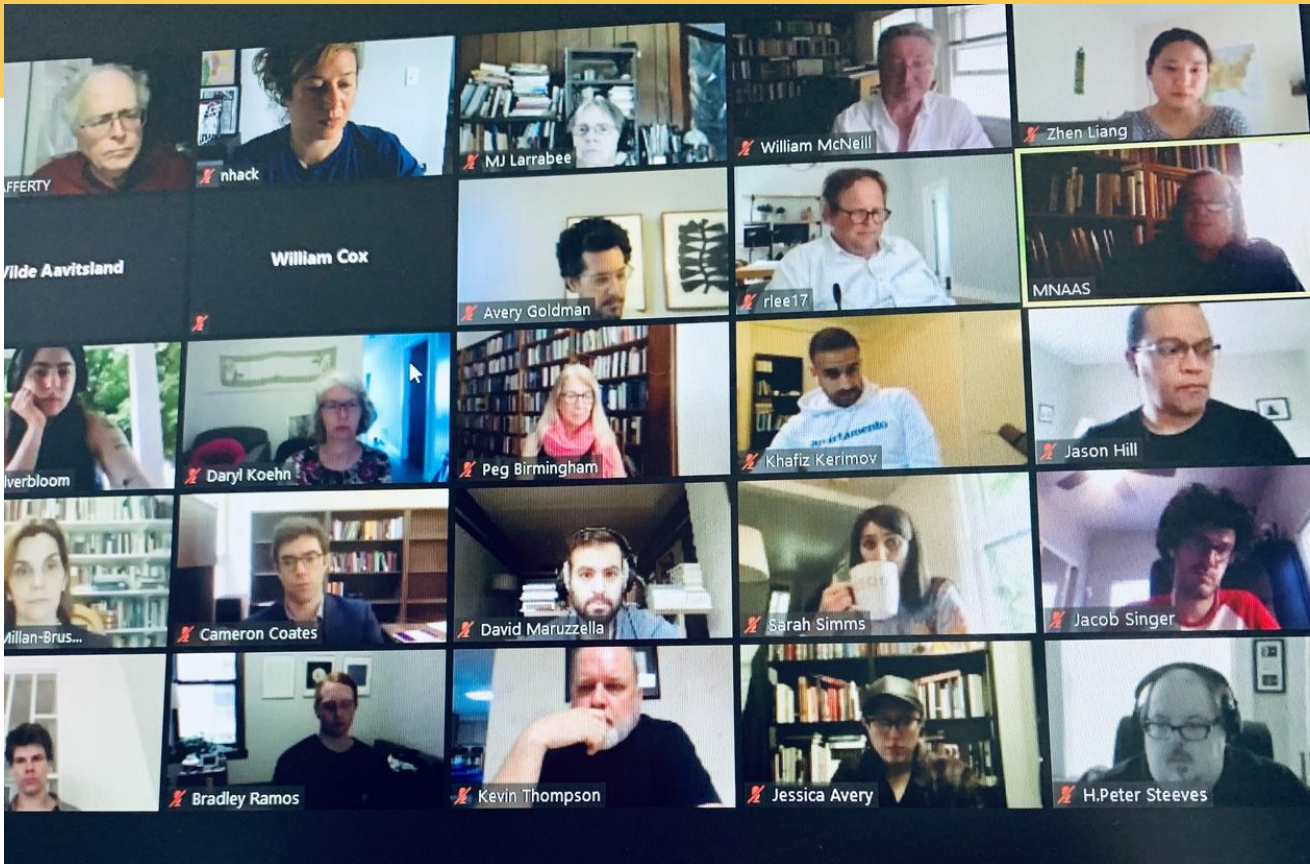
Sahara Bratland was nominated for a Student Worker of the Year award this spring! While she will continue to work for us throughout the summer, Sahara plans to transfer to Illinois State University in the autumn to continue her studies closer to home. We shall miss her and we wish her every success at ISU.

Nostalgic for the department?

Philosophical misunderstanding #1: When Heidegger says “not-being-at-home” is the more primordial phenomenon (*Being and Time*, §40), that doesn’t mean being-in-the-office...!



VIRTUAL MEETINGS



Undergraduate Courses 2020-21

PHL UNDERGRAD COURSES 2020-2021

Autumn	Winter	Spring
HISTORY SEQUENCE		
PHL 293 – Ancient Philosophy TTH 1:00-2:30 Sean D. Kirkland		PHL 293 – Ancient Philosophy TTH 9:40-11:10 David White
PHL 295 – Early Modern Philosophy TTH 11:20-12:50 Avery Goldman	PHL 294 – Medieval Philosophy MW 11:20-12:50 Richard Lee	PHL 296 – Kant and the 19 th Century MW 11:20-12:50 Avery Goldman
	PHL 297 – 20 th Century Philosophy MW 9:40-11:10 Frédéric Seyler	
COGNITIVE SKILLS		
PHL 280 – Critical Thinking MW 1:00-2:30 Ellery Beard	PHL 281 – Basic Logic Online Mary Jeanne Larrabee	PHL 281 – Basic Logic MW 1:00-2:30 Daniel Perlman
PHL 282 – Symbolic Logic I TTH 9:40-11:10 Daniel Rosiak		
300-LEVEL MAJOR FIELD ELECTIVES		
PHL 315 – Survey of Political Philosophy MW 1:00-2:30 Jason Hill	PHL 320 – Metaphysics MW 11:20-12:50 David White	PHL 314 – Survey of Ethics MW 11:20-12:50 Daryl Koehn
PHL 380 – Selected Figures and Texts: Heidegger: Metaphysics, Art, Technicity MW 9:40-11:10 Will McNeill	PHL 361 – Plato MW 1:00-2:30 Michael Naas	PHL 325 – Basic Concepts of Phenomenology MW 2:40-4:10 Avery Goldman
PHL 392 – Topics in Feminist Philosophy Foreignness in the Borderlands TTH 2:40-4:10 Fanny Söderbäck	PHL 389 – Latin American Philosophy TTH 1:00-2:30 Rafael Vizcaino	PHL 382 – Dramatic Theory: Comedy TH 2:40-4:10 Richard Lee
SENIOR CAPSTONE		
PHL 391 – Capstone MW 2:40-4:10 Michael Naas		PHL 391 – Capstone TTH 1:00-2:30 Frédéric Seyler

Revised 3/03/20

Graduate Courses 2020-21

GRADUATE COURSES 2020-2021

	Fall	Winter	Spring
“WORLD” PHILOSOPHY	PHL 500 – Special Topics in the History of Philosophy “Latin American Philosophy” Elizabeth Millán Brusslan W 3:00-6:15 [H-II or NP]	PHL 661 – Topics in Feminist Theory: “Stranger than Other Strangers: Kristeva, Anzaldúa, Ahmed” Fanny Söderbäck T 3:00-6:15 [CE or NP]	PHL 629 – Seminar on Contemporary Problems “Latin American Philosophy” Rafael Vizcaino W 3:00-6:15 [NP]
CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY, SCIENCE & ETHICS	PH 557 – Topics in Continental Philosophy “Continental Philosophy of Science and Math” H. Peter Steeves T 6:00-9:15 [CE]	PHL 590 – Trends in Contemporary French Philosophy “Freudian Legacies: Trauma, Dissociation, Death Drive (Derrida, Lyotard, Lacan, etc.)” Elizabeth Rottenberg M 3:00-6:15 [CE]	PHL 529 – The Philosophical Foundations of Bioethics Kevin Thompson T 3:00-6:15 [NP]
CONTEMPORARIES AND ANCIENTS	PHL 656 – Seminar on Social and Political Thought “Agamben: <i>Homo Sacer, State of Exception, Remnants of Auschwitz</i> : On Sovereignty, Power, Violence” Peg Birmingham T 3:00-6:15 [CE]	PHL 425 – Aquinas “Agamben’s Medieval Inheritance: Aquinas and Scotus” Rick Lee W: 3:00-6:15 [H-I]	PHL 410 – Plato I “Plato’s Sophists” Michael Naas M 3:00-6:15 [H-I]
NIETZSCHE / HEIDEGGER	PHL 525 – Nietzsche <i>Nietzsche’s Philology of the Future</i> Sean Kirkland TH 3:00-6:15 [H-II]	PHL 551 – Heidegger II <i>Heidegger’s Nietzsche</i> Will McNeill TH 3:00-6:15 [CE]	PHL 697 – Teaching Practicum 2 nd Year Student Enrollment Requirement Fanny Söderbäck TH 3:00-6:15 [NP]

Distribution Requirement Key:

H-I = History of Western PHL (Ancient or Medieval)
H-II = History of Western PHL (Modern or 19th Century)

NP = Normative Philosophy
CE = Contemporary European Philosophy

Revised 1/29/20

Social Media

Follow us!

Submit submissions to Nicole at
nhack@depaul.edu or
philosophy@depaul.edu.



@DePaulPhilosophy



DePaul Philosophy