

NOTES AND NEWS

Forthcoming Special Issues

Topic: Theistic Philosophy in Hinduism and Buddhism

Date: October 1999

Advisory Editor: Paul J. Griffiths

Submission Deadline: January 1, 1999

In spite of the renaissance in philosophy of religion since the 1970s, relatively little attention has yet been paid by philosophers writing English to the rich traditions of thought about God found in Hinduism and Buddhism. Christian philosophers should find these traditions of thought of considerable interest since they contain understandings of God, arguments about God's nature, and arguments for and against God's existence, that were elaborated quite independently of the sacred texts and philosophical traditions of the Abrahamic religions. The purpose of this issue is to explore contributions to philosophical discussion of God made by particular Hindu or Buddhist thinkers or schools. Papers from Christian philosophers assessing such contributions from a Christian viewpoint are welcome, as are papers from non-Christians, whether critical or supportive of the materials treated. In either case, the focus should be upon the philosophical issues raised by the materials treated.

Topic: Kant's Philosophy of Religion

Date: October 2000

Advisory Editor: Philip L. Quinn

Submission Deadline: January 1, 2000

This special issue is intended to contribute to the ongoing project of assessing Kant's controversial legacy to philosophy of religion. It includes his criticism of the arguments of traditional natural theology, his attempt to justify moral faith in God, freedom and immortality, and his efforts to reconstruct various distinctively Christian doctrines, such as original sin and atonement within the limits of reason. Submissions for the special issue could explicate and critically examine one or more of these parts of the Kantian legacy. They could compare Kant's philosophy of religion with the philosophical theology of his illustrious predecessors (e.g., Leibniz) or the religious thought of his distinguished successors (e.g., Hegel or Kierkegaard). Or they could discuss the significance of Kant's work for philosophy of religion today.

Topic: "Wittgensteinianism and Religion"

Date: October 2001

Advisory Editor: D. Z. Phillips

Deadline for submission: January 1, 2001

Philosophy of religion in the twentieth century has been significantly influenced by the work of Ludwig Wittgenstein. The journal will devote a

special issue to this topic on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. Papers are invited on the impact of Wittgenstein and Wittgensteinianism on philosophy of religion, theology and religious studies, on the relation of Wittgensteinianism to other movements in the philosophy of religion, or on specific topics in the Wittgensteinian tradition.

Conferences

Pacific Regional Meeting of the SCP

Date: January 30-31, 1998

Place: Biola University

Keynote speakers are Jonathan Kvanvig (Texas A&M University), George Mavrodes (University of Michigan), and Dallas Willard (University of Southern California). For information, contact David Hunt, Dept. of Philosophy, Whittier College, Whittier, CA 90608. Phone 562-907-4280; e-mail dhunt@whittier.edu.

Mountain-Plains Regional Meeting of the SCP

Date: March 12-14, 1998

Place: Arizona State University

Topic: Epistemology

Keynote Speakers are Alvin Plantinga and Ernest Sosa. The subjects are "On the Warrant of Christian Belief" and "On the Relationship of Warrant to Theism." Hotel reservations must be made by 5:00 pm MST on January 29, 1998 to qualify for conference rates: Twin Palms Hotel – telephone 602-967-9431. For further information, contact: Ted Guleserian, Dept. of Philosophy, Arizona State University, P. O. Box 872004, Tempe, AZ 85287-2004 (e-mail Guleserian@asu.edu).

Eastern Regional Meeting of the SCP

Date: April 2-4, 1998

Place: University of Delaware

Keynote lecturers are Peter van Inwagen (University of Notre Dame), James van Cleve (Brown University), and Brian Leftow (Fordham University). For further information, contact Jeff Jordan, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716.

Henle Conference

Date: April 3-4, 1998
Place: St. Louis University
Topic: Philosophy and Modern Science

The Third Robert J. Henle Conference in Philosophy honors the work of Professor Richard Blackwell, the Danforth Professor of Humanities at Saint Louis University. The conference will be held in the Knights Room of Pius XII Library at Saint Louis University. The keynote address, the Wade Memorial Lecture, will be given by Érnán McMullin (Notre Dame). Other speakers will include Bob Richards (Chicago), Gary Gutting (Notre Dame), Dan Dahlstrom (Boston University), Dominic Balestra (Fordham), and Neil Delaney (Notre Dame). Special rates will be available at the Cheshire Inn. For further information contact Richard Dees at deesrh@slu.edu or the Department of Philosophy at 314-977-3149.

Midwestern Regional Meeting of the SCP

Date: April 16-18, 1998
Place: University of Nebraska
Topic: Religious Reasons and Public Discourse

Keynote speakers are Nicholas Wolterstorff (Yale University), Robert Audi (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Paul Weithman (University of Notre Dame). For information, contact: Mark Cullison, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588-0321 (e-mail mculliso@unlinfo.unl.edu).

Conference on Hermeneutics

Date: April 16-19, 1998
Place: Ocean View Inn, Gloucester, Massachusetts

The Center for Christian Studies at Gordon College will sponsor a conference entitled "Crossing the Boundaries: Interpretive Theory and the Christian Faith." Speakers will examine recent trends in interpretation theory and suggest fruitful modes of Christian engagement with those developments. While papers will be written from within specific disciplinary and Christian faith traditions, they will cross typical boundaries by engaging in dialogue with other disciplines and other faiths, be those faiths religious or secular.

Speakers for this conference will be Merold Westphal (Fordham University), Anthony Thiselton (University of Nottingham), John Webster (Oxford University), Susan Gallagher (Seattle Pacific University), Elizabeth Fox-Genovese (Emory University), David Livingstone (Queens University, Belfast), Brian Ingraffia (Biola University), and Roger Lundin (Wheaton

College – Project Director).

To request a conference registration form, call Amy Kvistad at 978-927-2306 ext. 4365 or send an e-mail to Harold Heie at hheie@gordonc.edu.

Conference on Science and the Spiritual Quest

Date: June 7-10, 1998

Place: University of California, Berkeley

This conference features some of the world's leaders in physics, cosmology, biology, and computer and information sciences. Also included will be three major theologians, who will offer their assessments of the present challenges and possibilities of the interface between science and their respective traditions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. They will address, in their own ways, the human quest for an integrated picture of life, the universe, and ultimacy. Contact:

Professional Meeting Planners
5 Central Square, Suite 201
Stoneham, MA 02180

Phone: 617-279-9887 or 800-378-6857. Fax: 617-279-9875. Email: PMPMeeting@aol.com. The Conference is hosted by The Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences and sponsored by The John Templeton Foundation.

International Conference of the Pascal Centre for Advanced Studies in Faith and Science

Dates: July 21-25, 1998

Place: Redeemer College, Ancaster, ON, Canada

Topic: Science in Theistic Contexts: Cognitive Dimensions

Speakers and workshop leaders include: Dr. John H. Brooke (Historiography of Science and Religion), Dr. Ivor Grattan-Guinness (Religion and Mathematics), Dr. Margaret J. Osler (Religion and Physics), Dr. Nicolaas A. Rupke (Religion and Geology), Dr. Colin A. Russell (Religion and Chemistry), Dr. Tom Settle (Evaluation), Dr. Phillip Sloan (Religion and Biology). For more information, consult our website at <http://www.redeemer.on.ca/pascal> or contact Dr. Jitse M. van der Meer, The Pascal Centre, Redeemer College, 777 Garner Road, Ancaster, ON, Canada, L9K1J4. Tel: (905) 648-2139; fax: (905) 648-2134; email: pascalcentre@redeemer.on.ca

Calls for Papers

The Christ-Haunted South: A Conference on Southern Religion, Social Practice, and Literature

Date: October 22-24, 1998

Place: Baylor University

Submission Deadline: July 17, 1998

We invite papers (academic and fiction), and panel and performance proposals from scholars in philosophy, literature, religion, oral history, anthropology, history, American Studies, theater and other relevant disciplines for a conference on the intersection of religion and social practices in Southern culture. We encourage submissions on the works of Twentieth-Century Southern writers, on films set in the South, on Southern popular and material culture, and on race, social justice, and Southern religious practice.

Invited speakers include Wayne Flynt (Auburn University), Kenny Williams (Duke University), Noel Polk (Southern Mississippi University), Ralph Wood (Samford University), Jay Tolson (editor of *Wilson Quarterly*), and Vicki and Dennis Covington. For more information see <http://www.baylor.edu/~IFL/Call.html> or contact Michael Beaty, P.O. Box 97270, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798; Michael_Beaty@baylor.edu; 254-710-4805 or Greg Garrett, Dept. of English, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798; Greg_Garrett@baylor.edu; 254-710-6879.

Fellowships

Center for Philosophy of Religion Fellowships for 1998-99

The Center for Philosophy of Religion at the University of Notre Dame announces five fellowships for the 1999-2000 academic year. Our Postdoctoral Fellowships (two available) provide a stipend of \$35,000 (teaching one course each semester; otherwise \$30,000) and are offered to those whose tenure at the Center would allow them to grow and make progress in philosophy of religion and theistic philosophy, subsequently disseminating and expanding such work through their own teaching and writing. A Distinguished Scholar Fellowship (one available) will offer a stipend of \$45,000 (teaching one course each semester; otherwise \$40,000) and is intended to provide time for reflection and writing for those whose work is in the forefront of current research in the philosophy of religion or in Christian philosophy. An Extraordinary Fellowship (one available) awards a \$35,000 stipend to a scholar who might not qualify for the fellowships described above, but who would benefit from a year at the Center — for example, foreign scholars or those outside the field of philosophy (e.g., theologians who want to enrich their understanding of philosophy of religion and theistic philosophy, humanists from other fields who could benefit by a deeper grasp of the sort of philosophy practiced at the Center, and scholars interested in a

theistic approach to psychology, sociology, economics and other subjects). Finally, a Visiting Graduate Fellowship (one available) provides a \$15,000 stipend to a philosophy graduate student at another institution who is working on a dissertation in philosophy of religion or Christian philosophy and who would profit from spending a year at the Center.

Postdoctoral Fellows and Distinguished Scholar Fellows will ordinarily have opportunity to teach one class each semester. All Fellows will have access to many of the University's facilities (e.g., library and gymnasium), to the activities of the Philosophy Department (some seven of whom take philosophy of religion as their primary area of interest) and to the special activities of the Center (e.g., its weekly colloquia). Those with sabbatical support are welcome to apply. Applicants should see that the Center receives each of the following:

1. A complete *curriculum vitae* (or transcript, for the visiting graduate student applicants), which should include a list of publications and names of three people you will ask to send letters of recommendation on your behalf.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A statement of no more than three pages (double-spaced) describing the Fellowship for which you are applying and the project on which you would like to work while at the Center.
4. One published or unpublished paper.

All material should be sent to:

Alvin Plantinga, Director
Center for Philosophy of Religion
330 Decio Hall, P. O. Box 1068
Notre Dame, IN 46556.

The deadline for Extraordinary Fellowship and Distinguished Scholar Fellowship applications for 1999-2000 is December 1, 1998; for all other Fellowships, April 1, 1999.