Greetings

Welcome to the second issue of the PGSA newsletter, put together by your PGSA MA rep. Anne Samata with input from many other PGSA members. As this is my last semester at MU, the newsletter will be taken over by one of the new PGSA reps. The goal of this newsletter is to act as a means for us to keep one another informed and to strengthen bonds between the graduate student community. It’s a place for you to announce success and achievements, promote lectures and activities, and keep up to date on local happenings. This newsletter is in no way limited to things only concerned with academic philosophy! Feel free to go ahead and share poems, recipes, and jokes, recommend books, TV shows, or restaurants, and share your opinions on MU and Milwaukee.

Upcoming PGSA Conference
On Saturday, March 28, the Philosophy Graduate Student Association will host its own graduate philosophy conference. This is a revival of a former annual tradition in the department, and we are hopeful that the success of this year's conference will encourage our grad students to continue it. The theme this year is “Interpretation,” broadly construed, and we are very excited to have our own Pol Vandevelde present his paper, “How Radical Must Interpretation Be? Gadamer's Case Against Davidson" for our keynote address. The conference will be held in Johnston Hall, Room 427, from 10 am to 5:30 pm. We hope to see our department well represented.”

A Note From Mark Meaney
Mark Meaney, Ph.D. graduate of Marquette Philosophy Department, may be one of the most successful of our Ph. D. graduates. He has held administrative and teaching positions at UC Berkeley and now Leeds School of Business at U of Colorado. The following is a note from a recent email from Mark.

The move to CU-Boulder has proven to be wonderful. Yes, Berkeley was a wonderful place to teach, but my position as Executive Director of the Center for Education on Social Responsibility here at Leeds allows me to make use of the sum total of all of my knowledge and skills I've acquired over my entire career. I'm able to teach and engage in curriculum development in the areas of ethics, social responsibility and
sustainability; I am able to both conduct and sponsor research; and I'm able to engage in community outreach in establishing a national and international footprint. It even turns out that I'm a very good fund raiser to boot! I've already raised over a million dollars in just six months!

News From Matthew Nowachek
Matthew is a PhD student at Marquette who was invited to serve a one-year guest researcher position at the Soren Kierkegaard Research Centre, in Copenhagen, Denmark for the 2014-2015 academic year. I asked Matthew how his time there has been; this is what he said.

Over the past few months, I have settled nicely into a rhythm here at the Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre in Copenhagen, Denmark. The center has given me a nice office that I share with two PhDs from the USA and a student from Spain. My weeks are mostly dedicated to dissertation research, which has benefited greatly from the access to Kierkegaard's materials here, access to the Royal Danish Library, and most of all, through conversations with some of the leading Kierkegaard scholars in the world who have been kind enough to converse with me and to help me develop my ideas. I am currently working on chapter 3 of the dissertation, with hopes of having a finished draft in the next few weeks. In addition to dissertation work, I have been able to participate in two academic seminars, one on Kierkegaard's psychology and another on Kierkegaard's concepts of subjectivity and negativity. The research centre also invites in scholars every other week in order to give a paper presentation, and I have very much enjoyed and benefitted from attending these talks. At the end of March, I will be presenting my own paper entitled "The Monumental Task of Kierkegaard's Attack upon Christendom." With the little time that is left over, I have also been working closely with Professor Jon Stewart (one of the permanent scholars here at the research centre) in order to help fill in the gaps in the forthcoming volume 18 of his series Kierkegaard Research: Sources, Receptions, and Resources by contributing articles on Swedish Kierkegaard scholars and their Swedish work. Helena, Eskil, and I live in Lund, Sweden, which we are really enjoying, and I commute every day across the Øresunds bridge from Sweden to Denmark. It is always nice to come to Copenhagen, but by the end of the day it is always nice to go "home" to Sweden.

Phil Mack Wins Prize in Latin American Thought
Phil Mack (2nd year PhD), won the American Philosophical Association 2014 Prize in Latin American Thought. This is a blind-reviewed, national prize sponsored by the APA Committee on Hispanics in Philosophy. His prize winning essay, "Should a Concept of Truth be attributed to Nahuatl Thought? Preserving 'the Colonial Difference' between Concepts of the West and Nahua Philosophy," He has been invited to speak as part of a panel at the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, USA, March 2016, and further earns a cash prize.
PGSA Members
Philosophical involvement
Presentations and Conference Activity

Daniel Adsett

“Dunamis and Enteléchia: On the Analogical Character of Heidegger’s Ontology” LUC-Marquette Phenomenology Workshop, Chicago IL, 18 October 2014


Theresa Beaumier
"At the Borders of Society: Border Control and the Perpetuation of Poverty Among Immigrant Communities." American Section of the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (AMINTAPHIL) October 2014

Kimberly Engels

Dana Fritz
"The Crisis of Autism: An Actual Autistic Person Looks at Husserl." Southeast Philosophy Congress which, February 20-21 and will be published in the proceedings.

Jered Janes
"An Husserlian Critique of McDowell’s Conceptualism," at the Fall Meeting of the Indiana Philosophical Association (IPA), October 17, 2014


Response to Klaskow's "The Normativity of Evidence and the Basic Norm of Phenomenology," at the American Philosophical Association (APA) Pacific Division Meeting, April 2, 2015

Phil Mack
Moderator, panel entitled “(Un)covering Reality: Gender & Postmodern Thought” consisting of Alexander Bartel (“Martyrdom according to Jon Sobrino”), Anabelle Martinez (“Revolutionary Tendencies in Latino-Norteamericanos: The Perpetuation and Importance of Philosophical Praxis”), and Jeff Ocwieja (“Abraham Lincoln and the Suspension of Habeas Corpus: Memory and Application in the War on Terror”), Marquette Undergraduate Humanities Conference, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 5 April 2014.


Jennifer Marra
Humor as a Symbolic Form: Cassirer and the Culture of Comedy, Lighthearted Philosophers' Society conference

Jorge Montiel
"Hermeneutic Opacity as a Condition for Racial Integration: An Epistemological Account" was accepted at the Caribbean Philosophical Association Annual Meeting. Shifting the Geography of Reason XII: Technologies of liberation. June 2015 (He is still seeking travel funding)

Matthew T. Nowachek
"The Monumental Task of Kierkegaard's Attack upon Christendom" part of the seminar series at the Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre, University of Copenhagen.

Anne Samata

Sessions Chair “Understanding from Testimony” Emily Sullivan, Fordham University, with Comments by Addison Ellis, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Pittsburg Area Philosophy Colloquium.

Greg Trotter
"Inaugurating a Tradition: The Sartrean Imagination as Merleau-Pontian Expression," at the Diverse Lineages of Existentialism conference which was held in St. Louis on June 19.

"Toward a Non-Reductive Naturalism: Combining the Insights of Husserl and Dewey," Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Vancouver, BC April 4, 2014

"Art and Understanding: A Merleau-Pontian Solution to Hegel's 'Amphibian' Problem," 2nd Meeting of the LUC-Marquette Phenomenology Workshop, Loyola University Chicago, (October 18, 2014)

Tracy Wietecha

Publications

Daniel Adsett


Kimberly Engels


Jered Janes
Book Review: "Dorion Cairns - The Philosophy of Edmund Husserl" Forthcoming in Husserl Studies

Phil Mack

Jenn Marra
“Feminists Can Take a Joke: Louis CK’s Feminist Philosophy” in Louis CK and Philosophy

“You Couldn’t Handle Real Life: The Villains of Labyrinth and MirrorMask” in Jim Henson and Philosophy

Matthew T. Nowachek


**Greg Trotter**

**Awards, Achievements, Invitations, etc.**

**Phil Mack**
American Philosophical Association 2014 Prize in Latin American Thought (see above)

**Jennifer Marra**
Elected to the board as an officer of the Lighthearted Philosophers' Society

Serving as Job Market Coordinator/Media Coordinator for the Lighthearted Philosophers' Society

**Shaun Miller**
Will be serving on the University’s Honor Council this semester

**Catlyn Origitano**
Awarded a MU Center for Transnational Justice Graduate Student Research Grant to support her project on "Art during Genocide." She will travel to Prague in the spring to do some research for a paper that will be submitted for publication.

**Timothy Rothhaar**
Will be attending the Danish for Kierkegaard course this summer at the Hong Kierkegaard Library at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN.

**Greg Trotter**
Participated in the second annual Pittsburgh Summer Symposium in Contemporary Philosophy, an intensive, week-long summer school held at Duquesne University from August 4-8. The topic this year was "Formalism and the Real: Ontology Politics, and the Subject".
Featured Student: Daniel Adsett

Hometown: Keswick Ridge, New Brunswick, Canada
Years at Marquette: one a half
Philosophical Interests: Phenomenology, Medieval Philosophy
Your undergrad/MA Institution: Undergrad - St. and Thomas University, MA - Memorial University
If you weren't a philosopher, what profession do you see yourself in?: Probably an electrician or a computer scientist.
Favorite place to eat in Milwaukee: The Public Market
What activities do you do when you are not doing philosophy: I listen to a lot of music and I go to a lot of concerts. I also enjoy biking when it's not too cold, walking, going to the gym, talking about pathologies, and reading fiction.
Something you want to do before you die: I want to write and publish a +1000 page novel. A fact people might not know about you: I play the drums in an avant-garde band Semicolons.
A fact people might not know about you: I play the drums in an avant-garde band: Semicolons
If you could hold dinner party with any three people (living, dead, or fictional) who would you invite, what would you serve, and what would you talk about?: Tricky question. I think I'd invite Andrew van der Bijl, Jacques Derrida, and Guibert of Nogent. I don't think the dinner would go well but I'd serve lots of lasagna, baked potatoes, brown beans, and cottage cheese. We'd drink mango nectar - lots of it and nothing else. No water, no wine, nothing else. Just lots and lots of mango nectar. We'd talk about philosophy (of course), Milwaukee, changes since the twelfth century (for Guibert's sake because he'd understandably be confused by a number of things. Cars, for example.), and the future. We could also go for a walk near Lake Michigan or drive to West Allis.

Featured Faculty: Dr. Theresa Tobin

Hometown: Dallas, TX
Years at Marquette: 9 1/2
Philosophical Interests: Ethics and social philosophy with emphases on issues related to gender, sexuality and religion/culture, Feminist ethics and Epistemology, Violence studies.
Your undergrad/MA/PhD Institution: My BA is from Marquette; my MA and PhD are from University of Colorado, Boulder
If you weren't a philosopher, what profession do you see yourself in?: Hard to imagine... but likely something related to gender justice and religion.
Favorite place to eat in Milwaukee: Comet Cafe for Mac-N-Cheese
What activities do you do when you are not doing philosophy: When am I not doing philosophy! Traveling, time with loved ones, reading, time in nature.
Something you want to do before you die: Camp in the darkest place on earth.
A fact people might not know about you: I once had a student pilot license.
If you could hold dinner party with any three people (living, dead, or fictional) who would you invite, what would you serve, and what would you talk about?: My deceased grandmother and great aunt, so they could meet my daughters, Mave and Merielle.
Upcoming Events

The Aquinas Lecture
Richard Moran, Harvard University, "The Story of My Life: Narrative and Self Understanding"
February 22, 3:00 P.M. Raynor Library Beaumier Suites A, B, C,

Lecture
February 27, 3:30 P.M., Marquette Hall 105

Comedian Visiting Ethics Class
Comedian Shawn Shelnutt will visit Jenn Marra's PHIL 2310 class on April 29th to talk about ethics, comedy, love, and laughter - everyone is welcome to attend. 12-1250 or 1-150, Cudahy 131.

Colloquium Series
Richard Taylor, Marquette University, "Remarks on Intellectual Abstraction in Aristotle and the Medieval Traditions"
April 17, 3:30 P.M. Marquette Hall 105

Dehlia Hannah, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "The Atmosphere of the Atmosphere: A Phenomenological Investigation of Climate Modeling"
April 29, 3:30 P.M. Marquette Hall 105

Brown Bag Lunches
Brown Bag Lunches are intended to act as a forum for members of the faculty and graduate student body to present some ideas they are working on and to incite and further discussion within the Philosophy Department. These talks are meant to be casual and informal, and are an opportunity to get useful, constructive feedback from peers. Below is a list of upcoming presentations, they all take place from noon to 1pm on the dates below. We hope to see those who can make it.

Wednesday, March 18:
Jered Janes “An Husserlian Critique of McDowell's Conceptualism”

Wednesday, March 25:
Marisola Xhelili “Can We Hold Psychopaths Morally Responsible? Reassessing Agency Cultivation and Moral Participation”

Wednesday, April 08:
Dr. Ericka Tucker “The Hobbesian Roots of Spinozan Democracy”

Wednesday, April 22:
Dr. Yoon Choi “Conscience as Moral Self-Awareness in Kant's Late Ethical Writings”
Things to Keep in Mind

- The MU 2015 Graduate Student Humanities Conference – “The Unnatural: Exploring the Dynamics of Human Constructions” – is Saturday, April 25th.
- Jered Janes’s and Anne Samata’s terms as PGSA reps. end in May. An election to fill those two positions will occur in April. Please consider nominating someone, including yourself, to run!
- As you may know, Dr. Snow has donated a Keurig machine to the Department Conference Room. She has also recently supplied pods for the machine. Feel free to use them & thank Dr. Snow (once again!) for her generosity.
- On the first Thursday of each month, the Milwaukee Public Museum and the Milwaukee Art Museum offer free admission (the former only to Milwaukee county residents – you’ll need proof!).
- The Milwaukee Art Museum offers student memberships for $35.

- Marquette’s Art Museum, The Haggerty, is always free! One current exhibit – among others! – is “States of Uncertainty,” which “explores the concept of border as social and spatial construct and examines the complexities of establishing personal identity in areas of geopolitical instability.”
- Comedy Cafe always offers free admission on Thursdays for anyone with a college ID.
- Friend of the department Scott Long will be returning to the Comedy Cafe April 2-4
- The Mitchell Park Domes, which feature a tropical, a desert, and a floral show dome, are free on Mondays from 9am-12pm for Milwaukee county residents – you’ll need proof!
- The Urban Ecology center offers student memberships for $30. Memberships allow you to borrow canoes, kayaks, skis, garden tools, bikes, camping equipment, and much more.
- Opening Day for the Brewers is Mon., April 6th! Shuttles from Ms. Katie’s Diner will take you to and pick you up from Miller Park.