

# CSPT INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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Conference for the Study of Political Thought, an International Organization  
Volume 33, Number 2 — Winter, 2007

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## FROM THE CHAIR

We hope to follow up the outstandingly successful conference, “Reclaiming Adam Smith,” which was held at Columbia in September 2006, with another event at Columbia in late September 2007 that will be of great interest to political theorists and historians of political thought. Although planning is well advanced, we are not yet ready to make an announcement of this meeting. Please look for a mailing in the near future.

We are eager to hear of any plans or thoughts you may have for events that would be of interest to the members of the Conference for the Study of Political Thought. Please contact Kirstie McClure of UCLA at [kmmac@polisci.ucla.edu](mailto:kmmac@polisci.ucla.edu) with any thoughts you may have, or to let her know of any events you may be planning.

A new International Encyclopedia of Political Science is being compiled. This work, which is scheduled for publication in 2008 with the support and imprimatur of the American Political Science Association, will be highly visible. A significant number of articles in political theory have not yet been assigned to authors. I urge you to consider making a contribution to this enterprise. Proposals will be considered through the IEPS website at <http://s133221803.onlinehome.us/encypolisci> (Login: Polisci; Pass-word: encyclopedia). For additional information in this Newsletter, please see the Announcements section below.

*David Johnston, Co-chair  
Columbia University*

## CHAPTER NEWS

### CANADA

#### Western Canada

The Interdisciplinary Political Theory Group at the University of Alberta has many events planned for the spring semester.

First, on January 19th, a roundtable: “Iris Young: In Memoriam,” with presentations by Anna Yeatman, “‘House and Home’: the Importance of Iris Young’s Idea of Preservation;” Cressida Heyes, “Gender, Bodies, Freedom;” David Kahane “Democracy and Social Ontology;” and Rita Dhamoon, “Iris M. Young’s Reflections on Identity Politics.”

Also planned this spring are presentations by Trevor Tchir on “Actor and Spectator: Performative Self-Disclosure in Hannah Arendt” (February 16th); Angela Thachuk “The Space In Between: Silence and Genetic Terminations” (March 16th); Magdalena Zolkos, “The Abortion Question and the Subversion of Democratic Polity” (March 16th); Charles Barbour, “The Possibility of the Very Worst: Political Beginnings” (April 27th).

The Interdisciplinary Political Theory Group is organized and convened by Anna Yeatman, and Magdalena Zolkos, both of the Department of Political Science.

— *Margaret Ogrodnick*

### EUROPE

#### Eastern Britain

The Department of Political Science at University College London will be hosting two one-day conferences this spring.

The first, “Political Theory and the Significance of Culture,” will be held March 26th, 2007. Contemporary political and social life, at each of its composite levels, is marked by cul-

tural diversity. Recent work, both within and outside political theory, has greatly enhanced the understanding of some of the philosophical and normative implications of this evolving reality. However, both within and outside the liberal tradition, there is little theoretical consensus about the proper scope and role that matters of culture and identity should perform in political theory. This one-day conference will provide a forum to consolidate and reconsider the existing philosophical frameworks and approaches, to investigate implications for public policy, as well as to advance new directions for future research. Scheduled presentations include: “Is Multiculturalism possible without ‘Culture’?” (Anne Phillips, LSE); “Secularism and Fair Treatment for Islam” (Cécile Laborde, UCL); “Admission to Citizenship in Liberal States: How Easy Should Naturalization Be?” (James Hampshire, Sussex); “The Insignificance of Culture” (Matthew Festenstein, York). For further information contact the conference organizer, Andrew Shorten at a.shorten@ucl.ac.uk.

The second, “Pluralism and Political Justification,” will be held May 4th, 2007. Pluralism seems to be a permanent feature of the modern social landscape. People are attached to distinct visions of the good life, value, purpose, obligation and human nature, and disagreements amongst them are often both deep and intractable. This predicament raises a difficulty for those theories of justice which aspire to consensus over the principles framing the political order. This one-day conference will examine recent theoretical responses to this quandary. Presentations will include: “Public Reason and the Balance of Power” (Richard Bellamy, UCL); “Deliberation in the Context of Cultural Difference” (Clare Chambers and Phil Parvin, Cambridge); “Reasonable Disagreement” (John Horton, Keele); “Political Liberalism and Public Reason” (Jonathan Quong, Manchester). For more information, contact the conference organizer, Andrew Shorten at a.shorten@ucl.ac.uk.

— *Richard Bellamy*

## **Switzerland**

Béla Kapossy (Université de Lausanne) has replaced Etienne Hofmann as Area Convener for the Swiss chapter of the CSPT.

Kapossy is currently teaching as a Lecturer in modern history at the University of Lausanne. His field of interest is the history of political thought and political economy in seventeenth- to nineteenth-century Europe. He studied history at Heidelberg, and at Cambridge with Istvan Hont. At the moment he is working on a project that deals with the transformation of eighteenth-century Swiss city-state republicanism into nineteenth-century welfare liberalism.

— *Béla Kapossy*

## **Western Britain**

In October the department of Politics at Swansea University held a memorial symposium on the work of Iris Marion Young. Speakers included Carole Pateman, Anne Phillips, and Tariq Madood.

The Department of Politics and International Relations at Swansea University will be hosting a conference, “Becoming Plural: The Political Thought of William E. Connolly,” May 11th and 12th, 2007. William E. Connolly is one of the leading political theorists in contemporary North America and perhaps the most significant to be working outside of an analytic or liberal paradigm. He has brought European poststructural concerns into the American and Anglo-American tradition, pushed the boundaries of political theory into areas as diverse as cinema, neurology and popular culture and advanced a radical theory of post-secular and post-national pluralism. His work helps to elucidate the particular problems faced by plural and pluralised societies in the face of changes wrought by globalisation, immigration, and 9/11 and its aftermath.

This conference will celebrate his work, critically interrogate it, and explore its practical political impact so as to bring his project to the attention of a wider UK and international audience. Confirmed speakers include: William E. Connolly, Thomas Dumm, Moya Lloyd,

Stephen White, Terrell Carver, and Michael Shapiro. For further details, registration information, or any questions please contact Samuel Chambers and Alan Finlayson by emailing [connolly.conference@swanseapolitics.org.uk](mailto:connolly.conference@swanseapolitics.org.uk).

— *Samuel Chambers*

## ISRAEL

The Jerusalem Seminar in the History of Political Thought continues in the spring semester of 2007. The speakers are as follows: Annabel Herzog (University of Haifa), “Levinas, Conquest and Cities of Refuge; Yitzhak Brudny (Hebrew University), “Rebelling against Liberalism: Russian Nationalist Political Thinking in the Post-Communist Era;” Nicole Hochner (Hebrew University), “Machiavelli and the Duty of Magnificence in Political Thought;” Ari Akkermans-Amaya (Hermann Cohen Akademie/Rosenzweig Center), “Public Spaces: Denkraum vs. Lebensraum in Hannah Arendt’s Political Theory;” and Michael Kochin (Tel Aviv University), “When Cultural Essentialism Fails.” For further information visit: [http://politics.huji.ac.il/jer\\_sem.htm](http://politics.huji.ac.il/jer_sem.htm).

*Naharaim* is a newly founded, peer-reviewed journal of the Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Centre at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem ([http://www.degruyter.de/rs/261\\_8517\\_ENU\\_h.htm](http://www.degruyter.de/rs/261_8517_ENU_h.htm)). It is devoted to current research in philosophical, literary, and historical aspects of German-Jewish culture. The contributions are mainly in German or English.

*Naharaim* will feature papers that analyze models which are inscribed into the experience of German-Jewish modernity, and which have taken on a paradigmatic importance for the experience of modernity in general; papers that sketch the contours of German-Jewish experience in its connection both to general Jewish structures of thought and to its non-Jewish contexts; papers that address themes related to the process of transformation of religious issues into conceptions anchored in the immanent world and to the phenomenon of secularization; and papers that reflect on and problematise the theoretical and methodological debates which are

currently taking place and which draw on Jewish thought and cultural history.

— *Efraim Podoksik*

## UNITED STATES

### Cactus Chapter

Michael White, Professor of Law and Philosophy at Arizona State University presented a paper on “Authority” as part of a series of lectures organized by the ASU Committee on Law and Philosophy. The next speaker will be Rahul Kumar of Queen’s University, Canada, on March 22.

A meeting of the Arizona Moral, Political, and Legal Philosophy group, drawing together political philosophers and theorists from Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, and the campuses of Arizona State, is also planned for March.

— *Terence Ball and Richard Dagger*

### Lonestar

Lisa Ellis (Texas A&M) is chairing the program for the next meeting of the Association for Political Theory, which will take place October 11th–14th, 2007, in London, Ontario. Proposals from all fields and approaches are welcome, and due February of 2007. For more information, go to <http://organizations.oneonta.edu/apt/>.

Under the auspices of the Fulbright Senior Specialist program, Cary Nederman (Texas A&M) spent two weeks in New Zealand in December, 2006. He presented several lectures and seminars on Machiavelli and on toleration, and gave a keynote conference address entitled “Comparative Political Thought and the Varieties of Dialogue: Dialogical Models of Intercultural Communication in Historical Perspective” to an international conference on “Western Political Thought in Dialogue with Asia” at the University of Otago, Dunedin.

Joel Parker (University of Texas) recently became the managing editor of *NOMOS*, the publication of the American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy (ASPLP). In this capacity he will be supporting Sanford Levinson (University of Texas), who for this year’s volume will

be sharing the editorial duties with outgoing editor Melissa Williams, and who will assume sole responsibility for the subsequent volume.

Diego von Vacano (Texas A&M) will be hosting a conference on the theme “Immigration and National Identity: Lessons From/For Political Theory.” The event will take place at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, February 23–24, 2007. Keynote speakers will be Stephen Macedo and Alejandro Portes of Princeton University. For further information, contact Professor von Vacano by email: [davacano@polisci.tamu.edu](mailto:davacano@polisci.tamu.edu)

— *Jason Maloy*

### **New York**

After experimenting with a change of time in the fall of 2006, the Columbia Seminar on Political and Social Thought is returning to its long-established practice of meeting on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. once each month for the spring of 2007 (with those who wish to do so assembling at 5:30 for drinks and 6 p.m. for dinner prior to the session).

The Seminar’s first session was held on Thursday, January 25, with discussion of a paper by Tamsin Shaw of Princeton University. Three sessions are scheduled for the remainder of the spring. Archon Fung of Harvard’s Kennedy School will present a paper on February 15; Bryan Garsten Yale will present on March 22; and Alexander Julius, who is currently in residence at NYU, will present on April 12.

The Seminar is chaired currently by David Johnston, Thomas Pogge, and Nadia Urbinati, all of Columbia’s Political Science Department. Please contact any of us for information about the Seminar.

— *David Johnston and Nadia Urbinati*

### **Rocky Mountains**

Our next meeting in February, is devoted to a discussion of Stanley Rosen’s “The Ancients and Moderns: Rethinking Modernity.”

— *Steve McCarl*

### **St. Louis**

The Political Theory Workshop at Washington University in St. Louis continues its bi-weekly meetings this spring. Scheduled presentations are the following: David Speetzen (Washington University) will present “A Human Right to Democracy?” on February 9th; Gerald Izenberg (Washington University) will present “Individualism and Individuality in Benjamin Constant” on February 16th; Susan Bickford (UNC-Chapel Hill) will present “Rethinking Socratic Citizenship” on March 2nd; Mathew Gill (Washington University) will present “Commericalized Professionalism: A Problem for the Knowledge Economy” on March 23rd; Jeff Brown (Washington University) will present “The Moral Problem of Disability” on April 6th; and Amy Wilson (Washington University) will present “The Role of Religious Reasons in Civic Virtue” on April 20th. To receive notices of events and copies of the papers prior to our sessions, email [rehfeld@wustl.edu](mailto:rehfeld@wustl.edu).

— *Frank Lovett*

## **NEWS EXCHANGE**

### **Announcements**

The International Encyclopedia of Political Science is one of the most ambitious projects in political science undertaken with the support and imprimatur of the American Political Science Association. When completed it will be a major teaching and learning resource for political scientists and will distill the best of political thought and research at the beginning of the 21st century. Begun in 2005 with CQ Press as publisher, it is planned for publication in 2008 in five volumes with over 1,800 bylined entries by contributors drawn from over 60 countries. An online edition is planned beginning 2010.

We are making every effort to ensure that IEPS represents the best of political science scholarship in the early 21st century. To do so we are inviting political scholars in the United States and abroad to consider writing an entry or

entries of their choice based on the schematic consistent with their interests and time schedule. Entries not included in the present schematic may be proposed.

The lead time for delivery of entries will be based on the total word count of the contributions but will not exceed eight months. Compensation will be at the rate of \$0.10 per word and will be paid by CQ Press on approval. All entries are bylined and brief biographical notes on the contributors will appear in the final volume. To provide more information on IEPS we have created a website which is located at: <http://s133221803.onlinehome.us/encypolisci> (Login: Polisci, Password: encyclopedia).

### Appointments

The Politics Department at University of Virginia has made two appointments in political theory. Melvin Rogers, who earned his PhD from Yale, will join the department this coming Fall. Melvin's dissertation, "The Undiscovered Dewey," was directed by Ian Shapiro.

Jennifer Rubenstein, PhD Chicago, will complete the last year of a three-year post-doc at Princeton before going to UVA in the Fall of 2008. Her dissertation, "Just Samaritans?" was directed by Jacob Levy and the late Iris Marion Young.

### Books and Publications

Dan Engster (Associate Professor, the University of Texas at San Antonio) will be coming out with a new book in May entitled *The Heart of Justice: Care Ethics and Political Theory* (Oxford University Press, 2007). Engster proposes a new framework of political justice based upon the practice of caring. Integrating the insights of earlier care theorists with the concerns of traditional justice theorists, *The Heart of Justice* provides the first full account of the basic institutions and policies of a caring society in the domains of domestic politics, economics, international relations, and culture.

Elizabeth Campbell Corey (Baylor Univ.) has published a new book: *Michael Oakeshott*

*on Religion, Aesthetics, and Politics* (University of Missouri Press, 2006).

Rick Parrish (West Texas A&M) has published his first book: *Violence Inevitable: The Play of Force and Respect in Derrida, Nietzsche, Hobbes, and Berlin* (Lexington Books, 2006).

Diego von Vacano (Texas A&M) has published his first book: *The Art of Power: Machiavelli, Nietzsche, and the Making of Aesthetic Political Theory* (Lexington Books, 2006).

Steven Aschheim (Hebrew University), *Beyond the Border: The German-Jewish Legacy Abroad* (Princeton University Press, 2007).

Sulla Modernità, *Modernity and Modernization: Collection of Essays* (Soveria Mannelli, 2006).

David Armitage (Harvard), *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History* (Harvard University Press, 2007).

David Armitage (Harvard), ed., *British Political Thought in History, Literature and Theory, 1500–1800* (Cambridge University Press, 2006), marking the twentieth anniversary of the Center for the History of British Political Thought at the Folger Shakespeare Library. Contributors include Richard E. Flathman, Duncan Ivison, Kirstie McClure, John Pocock, Gordon Schochet, and Quentin Skinner.

### Conferences

The Istanbul Technical University and the History of Political and Social Concepts Group (HPSCG) would like to announce the 10th Annual "International Conference on Conceptual History," Istanbul, August 30th through September 1st, 2007, at the Istanbul Technical University (Maslak).

Since 1998 the HPSCG has been involved in organizing annual conferences on conceptual history. In later years, the focus has been on the

theoretical, methodological and empirical questions dealing with transfers, translations and re-interpretations of concepts in various parts of the world. This year's conference will continue on this path. The subject will be: "Transnational Concepts, Transfers and the Challenge of the Peripheries."

Processes of political and social transformation have always been a core interest of conceptual history, particularly those processes variably called modernization, westernization or civilization related to the establishment of social and political modernity. Conceptual historians have studied the key concepts that contributed to bring about social and political modernity.

At the 10th conference we intend to examine and question the master narratives and the Western modernization canon that resulted from these processes. The creation of a canon of ideas, values and concepts included a division between centre and periphery. Centres became defined by possessing what was to be seen as the uniform way to modernity (Normalweg). Peripheries were seen as late-comers and receivers.

Master narratives and their conceptual frameworks were transferred from parts of Europe to other parts of Europe and to other regions in the world. They provided tools for local processes of transformations. The master narratives had an in-built demand for imitation and copying. But what actually happened in various places were translations, elaborations, adaptations and mergers into other cultural frameworks. Although transfers often took place under conditions of power and asymmetry, 'peripheries' were never passive receivers.

At the conference we will focus on the canonical and transnational key concepts that played a crucial role in the processes of democratization, nationalization, temporalization and secularization contributing to the establishment of social and political modernity in different parts of the world. We will discuss and compare the reception, translation and adaptation of concepts such as state, people, democracy, citizenship, nation, civilization, class and religion in different cultures. We will highlight the different

modernist and anti-modernist strategies formed by the battles around the concepts. We will deal with the challenges that the peripheral elaborations have posed to the canon.

### **Graduate Student News**

Terence Ball (Arizona State) reports that Jeffery Zavadil successfully defended his dissertation, "Anatomy of the Body Politic: Organic Metaphors in Ancient and Medieval Political Thought."

Cary Nederman (Texas A&M) reports the completion of two dissertations under his supervision: Sara R. Jordan, "The Public Interest in Public Administration: An Investigation of the Communicative Foundations of the Public Interest Standard;" and Phillip W. Gray, "'That Truth that Lives Unchangeably': The Role of Ontology in the Just War Tradition."

Sara has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Hong Kong, commencing January 2007. Phil is Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science at Texas A&M University during 2006–2007.

Samuel Chambers (Swansea) reports that Richard Murphy completed his PhD; his thesis was titled "Art, Metaphysics and Dialectic: R. G. Collingwood and the Crisis of Western Civilization."

Margaret Ogronnick (Manitoba) reports that Dion (Mark) Blythe has completed his PhD in Political Science at the University of Alberta. His dissertation is titled: "The Practice of 'Justice as Fairness.'"

### **Visiting Scholars and Other Moves**

Nancy Kokaz, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto is Visiting at the Department of Politics, Swansea University, for the 2006–07 academic year.

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

*Please send to:*

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USA

***Dues apply to the calendar year, and entitle members to access copies of the conference papers for the year. Payable in US Dollars.***

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