MA Candidate Ayesha Bhatti has won the Houghton Dalrymple Memorial Award for an outstanding graduate student paper presented at this year’s New Mexico-Texas Philosophical Society Conference. Her paper was entitled “Towards Global Justice: Access to Medications and the Need for Incentives”, and it will be published in Southwest Philosophical Studies. Congratulations, Ayesha! Ayesha also presented a paper entitled “Using a Collective Empowerment Model to Overcome Social Defeat” at a conference at McMaster University organized by the CUPE3906 Political Action Committee.

Prof. Paula Schwebel will be a presenter at the 3rd Annual Jack Layton Book Club series, an event organized by the Jack Layton Chair at Ryerson University. Prof. Schwebel will be discussing Herbert Marcuse’s One-Dimensional Man, a radical 1960s critique of conformity in modern society. [Details]

Prof. Alex Wellington recently gave a public lecture as part of the Business Ethics Speaker's Series. Her lecture was entitled “Yes Means Yes, or Does It?: Complexities of Consent for Women’s Reproductive and Sexual Labour.”

Prof. Klaas Kraay’s research project on the axiology of theism was recently profiled in a Dutch science webzine.

Prof. Thomas Hart will deliver the 10th Anniversary Robert Hunter Memorial Lecture on April 1st at the School of the Environment at University of Toronto. Robert Hunter was a Canadian environmentalist, journalist, author, politician and was a co-founder and first President of Greenpeace. The title of Prof. Hart’s lecture is: “Unalone: The Life and Legacy of Bob Hunter”. For more information, see the event’s Facebook page and Eventbrite site.

Congratulations to MA candidate Henry Goury-Laffont, who has been awarded a $5000 Mitacs Travel Award to study in Istanbul in the summer 2015 semester. Henry will be working on the philosophy of Michel Foucault with Dr. Ferda Keskin at Istanbul Bilgi University. Henry's supervisor at Ryerson, who helped make this opportunity possible, is Prof. John Caruana.

MA candidate Victor Bruzzone recently presented a paper entitled “Linguistic Habit as Perceptual Habit” at the 75th annual meeting of the Virginia Philosophical Association.

MA candidate Rebecca Kovacs participated in an event entitled “The New Diplomacy of Natural Resources”, which was organized by the United Nations Association in Canada. The goal of this event was to “engage top graduate students and the best and brightest young professionals from these two provinces in a deliberative, multi-stakeholder simulation with subject matter experts from across stakeholder groups.”

Recently, Prof. Kym Maclaren taught an intensive “Inside Out” philosophy course, in cooperation with the Arts and Contemporary Studies, Spanning the Gaps, and the Saint Leonard’s Society of Toronto. These courses bring together university students and incarcerated (or recently incarcerated) people. Students learn from each other through dialogical reflections on readings, collaborative projects, and reflection upon the social and institutional setting of the course. Participants reported that the course was a profoundly eye-opening experience.

Prof. Kym Maclaren was an invited plenary speaker at the Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy conference, held on Oct. 2-4, 2014. Her talk was entitled “Intimacy as Transgression and the Problem of Freedom.”

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Ryerson University – Department of Philosophy
2014-2015 News Stories

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University's highest honour, awarded to students with outstanding academic achievement combined with outstanding involvement with the University, their profession, and/or the community.


- Welcome to all new BA and MA students in Philosophy, and welcome back to all returning students! We hope you have a terrific year in 2014-2015!

- New BA students should check out the Faculty of Arts Welcome website.

- The department invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor. The area of specialization is Early Modern Philosophy (including Kant). [Details]

- The 2015 Graduate Student Conference will take place on February 27-28. [Call for Papers]

- The department will host three Visiting Research Fellows in 2014-2015. Dr. Nick Trakakis (Australian Catholic University) and Dr. Paul Franks (Tyndale University College) are supported by Klaas Kraay’s grant entitled Theism: An Axiological Investigation. Dr. Wellington Santana is a SSHRC post-doctoral fellow under the supervision of John Caruana.

- MA candidate Ayesha Bhatti has had a book review of Explaining Norms accepted for publication in the journal Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review. Congratulations, Ayesha!