



Society for Social and Political Philosophy
Historical, Continental and Feminist Perspectives

NEWSLETTER 2004/2 (OCTOBER)

This NEWSLETTER covers the following:

- 1) **Information on the 2004 annual business meeting at SPEP, in Memphis, Tennessee (October 28, 2004, 11 am -12:30 pm), including the agenda of the meeting**
- 2) **Information on the 2005 CFPS**
- 3) **Update on the “Outsources” book series**
- 4) **Update on the ISP guest issue**
- 5) **Proposed “By-Laws”**
- 6) **Membership Dues**
- 7) **Members’ Corner and Other Announcements.**

1) 2004 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AT SPEP:

The annual business meeting will take place on Thursday October 28, 2004, from 11 am to 12:30 pm., at the Memphis Marriott Downtown Hotel, in the Chattanooga Room. The business meeting could take place right after our panel of three papers (from 9 to 10:45 am), due to the last-minute cancellation of the “conversation with Spivak” panel. As you will notice, we are not the only ones that had to cancel a panel: due to the passing away of Jacques Derrida other speakers at the SPEP conference also cancelled (including Jean-Luc Nancy). Executive Board elections will be held at the meeting and ballots will be available on-site, but members will also receive proxy ballots by e-mail. Those members who will not be able to make it to Memphis should fill out their ballots and e-mail them back to me by October 26, 2004 so that they can be counted along with the on-site ballots. Besides the vote for executive officers, the ballot covers many votes and input from the membership, including a vote on the society’s proposed by-laws (included in this newsletter).

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING 2004 AGENDA

- 1- Approval of Minutes of 2003 Business Meeting (copies included in the 2004/1-April newsletter and available on the website)
- 2- Introduction and discussion of items put to vote in the following order:
 - a- Vote on the Proposed By-Laws of the Society (copies will be distributed at the beginning of the meeting, and would have been included in the 2004/2 –October newsletter)
 - b- Executive Board Members (January 2005 – December 2006): Executive board members are responsible for running the society. Once elected, they will choose one of them to become the “Secretary-General” of the society. The constitution describes the role of executive officers in Article III.
 - c- Nominations for one at-large position on the editorial/advisory board of the *Out Sources* book series. Nominations and self-nominations are welcome from members who have some experience in the academic community and are well qualified to offer advice on scholarly publications. The at-large member representing the society will try, through her/his academic and scholarly involvement, to further the aims of the society.
 - d- Input from members about where to hold supplementary regular panels in the future.
 - e- Input from members on what themes or topics should the 2006 CFPS cover.
 - f- Input from members on possible invitees to our “discussion with” panels.
 - g- Other items and suggestions: members’ activities, projects, and concerns (items that are not constitution- or policy-related) could be introduced by members from the floor to be added to the vote

as write-in items.

- 3- Voting: ballots will be provided (for members present; proxy votes officially communicated to the e-board will be accounted for in the final results).
- 4- Reports from Executive Board members to the membership (Publications; Conferences and Meetings; Web page; Membership and Budget).
- 5- Next Annual Business Meeting; Issues pertaining to 2005 meetings.
- 6- Vote results announced.
- 7- Membership concerns, recommendations to the executive board, and other items.

Meeting adjourned

You are cordially invited to attend the *SSPP panel at the 2004 meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP) on October 28, 2004, in Memphis, Tennessee*. All panels will take place at the Memphis Marriott Downtown Hotel, located at 250 North Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38103. Information on the SPEP meeting, travel, and accommodations, can be found on the SPEP website (www.spep.org):

SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: HISTORICAL,
CONTINENTAL AND FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES (SSPP)

Room: Chattanooga **Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

Moderator: Piya Pangsapa (University at Buffalo)

“How Errors in Theories of Commensurability Lead to Universal Commodification of Law,” Nick Smith (University of New Hampshire)

“Can Alain Badiou’s Account of Time Account for Political Events?,” Antonio Calcagno (University of Guelph, Canada)

“Levinasian Ethics and Feminist Ethics of Care,” Chloe Taylor Merleau (University of Toronto, Canada)

10:45-11:00 a.m. Break

Society Business Meeting

Room: Chattanooga

Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

2) INFORMATION ON THE 2005 CFPS

The calls for papers for our 2005 meetings with SPEP and the APA-Eastern have been posted at the society’s web site. Please help us disseminate the CFPs as widely as possible. Here are the themes and deadlines, for your information.

SPEP (Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy)

We are seeking papers that address issues pertaining to:

1) **WORK:** Papers addressing work in all of its aspects: economic, political, ontological, and cultural. Topics might include: paid and unpaid work, mental and manual labor, “immaterial” and “affective” labor, work and gender, work and race, work and domesticity, the ethics of work and productivity, labor movements, “global supply chains,” child labor, sex workers and international sex trafficking, alienation, living wage movements, worker rights in the developing world, the WTO, bi-lateral trade agreements, etc.

2) **LEISURE:** Papers addressing aspects of leisure activities, including: consumer culture, conspicuous consumption, the tourist industry – types of tourism (eco-, sex-, resort-), entertainment, cultural capital, class and leisure, gender and leisure, race and leisure, leisure in the non-west, the history of leisure, leisure time, philosophy as a leisure activity.

Complete papers of 3000-5000 words (that can be presented in 20-30 minutes) should be submitted for consideration for the 2005 meeting (deadline: March 1, 2005). The meeting will be scheduled for late October 2005, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Authors should include their name(s) and contact information on the cover page **ONLY**. Papers should be emailed to papers@sspp.us.

APA (American Philosophical Association)

We are seeking papers that address issues pertaining to:

1) WAR: Paper addressing the rhetorics and realities of war, including: wars on poverty, drugs, terror, etc., current conflicts (Sudan, Iraq, Congo, etc.), pre-emptive war, the justifying of war, civilians and war, depleted uranium munitions, the selling of war, war and empire, “war by other means”, proxy wars, resources wars, war and nationalism, war and genocide.

2) PEACE: Papers addressing the politics and culture of peace, including: human rights, peace movements, perpetual peace, stateless peoples, minority rights, internal conflicts, the UN, the international war court, resource distribution, truth and reconciliation committees.

Complete papers of 3000-5000 words (that can be presented in 20-30 minutes) should be submitted for consideration for the 2005 meeting (deadline: March 1, 2005). The meeting will be scheduled for late December 2005 in New York City. Authors should include their name(s) and contact information on the cover page ONLY. Papers should be emailed to papers@sspp.us.

3) UPDATE ON THE “OUTSOURCES” BOOK SERIES

Steven DeCaroli and Jason Read are the managing editors of a new Series that SSPP actively supports. Here are the relevant information:

Series Title: Out Sources: Philosophy, Culture, Politics

Publisher: Lexington Books / Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group

Editors: Steven DeCaroli & Jason Read

Advisory Board: Michael Hardt, Charles Mills, Enrique Dussel, Elizabeth Grosz, and Harry Harootunian

Description: It is the founding belief of Out Sources that the existing divisions and hierarchies governing philosophical discussion ought to be called into question, and that there is a pressing need for the publication of more texts that take up the challenge of broadening the content of what is considered philosophically legitimate. Out Sources is dedicated to publishing texts that demonstrate an awareness of the global character of philosophical debate-recognizing both that the western canon continues to be put to work outside the west and in distinctly non-canonical ways, and that there exist equally instructive, though currently less dominant, non-western traditions that deserve wider distribution, and ultimately greater influence, in the English-speaking world. Moreover, we recognize that these texts often demand that the nature of philosophy itself be called into question. The editors encourage works that envision a heteronymous philosophy, a philosophy that engages the intersection between philosophical texts and other disciplines not from a position of epistemic authority (as in the various philosophies of science, social science, history, etc.), but rather views the intersection between philosophy and other disciplines as an encounter in which both the object and the mode of inquiry are transformed

4) UPDATE ON THE ISP GUEST ISSUE

The reason we haven't contacted anyone who submitted an article for the *International Studies in Philosophy* (ISP) “guest” issue is that we are still waiting for the assessment and confirmation from ISP editors. We already know that we submitted more articles than one journal issue can accommodate but we have to wait to see what will make it into this issue (Fall or Spring 2005) and what will not (i.e., what will be considered for possible publication by ISP editors). As soon as ISP editors will contact us with a preliminary assessment, we will write to all individual submitters and confirm whether their article is under review or not. Since too many excellent articles were submitted that cannot be accommodated in this issue, we will also inform some submitters that we would like to consider their articles (or revised versions) for future journal issues (ISP, if our cooperative relation continues, hopefully; or other possible journals) but that

does not obligate anyone not to send the paper elsewhere. Sorry we do not have any news at this time, but ISP editors are overwhelmed with other issues and they are concerned, as they should be, with the best quality possible of each one of their issues.

5) PROPOSED “BY-LAWS”

To Be Discussed and Possibly Ratified by the Membership at the Society’s 2004 Annual Business Meeting At the SPEP meeting in Memphis, Tennessee [October 28, 2004]

I - Committees

A- Governance and Committees:

The Executive Board of the Society is the body that administers the society, as outlined in Article III of the constitution, and is solely responsible for the governance of the society. In order to fulfill some its own responsibilities as outlined in Article III.3 of the constitution, the Executive Board can form “committees” that will handle delegated responsibilities to be outlined in the society’s by-laws.

B- Committees: Formation and Structure

The Executive Board will nominate two present or previous Executive Board members for a term of two years as committee “directors” (or “co-directors”). Other committee “members” could be nominated by the Executive Board, or appointed by the directors, to serve for a two-year term. The membership confirms the appointment of co-directors at the society’s annual meeting. The procedure of confirmation entails discussion, expression of concerns, questions related to confirming or not confirming an individual committee chair, and concludes with a vote of yes or no for confirmation of individual nominees for committee chairs. Committees should be limited to up to 8 members, including at least two present or previous Executive Board members who are appointed as directors of the committee and could run the committee all by themselves. Two committees were recognized by the Executive Board of 2003-2004 as instrumental to the governance of the society: “Publications” and “Conferences.” Other committees may be formed in the future and their names and descriptions should be added on the by-laws and voted upon by members after discussion. All committees operate under the oversight and report to the elected Executive Board of the society—which has the final authority on implementing decisions, or approving practices or recommendations of the committees. The committees report to the Executive Board and consult with them on major decisions and those decisions beyond the purview of what is assigned to them by members—and indicated in the by-laws. Directors of the committee also report to members at the annual business meetings. Members of the committees will provide counsel, advice, and assistance in the functioning of each committee, but final decisions of the committee are those taken through the consensus of the two elected directors. Decisions of the committee are implemented directly if they fall under the purview of the committee as described below, and a report to the Executive Board in a timely manner is sufficient overview. However, any decisions that are not directly related to the described responsibilities and tasks need to receive prior approval from the Executive Board before implementation.

C- Committees: Description and Purview

1) Committee on Publications: responsible for the issuing of the Call for Papers (CFP) for all the “regular meetings” of the society (currently APA and SPEP), and in conjunction with the committee’s plans for publications. The committee also oversees the society’s publications (books, book series, and journals), by collaborating with the managing editors of any such publications, and forming the skeleton of the editorial control over all society-related publications.

- A) Call for Papers (CFP): The committee drafts the “Call for papers” for the society’s regular meetings, following its own plan of publications and the input of the membership, submits the draft to the Executive Board for review, and coordinates the dissemination of the approved CFPs.
- B) Books and Book Series: While the committee will coordinate and supervise the publication of books (including edited volumes of essays or papers written by members) or book series reflective of the interests of the membership at large or related to the overall aims and goals of the society, the committee cannot enter into a contract for a book publication or a book series editorship on

behalf of the society. Only individual members of the committee or individual members of the society can enter into a binding contract with publishers. The society can only support, academically or financially; endorse the content and/or the writers; and/or disseminate and encourage its members to contribute to and/or purchase a book publication. The committee can nominate one or more society members to be managing editor(s) of edited books, or it can nominate one or more individual member(s) to be elected or appointed as at-large editorial board member(s). The committee cannot have control of a book series but can support, endorse, disseminate or encourage contributions or purchases of a book series. At-large members representing the society on the editorial board of a book series will act in their professional capacity as scholars and will try, through their academic and scholarly involvement, to further the aims of the society.

- C) Journals: If the membership approves a long-term agreement to publish selected papers in a journal issue, the society's Executive Officers can represent the society at large and, following the constitutional procedures to acquire the approval of the membership, sign a binding contract in the name of the society that alone incurs the financial and moral obligation to abide by the aforementioned contract. If a contract is signed between the society and the editors of a journal, the publications committee will appoint one or more of its members to act in an editorial and/or advisory function and liaison to the journal editors.

2) Committee on Conferences: responsible for 1) the coordination of all the regular meetings of the society (once the CFP has been written and disseminated) and 2) for exploring, arranging, and setting up all the specially planned meetings or conferences of the society. The Committee will submit its proposed special meetings plans to the Executive Board, and will need approval for every conference/meeting set up in the name of the society.

- 1) Regular Meetings: The committee will receive all papers and submissions; will collect them, inspect them, and blindly distribute those conforming to the CFP and exhibiting high standards of scholarship and research (established within and across the humanities and the social sciences) to members of the Executive Board and/or outside readers; will receive and tabulate decisions of the Executive Board members and/or outside readers; will submit the results and recommendations to the Executive Board and the Secretary-General. Once the Executive Board approves the selection of papers as proposed by the committee directors, the committee will inform submitters and will send out acceptance and rejection letters, whereby acceptance letters request return notification of ability and willingness to present from speakers before confirming participation and submitting all confirmed panel(s) to the Secretary-General to officially communicate to the APA or SPEP (or future partner organizations where the society will hold regular meetings).
- 2) Special Planned Meetings: The committee explores, arranges, develops and finalizes special planned meetings by the society, whether these meetings will be held nationally or internationally, as long as they have not become regular meeting (i.e. annual meetings) with a regular CFP issued for it by the publications committee. Every meeting could have a different format, and it will be up to the directors of the committees, with the advice and assistance of any members, to write up special CFP or merely select panelists, in consultation with outside experts, when necessary. The committee would submit all papers presented at these special meetings to the publications committee to consider for publications. The Executive Board need to be informed of these planned panels and will give the final approval before confirming panels, conferences, and sending out acceptance and rejection letters.
- 3) Special Format Meetings: Some regular "format" for meetings held at regular or special planned society meetings will also fall under the purview of the committee, such as the meetings called "conversations" whereby panels set around the work of a particular author, are conducted in a "conversation" format between such author and one, two, or more interlocutors. The Executive Board needs to approve the "guest" of a particular conversations and needs to be informed of interlocutors and other plans related to this or other special format panels

6) MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2005

You must have received your membership dues reminder from PDC this summer; please make sure to keep your dues current. You can now pay your membership on line (using a credit card)

by using the link on our website, under membership, to the secure site of the PDC (Philosophy Documentation Center). Otherwise, you can print out the “application form” from the web site (www.sspp.us/membership.html), fill it out, and mail your check made out to SSPP to: SSPP, Philosophy Documentation Center, P. O. Box 7147, Charlottesville, VA 22906-7147. You can also “charge” your membership dues on a credit card by either filling out the application form at our website or by calling 1-800-444-2419 (US & Canada) or 1-434-220-3300.

7) MEMBERS’ CORNER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) To access restricted sections on our website (www.sspp.us), members please use the following:

User ID: ssppmember
User Password: socialpolitical

b) The California Roundtable on Philosophy and Race Second Annual Roundtable, Northridge, CA (USA), announces a call for paper for its second annual roundtable, to be held September 23-25, 2005, at the California State University, Northridge. The purpose of the roundtable is to bring together philosophers of race, and those working in related fields, in California and throughout the nation, in a small and congenial setting to share their work and to help further this sub-discipline. Papers are invited on any philosophical issue regarding race, ethnicity, or racism, and including those that take up race in the context of another topic, such as justice, racism, identity, ethnicity, mestizaje (mixed race), feminism, biology, phenomenology, existentialism, psychoanalysis, metaphysics, or epistemology. Registration is free but please register by email by March 31, 2005. Papers should be no more than 30 minutes in length. Please email your paper as a .doc, .rtf, or .pdf document, together with an abstract of no more than 150 words, to rrsundstrom@usfca.edu. Or send three copies of your paper and abstract to: Ronald Sundstrom, Philosophy Department, USF, 2130 Fulton St., San Francisco, CA 94117-1080. Submission Deadline is March 31, 2005. The California Roundtable on Philosophy and Race is sponsored by the USF and CSUN philosophy departments.

Organizers: Falguni A. Sheth (Hampshire College), fsheth@hampshire.edu; Ronald Robles Sundstrom (USF), rrsundstrom@usfca.edu; Gregory Velazco y Trianosky (CSUN), gregory.trianosky@csun.edu. Website: www.usfca.edu/fac-staff/rrsundstrom/CRPR.htm

c) *The International Society of African Philosophy and Studies* invites papers that explore substantive philosophical contributions of African aesthetics, values, norms, systems of belief on global popular culture. Of interest are the striking worldwide influences and globalization of African values, mores, norms and cultures. Focusing on philosophy, aesthetics art, music, politics, dance, sociology, etc., collection seeks to explore ways in which the forms of African/a cultural life and expression shape, inform and influence cultures and intellectual traditions across the globe.

Call for Papers. *African Philosophy* (ISSN 1533-1067). Managing Editor: Nkiru Nzegwu; Co-editors: Olufemi Taiwo, Ayotunde Bewaji, Pamela Abuya. www.africanphilosophy.com

Theme: “Footprints Across the Globe: Popular Culture and African/a Globalization.”

Too often well-meaning analysts have bombarded us with ideas and images of how Africa has been "westernized" or "europeanized:" that which is evil and brutish is African, and that which is lofty and noble is western. While we accept some aspects of the story of "westernization" as true, there is another side to this poorly told story of global cultural influences and trends. We are interested in the rarely, sometimes grudgingly, told story of Africa's impact on the world. We are

also interested in transnational popular cultural trends within Africa, where one part of Africa has tremendously influenced the popular culture of other parts of Africa. An example that comes to mind is Congolese music and dance. A critical question we are concerned with is: How have African/a cultural and intellectual traditions radically and indelibly shaped the world, and/or other parts of Africa and the Diaspora? In choosing the image of "footprints across the globe" we seek to highlight those aspects of African/a cultural influences that are the figurative "footprints" in other African/a and world cultures. We could begin by raising basic sociological questions that go to the heart of cultural formations. What would 'democracy' in the United States actually mean, if the enslaved Africans in the Americas, in rejecting the status of chattel, had not substantively infused the concept of freedom into the concept of democracy? What kind of social vision is the concept of Ubuntu prescribing, in a world in which retributive justice is the preferred model of justice? What does the concept of Orisa tell us about communities and the transformative aspects of human psyche? How do we account for the prevalent influence and border crossings of Congolese music? What notions of freedom and societal well being does Afrobeat philosophy offer contemporary philosophy?

Send all papers to: Dr. Charles Peterson, Dept. of Black Studies, The College of Wooster, Wooster, OH USA 44691-2363, petersonf@hotmail.com

Thank you for being a participating member of the space of engagement we are trying to shape together.

Executive Board (2003-2004)

Steven DeCaroli

Philosophy Department
Goucher College

Fouad Kalouche (Secretary-General)

Philosophy Department
Albright College

Piya Pangsapa

Women's Studies Department
University at Buffalo-SUNY

Jason Read

Philosophy Department
University of Southern Maine

Hasana Sharp

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