Auburn chapter began an outreach program to the rest of the Auburn community; there will be monthly meetings to discuss topics of broad philosophical interest, especially ones that will be interesting to non-philosophers. The first topic, “Philosophy, Art, and Beauty,” drew a large crowd from the campus and community. Questions addressed were Why do we care about art? What is the relation between art and beauty? Are artistic evaluations objective? and others. The second topic, “Free Will,” produced the questions such as What does freedom mean? Are human beings free? and others. Both meetings concluded with open discussions of the topics. On October 16, members met with Dr. Abe Roth to discuss his paper, “Shared Intentionality, Prediction and Team Reasoning.” Dr. Roth discussed his solution with the society members before the formal presentation to the Auburn University Philosophical Society. On October 29, members met with Dr. Dylan Sabo to discuss his paper, “Hedgehogs, Foxes, Square Pegs, Round Holes; Vindicating Multiple Realizability.” The chapter is also considering a Facebook Group to give students a place to communicate with each other.

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social events; among the suggestions were game parties, a picnic, a library scavenger hunt, a symposium, and coordination with the Student Film League. At our January 14 meeting, we discussed the budget, a spring induction, a weekly Philosophy Circle, and the C.D.C. Reeve lecture, “The Lust of the Eye; Krzysztof Kieslowski Looks at Love.” At the next meeting, we plan a lecture by either a Darwin scholar or an expert in the philosophy of language; voting to take place later! Eric Kral told members about the Veritas Forum at Iowa State and will provide further information about the event and carpooling.

MO-TAU(2619) [Northwest Missouri State University; advisor, Richard Field] At the February 11 meeting, we discussed our bake sale which will be part of the Great American Bake Sale to help end childhood hunger. We plan a philosophical theme and made preparations for our part, including a list of shifts and people who will handle each shift. We are also considering holding a panel discussion later in the term.

NY-ZETA(3306) [The College of Saint Rose; advisor, Daniel P. Thero] President: Sean Horan; Vice-president: Tyler Kirk; Secretary: Madalyn DeThomasis; Treasurer: Jordan Randall. At the March meeting of our club, the Long Island University chapter held a number of events. We had several movie screenings, including showings of “A Clockwork Orange” and “American Psycho.” Also, we have worked with other clubs on campus to encourage students to become involved with philosophy. Our campus hosted the Long Island Philosophical Society meeting in October 2009.

NY-KAPPA(3310) [Siena College; advisor, John Blanchard] President: Meg Rowley; Vice-president: Paul Mayer; Secretary: Michael DiSiena; Treasurer: Caitlin Romanowski.

NY-UPSILON(3320) [Hunter College, CUNY; advisor, Laura Keating] NEW ADVISOR.

NC-ALPHA(3401) [East Carolina University; advisor, John Collins] The East Carolina chapter was reactivated. At the first meeting of the school year, chapter members discussed both the philosophy club and Phi Sigma Tau as well as welcomed new members. The topic of the meeting was fallacies in logic. At the January meeting, chapter members welcomed new members, discussed graduation merchandise, and talked about future philosophy meetings.

OH-RHO(3617) [John Carroll University; advisor, Diana Taylor] The John Carroll chapter held an Installation/Induction ceremony on April 26, 2009. Family and faculty joined the celebration of the induction of nine charter members of the new chapter. During the fall term, chapter members participated in the student involvement fair, emailed all philosophy majors, posted flyers around the University, and advertised in “all-student” emails. During the fall term, chapter members attended “Examined Life” at the Cleveland Institute of Art and read and discussed Nagel’s paper, “What Is It To Be like a Bat?” Dr. Jean Kilbourne spoke on “The Naked Truth; Advertising’s Image to Human Survival.” Plus reviews by Justin Fetterman, Jeff A. Hein, Anthony Schlimgen, Cody L. Geise. “Shedding the Ignorance of the Unconscious: A Neurophilosophical Investigation of Consciousness and Unconsciousness concerning Their Significance to Human Survival.”

PA-ZETA(3306) [Washington & Jefferson College; advisor, Hanna Kim] President: David Singer; Vice-president: Marissa Stevens; Secretary/Treasurer: Heather Zeilinsky.

PA-MU(3912) [Villanova University; advisor, Annika Thiem] President: Kevin Dunsee; Vice-president: Brandon Batchelor; Secretary: Greg Norcross. At the beginning of our November meeting, Dr. Thiem introduced Phi Sigma Tau and explained its mission. Plans for the spring include a Philosophy Colloquium and “Spotlights” (meetings conducted by a member on a certain philosopher or work to introduce less-studied thinkers to other members). Our chapter will cooperate with the graduate group “Philosophy in Progress.” At the December meeting, Charles Myers “spotlighted” J. Judd Owen’s article, “The Task of Liberal Theory after September 11th”; discussion followed. Our chapter also discussed our Phi Sigma Tau Philosophy Colloquium but left open the call for papers; we plan to determine the Colloquium topic after the selection of papers.

TN-BETA(4302) [Carson-Newman College; advisor, D. Brian Austin] President: Jon Coffee (aka Prime Mover); Vice-president: Luke Morton (aka Prime Mover Once Removed).

TX-MU(4412) [University of Texas at Arlington; advisor, Kenneth Williford] The University of Texas at Arlington chapter was reactivated; the chapter was briefly inactive after the death of its former advisor, Dr. Denny Bradshaw. The induction dinner was held on November 21, 2009; Dr. Williford gave the L.E. Bainbridge address, and Patricia Mann provided a rebuttal. At the October 5 meeting, chapter members considered the prospects for a Fall 2009 Phi Sigma Tau Colloquium, and at the November 2 meeting, members discussed details of reading Thus Spoke Zarathustra for a meeting tentatively scheduled for March 2010.

VA-GAMMA(4703) [James Madison University; advisor, Anne M. Wiles] At our first meeting, we discussed the activities for the spring term. Among them will be a presentation by Dr. Wiles (February 25), a symposium on Plato’s Republic (with professors Veltmann, Piper, and Hammond), options for April (that might include professors from the University of Virginia who might be willing to present at JMU or a seminar on metaphysics), and an initiation on April 13.

Dialogue April 2010


Matthew Dougherty. “Platonic Epistocracy: A Response to Andrew Forcechime’s ‘Deliberative Democracy with a Spine.’”


Cody L. Geise. “Shedding the Ignorance of the Unconscious: A Neurophilosophical Investigation of Consciousness and Unconsciousness concerning Their Significance to Human Survival.”

Plus reviews by Justin Fetterman, Jeff A. Hein, Anthony Schlimgen, Kevin Scott, and Jeff D. Sharpless.

In this issue, we were forced to choose between a number of fine papers, but because of the space limitations of our staple binding, we were not able to publish all of the papers we would have liked to print. For several years members of the Executive Council of Phi Sigma Tau have discussed an expansion of Dialogue and a new binding format that will allow us to publish more student work. We hope to institute the expansion for Volume 53, but we will need the continued support of students who are willing to provide their work for consideration; we need your assistance for this expansion. Please consider submitting your work to our editor, Dr. Steve Barbome, (barbone@rohan.sdsu.edu). We also have a book review section, and we hope you will ask about some of the books listed in the Books Received section of the journal and submit reviews of those books. We also ask advisors and faculty to encourage students to submit outstanding papers to Dr. Barbome.
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