Ryerson University – Department of Philosophy
2018-2019 News Stories

- Sessional Instructorships for 2019-2020 in PHL, REL, and MUS have been posted here. Deadline: May 24.
- Prof. Kym Maclaren was one of the keynote speakers at York University's Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, held on April 25-26, 2019. Her talk was entitled "Criminalization and the Self-Constituting Dynamics of Distrust."
- The department will host a workshop entitled *Reason, Action, and Mind* on April 12. For complete details, see this poster.
- The department will host a workshop on graduate study in philosophy on Tuesday, April 9th, 3:00-5:00pm, in JOR-440. The purpose of the workshop is to set out the benefits and challenges of doing an MA or a PhD in philosophy. We are excited to have two alumni of our MA program join us for this event. Becky Van der Post is currently doing a PhD at Concordia University, and Jenny Duffy has launched a career outside of academia (see news item below). If you are interested in attending, email Prof. Paula Schwebel at pschwebel@ryerson.ca
- MA graduate Jenny Duffy's advocacy work has been profiled on the Ryerson graduate website. Jenny is the executive vice-chair of Maggie's Toronto Sex Workers' Action Project, and advocates for the decriminalization of sex work to support the safety and dignity of this marginalized community.
- The department is delighted to announce that Dr. Liz Jackson and Dr. Michael Milona have accepted our offers of tenure-track positions. Dr. Milona will join the faculty in Fall 2019, and Dr. Jackson will join in Fall 2020. Welcome to both!
- The Ryerson Graduate Student Philosophy Union will host its annual conference on March 22nd and 23rd. [Complete details.]
- The Ryerson Undergradaute Philosophy Course Union will host its annual conference on March 29th. The keynote speaker will be Richard Miller (Cornell). [Complete details.]
- Prof. Boris Hennig has published an article entitled "Self-Knowledge, Estrangement, and Social Metabolism" in the *Monthly Review*.
- Prof. David Hunter's current research has been profiled at the Imperfect Cognitions Blog.
- Congratulation to Prof. Rohan Sud, whose paper entitled "Moral Vagueness as Semantic Vagueness" was recently accepted for publication in *Ethics*.
- Congratulations to Prof. David Hunter, who has been recognized with a Dean's Service Award for 2017-2018. Prof. Hunter has made extraordinary contributions to the Department, the Faculty of Arts, Ryerson University, and to the philosophical profession.
- Prof. Boris Hennig has just published a book entitled *Aristotle's Four Causes*. Congratulations, Boris!
- Congratulations to our 2017-2018 undergraduate philosophy award winners! For a list, click here.
- Recent MA graduate Ian Thut has had his paper, "Hegel on the Self in Crisis," accepted for publication in the interdisciplinary journal *Ultimate Reality and Meaning*. Congratulations, Ian!

- The department will host a workshop on the application process for graduate study (MA or PhD) in philosophy, on Tuesday, Nov. 27th, in JOR-802. To register and for information, contact Prof. Paula Schwebel.
- The department is delighted to announce that it will host the 54th annual conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy on October 8-10, 2020.
- Prof. David Ciavatta presented a paper entitled "The Poetic Foundations of Political Self-Consciousness in Hegel's Aesthetics" at the annual meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (October 2018, State College, PA).
- Prof. Paula Schwebel will speak at this workshop entitled "Marx's Eighteenth Brumaire" at the University of Toronto on Saturday, Nov. 17.
- Prof. Thomas Land's paper, "Epistemic Agency and the Self-Knowledge of Reason: On the Contemporary Relevance of Kant's Method of Faculty Analysis", has just been accepted by the journal *Synthese*. Also, his paper "Spontaneity, Sensation, and the Myth of the Given" will appear in an edited volume called *C.I. Lewis's Conceptual Pragmatism: the A Priori and the Given* (Edited by P. Narboux, Q. Kammer and H. Wagner).
- Prof. Kym Maclaren recently published "Intimacy as Transgression and the Problem of Freedom," as an invited piece for the inaugural issue of *Puncta: Journal for Critical Phenomenology.*
- The 2019 Ryerson Graduate Student Conference will take place on March 22nd-23rd, 2019. Paper submissions are due on December 14th, 2018, and the Call for Papers is here.
- Congratulations to MA student Mitchell Wideman, who has been accepted to participate in the ECPR Summer School on Political Epistemology, which will take place in the University of Siegen in mid-September.
- The German Philosophy Reading Group will continue working through Heidegger's *Being and Time* this semester. For details, contact Prof. Boris Hennig.
- Congratulations to MA student Zach Reimer, whose paper entitled "Virtue Scepticism and Moral Motivation" has been accepted for presentation at the upcoming Western Canadian Philosophical Association conference. Another of Zach's papers, entitled "Divine Hiddenness, Self-Sacrifice, and Heavenly Rewards", has been accepted for presentation at the upcoming New Perspectives in European Philosophy of Religion Conference. Zach has also been accepted to participate in the University of Oklahoma's upcoming Writing Sample Workshop.
- Congratulations to 2015 MA graduate Luke Teeninga, who recently completed his D.Phil at Oxford University. Dr. Teeninga's dissertation was entitled *The 'Greater Goods' Response to the Argument from Divine Hiddenness*.
- Congratulations to 2012 MA graduate Chris Dragos, who recently completed his PhD at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto. Dr. Dragos' dissertation was entitled *A New Framework for Social and Collective Epistemology*.
- Congratulations to 2012 MA graduate Leland Harper, who has just accepted a professorship in philosophy at Siena Heights University. Prof. Harper completed his doctorate in philosophy at Birmingham in 2016.
- The third annual Undergraduate Philosophy Student Conference will take place on October 5th. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Daniel Viehoff (NYU). [Call for Papers]
- The fourth annual Jehangir Saleh Lecture will take place on Tuesday, October 2nd, from 5:30-8:00pm. The lecture will be given by Dr. John Russon (Guelph), who was Jehangir's

MA advisor. (Jehangir passed away on June 28th, 2013, after a long battle with Cystic Fybrosis. Jehangir specialized in philosophy while he was a student in the [Arts and Contemporary Studies BA program](#) from 2003-2009, and later enrolled in the MA program in Philosophy at Guelph University. [[Guelph profile](#)] [[Facebook memorial page](#)] [[Toronto Star Article](#)]) UPDATE: here is [a video](#) of Dr. Russon's talk.

- [Dr. David Hunter](#), [Dr. Thomas Land](#), [Dr. Bob Murray](#), and [Dr. Antoine Panaioti](#) are all presenting research at the annual meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association, which takes place in Montreal from June 4-7. [[Details and schedule](#)]
- Congratulations to two faculty members who were recently awarded [Insight Grants](#) from the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada](#). [Dr. David Hunter](#) received a three-year grant (valued at $33,150) for his research project entitled "Belief as a Rational Capacity". Meanwhile, [Dr. Diane Enns](#) received a four-year grant (valued at $63,000) for her research project entitled "Loneliness and the Social".
- Congratulations to [Dr. Boris Hennig](#), [Dr. David Hunter](#), and [Dr. Thomas Land](#) for being awarded a Connections Grant from the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada](#). The project was entitled "Transparency and Apperception" and the grant's value was $12,375.
- Congratulations to MA student Mitchell Wideman on being awarded a [Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship](#) from the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada](#). His project is entitled "Radical Democracy in the Workplace: Dewey, Aristotle, and the Canadian Labour Movement". Update: Mitchell's award was also one of just ten MA-level awards nation-wide selected to receive an additional honorary designation in honour of Nelson Mandela. These designations recognize graduate students whose outstanding work concerns one or more of five areas championed by Mr. Mandela: national unity, democracy, freedom and human rights, leadership; and children's participation in society.
- The Philosophy Department is delighted to announce that **[Dr. Diane Enns](#)** will join our faculty for the 2018-2019 academic year. Dr. Enns works in social-political Continental philosophy.
- The Philosophy Department is delighted to announce that **[Dr. Rohan Sud](#)** will join our faculty for the 2018-2019 academic year. Dr. Sud works in metaphysics and in the philosophy of language.
- After more than 25 years of service at Ryerson, **Professor [Elizabeth (Betty) Trott](#) is retiring in June**. Betty introduced and developed two very popular undergraduate courses ([PHL606: Philosophy of Love and Sex](#), and [PHL303: Philosophy of Human Nature](#)); she supervised our first Master's Thesis; and she ensured that our faculty meetings were never dull. Betty published over 35 articles while here, and has two more forthcoming. Though she will be leaving Ryerson, she has assured us that she will never leave philosophy, and in particular Canadian philosophy. (She will be a keynote speaker at a conference on Canadian philosophy planned for 2019.) Many thanks to Betty for all her contributions, and best wishes for her retirement!
- The department will host a [workshop on **Transparency and Apperception** on May 11th-12th](#).
- The department will host a [workshop on **Nietzsche and Politics** on May 4th](#).
- Malu Maia, Ryan Walters, and Klaas Kraay participated in the WWF-Canada CN Tower Climb for Nature on April 8th, raising $1600. [[News Story](#)]

- Congratulations to BA student Raymond Cacciatore, who has accepted an offer from Concordia University's MA program in philosophy!
- Congratulations to MA student Nathan Smith, who has accepted an offer from McMaster University's doctoral program in Religious Studies!
- Congratulations to MA student Laila Khoshkar, who has accepted an offer from the University of Toronto's doctoral program in Political Science!