

The Phi Sigma Tau

Bulletin

A Publication of the Department of Philosophy, Texas State University – San Marcos

Spring 2006

Philoúnton Sophían Timé

Issue 20

News

Justin Bell is currently working on his master's thesis at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and will begin his Ph.D. work there in the fall. He will present a paper on Puritan beliefs and the development of individualism in American politics at the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy conference in San Antonio in March.

Samuel Brannon is the pastor of a small Lutheran congregation in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Following his graduation in 1999 he hopped an oil exploration ship out of Angola, after which he returned to Texas to attend seminary in Austin. (He reports that he liked Austin better than Sub-Saharan Africa.)

Jon Faviell is in his first semester at the School of Information at the University of Texas. He will present a paper, "The Miracles of Science: Science and Religion in Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*," at the philosophy symposium on March 31.

David Ivy has completed his master's degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder and is planning to pursue his Ph.D.

Matthew Hansbauer is a Ph.D. student at the University of Dallas. He will present a paper "The Eternity of Philosophy: Nietzsche's Beyond Good and Evil" at the March 31 Philosophy Symposium.

Tracie Mahaffey was awarded her master's degree from Florida State University in the fall. She is now working on her dissertation prospectus and teaching a course in political philosophy. A paper she presented on Plato's *Lysis* in November to the Southwestern Philosophical Society will be published in the *Southwest Philosophy Review*. She will also present a paper at the Midsouth Philosophy Conference.

Jami Meador works for the law firm of Strasburger & Price in Houston, specializing in business litigation.

Robert Northrup is Safety Assessment Manager for Sapphire Therapeutics in Bridgewater, New Jersey.

Jackson Schwartz is working on his master's degree in philosophy at Texas Tech University.

Jason Simus is a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies at the University of North Texas, where he is working on his Ph. D.

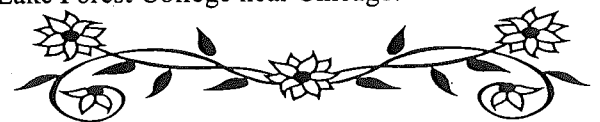
Paul Stearns, who teaches 7th grade history at O' Henry Middle School in Austin, has recently been named their teacher of the year.

James Sustaita (class of 1992) sends greetings and reports that he is currently practicing law in Houston.

Jessica Young is an attorney with Thompson & Knight, a Dallas law firm.

Peter Sutton is ABD at Cornell's Sage School of Philosophy, where he is writing a dissertation on the nature of word-meaning within natural language semantics.

Rui and Shofen Zhu are parents of a new baby son, Bentham, born January 25. He joins his brother Bertrand, born in May 2003. Professor Zhu now teaches at Lake Forest College near Chicago.



In Memoriam

Gina Weatherhead

November 24, 1979-January 21, 2006

A celebration of Gina's life was held Saturday, January 28 at the home of Gina and her husband James Pinder. She will be remembered fondly by friends and family for her remarkable courage, love of learning, and continued zest for life.

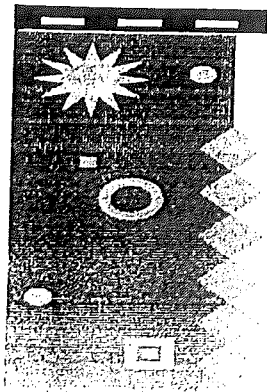


Editor.....Jo Ann Carson
Technical Assistant.....Beverly Pairett

The bulletin is published by the Philosophy Department at Texas State University – San Marcos.

Students who would like to volunteer to help with the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy conference March 9-11 in San Antonio should contact Craig Hanks at ch25@txstate.edu.

Perks: a spiffy t-shirt, plus the opportunity to see first hand what a gathering of philosophers is really like, hear some interesting papers, be able to meet some professors and graduate students from other schools, and hang out in San Antonio for a few days. Lodging and food will be provided, so any volunteers need not make the trek back and forth each day. For the full program go to <http://www.american-philosophy.org>



The Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy

2006 Annual Meeting

9-11 March 2006

Sheraton Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, Texas

Hosted by The Department of Philosophy, Texas State University—San Marcos

Co-sponsored by:

Northwest Vista College

The Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy

Plenary Sessions:

Thursday, 9 March 2006 at the Witte Museum, 6:30-7:45p.m.

“Sustainable Cities, Storylines and post-Katrina New Orleans”

Dr. Steven Moore

Director, Sustainable Design Program

Co-Director, Center for Sustainable Development,

School of Architecture at the University of Texas in Austin.

Response by **Dr. John J. McDermott**

University Distinguished Professor

Texas A&M University

Free and Open to the Public

Co-sponsored by Texas State University, Northwest Vista College,
the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, and the Witte Museum.

Friday, 10 March 2006, Gunter Hotel:

11:00a.m.

“The Debate Over Lived Experience”

Martin Jay

Sidney Hellman Ehrman Professor of History

University of California, Berkeley

5:30 p.m.

“Only Going So Fast: Philosophies as Fashions”

John Stuhr,

W. Alton Jones Professor of Philosophy

Professor of American and Southern Studies

Vanderbilt University

Affiliated Groups holding sessions during the 2006 SAAP meeting:

American Studies Association

Personalist Group

Cologne Constructivism Group

George Santayana Society

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

Asociación Filosófica de México

Society for the Study of Process Philosophies

Society of Women in Philosophy

Guest Registration (non-Participant, non-SAAP member): \$20.00

For Additional Information: <http://www.american-philosophy.org>

Or contact: Dr. Craig Hanks

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9th Annual Philosophy Symposium

sponsored by *Phi Sigma Tau*, the philosophy honor society, and the Department of Philosophy

Texas State University – San Marcos
Friday, March 31, 2006
Philosophy Dialogue Room, PSY 132

Morning Session 10:00-12:00

- 10:00 Jon Faviell, University of Texas
*The Miracles of Science:
Science and Religion in Francis Bacon's
New Atlantis*
- 10:30 Mark Rothbauer, Texas State University
Evolution: Updating Personal Identity
- 11:00 Scott Beggs, Baylor University
Could Possibility Exist for the Naturalist?
- 11:30 Richard Simoes, Texas State University
*Scientific Deductivism's Failure...and Odd
Resilience*

Lunch 12:00-1:00

Afternoon Session 1:00-3:30

- 1:00 Danielle Wenner, Rice University
The Supererogation Problem
- 1:30 Bret Saunders, University of Dallas
*The Temporalization of the Ego in Marion's
Cartesian Onto-theology*
- 2:00 Matthew Hansbauer, University of Dallas
*The Eternity of Philosophy: Nietzsche's
Beyond Good and Evil*
- 2:30 Silvia Elguea, Texas State University
Environmental Ethics and the Poor
- 3:00 Christina Nelson, University of North Texas
Ecofeminism vs. Deep Ecology
- 3:30 *Phi Sigma Tau* Spring Initiation

For more information contact
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Ethics Bowl

Two teams of Texas State University philosophy students brought home 3rd and 4th place trophies from the 8th Annual Central Texas Regional Ethics Bowl held at St. Mary's University, Saturday, November 12th. Texas State will also send a team to the National Ethics Bowl competition on March 2 in Jacksonville, Florida.

The ethics competition, patterned after the 1960's television series College Bowl, requires students to answer questions and attempt to resolve ethical dilemmas in such areas as medicine, privacy, government policy, education, business, and technology. Criteria for judging include the clarity, intelligibility, deliberative thoughtfulness and ethical relevance of the team's presentation and responses to judges' questions.

Faculty coaches are professors C. Lynne Fulmer and Jo Ann Carson, with students Sonia Arredondo, Jennifer Grace, and Deacon Newhouse serving as assistant coaches. The Ethics Bowl teams are sponsored by the philosophy department and *Phi Sigma Tau*, the philosophy honor society.

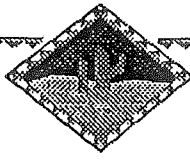


Fall 2005 Ethics Bowl Team
Richard Simmons and Jay Arnold (team captains)
Sonia Arredondo, Kyle Morris, Joel Wilson
Jessica Talamantez, Deacon Newhouse, Jennifer
Grace, Elliot Alford



Spring 2006 Ethics Bowl Team
Andy Trevino,
Kyle Morris, Rebecca Quillin, Elliot Alford

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San Marcos, Texas 78666



WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

We are pleased to announce two new funds. In honor and memory of Texas State philosophy major Gina Weatherhead is the Weatherhead Annual Dialogue Fund. The second is a scholarship fund for an undergraduate philosophy major, the Philosophy Faculty - Alumni Scholarship Fund. For each one to become self-sustaining, contributions are needed, and each contribution shows the dedication, support, and cooperation of Texas State's Philosophy Faculty and Alumni and their willingness to help new majors.

Vincent Luizzi