



MarymountManhattan

FIRST ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

Friday March 27

Breakfast (for all) /Introductions (10:00-10:15 a.m.)

Nugent 459

Dr. Carrie-Ann Biondi, Dr. Mark Conard, and Dr. Brad Herling

Session I: (10:15-11:15 a.m.) "Celebrating Merleau-Ponty"

Nugent 459

Jade Nakabayashi, "The Phenomenological Inquiry"

Genni Lee Hester, "Dasein's Subjective Body"

Session II: (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) "Celebrating Heidegger"

Main 606

Courtney Zehnder, "Phenomenology and Meaning: From Description to Interpretation"

Sean Forlenza, "Heidegger's Turn from Tradition"

Lunch (for presenters) (12:45-2:15 p.m.)

TBA (off campus, but nearby)

Session III: (2:30-4:00 p.m.) "From Metaphysics to Ethics"

Nugent 460

Marissa Coronado, "The Concept of Substance"

Christopher Spangler, "Brisconian Philosophy"

Zachary Ohsann, "Biological Control versus Insecticides: Promoting Homeostatic Value"

Closing Remarks (4:00 p.m.)

Nugent 460

Dr. Mark Conard



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SECOND ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

Friday April 9, Regina Peruggi Room, 10:00-3:30

Breakfast/Introductions (10:00-10:30 a.m.)

Dr. Carrie-Ann Biondi, Dr. Mark Conard, and Dr. Brad Herling

Session I: "Religious Studies: From Christianity to Buddhism"

(10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)

Hadley Cooney, "Augustine, Paul, and the Idea of Original Sin"

Brendan Mahar, "The Faithful Theodicy"

Genni Lee Hester, "Moderation in Modernity"

Lunch (12:15-1:30 p.m.)

Session II: "Kantian Kantroversies"

(1:30-3:15 p.m.)

Edward O'Neil, "Coherence Duty Ethics"

Christopher Spangler, "Hartshorne Dismantles Kant"

Angela Poh, "Disaggregating Terrorism: On Contemporary Just War Theory and Democracy"

Closing Remarks (3:15 p.m.)

Dr. Mark Conard



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THIRD ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

*****Friday March 25, Regina Peruggi Room, 1:00-5:30*****

Lunch/Introductions (1:00-1:30)

Dr. Betsy Barre, Dr. Carrie-Ann Biondi, Dr. Mark Conard (Chair), and Dr. Brad Herling

Panel: "Religion and Morality" (Dr. Barre, Moderator) 1:30-2:45pm

Brendan Mahar, "Morality and Religion"

Genni Lee Hester, "Correctly Understanding the Relationship between Religion and Morality"

Break (2:45-3:00)

Presentation (3:00-3:45)

Hadley Cooney, "Emptiness and the Buddhist Worldview"

Break (3:45-4:00)

Presentation (4:00-4:30)

Jenna Ventola, "Religious Visual Culture"

Break (4:30-4:45)

Presentation (4:45-5:15)

Marie Godeau, "Heidegger and the Problem of Interpretation in *Barton Fink*"

Closing Remarks (5:15)

Dr. Mark Conard



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FOURTH ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

*****Friday April 20, Regina Peruggi Room, 2:00-6:00 p.m.*****

Introductions/Welcome (2:00-2:10)

Dr. Betsy Barre, Dr. Carrie-Ann Biondi, Dr. Mark Conard (Chair), and Dr. Brad Herling

Presentation Session I: Making Moral Choices (2:10-3:10)

Matthew Corridoni, "Oh, What Fools These Muggles Be! Harry Potter and the Philosophy of Life, Death, and Dying"

Jenna Ventola, "The Moral Issue of Deception"

Break (3:10-3:15)

Panel Session I: Religion and Politics I (Dr. Barre, Moderator) (3:15-4:00)

Leanna Childers, "Reconfiguring Religion: If Jiminy Cricket Got a Bachelor's Degree"

Chelsea Hill, "Religion and Politics in Santorum's Criticism of Kennedy"

Break (4:00-4:05)

Presentation Session II: Philosophy of Religion (4:05-5:05)

Christian Kronsted, "Miracles"

Daniel Berardi, "Inductive Synonyms"

Break (5:05-5:10)

Panel Session II: Religion and Politics II (Dr. Barre, Moderator) (5:10-5:55)

Luis Diaz, "Mitt Romney and Secular America: The Role of the False Religion of Secularism in the Public Sphere"

Karen Franco, "*Faith in America*: Mitt Romney's Definition of Religion"

Closing Remarks (5:55)

Dr. Mark Conard



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FIFTH ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

*****Friday April 19, Regina Peruggi Room, 1:00-5:00 p.m.*****

Introductions/Welcome/Lunch (1:00-1:10)

Dr. Carrie-Ann Biondi, Dr. Mark Conard (Chair), and Dr. Brad Herling

Session I: The Long Arm of the Law (1:10-2:00)

Sofija Gligorov, "Employee Email Monitoring: Defending Employer's Privacy"

Peter Revello, "The Philosophy of Kings: Dworkinism"

Break (2:00-2:05)

Session II: Moral Standing (2:05-2:55)

Ashley Feith, "Beasts, Beings, and Speciesism"

Sara Reidy, "Our Most Precious Right and a Most Immoral Act: An Argument against the Death Penalty"

Break (2:55-3:00)

Session III: Religious Belief and Human Limitation (3:00-3:50)

Courtney Dromazos, "John Hick and Religious Pluralism"

Christian Kronsted, "How Philosophy Can Help Us Understand the Holocaust"

Break (3:50-3:55)

Session IV: Metaphysical Musings from Hogwarts (3:55-4:55)

Jenna Ventola, "Choices in *Harry Potter*: Was It Free Will, Determinism, or Compatibilism?"

Ariel Kline, "The Immortal Life and Ambition"

Closing Remarks (4:55)

Dr. Mark Conard



SIXTH ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

*****Friday April 4, Regina Peruggi Room, 2:00-6:00 p.m.*****

Introductions/Welcome (2:00-2:05)

Session I: Faith, Miracles, and Causation (2:05-3:05)

Monica Wiles, "The Possibility of Subjective Miracles"

Shay Oliver Pietrowicz, "An Exploration of the Role of Faith in Pure Land"

Nina Carter, "Pratitya Samutpada in Chinese Buddhism"

Break (3:05-3:10)

Session II: Persons vs. Things in Art, Medicine, and Religion (3:10-4:10)

Ariel Kline, "The Origin of the Work of Art Is Art: Addressing Meyer Schapiro's Criticism and Accounting for the Absence of Artistic Intent in Martin Heidegger's Theory"

Christian Kronsted, "HIV and Person-hood: Why We Cannot Define Persons through DNA and Animalism"

Maura Grady, "A Shameful Kali and the Problematic Treatment of Women in Hinduism"

Break (4:10-4:15)

Session III: We Mean Business (4:15-4:55)

Jenna Ventola, "Why Moral Dualism in Business Is Wrong"

Hannah Holden, "Businesses' Accountability to Owners and Stakeholders: Rejecting Sternberg's 'Owner Value Theory'"

Break (4:55-5:00)

Session IV: Pedagogical and Pop Culture Ponderings (5:00-6:00)

Courtney Dromazos, "Teaching Apprenticeship: Sample Syllabus for Introduction to Religion"

Dominic Siri, "The Commodification of Religion as a Teaching Tool in American Entertainment"

Tony Friedman, "Sword of Justice: An Ethical Analysis in Sword of the Stranger and the Validation of a Lone Warrior"



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SEVENTH ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

Friday April 17, Regina Peruggi Room, 2:00-5:15 p.m.

Introductions/Welcome (2:00-2:15)

Presentation 1 (2:15-2:45): Tony Friedman

"The Justification of Fatalities in Mobile Suit Gundam 00"

Break (2:45-2:50)

Presentation 2 (2:50-3:25): Alex Tavarez

"Tool-Being and the Gap: A Heideggerian Basis for Correlationism"

Break (3:25-3:30)

Presentation 3 (3:30-4:00): Sophia Gutchinov

"Dostoyevsky v. Augustine"

Break (4:00-4:05)

Presentation 4 (4:05-4:35): Jacqueline Manuel

"Candide's Invisible Gardener"

Break (4:35-4:40)

Presentation 5 (4:40-5:10): Shay Oliver Pietrowicz

"The Unknowable God: Anselm's Ontological Proof and the Mystery of God"

Wrap-Up (5:10-5:15)



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EIGHTH ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

*****Friday April 29, Regina Peruggi Room, 11:00 a.m.-1:15 p.m.*****

Introductions/Welcome (11:00-11:05)

Presentation/Discussion I: Ancient Philosophy (11:05-11:45)

Alex Tavarez *"Atomic Fusion: Reconciling the Milesians and Eleatics"*

Break (11:45-11:50)

Presentation/Discussion II: Modern Philosophy, Religion, and Literature (11:50-12:30)

Jessie Mileski *"Rebellion! The Brothers Karamazov"*

Break (12:30-12:35)

Presentation/Discussion III: Contemporary Philosophical Issues (12:35-1:15)

Jacqueline Noel Manuel *"Doing the Creep: Surveillance and Social Media"*

****Refreshments/lunch will be provided.****



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NINTH ANNUAL PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

*****Friday March 24, Commons West, 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.*****

(Refreshments served)

Welcome/Introduction (11:00-11:05)

Session I (11:05-11:40)

Amy Kamerzel, "Scientific Evidence for God's Existence"

Break (11:40-11:45)

Session II (11:45-12:20)

Francesca Fabiani, "The Uniformity of Morality and Confucianism"

Break (12:20-12:25)

Session III (12:25-1:00)

Alex Tavarez, "The Black Metal Scene and the Function of Extremism: The Enduring Role of the Absolute"

Break (1:00-1:05)

Session IV: PHIL/RS Faculty Keynote (1:05-1:25)

Carrie-Ann Biondi, "Legacy and Happiness in *Hamilton: An American Musical*"

Concluding Remarks (1:25-1:30)



10th Annual Philosophy and Religious Studies Undergraduate Conference

Saturday April 28, 2018 | 12:00-3:00pm

Marymount Manhattan College | 221 East 71st Street
Regina Peruggi Room
(Refreshments/lunch served)

Welcome/Introduction

Prof. Carrie-Ann Biondi, MMC

Session I: 12:05-12:30pm

“Feelings and *Phaedo*”

Troy Lingelbach, Marymount Manhattan College

Session II: 12:35-1:00

“The Ascetic Origins of Mahayana”

Katherine Griffin, Cornell University

Interactive Panel: Philosophy and Social Media: 1:05-1:30pm

MMC Philosophy Club

Session IV: 1:35-2:00pm

“The Normativity Problem and Defining Gender”

Weston Richey, New York University

Session V: 2:05-2:30pm

“Overturn of Orientalism: The Three-Self Church and the Persecution of the Chinese Christians”

Rebekah Kendall, Marymount Manhattan College

Session VI: 2:35-3:00pm

“The Moral Justification for Violent Disobedience”

Daniel Parks, Columbia University

Concluding Remarks

Prof. Brad Herling, MMC