



**Newsletter:
Department of
Philosophy
San Jose State
University
April, 2010**

Editor: Tom Leddy

**Our Philosophy
Department Web
Site Address:**
sjsu.edu/philosophy/

**MAKE A
FINANCIAL
CONTRIBUTION
TO PHILOSOPHY**
Contributions would be used to further faculty and student research projects including travel to conferences, visits to libraries, research assistantships, and purchase of books.

Donors should make their checks out to:

The Tower Foundation of SJSU with "Philosophy" in the memo position. (If "Philosophy" is not in the memo position the check will go to a "holding" place and never be processed.)

and mail them to:

Tower Foundation
Division of University
Advancement
One Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95192-0256

You may want to donate specifically to one of our awards funds: the Temple Prize, the Manor Prize, the Pinto Prize, or the Shapiro Prize. Please contact Prof. Manning for details. 924-4470 or Rita.manning@sjsu.edu

**How Useful is
Philosophy for a
Hard Scientist?**

Take a look at this letter to Professor Shaw from a former student.

I took your Philosophy of Science class in Fall 2008. It was an amazing experience. Now I am in a PhD program in Molecular Cell Biology at Univ. of Alabama at Birmingham. From time to time, I bump into situations where what I learned in your class about how a scientist thinks just keeps inspiring me. Now when I look back to all my courses I took at the undergrad level, I find that Philosophy of Science is the **ONLY INDISPENSABLE** course. I could take a few biology courses less or one chemistry course less, but not Philosophy of Science. Your teachings from the course are instrumental/fundamental in the practice of doing science.

Hieu Dinh Hoang
University of Alabama

Department Prizes

The Herman Shapiro Memorial Scholarship Award winner for Spring 2009 was **Chris Cloos**.

The Pinto Award prize-winner for Fall 2008 was **Laura Ochoa**.

The Manor Prize (for Outstanding Logic Student of the Year) went to **Noah Friedman-Biglin**.

The Temple Prize winning paper for Spring 2009 was written by **Santana Ellis**.

**10th Annual
Philosophy
Department
Conference
"Phenomenology"
May 1, Guadalupe
Room, Student Union,
San Jose State
Cost: Free**

8:35-9:00 Conversation and Coffee (Danishes and Muffins too)

9:00-9:40 Carlos Sanchez, Philosophy, SJSU
"Heidegger's Weak Eurocentrism."

9:40-10:20 Rick Tieszen, Philosophy, SJSU
"Phenomenology and the Philosophy of Time."

10:40-11:20 Peter Hadreas,
Philosophy, SJSU
"Husserlian Phenomenology
and the Dispelling of the
Myth of the Given."

11:20-12:00 Chanh Phan,
Humanities, SJSU "A
Heideggerian reading of the
Laoian phenomenology."

12:00-1:00 Lunch. Lunch
will be free and will be
provided in the conference
room. A vegetarian choice
will be available.

1:00-1:40 Tony Nguyen,
Philosophy, SJSU "Coraline:
A Fairy Tale of a Misfit who
Becomes Herself."

1:40-2:20 Anand Vaidya,
Philosophy, SJSU "On The
Possibility of Philosophical
Knowledge: Continental and
Analytic Approaches"

2:40-3:20 Anthony Korsund,
Philosophy Grad Student,
SJSU "Where the
Intentionalist and Anti-
Intentionalist Perspectives
Converge: in the Horizontal
Structures of Artist and
Audience."

3:20-4:00 Tom Leddy,
Philosophy, SJSU "A
Phenomenological Approach
to Aesthetic Experience."

The room only seats 40
people. So anyone who
arrives at a time when the
limit has been reached cannot
be admitted. You will need
to let Tom Leddy know you
will be eating lunch so that
we can know how many will
be provided. Contact:
Tle403@aol.com Vegetarian
lunches will be available.

Students, alumni, and other
friends of philosophy are

very much welcome. This
annual conference was
developed to encourage
students, alumni, and faculty
to get together in a one-day
event to talk philosophy.

This event is wheelchair
accessible. For other
accommodations, such as
assistance with
vision or hearing, please call
the Philosophy Department at
924-4468 or
TLE403@aol.com.
Please let Prof. Leddy know
ASAP if a sign-language
interpreter is needed.

Selected Courses Spring 2009 (non G.E. upper-division and graduate courses)

**107 Philosophy and
Literature – Lott**
**109 Philosophy of
Religion – Giddings**
**111 Medical Ethics –
Manning**
**121 Philosophy and
Feminism – Brown**
**132 Ethical Theory –
Vaidya**
**155 Philosophy of Law
– Shaw**
**157 Intermediate Logic
– Tieszen**
**160 Philosophy of
Science – Stemwedel**
**190 Seminar on
Foucault - Williamson**
**290 Ancient
Hellenistic Philosophy
– Leddy**
**291 Heidegger's Early
Philosophy - Sanchez**

The 2010 SJSU Center for Comparative Philosophy Workshop/Confere nce Series Symposium Constructive Engagement of Analytic and Continental Approaches in Philosophy

took place
in the Engineering Building
on April 10. Papers included
Bo Mou, "Symposium
Theme Introduction: When
Quine/Lewis, Heidegger, and
Lao Zi Have a Get-together
on Being....," Paul
Livingston (University of
New Mexico) "The Origin of
Language and the Aporia of
Sense: Quine and
Heidegger,"
Richard Tieszen, "The Place
of Science in Continental and
Analytic Philosophy,"
Dagfinn Føllesdal (Stanford
University) "Quine and
Husserl," John Searle
(University of California at
Berkeley) "The
Background," Hubert
Dreyfus (University of
California at Berkeley)
"McDowell vs Merleau-
Ponty: The Pseudo-Problem
of Relating Mind and
World," Peter Hadreas "A
Constructive Engagement
between Phenomenology and
Cognitive Science," and
Chad Kidd (University of
California at Irvine)
"Mathematizing
Phenomenology: Ontological
and Methodological
Mathematization."

The Francis T. Villemain Lecture on Feb. 14, was Professor Lawrence Quill, Associate Professor of Politics at San José State University. He is the author of *Liberty after Liberalism* (London, Macmillan, 2006) and *Civil Disobedience: (Un)Common Sense in Mass Democracies* (London, Macmillan, 2009).

Student NEWS

Michael Pankrast writes: “I turned in an application to teach at Humboldt State University this last Fall, and was rejected for that position. However, a teacher up there (Alan Fletcher), just retired, opening up a bunch of classes. I got a surprise phone call from Professor Michael Goodman last Friday asking me to teach one (and possibly up to three) logic courses, and a course on Philosophy of Sex and Love. This opportunity is not only ideal for the opportunity to teach, but Humboldt is also one of my favorite places in the world to live. So, I'm very excited to say that I will be a lecturer at Humboldt State starting this coming Fall.”

Matt DellaBetta won the Roscoe Pound Mock trial competition. Congratulations Matt!. From their web site we learn that “The Pound Civil Justice Institute is a national legal “think tank” created by pioneering members of the trial bar and dedicated to ensuring access to justice for ordinary citizens. Through its activities, the Institute works

to give lawyers, judges, legal educators and the public a balanced view of the issues affecting the U.S. civil justice system. The Institute was established in 1956 as the Roscoe Pound–American Trial Lawyers Foundation by a group of lawyers to honor and build upon the work of Roscoe Pound (1870–1964). Pound served as Dean of the Harvard Law School from 1916 to 1936, and is acknowledged as the founder of sociological jurisprudence—an interdisciplinary approach to legal concepts in which the law is recognized as a dynamic system that is influenced by social conditions and that, in turn, influences society as a whole.”

Albert Filice had an article published in *Philosophy Now* issue 77 (Feb/Mar 2010). “Film: Solaris.” 46-48. This is the first time I think any of our students has published in this very popular philosophy magazine. Albert connects the 2002 film *Solaris* directed by *Steven Soderbergh* to Hegel’s idea from his *Phenomenology of Spirit* that I am nothing outside of my social interactions.

Sakiko Adachi, who is in real estate, has a web site at <http://adachihome.com/en/> She writes there: “After experiencing my children’s college admission process, I began collaborating with an educational counselor to help Japanese people living in the US understand what it means to go to college in the US. We hold seminars that help explain the college admission

process, and free educational advising sessions to help students individually. Many parents and students have found these seminars and advising sessions to be extremely helpful. I plan to continue to actively work to improve the Japanese community in the Silicon Valley.

Sylvia Rodezno is a Research Analyst at SRI. International and has a web page at policyweb.sri.com/cep/people There we learn that she “is involved in a number of projects including Teaching and California’s Future, the Study of Teacher Induction in the Midwest, and the Evaluation Study of California’s District Intervention and Regional Capacity Building Project. For these studies, her work includes collecting and analyzing original data around high school reform, teacher development, and district leadership. Prior to joining SRI, she worked as a research associate at Stanford University, where she collected and analyzed data looking at the effects of shame on different cultures. During college, she worked with underrepresented youth in the San Jose community as a therapeutic behavioral specialist. She held a position with AmeriCorps as a housing specialist at Sacred Heart Community Service Center where she worked to provide emergency financial assistance to help families maintain their permanent housing.”

Christian Wellisch is both a practicing lawyer and a martial arts expert. There is information about him at mixedmartialarts.com. An American Kickboxing Academy member, Christian is a professional MMA fighter.

Carolyn Robbins gave a paper at the Society for Phenomenology and the Human Sciences Annual Conference, October 29-31, 2009 in Arlington, Virginia "On Laws and Ladies: The Domestic Angel in Hegel and Nietzsche." Carolyn will be attending graduate school in the Fall.

Richard Friedrich gave a paper at the same conference as Carolyn: "Formulae-world, Life-world, and Metaphysics: Husserl's Crisis and its Contemporary Relevance."

Philosophy Department in the News

Noam Cook was quoted at length in an article "Ease of posting videos to Internet raises privacy issues," by Matt Santolla on March 3, in the Spartan Daily. Prof. Cook is quoted as saying that companies like YouTube should recognize privacy as a moral concern.

Plagiarism. An article, "SJSU clamps down on plagiarism" by Shiva Zahirfar, Feb. 9, 2010, in the Spartan Daily, featured an

Introduction to Philosophy class where plagiarism rules were vigorously enforced.

Crystal Michallet-Romero published a gothic novel, *The Veil of Sorrow*, P.D. Publishing, Clayton NC, 2009. Although not a philosophy major Crystal has taken several philosophy classes.

FACULTY NEWS

Peter Hadreas

Peter Hadreas performed his Liszt/Schopenhauer program for the S. F. Liszt Society this past October. This involved playing Liszt's La Campanella before people expert in the piano repertory of Liszt. "It was a one-of-a-kind experience," he says. "Misha Dichter has nothing to worry about. But, I think the Schopenhauer connections were worth it. Yet there's something stomach-turning about a paunchy sexagenarian receiving a bouquet of flowers."

He's hoping to produce two books within the next year or two. One is co-authored with Lawrence Quill, SJSU Political Science, and provisionally titled "The Future of Greed." He has been working on the second book for several years. It applies concepts of projective geometry to issues in the philosophy of mind.

His paper "Husserlian Self-Awareness and SSRIs" is scheduled for the next issue of *Philosophy, Psychiatry*

and Psychology. A second paper "Political Analogues to the Aristotelian Trichotomy of Shamefulness, Shamelessness and Noble Shame" was accepted for the volume, *Hellenic Concepts of Political Friendship and Enmity*.

Tom Leddy published "Creative Interpretation of Literary Texts," in *The Idea of Creativity* ed. Michael Krausz (Brill Academic Publishers, 2009) 293-311. He published one review "Yuriko Saito. *Everyday Aesthetics*, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*." Feb 14, 2009 <http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=15188>. and gave two papers: "Yuriko Saito's Aesthetics of Everyday Life. Author Meets Critics," American Society for Aesthetics, Denver, Oct. 2009. "Aesthetic Experience as Experience of Aura," American Society for Aesthetics, Asilomar, April 16, 2009. Tom continues to work on his book *The Extraordinary in the Ordinary: The Aesthetics of Everyday Life*. He also continues to be active in the Board of Trustees of the Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association.

Bo Mou

(1) Publications in 2009. There are three books formally labeled '2009' as publication year: two authored books, *Substantive Perspectivism* ("Synthese Library" monograph series, vol. 344), and *Chinese Philosophy A-Z* (Edinburgh University Press), and one edited volume, *History of Chinese Philosophy*

(Routledge, <http://>), although the last one already came out in late 2008. It just happens that the three were published roughly in the same year; actually each of them results from multiple-year efforts, especially the first one (over a decade of work). [The electronic version of the monograph is available at <http://www.springerlink.com/content/978-90-481-2622-4>]

(2) Service to the profession.

<1> One major project carried out in 2009 is formally establishing a peer-reviewed, open-access international journal: *Comparative Philosophy: An International Journal of Constructive Engagement of Distinct Approaches toward World Philosophy, Comparative Philosophy*, which is edited by its international Editorial Board and published on the World Wide Web jointly by the Center for Comparative Philosophy and the University Library at San Jose State University. (For its details, see the journal website: <http://www.comparativephilosophy.org>)

<2> I've been invited to be a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *History and Philosophy of Logic* (<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/thpl>).

Carlos Sanchez

Carlos had a busy 2009. He, together with his wife, Alicia, bought a house and had a baby—this makes two! Carlos was also the University's recipient of the 2009 Sybil Weir/John Galm Endowment Award from the Office of Faculty of Affairs, an award intended to enhance

the careers of new faculty members. He proposed to work on Mexican feminist philosophies in the 20th century—the work is coming along. This past year two of Carlos's papers were accepted for inclusion in forthcoming anthologies, a paper on Edmund Husserl's phenomenology (Phenomenology, Archaeology, Ethics: Current Investigations of Husserl's Corpus, Continuum Press) and a paper on Latin American pragmatism (Pragmatism in the Hispanic World, Fordham University Press). While he didn't present any papers in 2009, he's been invited to deliver papers at 4 conferences this year: he has already presented at the First Annual Conference on Pragmatism in the Hispanic/Latino World at Texas A&M, and will present at the Pacific Division meeting of the APA on Latin American Existentialism, the Annual Conference of Philosophy in the Contemporary World at Oregon State University, where he's to speak on Hispanic philosophy in the US, and, finally, the Eastern Division meeting of the APA, where he's been asked to present on Mexican pragmatism. He continues to sit on the Board of Directors for the Centers for Employment Training and has been elected to serve a 3 years term on the American Philosophical Association's "Committee on Hispanics."

Bill Shaw published *Marxism, Business Ethics, and Corporate Responsibility*, *Journal of Business Ethics*,

vol. 84, no. 4, pp. 565-576, February 2009.

Janet Stemwedel

You can learn a lot about Janet, ethics, science, teaching and a number of other things at her constantly updated blog *Adventures in Ethics and Science* <http://scienceblogs.com/ethicsandscience/>

Rick Tieszen

I was invited to give a series of three lectures on Gödel on a month-long appointment last January as Directeur d'étude invité at the Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS) in Paris. While in Paris I was also invited to lecture in the Ecole normale supérieure (ENS) Philosophy Department/Husserl Archive, where I spoke on "Gödel on Hilbert, Carnap, and Husserl"; in the Ecole normale supérieure (ENS) Séminaire de philosophie et mathématiques, where the talk was on "Elements of Gödel's Turn to Husserlian Transcendental Phenomenology"; and in the Séminaire philosophie des mathématiques, Recherches Epistémologiques et Historiques sur les Sciences Exact et les Institutions Scientifiques (REHSEIS/CNRS) Paris VII, on "Intentionality, Intuition, and Proof in Mathematics". In April I gave a talk on Gödel at a special logic lecture at Stanford University, and in November I was invited to present two lectures in Göttingen, one at the Lichtenberg-Kolleg and the other at the symposium

Edmund Husserl 1859-2009, Georg August Universität. Both of the lectures in Göttingen were also on Gödel and Husserl. The material at all of these lectures was drawn from various sections of my recently completed book manuscript *After Gödel: Platonism and Reason in Mathematics and Logic*.

It was my first visit to Göttingen and it was fun to see the houses and buildings where Hilbert, Husserl, Frege, Riemann, Weyl, and many other famous scholars lived.

In July I traveled to Washington D.C. to sit on a panel to review applications for National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowships in philosophy. That turned out to require a lot of work.

Several papers are to be published soon: "Mathematical Problem Solving and Ontology: An Exercise", forthcoming in *Axiomathes*; "Mathematical Realism and Transcendental Phenomenological Idealism", forthcoming in L. Haaparanta and M. Hartimo (eds.), *Phenomenology and Mathematics*, Springer; and "Intentionality, Intuition, and Proof in Mathematics", forthcoming in G. Sommaruga (ed.), *Foundations of Mathematics*, Springer. A book review is also forthcoming in *Philosophia Mathematica*: "Edmund Husserl: Introduction to Logic and Theory of Knowledge, Lectures 1906/07".

I am enjoying my classes this term, especially my graduate seminar "Transcendental Philosophy: Kant and Husserl"

Anand Vaidya writes that since the last newsletter he gave two talks, one at St. Andrews University, Scotland, and one at the University of Barcelona, both on epistemology. Anand also gave a paper at our Comparative Philosophy Conference.

Dan Williamson

writes "My article on Foucault, "An American Foucault" appeared in the April 2009 issue of *History of Philosophy Quarterly*—just after the last newsletter. I was happy to see that in print.

I look forward to teaching a seminar (190) on Foucault in Fall 2010. It will emphasize issues surrounding the idea of a subject, using some of the usual texts but also employing the recently published lectures, *The Hermeneutics of the Subject*. (I used this text extensively in the article mentioned above.) I want to also take a look at Foucault's work on governmentality, using more of his recently published lectures, *Security, Territory, Population* and *The Birth of Biopolitics*. Yet another set of lectures, *The Government of Self and Others*, is forthcoming this May, so I will be looking at that over the Summer.

The publication of Foucault's lectures have done much to expand on what Foucault was thinking that didn't all necessarily find its way into the major published works. So, it is a real boon for Foucault scholarship to see these lectures available. And it helps to expand just what Foucault was about, in some very positive ways.

It is certainly keeping me busy. All of it intersects with several running projects that include a longer monograph on subjects and ethics in Foucault, that itself is a continuation of larger philosophical concerns about groups and social organizations.

Emeritus Faculty

Philip Davis published a book *The Scalping of the Great Sioux Nation: A Review of My Life on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Reservations*. (Maryland: Hamilton Books, 2010).

Amnon Goldworth

In addition to giving a paper in our colloquium series, Amnon published "Response to 'Deception and the principle of double effect' *Cambridge Quarterly*. *Healthcare Ethics* 2008 Fall 17 (4) 471-2.

Alumni News

The editor is eager to publish materials about alumni: please send to tle403@aol.com or Tom Leddy, Department of Philosophy, 1 Washington Square, San Jose State University, San Jose, 95192 -0096

Mark Monroe is a labor relations specialist for the state of Delaware and an active member of the Human Rights commission of the city of Dover. One of the topics

they are currently debating is an apology for slavery.

Krupa Patel is currently at University of New Mexico in the graduate program in Philosophy. Her interests are Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Science, Phenomenology, and Plato.

Phil Williamson is at University of New Mexico with interests in History of Philosophy, Phenomenology of the social world, Husserl and Heidegger.

Donald Ciraulo. "Mr. C" has taught at West Valley for over twenty years. In 1995, he received a full-time appointment in Philosophy. He was an attendee at the Comparative Philosophy conference, along with Barbara Upton, who also teaches at West Valley. Nice to see you both!

Noah Friedman-Biglin is now studying for a PhD at University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

Roger Hall "joined the West Valley College Philosophy faculty in 2000. He teaches Logic, Critical Thinking and Introduction to Philosophy." In addition to having received an M.A. from us he did three years of post graduate work in philosophy at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Mr. Hall has worked as both a physicist at General Electric's nuclear reactor facilities and a technical

writer at the Regis McKenna Company."

Laura M. Purdy received her MA in 1971. She got a PhD from Pittsburgh in 1974. She teaches at Wells College and specializes in Ethics, Applied Ethics, Bioethics, Feminism, Education, and Family Issues. She co-authored a book *Bioethics, Justice and Health Care* in 2000 from Wadsworth.

David L. Nelson, M.D. received his MA in Philosophy in 1975 and practices in Marin County. He specializes in hand surgery.

Randy Siever who has a BA from SJSU "served twenty years on the Young Life staff and nine years as Pastor of Outreach at Sparks Christian Fellowship near Reno, Nevada...[He has] an M.A. from Fuller Seminary. He has been director of Doable Evangelism since 2007.

William E. Tinsley who is now retired from Foothill College as Professor of Philosophy and History lists Philosophy as one of his BA majors, graduating in 1953. He still teaches there part-time. He says on his Foothill website that "Philosophy should aid us in understanding the human condition and it should help us to make our world a better place from an ecological, moral, economic, cultural and political perspective. To be vital, philosophy must speak

to the quality of life on this planet."

Brian Prosser is a grad student in Philosophy at UCSC. His interests are 19th & 20th C. Continental Philosophy, Kierkegaard, Levinas, Phenomenology of Morals, Philosophy of Technology.

Sandra Dreisbach is a grad student at UCSC. Her interests are Ethics, Ontology, and Philosophy of Technology.

Evan Lam is a grad student at UCSC. His interests are Contemporary European Philosophy, Political and Social Philosophy, etc.

Matthew Frise is a grad student at UCSC. His interests are Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion, Ancient Greek Philosophy, Philosophy of Science

Sara Rettus is a grad student at UCSC. She was one of the attendees at the Comparative Philosophy Conference: nice to see you Sara.

Jeffrey Young who got a BA from us teaches Psychology at North Central University, AZ. His Psychology PhD was in Social/Environmental Psychology, Claremont Graduate School.

Gary Rose, a practicing lawyer in Los Gatos, got his BA in Philosophy in 1973.

Scott Stroud is Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track), University of Texas at Austin, Department of Communication Studies, since Fall 2009. He published "Argument in Ancient India: The Case of Śankara's Advaita Vedanta," *Ancient Non-Greek Rhetorics*, Carol S. Lipson & Roberta A. Binkley (eds.), Parlor Press, 2009, 240-264.

William Cornwell, B.A. 1990, is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Salem State College. His areas of specialization are epistemology and philosophy of mind. He has forthcoming "Human Nature Unbound: Why Becoming Cyborgs and Taking Drugs Could Make Us More Human." In *Values & Technology, Religion & Public Life* vol. 37, ed. Gabriel Ricci (Piscataway, NJ: Transaction, 2010).

Karl Fotovat is at the New School for General

Studies in New York. He now has an MA in Philosophy and Psychoanalytic Studies, The New School for Social Research. This year he is a teaching fellow, The New School for General Studies and is a member of editorial staff, *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal*.

Colin Caret writes I've been at UConn the past 5 years working with JC Beall as my advisor. I completed my M.A. in 2006 and just defended my dissertation last month. My dissertation is in philosophical logic and metaphysics. The title is "Interpreting Partitioned Frame Semantics" and it deals with informal philosophical motives for thinking seriously about what Kripke called non-normal worlds semantics, which have interesting applications in modal logic and relevant logic. I have also just begun a 3 year Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Arche

Research Centre at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. I will be working with Stephen Read on the AHRC funded Foundations of Logical Consequence project).

Nick Rotsko is President of the UT Law Federalist Society at UT Austin and is Book Review editor of Texas Review of Law and Politics.

Dirk Bruins is now a registered nurse in Palo Alto. Lisa Bernasconi says he still gets together with Prof. Joe Waterhouse (emeritus).

Christopher Cloos has four philosophical papers listed in epistemology and meta-ethics at philosophy: philpapers.org. He also has a philosophy blog at <http://christophercloos.com/>



San José State
UNIVERSITY
Department of Philosophy
1 Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95192-0096