THE NORTH AMERICAN LEVINAS SOCIETY 2015
“EMMANUEL LEVINAS ACROSS THE GENERATIONS AND CONTINENTS”
Purdue University, July 27-30, 2015
10TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Monday July, 27

Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are in Stewart Center 214 and 218.

9:00 - 5:00 Registration Open (First and Third Floor Stewart Center)
9:00 - 12:00 Advisory Board Meeting

2:00 - 3:00 WELCOME to NALS 2015, STEW 214
David Reingold, Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University
Sandor Goodhart, Professor of English, Purdue University

3:00 - 4:30 PLENARY 1: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy I
MODERATOR: Sandor Goodhart (Purdue University), Marie-Anne Lescourret, (Université de Strasbourg), “In the Name of God: Belief in Wittgenstein and Levinas”

4:45 - 6:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1
CS1.1: Levinas and Phenomenology
MODERATOR: Elaine Blum (Purdue University)
David Leslie (Harvard University), “The Lifeworld Well Lost”
Matt Bower (Texas State University), “Levinas’ Radical Embodied Phenomenology”
Donald L. Wallenfang (Walsh University), “Et tu, Brute?: Levinas’s Rejection of Marion’s ‘Analytic’ Phenomenology of Givenness”

CS1.2: Levinas and the Post-Colonial
MODERATOR: Daniel Kline (University of Alaska – Anchorage)
Patrick Anderson (Texas A&M University), “Levinas and the Anti-Colonial”
Monica Osborne (Pepperdine University), “Reading the Wound: Levinas, the Midrashic Impulse, and Native American Literature”

CS1.3: Levinas and Language I
MODERATOR: Wei Lu (Purdue University)
Panu-Matti Pöykkö (University of Helsinki), “Levinas’ and Davidson’s Transcendentalisms: Intersubjectivity, Triangulation and Ethical Language”
David Banach (Saint Anselm College), “Words and Worlds: Putnam and Levinas on the Meaning of Meaning”
Melissa Fitzpatrick (Boston College), “My House is Not My Own: Levinas and the Possibility of Radically Passive Dialogue”

7:00 - 9:00 OPENING RECEPTION (Anniversary Drawing Room, Purdue Memorial Union, Second Floor)

TUESDAY JULY, 28

9:00 – 5:00 Registration Open (First and Second Floor, Stewart Center) STEW

9:00 - 10:30 CONCURRENT SESSIONS 2
CS2.1: Levinas and Analytic Philosophy
MODERATOR: Erik Garrett (Duquesne University)
Yves Sobel (Université Paris Diderot), "The Mystery of Ethical Responsibility: Emmanuel Levinas versus Analytical Philosophy"
Olga Tomaselto (Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven), “Exclusive Discourse: Levinas on the Continental / Analytic Divide”
Jacob Adair (Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven), “At the Margins of Philosophy: Abjection, Academia, and the Continental-Other”

CS2.2: Levinas and the (Meta-) Ethical
MODERATOR: Michael Paradiso-Michau (The School of the Art Institute of Chicago)
Joshua Blanchard (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), “Emmanuel Levinas and Metaethical Quietism”
Martin Gak (Independent Scholar), “A Neurological Formulation of Levinas’ Metaethics”
René Harrison (University of Auckland), “Facing Blindness: Ethics, Autobiography, and Vision Loss”

CS2.3: Levinas between Analytic and Continental Philosophy
MODERATOR: Monica Osborne (Pepperdine University)
Jacob Archambault (Fordham University), “The Monodothergy”
Chandra Kethi-Reddy (University of Central Florida), “Deconstruction the Divide”
Peter Giannopoulos (Pennsylvania State University), “Just What is the Argument in Chapter I of Otherwise than Being?”

10:45 - 12:15 PLENARY 2: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy II STEW 214
MODERATOR: Arkady Plotnitsky (Purdue University)
Jean-Michel Salanskis (Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense), “Ways of Otherwise Than Being”

12:15 - 1:30 **LUNCH** (Hillel Foundation, 912 West State Street)

1:30 - 3:00 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3**


MODERATOR: Monica Osborne (Pepperdine University)

Commentators: Sol Neely (University of Alaska, Southeast) and Patrick Hoburg (Purdue University)

Response: Deborah Achtenberg (University of Nevada, Reno)

CS3.2: *Levinas and Asian Philosophy*  STEW 218B

MODERATOR: Leah Kalmanson (Drake University)

Steven Shankman (University of Oregon), “Beyond Dharma, Beyond Destiny: The Bhagavad Gita, the End of the Mahabharata, and Genesis 18”

Chris Ketcham (West Chester University of Pennsylvania), “The Otherwise Than Being in the Critique of Suffering in Levinas and Early Buddhism”

Wei Lu (Purdue University), “The Concept of ‘Face’ in Levinasian Ethics and in Chinese Social Context”

CS3.3: *Levinas, Religion, and Ethics*  STEW 218C

MODERATOR: Jacob Pruett (Purdue University)

Seth Binsted (Stony Brook University), “Relation or Religion? The Question of Method in Levinas’ Time and the Other”

James McLachlan (Western Carolina University), “Hell is Others and Paradise is Others: Hell in the Existential Paris of Sartre, Berdyaev, and Levinas”


3:15 - 4:45 **PLENARY 3: Pedagogy Session**  STEW 214

MODERATOR: Sol Neely (University of Alaska, Southeast)

Panelists: Patrick Hoburg (Purdue University), Pamela Carralero (Purdue University), Joshua Galat (Purdue University), Jacob Pruett (Purdue University), Monica Osborne (Pepperdine University), René Harrison (University of Auckland), Sandor Goodhart (Purdue University)

Midrashic Reading and Levinas’s “Judaism and Revolution”

5:00 - 6:30 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 4**

CS4.1: *Levinas and Responsibility I*  STEW 218A
MODERATOR: Katherine Kirby (St. Michael’s College)
Dara Hill (Indiana University), “Levinas and Elder Care: My Mother, the Other”
Ronald C. Arnett (Duquesne University), “Adieu to Levinas”

CS4.2: Levinas and Language II
MODERATOR: Patrick Hoburg (Purdue University)
Diogo Villas Bôas (Universidade Federal de Santa Maria), “The Linguistic Problem of Ethics without Ontology”
Olga Lyanda-Geller (Purdue University), “Levinas’s Imperative of Language: Bridging the Gap through Dialogue and Sense”
Jacob Pruett (Purdue University), “Rhetoric and the Saying of the Said”

CS4.3: Book Panel: Steven Shankman, Other Others: Levinas, Literature, and Transcultural Studies (SUNY Press, 2010)
Moderator: Daniel Kline (University of Alaska – Anchorage)
Commentators: Leah Kalmanson (Drake University), and Yves Sobel (Université Paris Diderot)
Response: Steven Shankman (University of Oregon)

WEDNESDAY JULY, 29

9:00 – 12:00  Registration Open

9:00 - 10:30  CONCURRENT SESSIONS 5
CS5.1: Levinas and Temporality
MODERATOR: Brian Bergan-Aurand (Nanyang Technological University)
Matthew Coate (Stony Brook University), “Finitude, or How the Other Gives Me Death”
Sam Girgus (Vanderbilt University), “Levinas and Nancy: Time and Presence in Film”
Clarence Joldersma (Calvin College), “The Temporal Transcendence of the Teacher as Other”

CS5.2: Levinas and the Literary
MODERATOR: Jesse Sims (University of Toronto)
Ryan Kopaitich (University of Bern), “Literary, Analytic, and Continental: Literary Theory on the Cusp of Two Traditions”
Kathryn Chevraux-Ludwig (Indiana Wesleyan University), “‘Le Dire’ and Meaning Making in Contemporary Literature”
Amina Gabrielova (Purdue University), “In Search of the ‘between times’: Novels by Vladimir Sharov in the Light of Emmanuel Levinas’ Insight into Literary Criticism”

CS5.3: Levinas and His Interlocutors I
MODERATOR: Hugh Miller (Loyola University),
Robert Reed (Boston College), “Irreparable Moral Harm and Consciousness: Levinas, Wittgenstein, and Weil”
David Seltzer (La Salle University), “Principles of Justice in Rawls and Levinas”
Joshua Lee Harris (Institute for Christian Studies), “Levinas and Aquinas on Transcendental Multiplicity”

10:45 - 12:15 PLENARY 4: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy III
MODERATOR: Jean-Michel Salanskis (Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense),
Kevin Houser (Indiana University), “Emmanuel Levinas: Facing the Space of Reasons”

12:15 - 1:30 LUNCH (HILLEL FOUNDATION, 912 WEST STATE STREET)

1:30 - 3:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS 6
CS6.1: Levinas and Economy
MODERATOR: Deborah Achtenberg (University of Nevada, Reno)
Katherine Kirby (St. Michael’s College), “Economics For-the-Other: Can Capitalism Be Made to Hear the Call to Responsibility?”
Patrick Hoburg (Purdue University), “Negative Capability and Future Anteriority: Unconditioning the Prescriptive Propensity”

CS6.2: Vulnerability, Conflict, and the New Materialism
MODERATOR: Andrew Ball (Lindenwood University)
Diane Perpich (Clemson University), “On Vulnerability in Levinas’s Thought”
Jesse Sims (University of Toronto), “A Fundamental Antinomy: The Role of Intellectual and Cultural Conflict in Levinas’s Early Philosophy”
Drew M. Dalton (Dominican University), “Ethical Materialism: Levinas for the New Materialists”
CS6.3: Levinas and Responsibility II
MODERATOR: Kathryn Chevraux-Ludwig (Indiana Wesleyan University)
Erik Garrett (Duquesne University), “Memorials as Places of Trauma: Pittsburgh’s Freedom Corner and the Absence of Face”
Hanoch Ben-Pazi (Kibbutzim College and Bar-Ilan University), “The Responsibility of Witnesses According to Emmanuel Levinas”
Joshua R. Galat (Purdue University), “The Hospitality of the Law and The Trial for the De-Facement of the Other”

3:15 - 4:45 PLENARY 5: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy IV
MODERATOR: Joshua Shaw (Penn State Erie, The Behrend College)
Flora Bastiani (Université de Toulouse), the 2015 Raissa and Emmanuel Lecture: "Equality, Equity, and Justice in Emmanuel Levinas and John Rawls”

5:00 - 6:30 PLENARY 6: Annual Talmudic Reading
MODERATOR: Sandor Goodhart (Purdue University)
Georges Hansel, “Annulments of Vows and Depth of the Self in Tractate Hagiga 10a: / What about for Wittgenstein?”

THURSDAY JULY, 30

9:00 - 10:30 CONCURRENT SESSIONS 7
CS7.1: Levinas, Literature, and Philosophy
MODERATOR: Sandor Goodhart (Purdue University)
Ann Astell (Notre Dame University), “King Lear and Levinas”
Moshe Gold (Fordham University), “Staging Humanity: As You Like It, Pirkei Avot, and Levinas’s "Fear of God and Education”
Donald Wehrs (Auburn University), “Unkind Filiations and Proximity Beyond Kinship: The Ethical Ambiguity of the Maternal in Levinas and Shakespeare’s Pericles and Cymbeline”

CS7.2: Levinas and His Interlocutors II
MODERATOR: Elaine Blum (Purdue University)
Sergio Tarin (University of Texas - El Paso), “Truth: A Dialogue Between Levinas and Davidson”

10:45 - 12:15 **PLENARY 7: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy V**

*MODERATOR: Joëlle Hansel (Société internationale de recherche Emmanuel Levinas),
David Uhrig, "Reading Levinas: From Maurice Blanchot to Stanley Cavell"
Michel Olivier, "The Emergence of Levinasian Exteriority in Analytic Philosophy"

12:15 - 1:30 **LUNCH (HILLEL FOUNDATION, 912, WEST STATE STREET)**

1:30 - 3:00 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 8**

**CS8.1: Exteriority and Alterity**

*MODERATOR: Strand Sheldahl-Thomason (Purdue University)*
Elizabeth Martin-Malikian (Southern Polytechnic State University), “The Hedonistic Space of Alterity”
Hakan Yilmaz (Hacettepe University), “Ethics of Alterity and the Non-Human Other: A Levinasian Approach”
Michael Paradiso-Michau (School of the Art Institute of Chicago), “Totality and Infinity and Zombies: An Essay on Undead Exteriority”

**CS8.2: Levinas and Religion**

*MODERATOR: Dara Hill (Indiana University)*
Pamela Carralero (Purdue University), “Responsibility Alone Makes Me Write: Literature as Prayer without Demand”
Sergey Dolgopolksi (State University of New York Buffalo), “And G-d Created Wife, a Talmudist Reading of Levinas’s Talmudic Reading ‘And God Created Woman’”

**CS8.3: Levinas and Awkwardness**

*MODERATOR: Sol Neely (University of Alaska, Southeast)*
Brian Bergan-Aurand (Nanyang Technological University), “Regarding Assistive and Adaptive Technologies: On Autonomy, Heteronomy, and Becoming Awkward”
Matthew Menachem Feuer (York University), “Awkwardly Exposed: Situating Comical Awkwardness within a Levinasian Context”
3:15 - 4:45 PLENARY 8: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy VI STEW 214
MODERATOR: Marie-Anne Lescourret (Université de Strasbourg),
Arkady Plotnitsky (Purdue University), "Reality and Alterity in
Ethical Philosophy, Analytic and Continental: After the
Levinasian Revolution"
Daniel Kline (University of Alaska, Anchorage), "Crisis in the
Humanities: Concerning a Little Examined Aspect of
Levinas's Career"

5:00-5:15 CLOSING REMARKS:
Daniel Smith (Purdue University), “Reading NALS 2015” STEW 214

5:15 - 6:15 BUSINESS MEETING

6:30 - 9:30 BANQUET (Purdue Memorial Union)
David Hansel (CNRS, SIREL), “The Tree of Life: On the Families
of Raissa and Emmanuel Levinas”
Simone Levinas Hansel, “Growing up in the
Household of Raissa and Emmanuel Levinas”

PLENARY SESSIONS, CLOSING REMARKS, AND
BANQUET ADDRESSES AT A GLANCE

MONDAY JULY, 27
3:00 - 4:30 PLENARY 1: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy I STEW 214
Marie-Anne Lescourret, (Université de Strasbourg), “In the Name
of God: Belief in Wittgenstein and Levinas”

TUESDAY JULY, 28
10:45 - 12:15 PLENARY 2: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy II STEW 214
Jean-Michel Salanskis (Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La
Défense), “Ways of Otherwise Than Being”

3:15 - 4:45 PLENARY 3: Pedagogy Session STEW 214
Midrashic Reading and Levinas’s “Judaism and Revolution”

WEDNESDAY JULY, 29
10:45 - 12:15 PLENARY 4: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy III STEW 214
Joshua Shaw (Pennsylvania State Erie), "Is Infinite Responsibility
Too Much Responsibility?"
Kevin Houser (Indiana University), “Emmanuel Levinas: Facing the
Space of Reasons”
3:15 - 4:45  **PLENARY 5: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy IV**  STEW 214
MODERATOR: Joshua Shaw (Penn State Erie, The Behrend College)
Flora Bastiani (Université de Toulouse), "Equality, Equity, and Justice in Emmanuel Levinas and John Rawls"

5:00 - 6:30  **PLENARY 6: Annual Talmudic Reading**  STEW 214
MODERATOR: Sandor Goodhart (Purdue University)
Georges Hansel, “Annulments of Vows and Depth of the Self in Tractate Hagiga 10a: / What about for Wittgenstein?”

**THURSDAY JULY, 30**

10:45 - 12:15  **PLENARY 7: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy V**  STEW 214
MODERATOR: Joëlle Hansel (SIREL)
David Uhri, "Reading Levinas: From Maurice Blanchot to Stanley Cavell"
Michel Olivier, "The Emergence of Levinasian Exteriority in Analytic Philosophy”

3:15 - 4:45  **PLENARY 8: Levinas in Continental & Analytic Philosophy VI**  STEW 214
Arkady Plotnitsky (Purdue University), "Reality and Alterity in Ethical Philosophy, Analytic and Continental: After the Levinasian Revolution"
Daniel Kline (University of Alaska, Anchorage), "Crisis in the Humanities: Concerning a Little Examined Aspect of Levinas's Career"

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**CONCURRENT SESSIONS AT A GLANCE**

**MONDAY JULY, 27**

4:45 - 6:15  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1**
CS1.1: Levinas and Phenomenology  STEW 218A
CS1.2: Levinas and the Post-Colonial  STEW 218B
CS1.3: Levinas and Language I  STEW 218C
TUESDAY JULY, 28
9:00 - 10:30  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 2**
CS2.1: *Levinas and Analytic Philosophy* STEW 218A
CS2.2: *Levinas and the (Meta-) Ethical* STEW 218B
CS2.3: *Levinas between Analytic and Continental Philosophy* STEW 218C

1:30 - 3:00  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3**
CS3.1: Book Panel: Deborah Achtenberg, *Essential Vulnerabilities: Plato and Levinas on Relations to the Other* (Northwestern University Press, 2014) STEW218A
CS3.2: *Levinas and Asian Philosophy* STEW 218B
CS3.3: *Levinas, Religion, and Ethics* STEW 218C

5:00 - 6:30  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 4**
CS4.1: *Levinas and Responsibility I* STEW 218A
CS4.2: *Levinas and Language II* STEW 218B

WEDNESDAY JULY, 29
9:00 - 10:30  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 5**
CS5.1: *Levinas and Temporality* STEW 218A
CS5.2: *Levinas and the Literary* STEW 218B
CS5.3: *Levinas and His Interlocutors I* STEW 218C

1:30 - 3:00  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 6**
CS6.1: *Levinas and Economy* STEW 218A
CS6.2: *Vulnerability, Conflict, and the New Materialism* STEW 218B

THURSDAY JULY, 30
9:00 - 10:30  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 7**
CS7.1: *Levinas, Literature, and Philosophy* STEW 218A
CS7.2: *Levinas and His Interlocutors II* STEW 218B

1:30 - 3:00  **CONCURRENT SESSIONS 8**
CS8.1: *Exteriority and Alterity* STEW 218A
CS8.2: *Levinas and Religion* STEW 218B
CS8.3: *Levinas and Awkwardness* STEW 218C
Acknowledgements

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