



Program for the AAPP 2026/ VMST-14 Conference – New Perspectives in Philosophy of Psychiatry

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New Perspectives in Philosophy of Psychiatry

The 37th Annual Meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry
([AAPP](#))

and

The 14th Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology Conference (VMST-14)

at

The Center for Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology ([CVMST](#))
University of Texas at Dallas

May 26-27, 2026 (live) and May 29-30, 2026 (virtual)

Program

Day 1 (live): Tuesday May 26 (GR 3.302)

9:00 am: Coffee/ snacks

9:20: Welcome from the Director of the Center for Values

9:30-10:50: *Contributed Papers*

[9:30] **Awais Aftab** (Case Western Reserve University): What Kinds of Things are B-SNIP Biotypes of Psychosis?

[10:10] **Johanna Silva-Stüger** (University of Cambridge): Integration in Psychotherapy: From Ideas of Unification towards Assimilative Pluralism

[10:50] Coffee Break

11:00-12:00: *Keynote Speaker*

[11:00] **Jacqueline A. Sullivan** (University of Western Ontario): TBA

12:00-1:20: Catered Lunch

1:20-2:00: *Jaspers Prize Presentation*

[1:20] **Derek Braverman** (Washington University in St. Louis): Disease Debates as Metalinguistic Disputes

[2:00-2:40] *Contributed Paper*

[2:00] **Kriszta Sajber** (Misericordia University): Altered States of Embodiment: Translating Fluctuations in the Bodily Experience of Schizophrenia into Clinically Oriented Therapeutic Understanding

2:40: Coffee break

[2:50-4:50]: *Contributed Papers*

[2:50] **Bennett Knox** (Georgetown University): Digital Phenotyping, Algorithmic Bias, and Inductive Risk

[3:30] **Riana Betzler** (San Jose State University): The Limits of Virtual Reality Simulation in Psychiatry

[4:10] **Aroldo A. Dargél** (University of Ottawa): Sympathy for the Devil: Synthetic Empathy Illusion and Safeguards in AI-Mediated Psychotherapeutic Conversions

Day 2 (live): Wednesday May 27 (GR 3.302)

9:00 am: Coffee/ snacks

9:30-10:50: *Contributed Papers*

[9:30] **Waverley Vesely** (Virginia Commonwealth University) and **Jared Keeley** (Virginia Commonwealth University): Pseudospecificity in Psychiatric Diagnostic Criteria

[10:10] **Matthew Raymond** (McGill University): Tracing the Dynamic: Nested Temporal Structure, Psychopathology and the Person in Transdiagnostic Clinical Staging

[10:50] Coffee Break

11:00-12:00: *Keynote Speaker*

[11:00] **Laurence J. Kirmayer** (McGill University): TBA

12:00-1:20: Catered Lunch

1:20-2:40: *Contributed Papers*

[1:20] **Jonathan Y. Tsou** (University of Texas at Dallas): Mental Disorders as Harmful Biological Kinds: Elaboration and Response to Critics

[2:00] **Douglas Terry** (East Carolina University): The Varieties of Cosmetic Psychopharmacology

2:40: Coffee Break

2:50-4:10: *Contributed Papers*

[2:50] **Matthew Lynch** (University of Florida), **Javier Mariscal** (University of Florida), and **Brent Carr** (University of Florida): Meaning Under Constraint: Philosophical Reflections on Agency and Suffering in Cancer Care

[3:30] **Nicholas Dunn** (University of Lethbridge): Socially Embedded Suffering: Externalism, Disability, and the Ethics of MAID for Mental Illness

Day 3 (virtual): Friday May 29

Times are in Central Standard Time (USA)

9:00-10:00: *Keynote Speaker*

[9:00 am] **Dominic Murphy** (University of Sydney): TBA

10:00: Break

10:10-11:30: *Contributed Papers*

[10:10 am] **Stefan Rinner** (University of Duisburg-Essen), **Lars Danzer** (University of Duisburg-Essen), and **Eugenia Kulakova** (University of Duisburg-Essen): The Therapeutic Game

[10:50 am] **Anne-Marie Gagné-Julien** (Laval University) and **Zoey Lavallee** (McGill University): Mental Health Chatbots and Hegemonic Emotion Norms

11:30: Break

11:40-1:40: *Contributed Papers*

[11:40 am] **Anna Golova** (Oxford University): Self-Illness Ambiguity without a Self-Illness Distinction

[12:20 pm] **Fabian Hundertmark** (University of Valencia): In Defense of Realism about Self-Illness Ambiguity

[1:00 pm] **Sílvia de Carvalho Homem** (University of Minho): Genetic Risk, Surveillance, and Psychiatric Knowledge: Ethical and Epistemic Challenges of Molecular Prediction

Day 4 (virtual): Saturday May 30

Times are in Central Standard Time (USA)

9:00-10:20: *Contributed Papers*

[9:00 am] **Runyang Gu** (Zhejiang University): Grief and Possible Selves

[9:40 am] **Andrew Evans** (University of Notre Dame): Must Mental Healthcare Individualize Suffering?

10:20: Break

10:30-11:30: *Keynote Speaker*

[10:30 am] **Rachel Cooper** (Lancaster University): Exclusion Rules in the DSM: When Should One Diagnosis Rule Out Another?

11:30: Break

11:40-1:40: *Contributed Papers*

[11:40 am] **Javad Darvish Aghajani** (Shahid Beheshti University): Beyond Impairment: A Process-Based Neuro-Epistemic Framework for Justifying Psychedelic-Induced Beliefs in Psychiatry

[12:20 pm] **J. P. Grodniewicz** (Jagiellonian University): Insight in Psychotherapy: A Self Understanding View

[1:00 pm] **Urte Laukaityte** (Aarhus University): What's Interoception Got to Do with Psychiatry: Gender, Framing, and Functional Neurological Disorder

Program Committee

- Jonathan Y. Tsou (Chair), Center for Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology, UT Dallas
- Robyn Bluhm, Michigan State University
- John Sadler, UT Southwestern Medical Center
- Şerife Tekin, SUNY Upstate Medical Center
- Peter Zachar, Auburn University Montgomery

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