



Annual Meeting

Saturday, July 8, 2017

**The City College of New York
160 Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031**

North Academic Center, 5th Floor, Room 5/144

**Program Theme
"American and Chinese Perspectives on Philosophical Practice"**

Provisional Program

9:00-9:30 a.m.

Registration and reception (free for APPA members)

9:30-10:00 a.m.

Lou Marinoff, The City College of New York

Annual Report and Town Hall Meeting

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Nancy Matchett, University of Northern Colorado

Philosophical Counseling and Moral Distress

Moral distress is a well-documented phenomenon in the nursing profession, and increasingly thought to be implicated in a nation-wide nursing shortage in the US. First identified by the philosopher Andrew Jameton in 1984, moral distress has also proven highly resistant to various attempts by the nursing profession to prevent or alleviate its symptoms. While this would seem to be bad news for nurses and their patients, it is potentially good news for philosophical practitioners, for whom I believe there is both socially important and philosophically interesting work to be done. In an effort to encourage such work, this paper pursues two related lines of inquiry. One aim is to explicate the distinctively philosophical (as opposed to more purely psychological or institutional) contours of the problem; the other is to identify strategies philosophical practitioners might use to resolve moral distress with clients. Throughout the paper, I am especially keen to highlight ways in which a philosophical counseling response to moral distress would differ from the methods being deployed by the nursing profession.

11:00-11:30 a.m.

coffee and networking break

11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

Shanti Jones, Taos, New Mexico

An Approach to Philosophical Counseling

A virtue based philosophical approach to counseling which frames itself around the highest good frees both the client and the counselor to immerse themselves more deeply in the counseling process. When they orient themselves and the process towards the highest good, a safe space is co-created for a dialogue about the client's deepest concerns. Elements from phenomenology, pragmatism, and existentialism are utilized to support the client/counseling dyad that centers itself on a search for the highest good, a term used to describe the singular and overriding end that human beings ought to pursue. This pluralistic approach allows for the use of a variety of methods by both counselor and client as they work towards outcomes grounded in virtue. For these reasons and more, this approach can be remarkably powerful for certain clients.

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Lunch

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Zhiyuan Wang, Guanxi Normal University for Nationalities, China

On Happiness: Based on Roemer's General Theory of Exploitation

Pursuit of happiness is an eternal theme of human beings. However, with the rapid development of economies, more and more people are confused about how to be happy. Marx held that we achieve happiness through abolition of exploitation. Roemer, by using employment model analysis, demonstrated that exploitation exists in any society, which provided us with a new perspective for understanding happiness. Two formal definitions of happiness are advanced. And according to these definitions, happiness can be understood intuitively. The evolution of human societal forms are met with the pursuit of happiness, and it is true that tomorrow will be better for the majority.

3:00-3:30 p.m.

coffee and networking break

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Weiguo Xia, Shandong University at Weihai, China

Philosophical Practice in China

The article will study the history and present situation of philosophical practice in China, and will look ahead to its future. The article is divided into four parts: first, the process of research and acceptance of philosophical practice in China; second, the basic characteristics and representative achievements of the practice of philosophy in China; third, analysis of three paths of contemporary research of philosophical practice in China; and fourth, the Chinese face of philosophical practice, revealing the mutual influence of Chinese philosophical culture and its practice of philosophy, eventually reaching a common understanding and mutual promotion.

4:30-5:00 p.m.

Meeting wrap-up and discussion

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Drinks and dinner at The Grange (5 minutes from campus)

RSVP before July 6:

admin@appa.edu