



SPT Newsletter
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SPT Announcements

SPT 2003 Conference on Technology and Global Society July 7, 8 and 9, 2003 in Park City, Utah

As previously announced, the 13th meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Technology will be held July 7, 8 and 9, 2003 in Park City, Utah. The conference will feature three invited plenary speakers in addition to this year's Presidential Address from Andrew Light. Two speakers are philosophers. Professor Bernard Rollin, who holds a joint appointment between philosophy and the veterinary college at Colorado State University will address the conference on biotechnology and the concept of nature. Dr. Rachelle Hollander of the U.S. National Science Foundation is a longtime member of SPT. She will be presenting some reflections on the history and philosophy of the primary U.S. funding program for ethics related studies of science and technology, including some discussion of how philosophical work on technology has been received by American

scientists and government officials. Professor Sheila Slaughter, from the education program at the University of Arizona, will also address the conference. Professor Slaughter is the co-author (with Larry Leslie) of a recent study *Academic Capitalism*, as well as the author of *Higher Learning and High Technology*.

Park City is conveniently located 35 miles east of the Salt Lake City International Airport. The conference site for the 2003 SPT meetings will be at the Lodges in Deer Valley. Free shuttle bus service from the Lodges to Park City's Old Town-with its numerous restaurants, art galleries, a brew pub and other clubs-will be available. Park City lies at an elevation of 2100 meters in the heart of Utah's Rocky Mountains. It was the venue for the Alpine competitions of ski jumping, luge, moguls, snowboarding, and Alpine skiing during the 2002 Olympics. In the summer, Park City offers an ideal environment for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and swimming.



The program committee has received about 50 abstracts from around the globe on a wide variety of topics, and will be advising those who have submitted abstracts of their decision shortly. Members of the society who would still like to have abstracts considered should submit the immediately to program chair Paul Thompson (pault@purdue.edu). In addition, we will be adding a special session for poster presentations this year. Members and students who have not submitted abstracts are especially encouraged to submit poster proposals, which may be submitted up to May 1, 2003. In addition, those who would like to comment on papers, or chair sessions are urged to pass that information along to Lee McBride (mcbridel@purdue.edu), who is assisting with conference organization.

We would like to remind members that final papers for the program should not be more than 12 pages, double-spaced. Completed papers will be required by

May 1, 2003 in order to provide respondents with ample time for preparing remarks.

SPT 2005 conference will be held in Delft, The Netherlands

The 14th Biennial International Conference of the Society for Philosophy and Technology (2005) will be held at Delft University of Technology, and will be organized by Peter Kroes and Pieter Vermaas,. Founded in 1862, Delft University of Technology is the oldest, largest, and most comprehensive technical university in the Netherlands. The conference will be housed in the building of the Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management of the Delft University of Technology. More details about the SPT 2005 conference will follow soon.



News from the APA divisions

Pacific Division

The SPT will hold a session on Computers and the Mediation of Human Experience in conjunction with the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, 26 -- 30 March 2003. The session is co-sponsored by the Society for Philosophy and Technology and the APA Committee on Philosophy and Computers.

- Tom Powers (Senior Research Associate, Division of Technology, Culture, and Communication, School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Virginia): The Computer Layer in Pedagogy: complements to traditional classroom interaction
- David Kolb (Charles A. Dana Professor of Philosophy, Bates College), *Philosophy Gone Hyper: New Voices and Forms of Scholarly Communication*
- Branden Fitelson (Assistant Professor, San Jose State University), *Some Recent Applications of Computing to Problem-Solving in Philosophy of Science, Logic, and Metaphysics*

Chair: Noam Cook, San Jose State University

Central Division

The Society for Philosophy and Technology will sponsor a special session at the American Philosophical Association Central Division meeting on Saturday, April 26, 2003 at 11:45 AM. The topic is "Pragmatism and Bioethics" and will consist of a panel on the new book, *Pragmatist Ethics for a Technological Culture* (Dordrecht: 2002, Kluwer) edited by Josef Keulartz, Michiel Korthals, Maartje Schermer and Tsjalling Swierstra (for more information about this book, see section 5 of this newsletter). The book is the latest volume in the International Library of Environmental, Agricultural and Food Ethics edited by Michiel Korthals and Paul Thompson (SPT members with manuscripts please contact the series editors). The APA panel will include presentations by Tom Tomlinson, a bioethicist from Michigan State University and Vincent Colapietro, a pragmatist from Penn State. Representing SPT will be former President Joe Pitt. Diane Michelfelder will chair the session. The Central Division meets April 24, 25, 26 & 27 in Cleveland, OH. See the APA website <http://www.apa.udel.edu/apal/> for further details.



Calls for papers

Building Ethics into Professionalism
 October 15-17, 2003 at The Astor Crowne Plaza, New Orleans, Louisiana
(Annual Conference on Ethics and Social Responsibility in Engineering and Technology)

Academic/industry partnered presentations encouraged on these topics:

- Discovering Ethical Dilemmas and Communicating Ethical Resolutions
 - Ethics in Competitive Bidding and Contracting
 - Shareholder Ethics and Social Responsibility
 - Integrating Ethics into the Classroom and Workplace
 - Establishing an Ethical Organization
- Abstract Deadline: February 28, 2003, submit to ruff@gonzaga.edu
 More information:
<http://www.gonzaga.edu/continuingeducation>

Computing and Philosophy (CAP)
 August 7, 8, 9, 2003, Oregon State University

The topics relevant to CAP are open-ended and we encourage innovative

proposals. Broadly, there are two areas of concern at CAP:

1. Philosophical critique of computing and information technology.
2. Uses of computing and information technology that are philosophically significant.

CAP encourages dynamic, interactive presentation sessions as opposed to simple paper readings. Completed proposal forms are due Monday, March 3, 2003. More information:
<http://oregonstate.edu/groups/cap>

Ethics Across the Curriculum
 June 24 - July 1, 2003, Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions (CSEP) at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chicago

This summer (June 24-July 1, 2003), the Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions (CSEP) at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chicago will host a workshop on how to integrate professional ethics into technical courses (anything from calculus to statistics, from botany to technical communications). The



emphasis will be on practice not theory, on what works in class and what doesn't. This workshop is similar to those successfully offered to IIT faculty in 1991-93 and to faculty at other universities worldwide starting in 1994. Participants from diverse backgrounds and disciplines have found the workshop to be stimulating and useful.

Funding from the National Science Foundation will pay for most reasonable expenses such as travel and living expenses during the workshop, plus \$500 in stipend, on condition that your institution contributes another \$1500. Attending the workshop commits the participant to:

- devoting seven days (full-time) to the workshop (and related activities), with Sunday off;
- integrating professional ethics into one of your technical courses in the fall by using what you prepared in the summer workshop;
- conducting a course evaluation of the new material;
- writing a report describing what you did and what happened.

Participants will not have "graduated" from the workshop until they have completed these components. Once all of this is completed, a participant should be able to help faculty at the home institution to integrate professional ethics into their own technical courses. To apply, you need only to send to the address below: a short letter describing your reasons for wanting to take the workshop, your background, and the courses you will be teaching next fall; a Curriculum Vitae; and a letter of commitment from the appropriate administrator indicating that your institution will pay its share of the stipend if you are accepted. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2003. Funds are available for no more than twenty participants. So, please don't delay. For more information, please contact Michael Davis, Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions, IIT, HUB Mezzanine, Room 204, 3241 S. Federal Street, Chicago, IL 60616-3793; tel: 773.288.8348 / fax: 312.567.3016 email: davism@iit.edu; CSEP website: <http://www.iit.edu/departments/csep>; EAC website: <http://www.iit.edu/departments/csep/eac/index.html>



IR 4.0: Broadening the Band
International and Interdisciplinary Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 16 - 19 October 2003

Internet Research (IR) 4.0 will feature a variety of perspectives on Internet, organized under the theme Broadening the Band. As in previous conferences, the aim is to develop a coherent theoretical and pragmatic understanding of the Internet and those that are empowered and disenfranchised by it. IR 4.0 will bring together prominent scholars, researchers, creators, and practitioners from many disciplines, fields and

countries for a program of presentations, panel discussions, and informal exchanges. This year's theme, Broadening the Band, encourages wide participation from diverse disciplines, communities, and points of view. Under the umbrella theme, contributors are called to reflect upon, theorize and articulate what we know from within the emerging interdisciplinary space known as Internet Research. Deadline: 1 March 2003

Conference Website:
<http://www.aoir.org/2003>;
<http://www.ecommons.net/aoir>

Forthcoming Events

CEPE 2003 - The Fifth International Conference of Computer Ethics - Philosophical Enquiry will be held at Boston College (USA), June 25-27, 2003. The conference theme is: *Computer Ethics in the Post-September 11 World*. Conference Co-Chairs: Frances Grodzinsky (Sacred Heart University), Richard Spinello

(Boston College), Herman Tavani (Rivier College). More information: <http://csethics.uis.edu/inseit/CEPE2003/>

The Sixth Annual Ethics and Technology Conference will be held immediately following the CEPE at Boston College (USA), June 27-28,



2003. The conference theme is: *Intellectual Property Rights in a Networked World*. More information: <http://csethics.uis.edu/inseit/6AETC.htm>

The Computing and Philosophy Conference 2003 (CAP'03), organized by The International Association for Computing and Philosophy (IACAP) will be held at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, March 27 – 29, 2003. The conference will deal with all aspects of the "computational turn" that is occurring within the discipline of Philosophy. Papers will be presented in the following areas:

- Cognitive Science, Epistemology and Metaphysics
- Modularity Issues and the Problem of Consciousness in Philosophy
- Representation in Computational Models of Cognition
- New Models of Logic Software
- Computer-based Learning and Teaching Strategies and Resources
- Ethics
- The Impact of Distance Learning on the Teaching of Philosophy

More information:
www.gla.ac.uk/departments/philosophy/ECAP.html



The 21st ANNUAL MEPHISTOS CONFERENCE - A Graduate Student Conference on the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, Technology, and Medicine, will take place Thursday March 6th - Saturday March 8th, 2003, University of Wisconsin - Madison, USA.

Mephistos is a graduate student conference on the history, philosophy, and sociology of science, technology, and medicine that provides an opportunity for graduate students to present papers, participate in discussions, and meet other students in their field within a relaxed, informal setting. Each year Mephistos is held at a different institution and we are pleased to announce that the 2003 conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin - Madison, USA. The Mephistos 2003 Organizing Committee welcomes the submission of papers from graduate students on topics which analyze issues in (or related to) the history, philosophy, and sociology of science, technology, and medicine. More information: <http://philosophy.wisc.edu/mephistos2003/mephistos.htm>

Recent publications of interest

First FORESIGHT Working Paper of the Science and Technology Foresight unit of the European Commission/DG Research

The first working paper "The objective of Sustainable Development: are we coming closer? - From the Pursuit of Happiness to the Pursuit of Sustainability" by René Von Schomberg is out. This paper makes the case for an international "third" arena for long-term policy planning in order to allow for regulatory mechanisms beyond national planning and global market regulation. It proposes a research agenda to underpin the emergence of such an arena. You can download the paper on the Foresight Website at CORDIS at <http://www.cordis.lu/rtd2002/foresight/working.htm>

ICES: NEW JOURNAL LAUNCHED

The Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society (ICES) provides an interdisciplinary perspective on the impacts of new

media and information and communication technologies on society, organizations, the environment and individuals. High quality unpublished work from academics and practitioners is welcomed for consideration. Work is subjected to rigorous blind refereeing. Such work might be conceptual, visionary, empirical or policy focused, or any combination of these. It might be written from a single disciplinary or multidisciplinary perspective. Work can cover any sector such as agriculture, commerce, education, finance, government, health, industry, leisure, media and transport. All topics in the area of social and ethical issues are acceptable. It is acceptable to consider all or any of the stakeholders such as clients, communities, customers, developers, owners, policy makers, users and vendors.

Information about the journal can be found on at www.troubador.co.uk/ices including details of the papers in Volume One Issue One and Volume One Supplement.



BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT:***Pragmatist Ethics for a Technological Culture***

Edited by Jozef Keulartz (*Wageningen University, The Netherlands*), Michiel Korthals (*Wageningen University, the Netherlands*), Maartje Schermer (*Dept. of Philosophy, University of Amsterdam and Center for Ethics and Health of The Netherlands, Zoetermeer/The Hague, The Netherlands*), and Tsjalling Swierstra (*Twente University, Enschede, The Netherlands*).

Our technological culture has an extremely dynamic character: old ways of reproducing ourselves, managing nature and keeping animals are continually replaced by new ones; norms and values with respect to our bodies, food production, health care and environmental protection are regularly being put up for discussion. This constantly confronts us with new moral problems and dilemmas. In discussion with other approaches this book argues that pragmatism, with its strong emphasis on the interaction between technology and values, gives

us both procedural help and stresses the importance of living and cooperating together in tackling these problems and dilemmas. The issues in this book include the interaction of technology and ethics, the status of pragmatism, the concept of practice, and discourse ethics and deliberative democracy. The book has an interactive design, with original contributions alternating with critical comments. The book is of interest for students, scholars and policymakers in the fields of bioethics, animal ethics, environmental ethics, pragmatist philosophy and science and technology studies.

Book Series: THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD ETHICS: Volume 3; Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht

Hardbound, ISBN 1-4020-0987-9, December 2002, 292 pp.
EUR 135.00 / USD 130.00 / GBP 86.00
Paperback, ISBN 1-4020-1115-6, December 2002, 292 pp.
EUR 75.00 / USD 72.00 / GBP 48.00



Philosophy of Technology Around the World

New column in the SPT Newsletter

Column editor: Philip Brey,
p.a.e.brey@wmw.utwente.nl

Where in the world can major research programs or centers in philosophy of technology be found? And at what universities can one find teaching programs in the philosophy of technology? Many scholars around the world are involved in teaching and research that can be labeled, in a broad sense, as "philosophy of technology". Yet, over the years I have noticed that many of these scholars are not acquainted with many of the places around the world where philosophy of technology is a major topic of interest.

The Newsletter hereby introduces a new column, called "Philosophy of Technology Around the World". Its intent is to inform members of the state of the art at various research centers or academic departments around the world where research and/or teaching in philosophy of technology is an important activity. Each coming newsletter, we hope to publish at least one piece that introduces a research

centre or department involved in research or teaching in philosophy of technology. Such short pieces will be helpful, we hope, in informing the membership of current developments in the field and in forging new research contacts, alliances and interactions. In this way, these pieces may contribute to the core mission of the SPT, to advance research and teaching in the philosophy of technology.

We are looking for short pieces between 500 - 1000 words that introduce the readership of the Newsletter (currently over 300 subscribed readers, plus others who access the SPT website) to your department or centre. Ideally, a piece would describe a research centre or academic department which has a significant concentration of research and/or teaching in philosophy of technology (that is, more than one scholar engages in such teaching or research). The piece would contain a brief biography of the scholars who participate in such teaching or research, and would contain a description of the research programs



and/or teaching programs in which the group participates, along with a description of current activities, recent developments and plans for the future. If your group participates in a bachelor, master or Ph.D. program in which philosophy of technology is a major topic, we would also like to have a description of such a program. It would also be helpful to include contact information in your text (a departmental address, e-mail addresses, web links). If your piece meets the above criteria, we guarantee its publication in one of the future editions of the Newsletter.

We are also interested in pieces that describe the situation in individual countries. You may opt to write a brief survey article (500-1500 words) that describes the state of the art of philosophy of technology research and teaching in your country (see, e.g., Pieter Tijmes' essay on philosophy of technology in the Netherlands at scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/PT/v3n1/preface.html).

Please note that "philosophy of technology" will be construed in the broadest possible sense for the purposes of this column. We are interested in any form of philosophical or ethical research or teaching in which technology is a major concern. So research or teaching programs in e.g. biomedical ethics, environmental philosophy, engineering ethics or philosophy of science will be interesting to hear about if technology is a topic of major concern in them, as well as multidisciplinary programs in e.g. science and technology studies, engineering or policy studies in which there is a special emphasis on the philosophical or ethical analysis of technology.

Please send your submissions to Philip Brey (p.a.e.brey@utwente.nl). You may also use this e-mail address for any questions about this new column. We are looking forward to your submissions!



From the Editor

As announced in the previous newsletter, the editorship of the newsletter has moved across the ocean, and is now located in The Netherlands, at the University of Twente. Philip Brey and I will do our best to do this job as well as Ben Cohen, Andrew Light and Joe Pitt did. We had a complicated start, though. There was a big fire at our university, which destroyed all our offices, books and archives of our department and caused a lot of delay in our activities. This newsletter thus appears a little later than we intended, and for that reason the deadlines for some calls for papers are rather close. We apologize for that.

This newsletter contains two new sections we hope to continue in the future. First, a section called 'Philosophy of Technology Around the World'. In this section, scholars, research groups and teaching programs in the philosophy of technology can present themselves to the SPT community. Second, we

started a section 'Recent Publications of Interest', in which we will announce new publications in the philosophy of technology.

We would like to repeat Joe Pitt's remark in the previous letter that the work of the newsletter depends heavily on input from the membership. We continue to welcome announcements and informative communications from around the world. But unless you let the editors know what is going on, it will be difficult for the newsletter to be the information organ of SPT.

We hope you will enjoy this first 'Twente edition'!

Peter-Paul Verbeek

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Membership and Dues

SPT Membership

SPT welcomes as members persons from all countries whose professional interests include philosophically significant considerations of technology. Membership is open to those who have an advanced degree (typically but not necessarily in philosophy), to those who are in a technological field, and to students whose work is in keeping with the interests of the Society. Dues are \$20US per year, which includes a subscription to the SPT Newsletter (dues for students are \$15US, and gratis for people in developing nations).

New ways to pay your dues

[From Noam Cook]

Payment of SPT dues is now being handled by the Philosophy Documentation Center. Dues can be paid by cheque, money order or credit card (VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER). Payments by any of these methods can be sent to the address below. Credit card payments can also be made by fax or over the phone via the numbers below. (For credit card payments include card number and expiration date).

Society for Philosophy and Technology
Philosophy Documentation Center
P.O. Box 7147
Charlottesville, VA 22906-7147 USA
Tel. (toll free from the US & Canada):
800 444 2419
Tel. (from anywhere): 434 220 3300
Fax: 434 220 3301

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