

A Collaborative Production
of the Association for the
Advancement of
Philosophy and
Psychiatry (AAPP) and the
International Network for
Philosophy and Psychiatry
(INPP)

Philos. Psychiatry Newsletter

INPP Website: <https://inpponline.com/>

AAPP Website: <https://aapp.press.jhu.edu/About>

January 2023

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

PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHIATRY NEWS

INTERVIEWS AND MEDIA

Psychiatry at the Margins is a new online newsletter on substack by Awais Aftab about exploring critical, philosophical, and scientific debates in the psy-sciences. Readers can view or subscribe to it at <https://awaisaftab.substack.com/>

Notable posts:

Diagnosis as Self-Understanding & Self-Alienation

<https://awaisaftab.substack.com/p/diagnosis-as-self-understanding-and>

Psychiatric Diagnosis: A Reintroduction

<https://awaisaftab.substack.com/p/psychiatric-diagnosis-a-reintroduction>

The Case for Antidepressants in 2022

<https://awaisaftab.substack.com/p/the-case-for-antidepressants-in-2022>

Post-SSRI Sexual Dysfunction & Medical Decision Making Under Uncertainty

<https://awaisaftab.substack.com/p/post-ssri-sexual-dysfunction-and>

Psychiatric Psychodrama

<https://awaisaftab.substack.com/p/psychiatric-psychodrama>

Guest Post: A Psychiatric Survivor Comes to a Place of Understanding

<https://awaisaftab.substack.com/p/guest-post-a-psychiatric-survivor>

Mark Solms and Sanneke de Haan on the Mind-Body Problem

<https://awaisftab.substack.com/p/mark-solms-and-sanneke-de-haan-on>

Psychiatry and Medical Authority: Part One

<https://awaisftab.substack.com/p/psychiatry-and-medical-authority>

When are we justified in calling mental disorders "brain disorders"?

<https://awaisftab.substack.com/p/when-are-we-justified-in-calling>

RECENT BOOKS



Can we reach the psychotic subject in their delusion?

Psychopathological theorists often try to find a way to characterise this subject's inner predicament so that their opaque utterances and actions will now rationally hang together. In this pathbreaking work, philosopher and clinical psychologist Richard G. T. Gipps demonstrates how such efforts at rational retrieval actually result in us setting our face against the psychotic subject in their distress.

Bringing together patient memoir, psychopathological observation and philosophical thought, Gipps offers a profound alternative. On the one hand he shows how, by appreciating just why we can't locate rational order within psychotic thought, we can better understand what it is to suffer delusion and psychosis. On the other, he recovers for us the value of such expressive, motivational and symbolic forms of understanding as only become available once we've been turned away at reason's door. In such ways Gipps not only solves the psychopathological problem of delusion, but also shows us how to

bear a truer witness to the psychotic subject in their brokenness, pain and despair.

PUBLICATIONS JULY 2022 TO DECEMBER 2022.



Philosophy, Psychiatry, and Psychology Volume 29 (3)

September 2023 Table of Contents

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/4862>

Philosophy, Psychiatry, and Psychology Volume 29 (4)

December 2022 Table of Contents

<https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/164>

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Subscribe to PPP.

<https://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/philosophy-psychiatry-psychology>

**Special issue of *RESISTANCES. Journal of the Philosophy of History* (Open Access).
Philosophy of Psychopathology: Perspectives on Mind, Rationality, and Agency.**

<https://resistances.religacion.com/index.php/about/issue/view/6>

- Sofia Jeppsson, Radical Psychotic Doubt and Epistemology <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2147815>
- Wouter Kusters, On Understanding Madness: a Paradoxical View <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2146491>
- David Sackris, The Disunity of Moral Judgement: Implications for the Study of Psychopathy <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2155125>
- Stanghellini, G., Aragona, M., Gilardi, L., & Ritunnano, R. The person's position-taking in the shaping of schizophrenic phenomena <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2144192>

Recent articles from *PHILOSOPHICAL PSYCHOLOGY*

- Bellaar, Rick Certainty and Delusion <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2125372>
- Dings Roy & Tekin, Serife A philosophical exploration of experience-based expertise in mental health care <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2132926>
- Moe, Frederick & De Cuzzani, Paola. The normativity in psychiatric nosology. An analysis of how the DSM-5's psychopathology conceptualisation can be integrated <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2130745>

Articles in other journals (or chapters in books)

Davis, S. (2022). Rosa Ritunnano: champion of phenomenology in psychiatry. *The Lancet*, 400(10366), 1839. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(22\)02364-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(22)02364-9/fulltext)

Fagerberg, H. (2022). Reactive natural kinds and varieties of dependence. *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, 12(4), 1-27.

Gauld, C. (2022). From psychiatric kinds to harmful symptoms. *Synthese*. Online first.

Hansen, J. Cultivating Autotelic Activities and Freedom to Flourish . (2022). In John J. Stuhr (Ed.), *Philosophy and Human Flourishing* (pp. pp. 262-279). Oxford University Press.

- Pienkos, Elizabeth. Remembering ‘Ellen West’: What a tragic case reveals about contemporary phenomenological psychopathology <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2126304>
- Radden, J. (2022) The ‘Pain’ of Grief. *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 29, 13-35.
- Radden, J. (2022) Starving to Death and the Anorexic Frame of Mind. *Transcultural Psychiatry* 59 (3)
- Radden, J. (2022) Symptoms in Particular: Feminism and the Disordered Mind. In *Feminist Philosophy of Mind* edited by K. Maitra and Jennifer MacWeeny. Oxford: Oxford University Press <https://doi.org/10.1177/13634615211066697>
- Ritunnano, R., Stanghellini, G., Fernandez, A. V., Feyaerts, J., & Broome, M. (2022). Applied ontology for phenomenological psychopathology? A cautionary tale. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 9(10), 765-766. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366\(22\)00301-7/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366(22)00301-7/fulltext)
- Sadler, J. Values Literacy and Citizenship (2022). In John J. Stuhr (Ed.), *Philosophy and Human Flourishing* (pp. 213-236). Oxford University Press.
- Smith, W. R., & Appelbaum, P. S. (2022). Novel ethical and policy issues in psychiatric uses of psychedelic substances. *Neuropharmacology*, 216, 109165. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropharm.2022.109165>
- Solomon, Miriam (2022). On Validators for Psychiatric Categories *Philosophy of Medicine*, 3 (December 2022).
- Tsou, J. Y. (2022). Biological Essentialism, Projectable Human Kinds, and Psychiatric Classification. *Philosophy of Science*
- Vintiadis, Elly. Mental disorders as processes: A more suited metaphysics for psychiatry <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2022.2101443>
- Wahman, J. (2022). Pragmatic Stories of Selves and Their Flourishing. In John J. Stuhr (Ed.), *Philosophy and Human Flourishing* (pp. 69-89). Oxford University Press.

HONORS AND AWARDS

K. W. M. Fulford awarded the 2022 Margrit Egnér-Stiftung prize.



The Dr. Margrit Egnér Foundation promotes new ideas and special achievements in the field of anthropological and humanistic psychology, including the corresponding directions of philosophy and medicine. The prize recognizes individuals who, through their life's work, contribute to a more human world in which the human being in wholeness is at the center.
<https://margritegner.ch/en/>

PROMOTIONS, NEW POSITIONS, OR OTHER CHANGES

Jonathan Y. Tsou Professor of Philosophy and the Marvin and Kathleen Stone Distinguished Professor of Humanities in Medicine and Science is the incoming (2023) Director of the Center of Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology (CVMST) at UT Dallas.

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Berlin-Bordeaux Working Group on Translating Validity in Psychiatric Research.

Organized by Lara Keuck and Steeves Demaezux

[Jan 12, 11.00-12.30: Health Beyond Medicine Colloquium - Anja Suter](#)

[Jan 19, 15.00-16.30: Translating Validity in Psychiatric Research Seminar Series - Volker Roelcke](#)

[Jan 30 + every last Monday of the month, 14.00-15.30: History of Medical Statistics Reading Group](#)

[Feb 8, 15.00-17.00: Commoning Biomedicine Conversation](#) (#3: Stephanie Snow, University of Manchester)

[Feb 9, 15.00-16.30: Translating Validity in Psychiatric Research Seminar Series - Uljana Feest](#)

Feb, 27, 10.00-12.00: Beginning of a new reading group on Identity in Histories of Science, Medicine and Heritage


Mar 24, 14-19.00: Workshop on Coordination and Validity in Measurement across Science and Medicine

To join, please register by email to officekeuck@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de.

Canada Research Chair on Epistemic Injustice and Agency and the Université du Québec à Montréal present a Philosophy of Psychiatry Webinar.

Every two weeks beginning January 26


Organized by Anne-Marie Gagné-Julien and Sarah Arnaud

Philosophy of psychiatry  Canada Research Chair
on Epistemic Injustice and Agency

Winter 2023 Edition
Every two weeks - Eastern time

PROGRAM

JANUARY 26TH Robyn Bluhm Michigan State University	FEBRUARY 9TH John Sadler University of Texas Southwestern	FEBRUARY 23RD Nick Haslam University of Melbourne
MARCH 9TH Bill Fulford St Catherine's College, University of Oxford	MARCH 23RD Jackie Sullivan University of Western Ontario	APRIL 6TH Elyn Saks University of Southern California Gould Law School


 Original artwork: Barot, Genest-Roulier
 Graphic design: www.anebribeur.com
UQAM Département de philosophie

Register for the talks at: <https://www.philosophyofpsychiatry.com/>

Webinars are taped and available to stream [HERE](#)

Philosophical Issues in Psychiatry VI: Causal Concepts In Psychopathology: Multidisciplinary Perspectives

Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen

International Conference

15-17 May 2023

Organizers: Kenneth S. Kendler, Josef Parnas, Peter Zachar, & Jill Opalesky.

Invited Speakers:

Denny Borsboom (University of Amsterdam)

John Campbell (University of California, Berkeley)

Carl Craver (Washington University in St. Louis)

Shaun Gallagher (University of Memphis)

Stephan Heckers (Vanderbilt University School of Medicine)

Steve Hyman (Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard)

Kenneth S. Kendler (Virginia Commonwealth University)

Adina Roskies (Dartmouth College)

Lauren Ross (University of California, Irvine)

Federica Russo (University of Amsterdam)

Josef Parnas (University of Copenhagen)

Eric Turkheimer (University of Virginia)

James Woodward (University of Pittsburgh)

Peter Zachar (Auburn University at Montgomery)

Conference Content:

For the sixth conference in this series we will explore causality in psychiatric research and practice, a topic that has not been a focus on any of the other prior volumes. Causality cuts across many areas of psychiatry, from the purely conceptual/philosophical, to the interpretation of genetic, epidemiological and neurobiological work.

Sponsor:

This conference is sponsored the Lundbeck Foundation

Registration:

The conference is free and open to all no prior registration is required.

Venue:

University of Copenhagen

Panum

Blegdamsvej 3b, 2200

Copenhagen

2023 AAPP Annual Meeting:

THEME: Knowledge, Expertise, & Values

May 20-21, 2023, San Francisco, CA

Meeting Location: TBA

Program Committee: Douglas Heinrichs, M.D.; Jennifer Radden, Ph.D.; John Sadler, M.D.

The AAPP Annual Meeting for 2023 will inquire about the relationships between authority and expertise within the mental health field. Within this theme, a broad range of questions are possible. What counts as expertise? Who decides who is expert and with respect to what domain of knowledge? By what process does expertise become recognized? What kinds of power relations are reflected in various kinds of mental health expertise and authority and how are they embedded in the larger societal context? How can authority and/or expertise be circumscribed or bounded in mental health care? How do these

considerations address accusations of epistemic injustices? How might epistemic injustices be arbitrated? What models of knowledge are implicit in these discussions? An important task in the philosophy of mental health is to characterize the legitimate domain(s) of expertise for each of the groups involved, where they overlap, and how to arbitrate differences in perspective. These tasks are important at the level of general policy decisions such as the development of diagnostic criteria, the selection of foci for research funding, and the allocation of mental health resources, as well as treatment negotiations between the clinician and the individual receiving mental health services.

10th International Philosophy of Medicine Roundtable

Bologna, Italy, June 8-9, 2023

Conference website

<https://philhead.org/events/10th-international-philosophy-of-medicine-roundtable/>

Invited speakers

Prof. Anya Plutynski (Washington University in St Louis)

Dr. Fedro Peccatori (IEO – European Institute of Oncology)

The talks by the two invited speakers will be on the theme: “Modeling and Treating Complex Diseases”

Affiliated symposia

Two affiliated symposia will be held on June 7:

“From Evidence Based Medicine to Evidence Based Psychiatry?” organized by C. Amoretti, L. Bortolotti, E. Lalumera

“Extending Lifespan: Theoretical, Ethical and Socio-economic Aspects” organized by M. Benzi, A. Blasimme

Venue

The 10th biennial Philosophy of Medicine Roundtable will be held at Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna, organized by the Department of Philosophy and Communication Studies, the Department of Biomedical and Neuromotor Sciences, and by the Inter-University Research Centre on Health and Disease (PhilHeaD).

Accessibility

The Roundtable will be an in-person conference. However, it will also be streamed and, on a case-by-case basis, the organizers may arrange for a remote presentation if needed to accommodate a disability or medical restriction.

Contacts

Questions regarding submissions or the Roundtable should be directed to Raffaella Campaner (raffaella.campaner@unibo.it) and Jeremy Simon (jeremy.simon@nyu.edu).

Local Organizers

Raffaella Campaner, Giovanni Boniolo, Cristina Amoretti (PhilHeaD)

Scientific Committee

Atocha Aliseda, Rachel Ankeny, Robyn Bluhm, Giovanni Boniolo, Kirstin Borgerson, Raffaella Campaner, Jonathan Fuller, Maël Lemoine, Jeremy Simon, and Sean Valles

Ph.D Fellowships Available: Data Science in Psychopathology

Prof.dr. J.W. Romeijn, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Groningen will start a large research project on Data Science in Psychopathology in February, 2023. The project involves three fully paid PhD positions and two postdocs.

Psychiatry and psychology make increasing use of data science methods. This project investigates these methods by using insights from the philosophy of science. The research is innovative in that it combines a mathematical understanding of the methods with knowledge of a scientific context in which these methods are applied, namely psychopathology. The applications of these methods are thereby illuminated, so that they become more reliable and more accountable in both the clinic and the lab. The result is a practice-oriented and formally precise epistemology of data science methods that supports a better use of data science methods in the sciences.

To find out more contact Jan-Willem Romeijn - j.w.romeijn@rug.nl

Funding Call: Knowledge Exchange Workshops and Events Award Competition of the *Renewing of Phenomenological Psychopathology* Project funded by the Wellcome Trust

About the Project

Renewing Phenomenological Psychopathology is a new project that aims to apply interdisciplinary approaches to phenomenological psychopathology and diversify the field more broadly. It is an International Exchange Award funded by the Wellcome Trust and will run from April 2022 to April 2024. The leaders of the project are Professors Matthew Broome and Giovanni Stanghellini.

Although phenomenological psychopathology has done much to expand our understanding of mental disorders, the tradition remains somewhat fossilised in the humanities and social sciences of the mid-20th century. We aim to infuse phenomenological psychopathology with cutting-edge developments in this area as well as contributions of analytic philosophy of mind, hermeneutics, structuralist/post-structuralist philosophy, ethics, politics, history, literature, values-based practice, developmental psychology, lived

experience and service user research. The award will commence the reconstruction of phenomenological psychopathology for the 21st century as a democratic discipline with a historicised and inclusive account of the experience of mental ill health.

The Award

We invite applications for workshops and knowledge exchange events that aim to bring together international and interdisciplinary partners to collaborate and to develop new methodologies in phenomenological psychopathology.

There are two workshops per year: one in-person and one virtual. *An award of up to £3000 will be offered for an in-person workshop; the award will be used to cover organisational expenses (e.g. the speakers' travel expenses, accommodation and catering). Virtual workshops will not receive direct funds but will receive operational support from the project team for its organisation and delivery, as well as input and direction from the project leaders.* Following the completion of the interdisciplinary expansion sandpit, awardees would be required to submit a 750-word summary detailing the outputs of the event.

The deadline for the first round of applications is 9th February 2023 (midnight UK). The deadline for the second round will be in Autumn 2023.

The Application Process

Applicants (individuals or a small group) are required to submit:

- either a 750-word proposal or a 5-minute video that explains which disciplines will be brought together (there should be at least two), what methodological issues (related to phenomenology and other relevant methodological frameworks or tools) will be addressed, why these are important, and how the event will lead to further developments and work relevant to the *Project of Renewing Phenomenological Psychopathology* project and its agenda of inclusivity and diversity. If the event is purely online, please explain how the project team's support will be used. Your proposed sandpit must comply with the BPA/SWIP guidelines for accessible conferences: [Guidelines for Accessible Conferences](https://bpa.ac.uk/guidelines-for-accessible-conferences).pages (bpa.ac.uk).
- A 100-word biography (if you are submitting as a team a short biography would be required for each member).
- A brief 1-page CV for each applicant.

Submissions should be sent to phenompsych@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Applications will be reviewed by members of the *Renewing Phenomenological Psychopathology* team and our international advisory board. While we will notify all applicants of the outcome of their submission, we will not supply individual feedback on unsuccessful applications. If your submission is unsuccessful in the first round you are welcome to apply for the second funding round.

Eligibility

You must hold a PhD in a relevant field, or have equivalent research or work experience, or have relevant lived experience.

An important aspect of this project is to diversify the field of Phenomenological Psychopathology. We encourage applications from the widest range of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences to maximise innovation in the field. We are particularly keen to receive submissions from female applicants, LGBTQIA+ applicants, early career researchers, those with lived experience of mental health difficulties, and researchers from the global south/non-WEIRD (western, educated, industrialised, rich, and democratic) countries.

Accessibility

We will be happy to provide adjustments to ensure that people from the widest range of backgrounds can participate fully in the selection process. If you need an adjustment when accessing the application form or for any other part of the application process, please contact us at phenompsych@contacts.bham.ac.uk and we will do our best to accommodate you. More information about the project's funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

PHENOLAB A Theoretical Laboratory in Phenomenology and Mental Health

PHENOLAB - FULL PROGRAM - Academic Year 2022-2023

<https://phenolab.blogspot.com/2022/10/full-program-y-2022-2023.html>

Every meeting will last from 16.45 to 18.15 CET.
Lectures and discussions will be held in English.

For any query or information, and to receive the Zoom link please
contact phenolab2019@gmail.com

For this year, the PhenoLab activities will be divided in four types:

I. Thematic group: the aim of this activity is to discuss cardinal themes related to mental health and phenomenology

II. Academic Lectures: scheduled once a month, a keynote speaker will be invited to present his/her work followed by a discussion

III. Encountering mental health professionals: scheduled once a month, a professional in the field of mental health will be invited to share how he/she handles with pragmatical issues in their practice, in order to show how phenomenology may be empirically helpful in

daily practices.

IV. Applying Phenomenology: scheduled once a month the aim of this activity is to provide some pedagogical orientations in exercising phenomenology.

**The 25th Annual Conference of the
International Network for Philosophy and Psychiatry**

Crisis and Mental Health
philosophical and social aesthetic
perspectives

24.08.2023–26.08.2023

The call for papers for the 25th Annual Conference of the International Network for Philosophy and Psychiatry has now been launched. The theme is Crisis and Mental Health - philosophical and social aesthetic perspectives. The conference will be held in Vienna at Sigmund Freud University Vienna (Freudplatz 3, 1020 Vienna) from 24.08.2023 until 26.08.2023.

The scientific program is being built and potential participants are invited to submit a scientific session proposal.

Send suggestions for topics and abstracts

☐ ☐ for symposia till 28th February 2023

☐ ☐ for papers till 31st March 2023

to the following address: conference23@sfu.ac.at

Basic Course of Phenomenological Psychopathology: Florence in 2023. (In Italian.)



CORSO BASE DI PSICOPATOLOGIA FENOMENOLOGICA **DODICESIMA EDIZIONE - ANNO 2023** *FIRENZE, MARZO - SETTEMBRE 2023*

Razionale

Come negli scorsi anni, verranno tematizzati i principali mondi psicopatologici (schizofrenico, melancolico, isterico, borderline, narcisistico, tossicomane).

Quest'anno saranno riesaminati nell'ottica della sensorialità, ovvero dei principali sensi coinvolti nella loro costituzione, delle loro anomalie e delle loro sproporzioni.

Il Corso sarà introdotto dalla lettura magistrale di Luciano Mecacci sul tema della Psicologia e della Psicopatologia come scienze normative, perché il mondo dei sensi intrattiene sempre un complesso rapporto con il Potere.

5 Marzo 2023 ore 9.00 - 18:00

LA PSICOPATOLOGIA FENOMENOLOGICA, IL MONDO DEI SENSI E IL MONDO DEL POTERE

Relatori: Prof. Luciano Mecacci e Prof. Giovanni Stanghellini

2 Aprile 2023 ore 9.00 - 18:00

I MONDI SCHIZOFRENICI E LE VOCI DISINCARNATE

Relatori: Prof. Tonino Griffero e Dott.ssa Rosa Ritunnano

7 Maggio 2023 ore 9.00 - 18:00

IL MONDO ISTERICO E CORPO VISIBILE E INVISIBILE

Relatori: Dott. Antonello Correale e Prof. Filippo Ferro

18 Giugno 2023 ore 9.00 - 18:00

I MONDI DELL'HOMO OECONOMICUS E DELL'HOMO DISSIPANS (NARCISISTA, BORDERLINE E TOSSICOMANE) E LA SPROPOZIONE DEI SENSI

Relatori: Dott. Gilberto Di Petta e Prof. Giovanni Stanghellini

10 Settembre 2023 ore 9.00 - 18:00

IL MONDO MELANCOLICO E LA CENESTESI

Relatori: Prof. Mario Rossi Monti e Dott. Massimo Ballerini



Per info: segreteria@fenomenologiadinamica.it

JULY
1st
2023

SYMPOSIUM Revisiting Critical Issues in Psychiatric Diagnosis

Lisbon
Portugal

PROGRAM

SATURDAY 01 July | 2,00pm - 6,30pm

2,00pm - 2,10pm | Welcome Message - INPP and FMUL: Kenneth Fulford;
Diogo Telles Correia

2,10pm - 2,40pm | Key - Note Speaker: Michael First - Psychiatric diagnostic
in the XXI century

2,40pm - 3,00 pm | DISCUSSANT - Anna Bergqvist / Diogo Telles Correia

3,00pm - 3,10pm | TEA BREAK

3,10pm - 3,40pm- PRESENTATION - Diogo Telles Correia: Mental disorder concept:
From Disability and distress to dysfunction.

3,40pm - 4,00pm | DISCUSSANT - Kenneth Fulford

4,00pm - 4,10pm | TEA BREAK

4,10pm - 4,40pm | PRESENTATION - Psychiatric Diagnostic:
Values based practice contribute - Anna Bergqvist

4,40pm - 5,00pm | DISCUSSANT - John Sadler

5,00pm - 5,10pm | TEA BREAK

5,10pm - 5,40pm | PRESENTATION - Psychiatric Diagnostic:
Phenomenology and values based practice - Guilherme Messas

5,40pm - 6,00pm | DISCUSSION - Discussant: Giovanni Stangelini

6,00pm - 6,10pm | TEA BREAK

6,10 pm - 6,30 pm | Final Remarks and future directions:
Bill Fulford

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AND
ONLINE

more information
and registration here

continua@medicina.ulisboa.pt



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Spring 2023 Carolina Seminar on Philosophy, Ethics and Mental Health

Tuesday, January 24th, Adina Roskies (Dartmouth)

Title: Agency as a framework for thinking of neuropsychiatric disorders

Abstract: The development of new therapeutic methods for intervening in brain function have the potential to influence a person's autonomy and authenticity. In order to determine whether or not this is the case, we need an assay that can measure aspects of agency before and after neurointervention. Here I introduce a framework for thinking about agency as a multidimensional construct, and for conceiving of neuropsychiatric disorders as occupying particular regions in an agency space. We develop an Agency Assessment Tool (AAT) using survey methods. I present preliminary results from the project that suggest that different disorders can be identified with the AAT, which is able to discern control and patient groups, and discuss the prospects for using data-driven tools to come up with ontologies of agency.

Wednesday, February 22, 12-1:00pm with Michael Cholbi (Edinburgh)

Title: Who We Grieve For—And Why

In this lunch and learn talk, Professor Cholbi will discuss his recent book *Grief: A Philosophical Guide* (Princeton University Press, 2022).

Tuesday, March 7th, 6:00-7:30

Logan Mitchel, (UNC doctoral candidate in Philosophy)

Title: Mindfulness and Moral Emotions

Abstract: Many people (particularly Buddhists) believe that being a mindful person is generally a morally good way to be. But this idea appears to conflict with common intuitions about moral emotions—particularly blaming emotions like guilt and resentment—and makes it look like being a mindful person might sometimes make one morally worse. In this paper, I reconcile this tension by (i) presenting a secular (though Buddhism-compatible) account of mindful moral emotion and (ii) arguing that under this account mindful moral emotions do not carry their apparent moral costs, or at the very least such costs are compensated by comparable moral gains. Along the way, I argue that key assumptions motivating the apparent tension are ultimately misguided, while gesturing at ways in which mindful moral emotions (and mindful moral emoters) are plausibly better than their non-mindful counterparts. In the end, I show that you can be a mindful blame-embracer without risking any virtue.

Saturday, March 21st, 3rd Annual UNC Philosophy and Psychiatry Conference

Topic: Scientific, Ethical and Policy Dimensions of Suicide Prevention

Speakers: Patrick Sullivan (UNC), Amy Johnson (UNC), Brent Kious (Utah), and Marie Nicolini (UT Southwestern)

Wednesday, April 26, Walter Sinnott-Armstrong (Duke) & Jesse Summers (Duke)

Title: Attention Grabbing Mental Illnesses

Abstract: Mental disorder is defined by DSM-5 in terms of dysfunctional cognition, emotion, and behavior. We will argue that mental illnesses can be understood more fundamentally as failures to control attention. Some mental illnesses involve too much attention (and too little ability to adjust focus), whereas others involve too little attention (or too little ability to maintain focus on what matters). Dysfunctions in attention are then crucial causal elements in the disordered cognitions, emotions, and behaviors in previous definitions of mental illnesses. This new perspective has potential implications for scientific studies and treatments of many mental illnesses.

A link to the full schedule of events is also available here:

<https://www.med.unc.edu/psych/centers-and-programs/unc-psychiatry-philosophy-and-mental-health-program/events/>

THE *PHILOS. PSYCHIATRY NEWSLETTER* WILL RETURN.

THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN JULY 2023. CONTENT FOR THAT ISSUE SHOULD BE SENT TO PETER ZACHAR AT pzachar@aum.edu.

Appropriate content includes.

1. Publications for the period January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023. PPP articles will be listed via links to the Table of Contents for issues published in that period.
2. Conference, workshop, and fellowship announcements
3. A list of honors, awards, promotions, and so on
4. New jobs, new positions, or other changes
5. In Memoriam notices for recently deceased people who contributed to the philosophy of psychiatry.

If you would like to be added to or removed from the email list write Peter Zachar.