

THE LONG ISLAND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY  
2022 CONFERENCE



APRIL 30, 2022



MOLLOY COLLEGE, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK



**LONG ISLAND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY  
A Molloy College Conference – April 30, 2022**

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**Campus Map:** [Molloy College: Molloy Campus Map](#)

**Directions:** [Molloy College: Directions](#)

**Hotels/Motels:** [Rockville Centre, New York, United States of America Hotel Search Results \(expedia.com\)](#)

**Conference Information:**

- a) If an advertised session chairperson is late then please begin the session. Anyone in attendance can step in and chair a session.
- b) There is no registration fee for this conference.
- c) Parking is free and ample. Drive into the parking lot to the right of the main campus building (Kellenberg Hall) after you enter the circular driveway to the campus from Hempstead Avenue.
- d) Power Point and A/V equipment are available for all lectures. In case of technological problems please be prepared to proceed with your presentation. Technical support should be available and nearby in case of emergency. IT (516) 323-4800
- e) For any current Covid guidelines at Molloy College please consult Dr. Howard Ponzer, Philosophy Department Chairperson ([hponzer@molloy.edu](mailto:hponzer@molloy.edu)) or Kim Geary ([kgeary@molloy.edu](mailto:kgeary@molloy.edu)). Prudence should be exercised in all social interactions.

## Conference Begins 8:00 am

Breakfast/Registration: 8:00 am – 9:00 am (Kellenberg Hall – Reception Room)

Morning Sessions – (9:00 am – Noon) (Kellenberg Hall = K)

### Session 1: (Philosophy and the Catholic Novel)

Chairperson: Glenn Statile (St. John's University)

Room = K006

1. Father Robert Lauder (Saint John's University) – "[Maritain, Marcel, Haught]: Philosophical Resources for Analyzing the Catholic Novels of Graham Greene"
2. Brother Owen Sadlier O.S.F. (Cathedral Seminary; Saint Francis College – emeritus) – "Philosophical Reflections on *Diary of a Country Priest*"
3. Glenn Statile (Saint John's University) – "*Brideshead Revisited*: Aesthetic, Theological, and Philosophical Reflections"

### Session 2: (Ancient Philosophy)

Chairperson: Chryssoula Gitsoulis (Baruch College – CUNY)

Room = K015

1. Chryssoula Gitsoulis (Baruch College – CUNY) – "The Individual vs the State": A Study of Socrates and Antigone"
2. Eric Wickey (Saint Peter's College) – "A Change of Mind"
3. Mark Zelcer (Queensborough Community College) – "Socrates and the *Demos*"

### Session 3: (Epistemology, Logic, and the Nature of Philosophy)

Chairperson: Christopher French (SUNY Farmingdale)

Room = K020

1. Joseph Biehl (Saint John's University) – "Selling Truth Short"
2. Jason Costanzo (Conception Seminary College) – "The Fourth Observer: Philosophy and its Epistemic Paths"
3. Partha Das (Saint John's University) – "On Double Negation"

**Session 4: (Modern Philosophy, Descartes, Hume)****Chairperson: Robert Delfino (Saint John's University)****Room – K021**

1. Sophie Berman (Saint Francis College) – “Descartes on the Infinite Freedom of the Finite Mind”
2. Rocco Astore (Saint John's University) – “Devotion Begins in Freedom: An Analysis of the Relation Between True Love and Freedom in Descartes's *Principles of Philosophy* and *Passions of the Soul*”
3. Robert Devall (Independent Scholar) – “Hume, the Ideal Critic, and the Problem of Taste”

**Session 5: (Political Philosophy, Cities, Confucius, *Dasein*, Boredom)****Chairperson: Margaret Cuonzo (LIU Brooklyn)****Room – K202**

1. Margaret Cuonzo (LIU Brooklyn) – “A Somewhat Paradoxical Argument for the Rights of Cities”
2. Peter Li (Saint John's University) – “Political Confucianism and Global Justice”
3. Brandon Kaiser (Boston College) – “Of *Dasein* and Discourse: Examining the Everydayness of the Political”
- 4) Henry Curcio (Western Michigan University) – “Boredom”

**Session 6: (Cancer and Brain Death)****Chairperson: John DeCarlo (Hofstra University)****Room = K211**

1. Paul Rezkalla (Hillsdale College) – “Elizabeth Anscombe on Brain Death”
2. John DeCarlo (Hofstra University) – “Consciousness and Cancer: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue”
3. Seth Goldwasser (University of Pittsburgh) – “Finding Normality in Abnormality: On the Ascription of Normal Functions to Parts of Cancers”

**Session 7: (Healing and the Pandemic)****Chairperson: Jennifer Scuro (Molloy College)****Room – K211A**

1. Jennifer Scuro (Molloy College) – “Re-narrating Care Work in the Wake of a Pandemic”
2. Keith Bannerman (Stony Brook University) – “An Ancient Approach to the Pandemic Problem”
3. Cara Cummings (Johns Hopkins University) – “Healing *Akrasia* and Vice”

**Session 8: (Mental Illness, Humor, Unconscious Morality, Moral Nihilism)**

**Chairperson: Lewis Williams (Oxford University)**

**Room – K204**

1. Heather Rivera (LSU, Shreveport) – “America’s Cruel Treatment of the Mentally Ill and Criminally Insane”
2. Maksim Vak (Saint John’s University) – “To Genealogy of Jokes or on the Dialectic of *Ressentiment*”
3. Sabina Schrynemakers (Independent Scholar) – “Unconscious Moral Choices”
4. Lewis Williams (Oxford University) – “Rehabilitating Moral Nihilism”

**Session 9: (Ethics 1)**

**Chairperson: David Kasper (Saint John’s University)**

**Room = K319**

1. Clayton Shoppa (Saint Francis College) – “Second-Guessing the Good: Discernment and Moral Realism”
2. Charles Duke (University of South Florida) – “Purposive Evil?: Experience, Virtue, and the Prospects of Human Flourishing”
3. Joe Shin (University of Michigan) – “Must Blame: Self vs Others”
4. Rob Lovering (CUNY College of Staten Island) – “A Case for Legalizing Recreational Drug Use”

**Session 10: (The Sublime and Plasticity)**

**Chairperson: Leslie Aarons (CUNY Laguardia Community College)**

**Room – K319A**

1. Addison Hinton (Stony Brook University) – “The Function of the Sublime in Spirit’s Portrait of the Ethical”
2. Wenshu Zheng (Stony Brook University) – “Subjectivity and Alterity: Reconciling Derrida’s Mourning and the Sublime”
3. Michael Barr (Stony Brook University) – “The Goal of Plasticity: Affects, Signifiers and the Infinite Judgement from Hegel to Johnston”

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**Lunch: Noon – 1:00 pm (Kellenberg Hall – Reception Room)**

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**KEYNOTE SESSION: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

**KELLENBERG AMPHITHEATRE (K-106)**

**Welcome - Leslie Aarons (LaGuardia Community College)**

**Host of Keynote Session - Glenn Statile (St. John's University)**

**LIPS: Announcements, Special Awards**

**LIPS Poet Laureate: John F. DeCarlo (Hofstra University)**



**Grants: Harvard University, Oxford University**

**Poetry: *Life and Death; Walking Through Lebanon***

**Philosophy: *Had I But Time... I Could Tell You: Hamlet's Unspoken Dialectic with Descartes, Kant, and Heidegger***

## Keynote Speaker: Dr. Skye Cleary (Barnard College)

Skye C. Cleary, PhD is the author of *How to Be Authentic: Simone de Beauvoir and the Quest for Fulfillment, Existentialism and Romantic Love* and co-editor of *How to Live a Good Life*. She teaches at Columbia University, Barnard College, and the City University of New York. Cleary's writing has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Aeon*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *TED-Ed*, and *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, among other outlets. She won the 2017 New Philosopher Writers' Award and was a 2021 MacDowell Fellow.



## SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR AND THE QUEST FOR AUTHENTICITY

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Afternoon Sessions - (2:30 pm -5:00 pm) (Kellenberg Hall)

Session 11: (Science and Modern Philosophy)

Chairperson: Glenn Statile (St. John's University)

Room = K006

1. Yual Chiek (Saint John's University) – "Leibniz on the Contingency of the Laws of Motion: The Transference Thesis"
2. Joel Alvarez (University of South Florida) – "Interpreting Leibniz Counterpart Theory or Transworld Identity"
3. Glenn Statile (Saint John's University) – "Analogy and the Integrity of Science"

Session 12: (Darwinism, Evolutionary Psychology, and *Autopoiesis*)

Chairperson: Lowell Kleiman (SUNY Suffolk Community College)

Room = K015

1. Christopher Petersen (Florida State University) – "Is Evolutionary Psychology Possible in Principle? A Reply to S.E. Smith's Matching Problem Argument"
2. Jacob Koval (Florida State University) – "In Defense of Distortion: A Reply to Shafer-Landau and Vanova"

3. Matthew Menchaca (CUNY Graduate Center) – “Enactive *Autopoiesis* and the Future of Dynamic Affective Science”

Session 13: (Aesthetics and Philosophy of Literature)

Chairperson = Margaret Cuonzo (LIU Brooklyn)

Room = K020

1. Brother Owen Sadlier O.S.F. (Cathedral Seminary; Saint Francis College – Emeritus) – “The Anatomy of an Artificial Body: Aesthetic Reflections on Hobbes’ *Leviathan*”
2. Alexia Papigiotis (CUNY Graduate Center) – “Rooting for the Devil: Relatability Approach for Sympathy for Immoral Characters”
3. Alan Kim (Stony Brook University) – “Animal Farm”

Session 14: (Indian Philosophy, Rhetoric, Borges)

Chairperson: John F. DeCarlo (Hofstra University)

Room = K021

1. Basilio Monteiro (Hofstra University) – “Sadharanikaran: Exploring Indian Communicative Philosophy”
2. Meaghan Dunn (Saint John’s University) – “Philosophy and Rhetoric: A Curious Ontological Coupling that Once Was? Or Still Is?”
3. Bartholomew Slaninka (University of Massachusetts, Boston) – “Borges’ “The Aleph” and Problems in Representing Totality”

Session 15: (Ethics 2)

Chairperson: Lewis Williams (Oxford University)

Room = K202

1. Paul Gyllenhammer (Saint John’s University) – “Mill and Sartre on Oppression, Individuality, and Virtue”
2. Daniel Doviak (Muhlenberg College) – “Moral Pluralism and the Problem Weight of Determination for Conflicting Duties”
3. Miriam Ambrosino (Stony Brook University) – “Scheler’s Notion of (Inter) Personal Agency Founded in Loving”
4. John Park (California State University, Sacramento) – “The Mental and Physical Health Argument Against Hate Speech”

Session 16 : (Holism, Metaphysics, Heidegger)

Chairperson: Henry Curcio (Western Michigan University)

Room = K211

1. Partha Das (Saint John’s University) – “Holism: A Comparative Study”
2. Jake Khanaja (Rutgers University) - “Actualism, Presentism, and Ontological Commitment”



**3. Weian Ding (Loyola Marymount University) – “Become the Becoming: A Heideggerian Lesson from the Embers and the Stars”**

**Session 17: (Silence, Ethics, Education, Philanthropy)**

**Chairperson: Christine Salboudis (Saint John’s University)**

**Room – K211A**

- 1. Christine Salboudis (Saint John’s University) – “On Silence”**
- 2. Alina Anjum Ahmed (University of Georgia) – “DeCentering Power: Arguing for a Mandatory Undergraduate Course that Teaches Anti-Oppressive Allyship”**
- 3. Lorenzo Francesco Manuali (Stanford University) – “The Normative Importance of Donor Self-Legitimation in Philanthropy”**

**Session 18: (Theism, Aquinas, Rahner, Ecclesiastes, Scotus)**

**Chairperson: Seth Goldwasser (University of Pittsburgh)**

**Room – K204**

- 1. David Kovacs (Loyola Marymount University) – “Toward a New Approach to Theism”**
- 2. Kevin McShane (Saint John’s University) – “Aquinas and Rahner”**
- 3. Vincent Alexis Peluce (CUNY Graduate Center) – “Nothing New Under the Sun: Ecclesiastian Optimism”**
- 4. Jay Park (Independent Scholar) – “Will and Necessity: Reading Scotus Between Ontological Priority and Ontological Order”**

**Session 19: (Ethics, Boethius, Human Dignity)**

**Chairperson: Alec Koppers (Western Michigan University)**

**Room – K319**

- 1. Stephen Morris (CUNY College of Staten Island) - “On the Moral Status of Historic Figures and the Removal of Public Monuments”**
- 2. Matthew Konig (SUNY Suffolk County Community College) – “The Nature of Moral Facts”**
- 3. Joseph Jordan (Holy Apostolic College and Seminary) – “A Boethian Response to Machiavelli, Marx, and Jordan Peterson”**
- 4. Arich Hluch (Ohio State University) - “Human Dignity, Autonomy, and Altruism: Reframing the Debate on Organ Markets”**

**Session 20: Room - K319A**

**This room is reserved as a discussion lounge for conference participants.**

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**Reception: (5:00 pm – 6:00 pm)  
Kellenberg Hall – Reception Room**

**LIPS Board of Directors:**

1. Dr. Margaret Cuonzo (LIU Brooklyn) – Executive Director and Co-chairperson
2. Dr. Leslie Aarons (LaGuardia CC) - Co-Chairperson and Conference Organizer
3. Dr. Alina Feld (St. John’s University)
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7. Dr. Francis Fallon (St. John’s University)
8. Dr. Moti Mizrahi (Florida Institute of Technology)
9. Dr. Glenn Statile (St. John’s University) - Co-Chairperson and Conference Organizer

**Long Island Philosophical Society Hall of Fame (Initial Inductees - 2022)**

1. Dr. Eugene Kelly (LIU Old Westbury)
2. Dr. Lowell Kleiman (SUNY Suffolk County Community College)
3. Dr. Joseph Filonowicz (LIU Brooklyn)
4. Dr. Margaret Cuonzo (LIU Brooklyn)
5. Dr. James P. Friel (SUNY Farmingdale)

**LIPS would like to thank Dr. Howard Ponzer (chairperson) and the Philosophy Department of Molloy College for hosting the conference. Very special mention to Kim Geary and to the Administration of Molloy College for their generosity and expertise.**