

Fall 2022 Newsletter

Notes from the Chair

Dear SIUE Philosophy Community,

It has been some time since our last newsletter. To some extent, I hope this communication hiatus is understandable. As is true for most organizations, the pandemic caused severe disruption to normal operations. Starting in Spring 2019, our efforts were directed narrowly to delivering instruction to our students and ensuring our faculty and staff were given the support they needed to navigate through the range of professional and personal obstacles they faced. Casualties of this redirection of efforts were not only an absence of newsletters and the like, but also the many events and activities-- formal and informal-- that make SIUE Philosophy the community that it is.

Despite those disruptions, we have, over the last year, begun to restore some of our traditional events and activities. And we aim to restore fully, and even expand our offerings for the coming year. As is traditional, we're including information for the main Fall event: the Undergraduate Philosophy Conference; however, much of the additional content of this edition of our newsletter is to provide an update on what we've been doing over the last year plus.

The pandemic, of course, has been a challenge for everyone. Still, it also serves as a reminder about the significance philosophy has for our ability to think and act in the world. Philosophy enriches debates about political liberty and mask mandates; it equips us to understand the epistemic basis for belief in vaccine safety and efficacy; and it enables us to understand the usefulness and limitations of epidemiological models. But more generally, philosophy is best when done as a social activity. And, arguably, the most important reminder of the pandemic is how important is the physical gathering together to share ideas and the reasons for them. We are once more starting to do just that. We hope you'll consider joining us for any or all of our various events over the course of the 2022-2023 academic year.

With warmest regards,

Chris Pearson

Current Events

Undergraduate Conference & Visiting Scholar



Dr. Barrett Emerick of St. Mary's
College of Maryland

Thanks to generous financial support from Professor Emerita Carol Keene, we will welcome our first visiting scholar this fall. Dr. Barrett Emerick will join us from **October 19-22, 2022** and give not only the keynote to the UPC on Friday but also a public talk at the Edwardsville Public Library on Thursday. Please join us for one or both! We will post announcements about all conference and visiting scholar events on our social media feeds, so be sure to follow us for updates.

Keynote: **"Letting Go of Heroes and Villains: Agency and the Possibility of Moral Redemption"**

Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 at 4 PM

Location: Abbott Auditorium in the Lovejoy Library basement

What's Happened Fall 2020– Spring 2022

Past Events and News



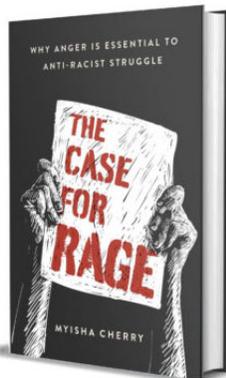
43rd Fritz Marti Lecture

In March, we were very pleased to host the Fritz Marti lecture for the first time since the outbreak of the COVID pandemic. Seeing guests gather for our pre-talk reception was a welcome and encouraging step towards a return to more normal operations. Our Fritz Marti speaker this past spring was Dr. Camisha Russell of the University of Oregon. Her talk, titled **“What Makes an Anti-Racist Feminist Bioethics?”** challenged us to employ an intersectional perspective to ethical issues in the biomedical field as they pertain to reproduction, incarceration, environmental justice, and migrant workers, among others, and pointed out the importance of including the perspectives of women of color in these ethical questions in order to recognize and address a more complete range of their facets and implications.

Fall 2021 Undergraduate Conference

This October saw the first hybrid version of the Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, and we are happy to report its success. Despite the challenges of the context, we heard from five students: two live virtual presentations, one pre-recorded talk, and two papers delivered in-person.

It was a treat for us to have Dr. Myisha Cherry of the University of California Riverside come to campus as the first stop on her book tour for The Case for Rage, which was hot off the press last fall. Her talk, **“Rage Renegades: A Message to Allies,”** provided philosophically-informed guidance on avoiding common missteps as allies offering support to vulnerable communities.



Peg Simons Honored

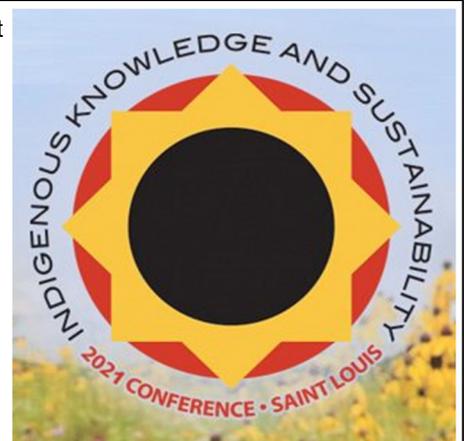
Emeriti faculty member Dr. Margaret (Peg) Simons received quite a career recognition from the Eastern Division Society for Women in Philosophy: in November 2021, she was awarded the Distinguished Woman Philosopher Award to honor her contributions to the field. In particular, nominators commented upon her work in recovering Simone Beauvoir as an important voice in Philosophy, as well as the “essential role in transforming the discipline to be inclusive and welcoming to women, people of color, and other marginalized populations over the past fifty years.” Congratulations, Dr. Simons!



Greg Fields Coordinates Multi-Institutional Conference

In October, Distinguished Research Professor Greg Fields was thrilled to present a project close to his heart: an inspiring and ground-breaking conference co-hosted by multiple regional institutions to highlight the breadth and depth of indigenous knowledge available to engage the serious questions of food availability and sustainable land stewardship. Washington University, UMSL, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the St. Louis Zoo, as well as SIUE/the Center for Spirituality and Sustainability each offered one or more presentations over Zoom.

The conference, which featured a host of important Native American scholars including Dr. Robin Kimmerer of Braiding Sweetgrass, was held October 6-10, 2021, but the planning and preparation took a couple of years and included the updating of the sound system of the Center for Spirituality and Sustainability in the Fuller Dome on campus for which Dr. Fields found multiple grant funds to support. Well done, Dr. Fields, on creating this wonderful platform for sharing diverse perspectives surrounding sustainability.



People in Philosophy

Alumni Spotlight

Karey Lakin, Class of 2010



What have you been up to in the time since graduation?

After I graduated with my B.S. in Philosophy in 2010, I enrolled in SIUE's Music Department (with a focus on Jazz Studies, having previously studied jazz at a music school in Los Angeles). Unfortunately, I never got the opportunity because I partially tore my rotator cuff, so was not able to return for a second semester. At that point, I considered going to graduate school to study Philosophy, but chose instead to go to law school. Ultimately, I chose Pepperdine Law enrolling in fall of 2012 and graduating in 2016. I passed the Uniform Bar Exam in February 2020 and moved back to Edwardsville from Malibu, CA, in November 2020. I immediately secured a paid-intern position with a local attorney. I presently work for the same attorney, though I did take some time away from that work to care for my father. I am currently working toward becoming a fully licensed attorney with the final step of completing my Character and Fitness Report

How has the study of Philosophy benefited you?

Although I could name many ways, I want to focus on how my studying at SIUE as a Philosophy Major was most responsible for my success on the LSAT, which gained me scholarships to good law schools. When my peers taking LSAT-prep courses were consuming the bulk of their course learning Symbolic Logic for the first time, I was taking practice exams. Concerning my familiarity with Logic, although Symbolic Logic and Critical Thinking contributed most, nearly every Analytic Philosophy Course I took reinforced this familiarity. They often required at least some knowledge of Logic.

What part or parts of the SIUE Philosophy Program do you appreciate most?

This question is especially easy to answer: relatively small class sizes, which offers more opportunity to participate, and access to faculty. At least while I was at SIUE, in upper-division courses especially, in classes with Dr. Littmann, Dr. Crane, and Dr. Pearson I was afforded many opportunities to participate in class discussion and engage in some of the most interesting debates of my life. Access to faculty was the other part of SIUE's Philosophy Program I greatly appreciated. All the professors had very generous office hours, of which I took great advantage. Any time I had a theory I wanted to work out, I would drop by Dr. Crane's office. My years at SIUE were some of the best and most memorable of my life.

Student Activities

Scholarship Awards 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

Congratulations to Our Award Recipients!

Mary A. Maguire Dunnagan History/Philosophy Writing Contest Award: **Sabria Bender** (2021)

Dr. Carol A. Keene Scholarship: **Shannon Strom** (2021); **Hannah Flannagan** (2022)

John Mareing Philosophy Scholarship: **Justin Walker** (2021); **Sabria Bender** (2022)

Robert A. Gray Memorial Award: **Colin Boysen** (2021); **Nadine Miller** (2022)

Ben Ober Endowment: **Zaria Whitlock** (2021); **Zachary Sappington** (2022)

Environmental Philosophy Award: **Christa Barenfanger** (2022)

Senior Assignment Award: **Chase McQueen** and **Zaria Whitlock** (2021); **Eric Neeley** and **Tyler Bottens** (2022)

People of Philosophy

Remembering Sang-Ki Kim and Bill Linden

Sang-Ki Kim died on Monday, May 30, 2022 at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL. He was born in Daegu, South Korea. The son of Kyusung Kim and Okjoo Kwon, his family lived in Daegu, then Manchuria, and then settled in Seoul, South Korea. He earned his bachelor's degree and Master's from Seoul National University in Philosophy after which he taught Philosophy at KeiMyung University. He met his wife, Hung Soon, in 1962 and married her in 1965. In 1968 he moved to the US to attend graduate school at the State University of New York at Buffalo and received his PhD in 1972 under Dr. Marvin Faber and Dr. Kah Kyung Cho. He taught for a year at Brock University in St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada and then landed a faculty position at SIUE in 1973. He taught at SIUE for 33 years, retiring in 2005. As a scholar, his interests spanned from German and Chinese philosophy to anthropology, religion and economics.

Dr. George William "Bill" Linden of Edwardsville IL died December 26, 2019 at Barnes Extended Care Center in Clayton, MO. Bill was born August 18, 1928 in Virginia, Minnesota. In 1962, Bill moved to SIUE, where he was instrumental in developing the Department of Philosophy. He served as chairperson of the department for many years. He is the author of the book "Reflections on the Screen" and many articles on Native Americans, the philosopher Spinoza, and Adlerian Psychology. Bill retired from SIUE in 1993 and volunteered at the Loretto-Hilton Theater as a docent, became involved in the ManKind Project as a local leader and national Elder, and exercised at the SIU gymnasium regularly.

Hellos and So-Longs

New Student Worker Sabria Bender

The Department is happy to have Sabria Bender, double major in Technical Theater and Philosophy, as our student worker. Along with winning Philosophy Honors Day awards two years in a row, Sabria presented at the 2021 UPC, designed the lighting for most of the Theater Department shows last year, and was the student keynote speaker for Honors Day 2022. Welcome, Sabria!



The Department Welcomes Dr. Joshua Smart

Dr. Joshua Smart joined us as our newest full-time Instructor at the beginning of the 21-22 academic year. Dr. Smart earned his PhD from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2017. He has held teaching positions at Ohio State University and the University of Oklahoma, among others. His research specialization is in epistemology, having published "Disbelief is a Distinct Doxastic Attitude" in the journal Synthese. He'll be teaching Reasoning and Argumentation, Medical Ethics, and Epistemology for us. Welcome, Dr. Smart!

Good Wishes to Justin Walker

Former student worker Justin Walker completed his undergraduate studies in Philosophy in May 2021 and is working on a Master's in Teaching at SIUE. We miss his friendly presence around Peck Hall and wish him well on his next chapter. Reports have it that the writing skills he developed through his undergraduate philosophy studies have already garnered him attention in his new field.

Supporting SIUE Philosophy

Whether it is support for student scholarships, the annual Fritz Marti lecture, or foundation funds used for hosting events such as Ethics Bowl, the department relies on financial support from its faculty, emeriti, alumni, and the broader community to continue to provide the resources necessary for SIUE to be a great place for philosophy.

Use the enclosed envelope to send support by mail.
The Philosophy Development Fund (3525) is the most general and flexible option.

Visit the Department's website for other ways to give:
<https://www.siu.edu/artsandsciences/philosophy/Donation.shtml>

Social Media

Find out what is going on in the philosophy department now by visiting siue.edu/philosophy

And be sure to follow the department on Facebook @ Philosophy Department of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville