

EASTERN REGIONAL MEETING
OF
THE SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHERS

SEPTEMBER 24TH – 26TH, 2015

Conference Theme
THE EXISTENCE OF GOD



Department of Philosophy
One College Avenue Suite 3048
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 24, 2015

REGISTRATION

1:30-5:00 p.m.

Location: Howe Atrium, Boyer Hall

CONCURRENT SESSION I:

2:45-3:42 p.m.

- A. How a Flaw in Augustine's Proof of God's Existence Forced Descartes to Write the Meditations

Speaker: Micah D. Tillman, George Washington University

Chair: Caleb Miller, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 336

- B. Normative Principles for No-Best-World

Speaker: Philip Swenson, Rutgers University

Chair: Nevin Climenhaga, University of Notre Dame

Location: Boyer 137

- C. A Controversial Premise of the Theistic Argument from Intentionality

Speaker: Lorraine Juliano Keller, Niagara University

Chair: Jonathan Rutledge, University of Oklahoma

Location: Boyer 277

- D. Science, Religion, and Incompatibility: Can Philosophy of Science Help?

Speaker: Aaron Brooks, Florida State University

Chair: Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 336

CONCURRENT SESSION II:

3:45-4:42 p.m.

- A. The Independence Principle and a New Way to Remain Steadfast in Disagreements About Theism

Speaker: Andrew Moon, Rutgers University

Chair: Michael Rota, University of Saint Thomas

Location: Boyer 230

- B. Theodicy for Creeping Things

Speaker: Dustin Crummett, University of Notre Dame

Chair: David Schenk, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 277

- C. Divine Simplicity and Free Human Action: Barry Miller's Solution

Speaker: Elmar J. Kremer, University of Toronto

Chair: Micah D. Tillman, George Washington University

Location: Boyer 336

- D. Why Same-Sex Marriage is not Christian Marriage

Speaker: Caleb Miller, Messiah College

Chair: Jim Taylor, Westmont College

Location: Boyer 137

DINNER:

4:45-5:40 p.m.

Location: Lottie Nelson Dining Hall, Eisenhower Student Center

CONCURRENT SESSION III:

5:45-6:45 p.m.

- A. Circumnavigating the Heideggerian Snare of Ontotheology: An Areopagitian Approach

Speaker: Scott R. Fennema, Yale Divinity School

Chair: Elmar J. Kremer, University of Toronto

Location: Boyer 277

CONCURRENT SESSION III:

Continued

B. A Statistical Defense against the Argument from Evil

Speaker: Joshua Hershey, The King's College

Chair: Anthony Bolos, Virginia Commonwealth University

Location: Boyer 230

C. God is Aspatial

Speaker: Joseph Jedwab, Kutztown University

Chair: Justin J. Daeley, University of Northwestern - St. Paul

Location: Boyer 336

D. Cosmological Argument for the Trinity

Speaker: Nicholas Sooy, Messiah College

Chair: Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 131

PLENARY SESSION I:

7:00-9:00 p.m.

God and the Success of Science

Speaker: Robin Collins, Messiah College

Response: Paul Draper, Purdue University

Chair: Caleb Miller, Messiah College

Location: Parmer Hall, High Center for the Performing Arts

RECEPTION:

9:00-10:00 p.m.

Location: Aughinbaugh Gallery, Climenhaga Fine Arts Center

Friday, September 25, 2015

REGISTRATION

8:15-11:30 p.m.

Location: Howe Atrium, Boyer Hall

CONCURRENT SESSION IV:

8:55-9:52 a.m.

- A. A Critique of C.S. Lewis's Argument from Desire
Speaker: Gregory Bassham, King's College
Chair: James Kintz, Saint Louis University
Location: Boyer 330
- B. Hallucinating God
Speaker: Evan Fales, University of Iowa
Chair: Andrew Moon, Rutgers University
Location: Boyer 137
- C. Divine Source Compatibilism and Divine Thankworthiness
Speaker: Justin J. Daeley, University of Northwestern
--St. Paul
Chair: John A. Keller, Niagara University
Location: Boyer 434
- D. The Parent Analogy: A Response to Dougherty
Speaker: Jonathan Rutledge, University of Oklahoma
Chair: Caleb Miller, Messiah College
Location: Boyer 237

CONCURRENT SESSION V:

9:55- 10:52 a.m.

- A. Two Forms of Teleological Argument? Paley, Aquinas, & Modern Thomism
Speaker: Logan Paul Gage, Franciscan University of Steubenville
Chair: David Schenk, Messiah College
Location: Boyer 338
- B. Theism without Modal or Moral Collapse
Speaker: A.P. Taylor, North Dakota State University
Chair: Gregory Bassham, King's College
Location: Boyer 131

CONCURRENT SESSION V:

9:55- 10:52 a.m.

C. Epistemic Oughts and Pascal's Wager

Speaker: Liz Jackson, University of Notre Dame

Chair: Michael Rota, University of Saint Thomas

Location: Boyer 137

LUNCH:

11:00-11:55 p.m.

Location: Lottie Nelson Dining Hall, Eisenhower Student Center

CONCURRENT SESSION VI:

12:00-12:57 p.m.

A. Compositional Compatibilism

Speaker: John A. Keller, Niagara University

Chair: Joseph Jedwab, Kutztown University

Location: Boyer 338

B. Pascal and the Voiceless Inarticulacy of Despair

Speaker: Alexander Jech, University of Notre Dame

Chair: Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 137

C. Can Faith be Knowledge?

Speaker: Jim Taylor, Westmont College

Chair: James Baird, Westminster Theological Seminary

Location: Boyer 131

D. The World Is Not Enough...Neither Are Levels I-IV

Speaker: Kevin Vandergriff, BIOLA University

Chair: John Pittard, Yale University

Location: Boyer 331

CONCURRENT SESSION VII:

1:00-1:57 p.m.

A. Pascal's Wager Meets Surreal Numbers

Speakers: Eddy Keming Chen, Rutgers University

Daniel Rubio, Rutgers University

Chair: Liz Jackson, University of Notre Dame

Location: Boyer 131

B. Forgiveness Then Satisfaction: Why The Order Matters For a Theory of the Atonement

Speaker: James Kintz, Saint Louis University

Chair: Philip Shadd, Institute for Christian Studies and Redeemer University College

Location: Boyer 137

C. Biting Gaunilo's Bullet

Speaker: Peter A. Sutton, Virginia Union University

Chair: David Schenk, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 338

D. The Moral Significance of Pain in Draper's Argument from Evil

Speakers: Megan J. Fritts, University of Wisconsin

Robert P. Reed, Texas A&M University

Chair: Robin Collins, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 330

COFFEE BREAK

2:00-2:30 p.m.

Location: Howe Atrium, Boyer Hall

CONCURRENT SESSION VIII:

2:30-3:27 p.m.

Best Graduate Student Paper

A. Revealed to the Little Ones: Love, Presence, and Hiddenness

Speaker: Donald Bungum, Saint Louis University

Chair: Joshua Mugg, Indiana University Kokomo

Location: Boyer 231

CONCURRENT SESSION VIII:

Continued

B. Could God Fail to Exist?

Speaker: Joshua Rasmussen, Azusa Pacific University

Chair: Andrew Moon, Rutgers University

Location: Boyer 330

C. Epistemic Probabilities: A Guide for the Perplexed

Speaker: Nevin Climenhaga, University of Notre Dame

Chair: Robin Collins, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 131

D. The Moral Ups and Downs of Skeptical Theism

Speaker: Anthony J. DeBonis, Yale Divinity School

Chair: Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 338

CONCURRENT SESSION IX:

3:30-4:27 p.m.

A. In Defense of Proper Functionalism: Cognitive Science Takes on Swampman

Speakers: Kenneth Boyce, University of Missouri

Andrew Moon, Rutgers University

Chair: James Baird, Westminster Theological Seminary

Location: Boyer 231

B. Flourishing, Fine-Tuning, and the Bayesian Balancing Game: A Tale of Two Drapers

Speaker: David Wood

Chair: Robin Collins, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 338

C. Evil and God's Toxin Puzzle

Speaker: John Pittard, Yale University

Chair: Joshua Harris, Institute for Christian Studies

Location: Boyer 131

CONCURRENT SESSION IX:

Continued

D. Re-Imagining the Imago Dei

Speaker: Anthony Bolos, Virginia Commonwealth University

Chair: Adam Johnson, Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary

Location: Boyer 330

ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE:

4:30-5:00 p.m.

Location: Hostetter Chapel

BANQUET:

5:00-6:30 p.m.

Location: Hostetter Chapel

PLENARY SESSION II:

7:00-9:00 p.m.

God and the Mystery of Evil

Speaker: Paul Draper, Purdue University

Response: Robin Collins, Messiah College

Chair: Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

Location: Hostetter Chapel

Saturday, September 26, 2015

CONCURRENT SESSION X:

9:00-9:57 a.m.

A. Lyric and Lamentation: Gerard Manley Hopkins and the Problem of
Existential Hiddenness

Speaker: Ian DeWeese-Boyd, Gordon College

Chair: Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 131

B. How to think of a Circle with Corners: Assessing the Value of God's
Existence

Speaker: Joshua Mugg, Indiana University Kokomo

Chair: David Schenk, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 235

CONCURRENT SESSION X:

Continued

- C. The Islamic and Cumulative Versions of the 'Mad, Bad, or God' Argument

Speaker: Bryan Frances

Chair: Gregory Ganssle, Talbot School of Theology--
BIOLA University

Location: Boyer 137

- D. Laws of Nature and Benevolent Dictatorship

Speaker: Sungwon Woo, University of Maryland

Chair: Micah Tillman, George Washington University

Location: Boyer 130

CONCURRENT SESSION XI:

10:00-10:57 a.m.

- A. The Ineliminable God of Romans 13

Speaker: Philip Shadd, Institute for Christian Studies and
Redeemer University College

Chair: Caleb Miller, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 130

- B. Starting points in Atheistic Arguments

Speaker: Gregory E. Ganssle, Talbot School of Theology—
BIOLA University

Chair: John Pittard, Yale University

Location: Boyer 131

- C. From Absolute to Maximal God: Would that solve the problem?

Speaker: Majid Amini, Virginia State University

Chair: Elmar Kremer, University of Toronto

Location: Boyer 235

- D. Evil: Only Sometimes Evidence against God

Speaker: Laura Frances Callahan, Rutgers University

Chair: Ian Deweese-Boyd, Gordon College

Location: Boyer 137

COFFEE BREAK

11:00-11:30 a.m.

Location: Howe Atrium, Boyer Hall

CONCURRENT SESSION XII:

11:30 a.m.-12:27 p.m.

A. Old Fashioned Metaphysics

Speaker: Jarod Sickler, University of Rochester

Chair: Joshua Mugg, Indiana University Kokomo

Location: Boyer 131

B. An Incompatibility in William Lane Craig's Moral Argument and AntiPlatonism

Speaker: Daniel Linford, Christopher Newport University

Chair: Caleb Miller, Messiah College

Location: Boyer 130

C. Onto-theology: What it is and why it's a problem

Speaker: Joshua Harris, Institute for Christian Studies

Chair: Jonathan Rutledge, University of Oklahoma

Location: Boyer 235

D. God and the Multiverse

Speaker: Michael Rota, University of St. Thomas (MN)

Chair: Alexey Burov, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Location: Boyer 137

PLENARY SESSION III:

12:30–2:00 p.m.

Boxed lunch will be provided for registrants.

The Existence of God

Panel: Paul Draper, Purdue University

Robin Collins, Messiah College

Evan Fales, University of Iowa

Katherin Rogers, University of Delaware

Stephen Barr (Physics), University of Delaware

Chair: John Pittard, Yale University

Location: Hostetter Chapel

LOCAL ORGANIZERS

Caleb Miller and Timothy Schoettle, Messiah College

THE EASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE SCP

John A. Keller, Niagara University (*Chair*)

Mark Murphy, Georgetown University

Claire Peterson, Asbury University

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