North Carolina Philosophical Society

March 21-22, 2025
Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Conference Organizers
Win-Chiat Lee, Amanda Corris, and Tobias Flattery, Local Organizers
Elizabeth Hupfer: High Point University, NCPS President
Joseph Krylow: NC State University, NCPS Secretary/Treasurer

Acknowledgements
The North Carolina Philosophical Society would like to express its gratitude to Wake Forest University, its Department of Philosophy, and especially Win-Chiat Lee, Amanda Corris, and Tobias Flattery, who handled the local arrangements. The NCPS is grateful for their generous support—financial, logistical, and moral. Thanks also to our referees, program advisors and prize advisors.

NCPS Essay Prize Winners
Undergraduate Prize: Tyler Benson (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) "Luck and Justification of Natural Slavery in Aristotle's Politics"
Graduate Student Prize: Tyler Sharp (Baylor University) "On Too Soon Humor"
Untenured Faculty Prize: Mark Herman (Arkansas State University) "Grounding Moral Debiasing within Empirical Moral Psychology: What is the Criterion of Moral Error?"
Judging Panel: Matt Brophy, Mike Veber, Brian Butler, Jonathan Dixon, Amy MacArthur, Paul Wilson, Kevin Busch, and Kevin Schilbrack

The North Carolina Philosophical Society
President: Elizabeth Hupfer: High Point University
Secretary-Treasurer: Joseph Krylow, NC State University
Webmaster: Insa Lawler, UNC Greensboro

The North Carolina Philosophical Society Website
https://northcarolinaphilosophicalsociety.org/

Conference Overview

All locations are in Wake Downtown (WKDN) on Vine St.

Friday, March 21ˢᵗ

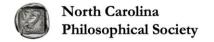|	
1:00-5:00	Registration (WKDN Lobby)
2:00-5:00	Concurrent sessions 1A-D (see below for locations)
5:00-7:30	Dinner Break
5:10-5-40	NCPS Business Meeting (WKDN 1616)
7:30-9:00	Keynote Address (WKDN 4802 Auditorium)
9:00-10:00	Reception (WKDN Lobby)

Saturday, March 22ⁿᵈ

9:00-12:00	Registration (WKDN Lobby)
9:00-12:00	Concurrent sessions 2E-G (see below for locations)
12:00-1:30	Lunch Break
1:30-4:30	Concurrent sessions 3H-K (see below for locations)
5:15-6:30	Presidential Address (WKDN 4802 Auditorium)

Friday March 21ˢᵗ Schedule

1A **History of Philosophy (WKDN 1505)**
Chair: Derek Green

2:00-2:40	Travis Tanner (Austin Peay State University)
	"How Good was Augustine's Response to Skepticism?"
2:45-3:25	Sanem Soyarslan (North Carolina State University)
	"Human Freedom in Spinoza's Ethics"

10 Minute Break

3:35-4:15	Eunice Jainping Hu (Wake Forest University)
	"Early Confucian Ethics Encountering Social Psychology: Character, Situation, and Xunzi"
4:20-5:00	Thom Kuehls (Weber State University)
	"An *Anthropocen-ic* Reading of the History of Western Political Thought"

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1B   Metaphysics and Epistemology (WKDN 1616)
Chair: Jon Dixon
2:00-2:40   Alfredo Watkins (Duke University)
                      "Explaining De Re Mathematical   Necessity"
2:45-3:25   Alejandro Hortal (Wake Forest University and University of North Carolina,
                      Greensboro)
                      "Rationality Wars: Classical Foundations, Contemporary Divergences, and
                      the Pitfalls of Reductionism"
10 Minute Break
3:35-4:15   David Taylor (Blue Ridge Community College)
                      "Persistence as Partial Identity"
4:20-5:00   Jon Dixon (Wake Forest University)
                      "Closure on Underdetermination"

1C   Ethics and Technology (WKDN 1617)
Chair: Beth Hupfer
2:00-2:40   Tobias Flattery (Wake Forest University)
                      "Consent Isn't Sufficient for Honest Deepfakery"
2:45-3:25   Shaun Respess (North Carolina State University)
                      "Intersubjective Social Robotics: Emergent Normativity in Artificial Agents"
10 Minute Break
3:35-4:15   Ethan Williams (Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
                      "The Open Society and Its Ethics: A Puzzle"
4:20-5:00   William Bauer (North Carolina State University)
                      "AI Technocracy and the Problem of Political Rationalism"

1D   Ethics (WKDN 4903)
Chair: Robert Fudge
2:00-2:40   Brian Looper (North Carolina Central University)
                      "Moral Manipulation and Punishment"
2:45-3:25   Nathan Brant (Kent State University)
                      "Satan and the Diabolic Other: A Question of Demonization and
                      Ambiguity"
10 Minute Break
3:35-4:15   Joseph Porter (University of Colorado, Boulder)
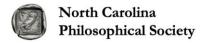   "The Duty to Avoid Preventable Bad Health"
4:20-5:00   Nevin Johnson (North Carolina State University)
                      "Morality and the Shape of a Life"

5:00-7:30   **Dinner Break**: Dinner on your own; dining suggestions online or with registration
5:10-5:40   **NCPS Business Meeting** (WKDN 1616): Everyone is welcome to attend, but only
                      faculty affiliated with a school in North Carolina will be able to vote

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Keynote Address
7:30-9:00, WKDN 4802 Auditorium

Welcome: Dr. Joseph Krylow
Secretary-Treasurer, North Carolina Philosophical Society
Assistant Teaching Professor of Philosophy, North Carolina State University
Chair: Dr. Elizabeth Hupfer
President, North Carolina Philosophical Society
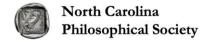Associate Professor of Philosophy, High Point University

Address: Dr. Zena Hitz
Tutor
St. John's College

"The Life of the Mind and the Practical Life"

Abstract: I have argued that the life of the mind involves inwardness and withdrawal from the realms of competition and status. I revive this argument and add a picture of the role of the life of the mind in practical life, especially in the exercise of practical wisdom.

Reception
9:00-10:00 WKDN Lobby

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Saturday March 22nd Schedule
Session 2

2E   Ethics and Moral Psychology (WKDN 1616)
Chair: Elliot Goodine

9:00-9:40   Cancelled

9:45-10:25   Dario Cecchini (North Carolina State University)
"Moral Progress through Better Intuitions: A Dyadic Framework"

10 Minute Break

10:35-11:15   Matthew Brophy (High Point University)
"Beyond the Black Box – How LLMs Challenge Criteria for Artificial Moral Agents"

11:20-12:00   Eric Halsell (Florida State University)
"From the Self to the Group: Identifying Analogous Mental Mechanisms in Corporate Deception"

2F   Applied Ethics and Philosophy of Language (WKDN 1617)
Chair: Elizabeth Whiting

9:00-9:40   Peighton Connor (Michigan State University)
"*Invasive Species* and our Moral Requirements to Non-Human Animals"

9:45-10:25   Tony Baugh (University of Edinburgh)
"A Theodicy of Liberation"

10 Minute Break

10:35-11:15   Madison Cosby (Pellissippi State Community College)
"Through the Lens: Cultivating Compassion with Reality TV"

11:20-12:00   Bowen Zheng (Northern Illinois University)
"Slurring as Gesturing"

2G   Philosophy and Teaching Philosophy (WKDN 1615)
Chair: Insa Lawler

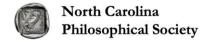9:00-9:40   Robert Farley (Hillsborough Community College)
"How Philosophy Consoles"

9:45-10:25   Noah Gounoue (Emory University)
"*I Should Save This for Later, I might Need it in Class!* TikTok for the Philosophy Classroom"

12:00-1:30   Lunch Break: Lunch on your own; dining suggestions included with registration

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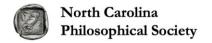
Session 3

3H   Undergraduate Presentations (WKDN 1615)
Chair: Joe Krylow

1:30-2:10   Tyler Benson (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
                "Luck and Justification of Natural Slavery in Aristotle's Politics"

2:15-2:55   Luke Metzger (North Carolina State University)
                "Technology, Being, and Hope"

10 Minute Break

3:05-3:45   Yaniv Regev (Randolph-Macon College)
                "The Atomizing Algorithm"

3:50-4:30   Pablo Hortal (North Carolina State University)
                "Duty, Consequences, and Vaccines: Integrating Evolutionary, Kantian, and
                Millian Perspectives for a New Moral Framework"

4:35-5:15   Callie Williamson (University of North Carolina, Greensboro)
                "Factual Hallucinations – Colors of #theDress and the Ontological State of
                Digital Photographs

3I   Ethics (WKDN 1616)
Chair: Eric Halsell

1:30-2:10   Timothy Hinton (North Carolina State University)
                "Aristotelian Naturalism and the Knowledge of Human Nature"

2:15-2:55   Elliot Goodine (University of North Carolina, Greensboro)o
                "Impartiality, Hume-Style"

10 Minute Break

3:05-3:45   Jack Harris (North Carolina State University)
                "Rossian Autonomy

3:50-4:30   PE Wilson (Shaw University)
                "The Danger in Adopting a Hypothetical Imperative as a Way of Life"

4:35-5:15   Elizabeth Whiting (Wake Forest University)
                "The Heart Wants What It Learns to Want: Distinguishing Three Kinds of
                Motivational Growth Goals in Character Education"

3J   Ethics and Aesthetics (WKDN 1617)
Chair: Brian Looper
1:30-2:10   Kevin Bethell (Ohio University)
                    "Virum Post Machina: AI-Generated Art Considered in a Kantian
                    Framework"
2:15-2:55   Robert Fudge (Weber State University)
                    "The Dignified Sublime: A Moral/Aesthetic Ideal"
10 Minute Break
3:05-3:45   Tyler Sharp (Baylor University)
                    "On Too Soon Humor"
3:50-4:30   Eric Mullis (Queens University of Charlotte)
                    "How Should I Move with You Robot?"

3K   Epistemology (WKDN 4903)
Chair: Insa Lawler
1:30-2:10   Insa Lawler (University of North Carolina, Greensboro)
                    "Equilibrism and the Argument from Disagreement"
2:15-2:55   Michael Granado (Prisma Schools and Staffordshire University)
                    "Inquiring into Time: Bergson vs Bachelard on Knowledge of Time"
10 Minute Break
3:05-3:45   Shih-Hao Liu (University of Miami)
                    "Modal Epistemology from a Modalist's Perspective"
3:50-4:30   Derek Green (University of Central Florida)
                    "Unsettled Beliefs as Doxastic Seemings"
4:35-5:15   David Winegarten (York University)
                    "The Value of Evidentialism"

Presidential Address

Dr. Elizabeth Hupfer
"AI and the Long Term"
5:15-6:30
(WKDN 4802 Auditorium)

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