

August 2021

(The content of this newsletter is dependent on what people on the INPP and AAPP mail lists report and is not a comprehensive bibliography.)

PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHIATRY NEWS

In memoriam Osborne P. Wiggins (1943-2021) Ozzie Wiggins completed his PhD at the New School for Social Research after taking an undergraduate degree at Lamar College in Beaumont Texas. He also became a faculty member at the New School before joining the Philosophy Department and spending the bulk of his career at the University of Louisville where he taught and wrote on medical ethics. He was a founding member of the Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry (AAPP). A phenomenologist by training, working with Michael Schwartz, Ozzie pioneered the growth of phenomenological psychopathology in the USA and internationally. As part of their work they introduced and modernized the concept of ideal types for use in current psychiatric theory.

In memoriam Louis C. Charland (1958-2021) Louis Charland was a tenured professor in the Department of Philosophy at Western University Ontario with joint academic appointments with the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Department of Psychiatry in the Faculty of Medicine. He received his PhD at Western University and his BA and MA at Carleton University. He wrote about the relevance of the historical concept of the passions for contemporary psychiatry, scrutinized over medicalization, translated 19th century psychiatric and psychological writings into English, and studied and consulted on decision-making capacity.

In memoriam Joseph Margolis (1924-2021). Joseph Margolis was a prolific philosopher who defended an anti-foundationalist and historicist perspective aligned with a pragmatist concept of realism. In his paper ‘the concept of mental illness’ he argued that whether psychiatric distress and dysfunction should be medicalized cannot be decided in a simple either/or fashion.

INTERVIEWS AND MEDIA

Dr. Claire Pouncey participated in a panel discussion on “A Post-Trump review of the Goldwater Rule,” held by Penn Law’s Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law on May 11, 2021. She and the other discussant also published a blog post on the web site. Dr. Pouncey described a mismatch between the Goldwater Rule and professional ethics, and a better fit between caution in speaking publicly to public figures and the broader notion of professionalism.

<https://www.law.upenn.edu/institutes/cerl/conferences/goldwaterrule/>

New Interviews in Awais Aftab's *Conversations in Critical Psychiatry* in *Psychiatric Times*

[There and Back Again: Joseph Pierre, MD](#)

[A People's History of Depression: Jonathan Sadowsky, PhD](#)

[Psychiatry and the Shores of Social Construction: Sami Timimi, MD](#)

[Reconsidering Care and Coercion in Psychiatry: Kathleen Flaherty, JD](#)

[Psychiatry and the Long View: Paul Summergrad, MD](#)

[Global Psychiatry's Crisis of Values: Dainius Pūras, MD](#)

[From Classic and Critical to Integrative Psychiatry: Dan J. Stein, MD, PhD, DPhil](#)

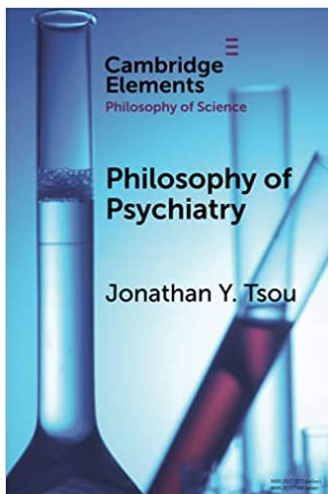
[Trauma and the Politics of Diagnosis: Janice Haaken, PhD](#)

PSAGACITY series: View John Sadler's video interviews with leading members of the philosophy of psychiatry community www.psagacity.org or <https://vimeo.com/user24832613/psagacity>

Recordings of Eleven Presentations for the UQAM Spring 2021 Philosophy of Psychiatry Webinar <https://www.philosophyofpsychiatry.com/webinar>

Metapsychology Online Reviews (metapsychology.net) is keen to publish book reviews in philosophy and theory of psychology and psychiatry. If you have expertise in these areas and are interested in reviewing recently published or forthcoming books, please contact Christian Perring (cperring@yahoo.com).

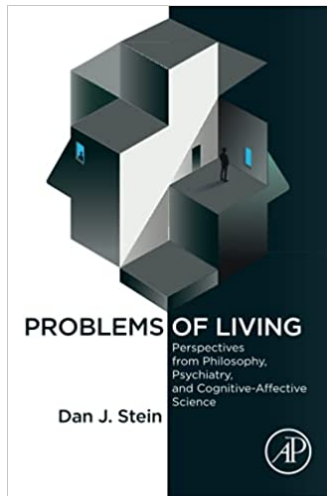
RECENT BOOKS



Jonathan Y. Tsou *Philosophy of Psychiatry*. Cambridge University Press. Jon Tsou examines and defends positions on central issues in the philosophy of psychiatry. The positions defended assume a naturalistic and realist perspective and are framed against skeptical perspectives on biological psychiatry. The main argument Tsou defends is that genuine mental disorders are biological kinds with harmful effects. This argument opposes the dogma that mental disorders are necessarily *diseases* (or pathological conditions)

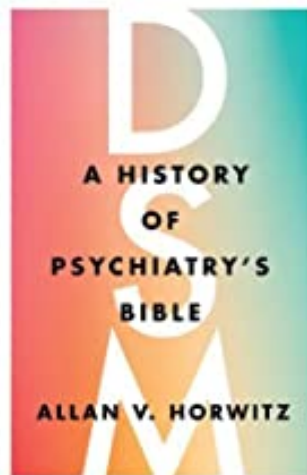
that result from biological dysfunction. Tsou contends that the broader ideal of biological kinds offers a more promising and empirically

ascertainable naturalistic standard for assessing the reality of mental disorders and the validity of psychiatric categories.

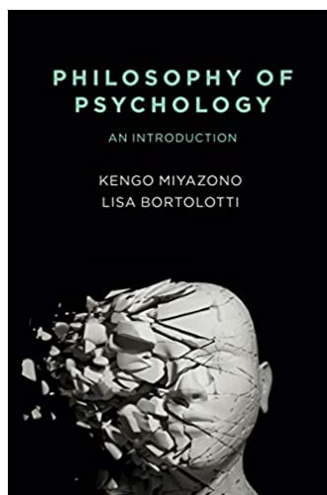


Dan J. Stein. *Problems of Living: Perspectives from Philosophy, Psychiatry, and Cognitive-Affective Science*: Academic Press.

Dan Stein argues that recent advances in psychiatry, psychology, and neuroscience offer new resources for providing better answers to the big questions and hard problems of living. To explore these big questions Stein identifies a classical position, a critical position, and an integrative position. The classical position encompasses ancient and medieval essentialist views combined with positivist perspectives in modern philosophy. The critical position encompasses constructionism, subjectivism, and variation across time and culture. Stein's integrative position incorporates what he considers the best ideas from the classical positions and the critical positions. His integrative attitude is scientific (emphasizing facts), pragmatic (taking human purposes and values into account), and pluralistic.



Allan V. Horwitz *A History of Psychiatry's Bible*. Johns Hopkins University Press. Allan Horwitz recounts how over the past seventy years, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, or DSM, has evolved from a virtually unknown and little-used pamphlet to an imposing and comprehensive compendium of mental disorder. Its nearly 300 conditions have become the touchstone for the diagnoses that patients receive, students are taught, researchers study, insurers reimburse, and drug companies promote. Although the manual is portrayed as an authoritative corpus of psychiatric knowledge, it is a product of intense political conflicts, dissension, and factionalism. The DSM results from struggles among psychiatric researchers and clinicians, different mental health professions, and a variety of patient, familial, feminist, gay, and veterans' interest groups. The DSM is fundamentally a social document that both reflects and shapes the professional economic, and cultural forces associated with its use.



Kengo Miyazono & Lisa Bortolotti. *Philosophy of Psychology. Polity*. In this new textbook in the philosophy of psychology, Miyazono and Bortolotti advocate a realistic conception of human cognition and agency, informed by psychological findings and defended by philosophical arguments. With respect to rationality, self-knowledge, freedom, and responsibility, human cognition and agency are neither perfect nor hopeless. Rather, by learning about the

nature and the extent of their limitations, human agents can improve their performance in reasoning, decision-making, and problem-solving, and approximate their ideal standards. In chapter 7 and 8, the book also discusses the lessons we can learn from delusion, confabulation, psychopathy, and autism, and contributes to the lively philosophical debates on the significance of behavior characterized by neurodiversity.

Miyazono and Bortolotti book launch with video commentaries:

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/ptr/departments/philosophy/news/2021/philosophy-of-psychology.aspx>

Publishers discount for *Toward A Philosophical Approach to Psychiatry: The Writings of Kenneth S. Kendler* . Use the code PROMO25 to purchase the book on the publisher's website with 25% off the listed price of 70GBP (\$95USD). With shipping to U.S., for example, the total cost is 59.74 GBP. <https://www.cambridgescholars.com/>

PUBLICATIONS JANUARY 2021 TO July 2021.



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<https://www.press.jhu.edu/cgi-bin/etoc.cgi>

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HONORS AND AWARDS

Sarah Kamens of SUNY Old Westbury received the Carmi Harari Early Career Award from American Psychological Association Division 32: Society for Humanistic Psychology.

Awais Aftab was given the “Teaching Award” for the best teaching by a faculty member in the academic year 2020-2021 by the psychiatry residency graduating class at Case Western Reserve

University/University Hospitals, Cleveland, OH. The residents made a special note of his teaching on philosophy of psychiatry.

PROMOTIONS, NEW POSITIONS, OR OTHER CHANGES

Dr. Aaron Kostko has accepted a position as Senior Lecturer in The Department of Philosophy at the University of Dayton.

Dr. Mona Gupta has been appointed Chair of the Expert Panel on Medical Assistance in Dying and Mental Illness for the Government of Canada.

Sarah Kamens has been named the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Royal College of Psychiatry 180th Anniversary

VBP partner Awais Aftab is giving a free webinar as part of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' 180th Anniversary on 'Changing views of what constitutes a mental illness over the last 180 years'

[Watch live: August 26th 4-5pm UK DST \(or you can view on demand\)](#)

The webinar is free but you do need to register - please go to:

<https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/events/conferences/detail/2021/08/26/default-calendar/changing-views-of-what-constitutes-a-mental-illness-over-the-last-180-years>

2022 AAPP Conference in New Orleans

The 2022 AAPP meeting will take place in New Orleans, LA. May 21 and 22.

For the 2022 annual meeting, AAPP invites abstracts for presentation on any topic that addresses philosophical issues relevant to psychiatry or psychiatric issues that are relevant to philosophy. Our aims for this conference are to bring together thinkers from a variety of disciplines who are interested in philosophy of psychiatry and to provide a forum for the presentation of work on both emerging and classic questions in 'philosophy and psychiatry.' We are interested in papers drawing from any subdiscipline of philosophy, including:

Philosophy of Mind
Philosophy of Science
Ethics/Bioethics
Phenomenology
Feminist Philosophy

Social and Political Philosophy
Epistemology and Metaphysics
History of Philosophy and Psychiatry

Papers on general topics in philosophy or cognitive science without relevance to psychiatry or mental health, broadly understood, are not appropriate for this conference.

Psychiatric and psychological themes can address any issue in psychiatric/psychological education, research, diagnosis, or mental health care. The psychiatric issues should have clear philosophical implications or demonstrate the importance of philosophical positions in psychiatric work.

Clinical reports or reflections that do not advance philosophical understanding are also not appropriate for this conference.

Abstracts of 500 – 600 words, prepared for anonymous review, should be sent to Jon Tsou (jtsou@iastate.edu) and Peter Zachar (pzachar@aum.edu). Questions about the conference should also be addressed to either of them. Abstracts are due on November 15, 2021. Notices of acceptance or rejection will be sent by January 15, 2022. Presentations will be strictly limited to 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for discussion.

The Interdisciplinary Research Network 'Talking as Cure? Contemporary Understandings of Mental Health and its Treatment'

The Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) at the University of Cambridge is hosting an interdisciplinary conversation on contemporary psychotherapy. We warmly welcome therapists, psychiatrists, clinicians, and social workers in addition to other interested scholars.

Insofar as scholars in the humanities and social sciences have surveyed the field of mental health, their focus has largely been on the dangers of psychopharmaceuticals, the excesses of psychiatric diagnosis or the rise and fall of psychiatric institutions. Despite being a staple of mental healthcare and ubiquitous in contemporary life, little attention has been given to psychotherapy—especially non-psychoanalytic varieties of psychotherapy, including, for example, more recent methods that are tightly integrated with contemporary healthcare systems, such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Mindfulness. We aim to rectify this lack of critical attention to contemporary psychotherapy.

Registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/interdisciplinary-perspectives-on-contemporary-psychotherapy-tickets-163415607481>

Schedule of talks:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LkXt2OFrV5hUYD9pS1R2tlAmxC-G1fZv-CL7B62pcVs/edit?usp=sharing>

The Bordeaux-Berlin Seminar Series on Translating Validity in Psychiatric Research

The "[Philosophy of Clinics in Neuroscience and Psychiatry](#)" Research Group, led by Steeves Demazeux at the Université de Bordeaux-Montaigne, and the "[Practices of Validation in the Biomedical Sciences](#)" Research Group, led by Lara Keuck at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science are coordinating a webinar that brings together philosophers, historians, and researchers in psychiatry, psychology, and neuroscience.

The question of whether psychiatry can be a scientific discipline has been focused around the concept of validity since the 1950s. Yet, there have been different understandings of what it means to ascertain validity. This has sparked vivid methodological debates, whose history, philosophy, and practical implications on psychiatric research this seminar series examines. On the one side, a lot of attention has been given to the promises and limitations of searching for consensus on protocols, operationalization, and standardized vocabularies in biological psychiatry. Such frameworks and tools of unification proliferated with the internationalization of psychiatric research in the second half of the twentieth century. On the other side, in research practices, validity has mainly been used as an "umbrella term" to refer to a diversity of procedures and measurements. This has raised the question to what extent the plethora of commonly used so-called validator criteria refer to the same "construct." This problem has become even more apparent when results are extrapolated and compared across contexts and languages. We are tackling these questions from various perspectives to examine how validity has been conceptualized and translated within psychiatric research.

Upcoming dates:

23 Sep - Sarah Marks "[Neurasthenia, the International Classification of Diseases, and Psychiatry in the Socialist World](#)".

4 Nov - Denny Borsboom: TBA

16 Dec - Peter Zachar: Non-specific (Generic Psychopathology): Considerations from the Theory of Open Concepts

Registration and participation are free. For updates on the events and details on registration for participation via zoom, please consult the websites of the Bordeaux-Berlin working group: <http://philo-cinaps.org/en/research-seminar-en/> and <https://www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/research/projects/translating-validity-psychiatric-research>

24th Annual Conference of the International Network for Philosophy and Psychiatry

Philosophy of Psychiatry and Lived Experience: New Models of Public Mental Health

Joint Hosts: Manchester Metropolitan University and the Mental Health Foundation

Date: 27th April 2022

Location: Webinar plus face-to-face in Manchester, UK

Organisers: Dr Anna Bergqvist (Associate Professor, Manchester Metropolitan University), Dr David Crepaz-Keay (Head of Applied Learning, The Mental Health Foundation), Alana Wilde (PhD candidate, Manchester Metropolitan University)

The Platform for Philosophy and Psychiatry - the Netherlands Psychiatric Association 2022 Conference

Conference Proposal for Autumn 2022

The Platform for Philosophy and Psychiatry in the Netherlands Psychiatric Association is exploring resources for a conference on the role of philosophy in psychiatry. The focus will be on the practical applications of philosophy in psychiatry and related areas of mental health research, policy and practice. The conference will encourage submissions from and celebrate the work of post-graduates and others newly entering the field. Format will be hybrid i.e. combining virtual and face-to-face meetings. More details will be announced in the Autumn of 2021.

Implicit bias in psychiatric practice; What lessons can philosophy offer to practitioners, learners, and educators?

Philosophy Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatry

Implicit bias is a growing area of interest in modern healthcare. The rising awareness of its role in modern practice is related to the acknowledgment of health inequalities that are partly dependent on the difficulty to tackle its presence. As a phenomenon it has been shown to be pervasive and to exist independently of the values and beliefs of individuals, thus raising important questions of philosophical interest. For a discipline like psychiatry, this is even more relevant since its theory is pregnant with conceptual challenges, that in combination with the constraints of everyday practice, implicitly shape the reflective and ethical deliberations of practitioners.

The Philosophy Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatry invites papers for their annual conference that will explore philosophical contributions on how Implicit Bias impacts psychiatric practice and considerations on how to approach it in medical education in mental health. We seek presentations that address topics including but not limited to:

- Philosophical perspectives on the phenomenon of implicit bias
- Implicit bias, learning, and moral cognition
- Cultural and organizational factors that shape implicit biases in psychiatric practice

- Philosophical perspectives on the presence of stereotypes and prejudices in psychiatric practice
- The epistemic impact of implicit bias in the practitioner's everyday life
- Implicit bias, Intuitive judgments, and clinical expertise
- Decision making, moral responsibility, and implicit bias
- Empathy and implicit bias in psychiatric practice
- Philosophical contributions on implicit bias to consider for learners and educators involved in medical education in mental health.

The conference will be held online via Zoom on 09/15/2021. For more information write philosophysig@gmail.com.

Philosophy of Psychiatry at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Carolina Seminar in Philosophy, Ethics and Mental Health

DEI Issues in Mental Health Services panel discussions.

Second Annual UNC Philosophy and Psychiatry Conference

For more information write Moseley, Daniel D. <daniel_moseley@med.unc.edu>