

The Caribbean Philosophical Association

Announces

A CALL FOR PAPERS FOR ITS 2011 ANNUAL MEETING:

Sept. 29 to Oct. 1st

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK
NEW JERSEY (USA)

Theme: *Shifting the Geography of Reason VIII:*

The University, Public Education, and the Transformation of Society

The Caribbean Philosophical Association (CPA) invites proposals from scholars in any discipline who aim to “shift the geography of reason” by exploring critical, theoretical, and creative questions about or relating to the Caribbean, its diaspora, and the “global south” more generally, including the South in the North. We particularly welcome North-South and South-South intersections and/or dialogues. The principal theme for this meeting focuses on the impact and consequences of the current crisis of economic, social, and political priorities, and the social and economic models that are heavily affecting universities, public education in general, and society at large. The theme also invites reflections on the general disinvestment in the public good and the growing forces of “racial neoliberalism” and “neoapartheid” that are growing in different regions of the globe as the numbers of formerly colonized peoples and people of color increase in the global north. This includes the criminalization of “illegal immigration” and the ban on ethnic studies in Arizona, student mobilizations in Puerto Rico, England, and Berkeley, among other places, and the effects of the financial crisis in the Caribbean and the global North and South, among other topics. The current crisis is also putting in question the relevance of traditional areas in the humanities and the interpretive social sciences, which is arguably leading to the reemergence of conservative and liberal defenses of the humanities, and to an increasing positivism in the social sciences. Is it possible to further decolonize these areas in times of crisis? How can the growing number of interdisciplinary scholars whose work intersects with Caribbean theory, philosophy, and thought perceive these interrelated set of problems and aim to respond to them? Is it possible to continue challenging the trends of “disciplinary decadence” in the academy and forge decolonial modes of reflection and critique? How can educators and scholars contribute to the continued transformation--and not merely salvation or rescue--of the university, and of society in general in the context of neoliberal adjustments on the one hand, but also of emerging revolutions, as the case of Tunisia and Egypt exemplify, and of an abundance of creative works, like those found in the Caribbean and its diaspora, on the other?

While proposals dealing with the specific questions raised by this year’s theme and by the general organizing theme of the CPA are particularly encouraged, we welcome presentations, panels, dialogues, and roundtable discussions that highlight questions about race, space, gender, the legacies of colonization, slavery, and empire, national and transnational communities, sexuality, and issues of identity, decolonization, art, and activism, across migrations and diasporas not only in the Caribbean and the Caribbean diaspora, but globally. We accept proposals in English, French, and Spanish. We also encourage submission of papers to the official journal of the CPA, the *CLR James Journal*. Featuring:

Keynote panels

*Including Boaventura de Sousa Santos and Lewis R. Gordon on
“The University, Public Education, and the Transformation of Society”*

Tribute to Frantz Fanon & Edouard Glissant

*50th anniversary commemoration of Fanon’s passing (co-organized with the Frantz Fanon Foundation)
with Mireille Fanon-Mendès France, Drucilla Cornell, Nigel Gibson, Linda Martín Alcoff, Paget Henry and others.*

Awards

*Junot Díaz (2011 Nicolás Guillén Awardee)
Susan Buck-Morss & Marilyn Nissim-Sabat (2011 Frantz Fanon Awardees)*

Film & Video

*“Pa’lante, siempre palante: The Young Lords” with Iris Morales
and “Decolonizing the University: Fulfilling the Dream of the Third World College”*

Discussions

*Discussions on Decoloniality Today with Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Walter D. Mignolo, Catherine Walsh,
Ramón Grosfoguel, María Lugones, Nelson Maldonado-Torres, and others.*

We encourage papers and panels on topics such as:

Decolonization theory/decolonial thought
Critical race theory and philosophy
Religion in the Caribbean and the Diaspora
Africana philosophy & critical theory
Feminist philosophy
Oppositional consciousness
Caribbean & Third World feminist thought
Migration of social movements
Citizenship, Diaspora, and “illegal” migrant status
Political theory and political economy
Critical race theory
Maroon practice and thinking
Caribbean migration in the North
Indo-Caribbean philosophy & literature
Indigeneity, mestizaje, and creolité
Philosophy and literature in the Antilles & the Diaspora
Postcolonial phenomenologies
Panafricanism & radical philosophies
Psychoanalysis and deconstruction
Social contractarianism
Education and pedagogy
Law and Human Rights

Board Members and Conference organizers include:

Nelson Maldonado-Torres, *Rutgers University, President*
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Rozena Maart, *The Biko Inst., Sec. of Black Cons & Psychoanalysis*
Charles Mills, *Northwestern U., Secretary of Gender Studies*
Stephen Haymes, *De Paul U., Sec. of Philosophy of Education*
Clarence Sholé Johnson, *Middle Tenn. State U., Sec./Human Rights*

Send submissions for panels, roundtables, discussions, and abstracts of individual presentations by April 15, 2011, by email to caribphil@gmail.com. Abstracts should include: 1) name, position, highest degree obtained, and institutional affiliation (if any), 2) title of proposed paper, panel, roundtable, or discussion, 3) up to one page description of the problem(s) addressed and identification of the sources used per participant. We will review proposals in English, French, and Spanish and will create panels for presentations in those three languages. Panelists are responsible for providing translation if they wish their presentations to be translated. They also need to consider the time for translations as they prepare their panels.

Panel presentations must include a description of the panel as well as title and abstracts of individual presentations and the basic biographical information (as listed above) of each presenter. The maximum of presenters per panel is four, in addition to a moderator. The fourth panelist could be a presenter or a commentator.

We will consider submissions of two to three interconnected panels on key issues that relate to the main theme of the conference. These panels will take place at different days and times throughout the conference to be determined by the organizing committee. We also encourage panels that seek to establish dialogues among scholars, and artists, professionals, activists, and community leaders who are in dialogue with intellectual and scholarly work.

All presenters will be asked to pay conference fees and membership to the association as well. The membership and the registration forms will be posted on the website soon. <http://www.caribbeanphilosophicalassociation.org/>

Sponsors include the Department of Latino and Hispanic Caribbean Studies, and the Center for Race and Ethnicity at Rutgers University. Others will be listed soon.



**Caribbean
Philosophical
Association**

SHIFTING THE GEOGRAPHY OF REASON

More information on the CPA:

The CPA is a non-profit organization founded on June 14, 2002 at the Center for Caribbean Thought at the University of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica. Since then, the organization has held conferences in Barbados, Puerto Rico, Montreal (Canada), Jamaica, Guadeloupe, Miami, and Cartagena (Colombia).

The principle goal of the CPA is to support the free exchange of ideas and foster an intellectual community that is truly representative of the diversity of voices and perspectives that is paradigmatic of, but not limited to, the Caribbean. The Caribbean is thus understood not solely as a geopolitical region, but more generally as a trope to investigate certain dimensions of the multiple undersides of modernity.

Likewise, philosophy is conceived, not as an isolated academic discipline, but as rigorous theoretical reflection about fundamental problems faced by humanity. Understood in this way, Caribbean philosophy is a transdisciplinary form of interrogation informed by scholarly knowledges as well as by practices and artistic expressions that elucidate fundamental questions that emerge in contexts of “discovery,” conquest, racial, gender, and sexual domination, genocide, dependency, and exploitation as well as freedom, emancipation, and decolonization. Reflection about these areas often appears in philosophical texts, but also in a plethora of other genres such as literature, music, and historical writings. The CPA invites theoretical engagements with all such questions, thematic areas, and genres with emphasis on any given discipline or field, but with a common interest in “shifting the geography of reason,” by which we mean approaching the Caribbean and the “global south” in general as zones of sustainable practices and knowledges.

Although the focus is on engaging philosophy that emerges in the Caribbean, membership is not limited exclusively to scholars with degrees in philosophy, and any region and historic moment is open to the exchange of ideas. In similar kind, membership in the organization is not limited to professional scholars. Any one with an interest in theoretical and philosophical work can become a member. Finally, the Caribbean Philosophical Association is also dedicated to assisting with the development of institutions that would preserve thought in the Caribbean and facilitate the creation of new ideas.

The CPA offers two prizes every year: the Frantz Fanon prize for outstanding book on Caribbean philosophy, and the Nicolás Guillén prize for outstanding literary book.

For more information go to: <http://www.caribbeanphilosophicalassociation.org/>