

Dear SSPP members,

This notice updates you on the following:

- 1) 2007 –2008 Executive Board elections results
- 2) Minutes of the 2006 business meeting
- 3) Summary of ballots/votes and other decisions
- 4) CFP Reminder – submit papers March 1!
- 5) Invitation to APA – Pacific Events

1) The elected 2005-2006 executive board members are:

Steven DeCaroli (Philosophy, Goucher College)
William S. Lewis (Philosophy, Skidmore College)
Jason Read (Philosophy, University of Southern Maine)
Hasana Sharp (Philosophy, McGill University)
Amy Wendling (Philosophy, Creighton University)

Welcome new members! The newly elected members of the E-Board appointed Hasana Sharp as secretary-general for 2007-2008. Bill Lewis was appointed treasurer.

Alejandro deAcosta and Fouad Kalouche will continue to serve, until the end of 2008, as co-directors of the society's Conferences and Meetings Committee.

Steven DeCaroli and Jason Read will continue to serve, until the end of 2008, as co-directors of the society's Publications Committee

2) The minutes of the 2006 business meeting.

The following issues were discussed:

- A. Name Modification: Whether to amend our name to simply the Society for Social and Political Philosophy. We discussed the possibility that the subfields following the colon (a) serve to marginalize us, suggesting that we do not do social and political philosophy proper, and (b) serve to exclude those in other traditions who may be interested in participating. We have no interest in diluting our distinctive character; we want to provide a space for the kind of philosophy that is under-represented on the "main program" at many conferences. No one was moving to mainstream the society, yet there was concern expressed that we may not want to foreclose dialogue in advance with those trained in other traditions.
- B. Other Venues: Whether there are venues other than APA, SPEP, and AFM where we would like a presence. The Canadian Philosophical Association, The Association for Political Theory, and The Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy were mentioned.
- C. Independent Meeting: Whether to organize a day long meeting for members, perhaps at Skidmore college. We floated the idea of a roundtable on a classic text in the history of philosophy, like Montesquieu's *Spirit of the Laws*, or Smith's *A Theory of Moral Sentiments*. Members interested in presenting might be asked to write on different parts of the books and we could have a set of papers exploring different aspects of one text. All members would be invited to participate in the discussion. Alternatively, we could do a roundtable around a topic, problem, or subfield: politics

and affect; history of political economy; Renaissance humanism; etc. Any number of approaches might be taken. There was much enthusiasm for this idea. Please write the Secretary General (hasana.sharp@mcgill.ca) to express a preferred format, topic, or text.

3) The following are summaries of the recommendations and input of members, as expressed on the 2006 ballots.

a- members voted to increase dues by \$10-\$15 in order to finance our annual issue of *International Studies in Philosophy* and to offer one copy to all members as a member benefit.

b- members voted in favor of posting academic papers on the SSPP website (www.sspp.us)

c- members voted narrowly (by one vote) against holding an independent conference, but at least 2 changed their votes after discussing the roundtable. Thus, we will explore this possibility, perhaps for 2008.

d- suggested themes for future panels included: new thinking on sovereignty and the rightless; Marx and Marxism(s); politics and psychoanalysis; politics and affect; non-human animals; media theory; Imperialism; Mao/ Lenin; constitutions; technology; rural versus urban; politics of secularism; immigration; class and embodiment; Bourdieu; queer theory.

5) Please check website for our CFP'S. Papers for consideration for panels at APA – Eastern and SPEP are **due March 1**.

6) Our 2006 Pacific APA meeting in San Francisco panel information is as follows:

Friday Evening, April 6 8:00-11:00 p.m.

Topic: **Wendy Brown's Challenges to Feminist and Leftist Political Theory**

Speakers: Anna Carastathis (McGill University); Hasana Sharp (McGill U.)

Respondent: Wendy Brown (University of California, Berkeley)

Saturday Evening, April 7 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Speakers: Michael Marder (New School University), "Risky Recognitions: The Concept of Political Risk in Carl Schmitt."

Corey Wimberley (Pan American University), "Foucault as Democrat: A Rethinking of Democracy!"

Commentator: William Roberts (Washington and Jefferson College)

Join Us!