



**A** realignment of philosophical thought and thinkers has been noticeable for some time. The Society for Phenomenology and Media (SPM) annual conference in Freiburg and Furtwangen in February, 2012 gave ample evidence of the shifts in thinking that are taking place internationally.

Co-sponsored by the Husserl Archive-Freiburg, the University of Freiburg/Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, and the Hochschule Furtwangen University, papers at the conference not only spanned a wide range of media, they also addressed contemporary issues in cognitive science, digital imaging, and embodiment, as well as continuing research into traditional media questions.

SPM has become a vanguard voice in media studies, making the transition from its origins in phenomenology to tackling current philosophical problems and issues that arise in media studies from many different angles.

SPM has always cast a wide net in its consideration of media. Dance, stage drama, and other live-performance media are considered alongside traditional media—medieval manuscripts, early books, magazines (print media, in general), radio, film, silent and “talkie,” television (the moving image, in general) medical imagining, and the Internet (websites, blogs, e-mail, Facebook, etc.).

The Society has in recent years been reinvigorated by feminist and gender theories, post-colonial theory, and new Marxist approaches in addition to phenomenological perspectives, reception theory, and existential theory that have been the mainstay of the Society’s past conferences. Flusser, Deleuze, Antonio Negri, Judith Butler, and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak have taken their places alongside Husserl, Stein, Heidegger, Sartre, and Merleau-Ponty.

San Diego,  
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