Dear Temple Philosophy Community,

Welcome – and welcome back – to the Philosophy Department for the 2019-20 academic year. A special welcome to Assistant Professor Eli Alshanetsky, who will be starting up as a new tenure-track faculty member. Another new face is Katherina Kinzel, who will be a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow visiting from the University of Vienna in the fall semester. And last, but not least, we have a strong and international cohort of new graduate students joining the Department: Yining Wu, Nuno Abecasis, Max Engelman, Angeline Sandor, Raymond Ackerman, and Daniel Remer for the PhD program, Matthew Sibona for the MA program. We are looking forward to getting to know all of you!

I took over as Department Chair on July 1 this year and would like to thank Miriam Solomon for her six years as Chair of the Philosophy Department. Having Miriam set an example as a thoughtful, generous, and efficient Chairperson gives me a good point of orientation in taking on this position.
Transiting to Department Chair, I have spent a bit of time this summer surveying faculty publications and scholarship. We have an unusually productive faculty; every single member of the research faculty publishes actively with top-tier journals and publishing houses. Moreover, our Student Feedback Forms are strong and the classroom satisfaction among our students is high. I encourage you to read the faculty presentations below and visit individual faculty profiles and presentation of classes on the Department’s website.

Temple’s Philosophy Department is an active intellectual community. Colloquia, Works-in-Progress, and Graduate Student Workshops contribute to the intellectual life of the Department. These events usually take place on Friday afternoons during the semester. There is also the Undergraduate Philosophy Club, the Forum for Ethical Action, and a number of reading groups in particular areas of philosophy. This coming year, the Philosophy Club will be chaired by Miles Wall and Hector Belarmino. Every month throughout the semester, we hold First Friday pizza lunches for prospective and current majors/minors as well as graduate students and faculty.

The colloquium speakers this coming fall include Victoria McGeer, Lisa Miracchi, Fred Neuhouser, and Alison Peterman. David Chalmers will be our Distinguished Visiting Speaker and Richard Eldridge will give the 2020 Beardsley Lecture. For more details about the times and places of our talks, please ask our Department coordinator, Ms. Sonia Lawson (slawson@temple.edu), to be included on the e-list for announcements and check the Philosophy Department website for events. We welcome your participation in events — and in the campus visits and job talks that will take place in the early spring. The Department has been chosen by the college and the American Council for Learned Societies to conduct a search for a postdoctoral fellow. This is part of an initiative, supported by the Mellon Foundation, in which the ACLS looks to partner with institutions that are committed to increasing the diversity of their faculty and that will use postdoctoral fellowships as a means to fund individuals, hired through departmental processes, with that end in mind.

The graduate students’ Undergraduate Mentoring Program, organized by Brooke Sharpe and Arthur Krieger, has had another successful year. The Undergraduate Mentoring Program pairs undergraduates with graduate students for informal discussions about their concerns and interests in philosophy. Brooke and Arthur will continue their work as mentor program facilitators in 2019-20. The Department also has an active Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) chapter, whose activities last year culminated in a successfully organized conference, with Dr. Robin Zheng (Yale-NUS College) as a keynote speaker. We look forward to new and exciting MAP activities in the coming year!

In the 2018-19 academic year, many undergraduate majors and graduate students received honors. Graduating Philosophy Majors Brigit Andersson and Jebediah Taylor jointly won the Ira Lawrence Award for outstanding performance in the philosophy major. Graduating Philosophy major John Harris was awarded the Thomas Meyer Memorial Award for community building activities among Philosophy Undergraduates. Graduate Students Arthur Krieger and Raciel Cuevas were awarded
the Nordev Prize for the best preliminary papers last year. Arthur’s paper was entitled “Addiction, Compulsion and Psychological Necessity,” and Raciel’s “Two Senses of Genius in Staël and Kant.” Raciel was also awarded the First Summers Research Award from the Graduate School. Meryl Lumba won the College of Liberal Arts Graduate Student Instructor of Record Award. Our graduate students have had papers accepted and presented at conferences nationally and internationally. Manasa Gopakumar was accepted to the summer School in Hermeneutics at the University of Bonn (with support from the International Centre for Philosophy, North Rhine Westphalia, and the CLA) and Raciel Cuevas presented a paper at the Kant Conference in Oslo with support from the Graduate School, the College, and the Department. Kate Brelje has a forthcoming chapter in the edited volume Play, Philosophy and Performance (Routledge) and Joshua Cutts recently had his paper, “Herbert Marcuse and False Needs,” accepted for publication in Social Theory and Practice. Congratulations to all!

On the faculty side, Miriam Solomon won a Guggenheim Fellowship for her philosophy of psychiatry research. Colin Chamberlain received an NEH Fellowship for his project, “Problems of Embodiment in Margaret Cavendish, Anne Conway, and Mary Astell.” Lee-Ann Chae received an Honorable Mention in the Mark Sanders competition for Public Philosophy for her essay, “Talking to Children about War.” During the past academic year (2018-19), faculty gave talks at conferences and campuses all over the USA and overseas, including, Buenos Aires, Sydney, Vancouver, Sterling, Bonn, New York, Boston, Haifa, Santa Barbara, Oslo, Copenhagen, Genoa, Seattle, and Madrid. An astounding number of journal articles and book chapters have been published (please see individual faculty entries for an overview).

Forthcoming faculty monographs include Eli Alshanetsky’s Articulating a Thought (OUP 2019) and David Wolfsdorf’s On Goodness (OUP 2019). Shaeeda Mensah completed a successful year as Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow in the Philosophy Department. Eugene Chislenko is co-organizing a philosophers for sustainability-initiative; I invite you all to read his contribution to the APA Blog.

Our Department Coordinator, Ms. Sonia Lawson, staffs the Department Office and expertly handles our administrative needs, together with Ms. Belinda Wilson, who is an administrator for several Departments. The Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty in 2018-19 was Michael Glass. We are grateful for his excellent work. Meryl Lumba will succeed Michael as the Graduate Representative for 2019-20. Manasa Gopakumar will be organizing the graduate student Works-in-Progress series. Daniel Remer, Manasa Gopakumar, Raciel Cuevas, and Jessica Brown will spearhead this year’s activities for Temple’s MAP Chapter. This year’s Climate Committee consists of Daniel Remer (first year PhD student), Ricardo Aben Van Dalen (Second Year PhD Student), Lee-Ann Chae (Assistant Professor), and, as Committee Chair, Lindsay Craig (Associate Professor, Instructional). As Department Chair, I will be available to everyone in the Department: my door is always open.

A final thank you to graduate student Ziqian Zhang for editing the Department Newsletter, now in its second year.

Wishing you all a happy and successful academic year,
Kristin
Visiting Speakers

AY 2018-2019

• Kate Witty (Georgetown): “Motivating the Ontological Difference”

• Marcy Lascano (Kansas): “Boys that play with watery bubbles or fling dust into each other’s eyes, or make a hobbyhorse of snow”: Margaret Cavendish’s Critique of Early Modern Scientific Experimentalism”

• Dean Moyar (Johns Hopkins): “The Proximity of Philosophy to Religion: Hegel’s Evaluative Reason”
Visiting Speakers

AY 2018-2019

- Fred Rush (Notre Dame): “Film in Time”

- Eli Friedlander (Tel Aviv): “The Intuitive Understanding from Kant to Goethe”

- Robert Hopkins (NYU): “Pictures and Time”
Recent Hosted Conference

WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS in the LONG NINETEENTH CENTURY

Friday, September 14 and Saturday, September 15, 2018
Temple University (Center City), Room 306
1515 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

CONTACT: KRISTIN GJESDAL (kgjesdal@temple.edu)

Friday, September 14

9:30AM-10AM: BREAKFAST & WELCOME

Session I: Chair: Andreja Novakovic (University of California, Riverside)

10:00AM-11:00AM Dalia Nassar (University of Sydney)
"The human vocation and the question of the earth: Karoline von Günderrode’s reading of Fichte"

11:15AM-12:15PM Anne Pollok (University of South Carolina)
"Dreaming up persons and worlds. Bettina von Arnim and the lure of the imagination"

12:15PM-1PM: LUNCH

Session II: Chair: Karin Niesenbaum (Colgate University)

1:00PM-2:00PM Lydia Moland (Colby College)
"Lydia Maria Child on Conscience and Consistency"

2:15PM-3:15PM Samantha Matherne (Harvard)
"The Aesthetic Theory of Edith Landmann-Kalisher"

3:15PM-3:30PM: COFFEE BREAK

Session III: Chair: Ingvild Torsen

3:30PM-4:30PM Lydia Patton (Virgina Tech)
"OH! how ~ German is this German revolution!" Rosa Luxemburg on Revolution, Self-Determination, and Nationhood

Saturday, September 15

Text Colloquium
Same time and place

Please register by emailing Meryl Lumba (meryl.lumba@temple.edu) if you are interested in participating.

Texts will be distributed beforehand to registered participants and should be read in advance.

Lunch & dinner for invited participants.

The workshop is sponsored by Temple University, The University of Sydney, Colby College, and the GPPC. Workshop organizers: Dalia Nassar, Lydia Moland, and Kristin Gjøsdal.

Participants include Karen Detlefsen (University of Pennsylvania), Katharina Kaiser (Birkbeck), Samantha Matherne (Harvard University), Lydia Moland (Colby College), Dalia Nassar (University of Sydney), Karin Niesenbaum (Colgate University), Andreja Novakovic (University of California, Riverside), Lydia Patton (Virginia Tech), Danielle Petherbridge (University College Dublin), Anne Pollok (University of South Carolina), Ingvild Torsen (the University of Oslo), and Kristin Gjøsdal (Temple University).
Recent Hosted Conference

MAP GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

CHALLENGING INJUSTICE

Saturday, March 23, 2019
Temple University (Main Campus)
Anderson Hall 212
Polett Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19122

Contact: Meryl Lumba (meryl.lumba@temple.edu) or Daniel Remer (daniel.remer@temple.edu)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:30AM-11:00AM: BREAKFAST & WELCOME
Chair: Arthur Kröger (Temple University)

11:00AM-12:00PM: Anna Kleiber (University of Sheffield)
"Why We Should Consider the Role of Bussentiment for Contemporary Perceptions of Injustice: On the Utilization of Emotions as Epistemic and Political Practice"

Chair: Racial Cuevas (Temple University)

12:00PM-1:00PM: Maxwell Razie (Fordham University)
"Fighting Narrative with Narrative and Combating Misogyny"

1:00PM-2:00PM: LUNCH

Chair: Michael Glass (Temple University)

2:00PM-3:00PM: Ioan Reynolds (Villanova University)
"Three Kinds of Social Critique: Popper, Adorno, Mannheim"

3:00PM-4:30PM: KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Dr. Robin Zheng (Yale-NUS College)
"Challenging Injustice Through Solidarity of Struggle: Toward a Theory of Radical Social Change"

4:30PM-5:00PM: COFFEE & CONVERSATION

The conference is sponsored by the Temple University Philosophy Department, the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium, and MAP International.
Graduate Courses

2019 Spring

- **Feminist Epistemology and Philosophy of Science** (Miriam Solomon)
- **Feminist Ethics and Political Philosophy** (Shaeeda Mensah)
- **Contemporary British and American Philosophy** (Gerald Vision)
- **Kant** (Lara Ostaric)
- **Seminar in Contemporary Continental Philosophy** (Espen Hammer)
- **Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy** (Lee-Ann Chae)

2019 Fall

- **Social and Political Philosophy** (Lee-Ann Chae)
- **Philosophy of Mind** (Gerald Vision)
- **19th Century Philosophy** (Kristin Gjesdal)
- **Seminar in Kant** (Lara Ostaric)
- **Seminar in Epistemology** (Eli Alshanetsky)

Eli Alshanetsky to begin Assistant Professor Position Fall 2019

- We are thrilled to announce that Eli Alshanetsky (PhD NYU, Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University) will be starting a position as Assistant Professor of Philosophy (tenure-track) in Fall 2019.
Faculty News

- **Eli Alshanetsky** will publish his monograph *Articulating a Thought* with Oxford University Press in Fall 2019. He also presented “An Epistemic Theory of Clarity in Thought and Language” at the Knowledge Beyond Natural Science workshop, University of Stirling, May 2019.

- **Philip Atkins** published “Targeting Human Shields” (with Amir Saemi), *The Philosophical Quarterly* 68 (2018), 328-348. He presented “The Varieties of Russellianism” at a colloquium at Auburn University and at the Fifth Workshop on Contemporary Issues in Semantics and Ontology in Buenos Aires. He also received the Merit Awards for Research and Teaching.


- **Eugene Chislenko** gave several talks: “How Can Belief be Akratic?” Distinguished Lecture, Center for the Humanities at Temple; “Blame and Protest” Central States Philosophical Association; “The Role of Philosophers in Climate Change” *Next Earth: Teaching Climate Change Across the Disciplines*. He was Faculty Fellow at
Faculty News

Center for the Humanities at Temple from 2018 to 2019. He also received the College of Liberal Arts Research Award from Temple University.

- **Lindsay Craig** was chosen to participate in the Provost’s Teaching Academy, a highly-selective, six-week intensive workshop that focuses on excellence in teaching. She ran a series of teaching workshops for our graduate students in the fall as Director of the Graduate Student Teaching Program in our department. Her goal is to help our graduate students develop their teaching skills so that they are most effective with their students and so that they can come to appreciate and enjoy teaching in higher education. On top of teaching two sections of Philosophy of the Human and another two sections of Honors Ethics in Medicine, her spring semester has been devoted to the recertifications of two of our General Education courses, Landscape of American Thought and Meaning of the Arts.

- **Kristin Gjesdal** has published two edited volumes this year: *The Cambridge Companion to Hermeneutics* (co-edited with Michael Forster, Cambridge University Press, 2019) and *Ibsen’s Hedda Gabler: Philosophical Perspectives* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018). She has also published a handful of book chapters for edited volumes, including chapters for Eric Nelson (ed.), *Interpreting Dilthey* (CUP 2019) and Gerad Gentry and Konstantin Pollok (eds), *The Imagination in German Idealism and Romanticism* (CUP 2019). Some of her work on theater and philosophy has been translated into Norwegian and German. She is currently finishing up a book manuscript on the intersection between drama and philosophy in Ibsen, Hegel, and Nietzsche, which will be published by Oxford UP next year. The working title is “Philosophy and Drama: Modernity and Historical Consciousness in Ibsen, Hegel, and Nietzsche.” Her talks in the past academic year included keynotes in Sydney and Bonn, invited talks at Fordham, Boston University and Boston College, The University of Sydney, The University of Oslo, and the University of Copenhagen. She also joined the Editorial Boards for *The European Journal of Philosophy* and the new *Journal of Transcendental Philosophy*. She has new research projects supported by a CLARA grant from the CLA and a Grant-in-Aid from the Provost’s office.
Faculty News

“Intelligibility and Voice in Kafka’s The Trial” at Kafka Today, conference at Haifa University, Israel; “Adorno and Literature” at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University; “Mood and Experience in Cavell” at “Democratic Affections: Film, Philosophy, and Religion in the Thought of Stanley Cavell,” conference at University of California, Santa Barbara. Comment on Paul A. Kottman, Love as Human Freedom, Graduate Faculty, New School for Social Research.

- **Lara Ostaric** has one forthcoming publication: “Nature as a World of Action, Not of Speculation--Schelling’s Critique of Kant’s Postulates in His Philosophical Letters on Dogmatism and Criticism (1795),” which is appearing this year in the volume edited by Anthony G. Bruno and titled Freedom, Nature, and Systematicity: Essays on F.W.J. Schelling published by Oxford University Press, UK.


Faculty News


Graduate Student Accomplishments

• **Manasa Gopakumar:** I was selected to participate in a summer school on hermeneutics at the University of Bonn, Germany from July 15-26, 2019. My travel was supported by a fellowship from the International Centre for Philosophy - North Rhine Westphalia, a travel award from Temple University’s College of Liberal Arts, and a travel award from Temple’s department of Philosophy.

• **Joshua Cutts:** My paper, “Herbert Marcuse and False Needs,” has been accepted for publication in a forthcoming edition of *Social Theory and Practice*.

• **Ricardo Abend Van Dalen:** My translation work will be published in a forthcoming book of art criticism, “Harry Abend”, Caracas, Venezuela: Editorial Ex Libris. It is a Spanish-to-English translation of the following long essays: Freddy Carreño’s *La obra de Harry Abend y la arquitectura* (‘The work of Harry Abend and architecture’); Víctor Guédez’s *Harry Abend y la pasión escultórica* (‘Harry Abend and sculptural passion’); Alejandro Oliveros’ *Notas al atardecer para Harry Abend* (‘Notes at sunset for Harry Abend’); Bélгica Rodríguez’s *Harry Abend. Esculturas del silencio* (‘Harry Abend. Sculptures of silence’).

• **Meryl Lumba:** (1) earned 2018-19 CLA Advanced Scholar Fellowship; (2) organized MAP Graduate Student Conference: Challenging Injustice for Philosophy Department; (3) co-organized inaugural Scholars of Color Conference at Temple University; and (4) won the College of Liberal Arts Graduate Student Instructor of Record Award.

• **Arthur Krieger:** 2018 Nordev Prize Winner


• **Jason Cutmore:** I presented a paper at the Eastern Division Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics in April of 2019.
Graduate Student Accomplishments


- **Dan Dal Monte:** I published a paper entitled “Philosophical Grounding of the Moral Law: In Defense of Kant's *Factum Der Vernunft*,” in the journal *Contextos Kantianos*. I travelled to University of California San Diego, where I worked with noted Kant scholars Eric Watkins and Lucy Allais.

- **Jake Jackson:** In the last year I’ve given four talks at three conferences. At the North American Sartre Society in October, I gave a paper from my dissertation work entitled “Psychiatric Diagnosis and Bad Faith.” While I was there I additionally spoke on a panel on NBC’s The Good Place and Sartrean Philosophy with show creator Mike Schur with a talk entitled “Marginal Comforts: What keeps us in Hell?” Subsequently from that talk, I am now under contract with Blackwell to write a chapter for their forthcoming book: *Philosophy and The Good Place*. In the spring, I was a roundtable discussion participant for the Center for Humanities at Temple’s “Investigating Borders and Boundaries of the Body” Conference. In June, I attended the Diverse Lineages of Existentialism II conference in DC where I presented a paper entitled “Existentialism, Mood Disorders, and Moody Responsibility.” I additionally gave a WIPS talk entitled "On Being Epistemically Adrift” this March.
**Top (Non-)Philosophy Works**

- **Philip Atkins:** 1. David Hume’s *Dialogues concerning Natural Religion*: I was raised religious and eventually became preoccupied with the question of whether God really exists. Hume’s Dialogues is a stone-cold classic in Western philosophy of religion, touching upon intelligent design arguments for God’s existence, the problem of evil, and much else. 2. Bertrand Russell’s *The Problems of Philosophy*: As an undergrad, I became interested in epistemology, metaphysics, and philosophy of language. Though I no longer agree with much in the book, Russell’s *Problems* is a brilliant and lucid introduction to these topics. 3. Saul Kripke’s *Naming and Necessity*: This is a less accessible book, but it is required reading for anyone interested in contemporary philosophy of language. Kripke dismantles the theory of linguistic meaning that Russell endorsed in *Problems*, sketches an alternative view of the relationship between language and reality, and connects this view with various issues in epistemology and metaphysics.


- **Lindsay Craig:** My absolutely favorite piece of philosophy comes from biologists Stephen Jay Gould and Richard Lewontin and is titled “The Spandrels of San Marco and the Panglossian Paradigm: A Critique of the Adaptationist Programme” (1979). It’s a truly fundamental reading in philosophy of evolutionary
Top (Non-)Philosophy Works

biology, my specialization, but more than that, it’s a wonderful example of the importance of interdisciplinary work in philosophy. And it’s funny, too! None of this is to say that Gould and Lewontin’s work is beyond reproach, but its merits and impact are undeniable.

• **Espen Hammer:** (1) *Being and Time* by Martin Heidegger. Quite simply the greatest achievement in twentieth century philosophy. Heidegger revolutionizes the way philosophy understands human sense-making. (2) *Philosophical Investigations* by Ludwig Wittgenstein. Pathbreaking views about language, consciousness, experience, and action. (3) *Aesthetic Theory* by Theodor W. Adorno. Perhaps the most far-reaching contribution to a philosophical understanding of modern art. Adorno situates modern art in its own period while locating moments of transcendence and truth.

• **David Wolfsdorf:** (1) Alberto Coffa, *The Semantic Tradition from Kant to Carnap*. This is a very deeply informed account of the roots of the philosophy of language that emerged in the early twentieth century. The author has extraordinary command of the history of philosophy, including many relevant aspects of the development of mathematics in the nineteenth century. (2) Marcin Morzycki, *Modification*, which is a work in linguistics that focuses on the semantics of modification, in particular adjectival modification. It’s beautifully and entertainingly written. (3) A dissertation by Benjamin Mitra-Kahn, *Defining the Economy*, City University of London. This dissertation is a critical examination of how the economy was defined from early 17th century England to the mid 20th century.