



SCSP

SOUTH CAROLINA
SOCIETY FOR
PHILOSOPHY

SCSP Newsletter

Fall, 2008

Call for Papers!

The 2008 annual meeting of the SCSP will be February 27-28 and will be hosted by the **Winthrop University Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies**.

For more information on the location, hotel reservations, guidelines for paper submissions, the conference schedule, and so forth, go to the program page for this year's SCSP Conference at <http://www.cas.sc.edu/phil/scsp/winthrop09-cfp.html>.

We hope you will encourage both your undergraduates and graduates to submit papers for our annual student competitions. This year we hope again to have a whole session for undergraduate papers (and there is a money-prize for the best paper in both the undergraduate and graduate competitions). Of course, we want to see a host of contributed papers from the outstanding collection of teaching faculty from here in South Carolina (as well as from our friends in neighboring states and elsewhere).

If you have a panel or session topic you would like to propose, keep in mind that for any proposals or papers, the **deadline is Jan 4**. For further queries not handled by the webpage above, contact Dennis Earl at dearl@coastal.edu or by phone at 843-349-2787. Papers may be submitted electronically, but hard copies may be submitted to:

Dr. Dennis Earl, 2009 SCSP Program Chair
Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies
P.O. Box 261954
Coastal Carolina University
Conway, SC 29528-6054

Dues at this year's meeting will be \$30 for faculty and graduate students and \$15 for undergraduates. This year, we hope to encourage *advance* registration by offering it at a discount: \$20. Please send your check or money order to:

Dr. Cynthia B. Bryson, Campus Dean
Strayer University
555 N. Pleasantburg Dr., Ste. 300
Greenville, SC 29607

Announcement: There will be a special session on **Experimental and Empirical Approaches to Ethics** at this year's SCSP meeting. The idea for the session grew out of a graduate seminar at the University of South Carolina on the topic. Joshua Knobe of UNC Chapel Hill has agreed to participate. The plan is to have relatively short presentations, followed by a significant amount of time for group discussion among the presenters and audience. The session will take place on the Saturday of the conference, February 28th. If you are interested in presenting your work as part of this session, please contact Justin Weinberg at jweinberg@sc.edu with a brief abstract of your proposed contribution. While the general SCSP deadline for paper submissions is January 4th, because of the lateness of this announcement only an abstract will be required by that date from those interested in participating in this session. If your abstract is approved for participation in the session, the full paper will be due by February 6. Contact Weinberg with any questions about this session.

We look forward to seeing you in February at Winthrop for the conference.

SCSP News from Around the State

From Coastal Carolina University:

Coastal Carolina University is pleased to announce the hire of **Dylan Wittkower**, Instructor in Philosophy. Dr. Wittkower received a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Vanderbilt University in 2006. His training concentrated on German philosophy and the history of value theory (ethics, aesthetics, social/political philosophy), and his research has concentrated primarily on issues of technology and political philosophy. Prior to accepting the position at Coastal Carolina University, he taught at Sweet Briar College, Virginia Tech, University of Missouri-St. Louis, and University of Maine-Orono. Wittkower is the author of *iPod and Philosophy* (Open Court, 2008).

Nils Rauhut has been elected Vice President of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT). The AAPT, one of the largest national organizations of professional philosophers, is dedicated to the advancement of teaching philosophy. Dr. Rauhut has been a board member of the AAPT for several years and will become president of the association in 2011 for a two-year term.

From Greenville Technical College:

Greenville Tech has filled its full-time vacancy by hiring **Tim Hurley** this past summer. Dr. Hurley has a Ph.D. from Notre Dame, as well as a J.D. from William & Mary. In addition to teaching five courses he somehow found the time to publish a book on election law in South Carolina, his area of legal expertise.

From USC-Columbia:

New Faculty:

This Fall 2008 we welcome a new faculty member, **Michael Stoltzner** (Dr. Phil., University of Bielefeld, 2003). Associate Professor. Areas of specialization: Philosophy and history of physics and applied mathematics; epistemology of applied science; models and ceteris paribus laws; patterns of formal teleology. Current research interests: Causality and indeterminism in the early 20th century; the principle of least action in a philosophical perspective; ceteris paribus laws in applied science

Awards/Fellowships/Grants:

CASBS Fellowship: **Konstantin Pollok** has been awarded a fellowship for academic year 2009-10 at the Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University.

Humboldt Foundation Award: **Ann Johnson** and her collaborator Johannes Lenhard, currently at the University of Bielefeld, have been awarded a sizeable grant by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. This grant will support work on a project titled "Towards a Culture of Prediction: Computational Modeling in the Era of Desktop Computing." The proposed project, first, will build an account of the development, dissemination, and role of desktop computing in present-day science and technology and elaborate on how this has led to a culture of prediction. Second, it will develop a historical study of the role of prediction in science and engineering, to show both how it has changed and the ways in which it is continuous with the proposed culture of prediction.

Humanities Award: **Ignas Skrupskelis** has been given an award from the Lithuanian Government in honor of his service to the humanities. This is an award that is given to Lithuanian scholars living abroad and it is intended to recognize the distinction such scholars have brought to Lithuania by their intellectual activities.

NSF Grant: **Kevin Elliott** is co-PI for a 4-year NSF project entitled: "NIRT: Intuitive Toxicology and Public Engagement," examining public perspectives on the toxicological risks of nanomaterials, considering how those perspectives compare with those of experts, and examining how members of the public and experts communicate with one another about these issues.

NANO Research: **Kevin Elliott** is co-director of the Center of Economic Excellence for Nanoenvironmental Research and Risk Assessment, which received \$3 million in funding from the state of South Carolina in June 2008.

Books Published:

The long-awaited volume 5 of Leibniz's *Complete Works and Letters, Series VII: Mathematical Writings* has recently appeared, co-edited by **Heike Sefrin-Weis**. Look for the link at <http://www.gwlb.de/Leibniz/Leibnizarchiv/Veroeffentlichungen/>.

Promotions/Sabbaticals:

Chris Tollefsen has been promoted to full professor, effective January 2009.

Anne Bezuidenhout was promoted to full professor effective August 2008 and took over as chair of the department on July 1 2008.

Martin Donougho and **George Khushf** have just returned from sabbatical leaves. During his sabbatical Martin was a fellow at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

SCSP officers

M. Gregory Oakes, oakesm@winthrop.edu (President)
Dennis Earl, dearl@coastal.edu (Vice President)
Cynthia Bryson, cynthia.bryson@strayer.edu (Secretary-Treasurer)
Tom Burke, burke@sc.edu (Webmaster)

