



Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie
International Federation of Philosophical Societies

BULLETIN PRINTEMPS/ETE 2009 NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2009

WORLD PHILOSOPHY DAY – JOURNÉE MONDIALE DE LA PHILOSOPHIE November 19, 2009

Every year the third Thursday of November is a special day for all philosophers. Instituted by UNESCO and FISP, the World Philosophy Day helps to promote philosophy worldwide. This year the official celebrations will take place in Moscow and St.Petersburg on November 16-19. But we encourage all philosophical societies to organize special events of their own.

Colloque international "Réalité et fiction / Realita a fikcia" (un congrès régional de la FISP), organisé par l'Association philosophique slovaque, en collaboration avec l'Institut de philosophie de l'Académie des sciences de la République tchèque et de la Société polonaise de philosophie, aura lieu les 12 et 13 octobre 2009 au château Smolenice (Slovaquie). Les langues de ce colloque sont le slovaque, le tchèque et le polonais, mais des interventions en anglais, en allemand ou en français sont possibles. www.sfz.sk et www.kcsmolenice.sav.sk

Meeting of the Steering Committee

Ischia, Apr 6-7 2009

Minutes

These minutes are not and will not be official until formally approved by the Steering Committee at its next meeting in November 2009. We are including them here for the benefit of our member societies, with the reservation that they are tentative and could be altered. The reports of the President and of the Secretary General presented at Ischia are to be regarded as also constituting their messages to member societies in this newsletter.

Ce procès-verbal ne sera pas officiel avant son acceptation par le Comité Directeur lors de sa prochaine réunion prévue en novembre 2009. Il est ici diffusé sous cette réserve et reste susceptible d'être modifié. Les rapports du Président et du Secrétaire Général présentés à Ischia peuvent aussi être considérés comme autant de messages adressés à nos sociétés membres et sont inclus à ce titre dans ce bulletin.

présents / présents

William L. McBride
Marietta Stepaniants
Herta Nagl-Docekal
Betül Çotuksöken
Peter Kemp Ancien
Luca M. Scarantino
Guido Kueng
Emiliya Ivanova

bureau de la fisp / fisp board

Président / President
Vice-présidente / Vice-President
Vice-présidente / Vice-President
Vice-présidente / Vice-President
Président / Past President
Secrétaire général / Secretary-general
Trésorier / Treasurer
Secrétaire administrative / Administrative Secretary

comité directeur / steering committee

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Gholamreza Aavani | Ernest Lepore |
| Günter Abel | Dermot Moran |
| Joseph C.A. Agbakoba | Ilkka Niiniluoto |
| Tanella Boni | Hans Poser |
| Marcelo Dascal | Riccardo Pozzo |
| Didier Deleule | Jacob Dahl Rendtorff |

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Thalía Fung Riverón | Ken-ichi Sasaki |
| Paulin J. Hountondji | David Schrader |
| Ivan Kalchev | Gerhard Seel |
| Hyung Chul Kim | William Sweet |
| Mislav Kukoc | Lourdes Velázquez |
| Maija Kuule | Stelios Virvidakis |
| Samuel Lee | |

présidents honoraires / honorary presidents

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Evandro Agazzi | Président / President, 1988-1993 |
| Ioanna Kuçuradi | Président / President, 1998-2003 |

présidents des commissions consultatives / chairs, consultative commissions

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Myrto Dragona-Monachou | Droits humains / Human rights |
| Jean Ferrari | Enseignement de la philosophie / Teaching of philosophy |
| David Evans | Politique générale / General policy |

observateurs / observers

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou | Société Philos. Grecque / Greek Philos. Society |
| Voula Tsinorema | Société Philos. Grecque / Greek Philos. Society |
| Nenos Georgopoulos | Representing Greek Philosophical Soc. President Kostantinos Boudouris |
| Wolfgang Kaltenbacher | Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici |
| Giorgio Brandi | Circolo Culturale « G. Sadoul », Ischia |
| Rosario De Laurentiis | Circolo Culturale « G. Sadoul », Ischia |
| Dario Della Vecchia | Circolo Culturale « G. Sadoul », Ischia |
| Armando Massarenti | « Il Sole 24Ore » |

procurations de vote / proxies

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Basilio Rojo-Ruiz | pour/to Fung Riverón |
| Tomás Calvo-Mart | inez pour/to Scarantino |
| Xie Dikun | pour/to Scarantino |
| Tran Van Doan | pour/to Sweet |

absent / absents

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Bhuvan Chandel | Membre du Comité Directeur / cd Member |
| Pham Van Duc | Membre du Comité Directeur / cd Member |
| Warayuth Sriwarakuel | Membre du Comité Directeur / cd Member |
| Tu Weiming | Membre du Comité Directeur / cd Member |

Monday, April 6.

The original order of the agenda was altered to allow greetings from the Italian hosts to be given first.

1. Welcoming addresses. Dr Ilia Delizia, representing the “Circolo Culturale Georges Sadoul, gave the first speech of welcome. Then Mr Isidoro Di Meglio, Chair of the Municipal Council of Ischia, addressed the CD, followed by Dr Wolfgang Kaltenbacher speaking on behalf of the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici.

FISP President William McBride responded.

2. Proxies. Secretary General Luca Scarantino announced the proxies, as noted above.

3. In Memoriam. Longtime CD member Semou Pathé Guèye, who died just over one month ago, was commemorated in a brief talk by Paulin J. Hountondji. He read a brief electronic message from Omar Dia, former assistant to Sémou Pathé Guèye in Dakar who had planned to come to Ischia but was prevented from doing so when the university in Dakar decided to hold a major commemoration of Prof. Guèye on this same weekend. Paulin Hountondji also read from a message sent to him by Sémou Pathé Guèye in January, envisaging an Inter-African philosophical conference during the coming year. Finally, Hountondji summarised some of the main events in Sémou Pathé Guèye's career.

4. Report on Istituto Italiano per gli studi Filosofici. Wolfgang Kaltenbacher gave a brief presentation of the history of the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici. He spoke of its special recent initiatives in the area of philosophy and anthropology and of inter-cultural dialogue. He explained that there were serious threats to the continued financial support of the Istituto by the Italian government, particularly in view of the financial crisis. He suggested that the CD endorse a resolution of support for the work of the Istituto that had been circulated among CD members. President McBride, after proposing the removal of one phrase that he considered counterproductive, supported this request, which was approved unanimously

5. President's Report. President McBride read the French version of his report (attached). He added to these prepared remarks the fact, reported to him by Ernest Lepore, that a full page advertisement announcing this CD meeting had appeared in the prominent national newspapers *Repubblica* and *Corriere della Sera*.

Evandro Agazzi spoke of the importance of seizing the moment, in accordance with the spirit of McBride's remarks, to spread the message of FISP and of philosophy.

Thalia Fung noted the comparative neglect, both at the World Congress and in the venues of CD meetings, of Latin American Philosophy. She hoped that the CD could meet in Cuba in 2011. Mexican philosophers, she said, supported this idea, as well as the more general idea of holding a large Latin American regional interim Congress with FISP sponsorship.

Gholamreza Aavani mentioned that it is planned to hold World Philosophy Day, perhaps in conjunction with a meeting of the CD, in Tehran in November 2010. It was asked whether all CD members would be welcome at such a meeting, and Aavani asserted that they would be.

6. Secretary General's Report. After a break, Secretary General Luca Scarantino read his report, also in the French version (attached).

There followed a prolonged discussion particularly concerning the skepticism mentioned by Scarantino on the part of a number of ambassadors to UNESCO concerning the priority currently accorded by UNESCO to philosophy. A number of comments concerned the possibility of preparing a defence of philosophy's special role. Among the contributors to this discussion were Marietta Stepaniants, Ioanna Kuçuradi, Günter Abel, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, Ivan Kalchev, William McBride, Samuel Lee, David Schrader, William Sweet, Didier Deleule, and Evandro Agazzi. It was stressed that several individual members of the CD had already made contacts, directly or indirectly, with their UNESCO delegations.

7. Treasurer's Report. Guido Kueng presented his report, with some additional explanations. The report was accepted with applause.

The morning session ended at 12h45. The afternoon session began shortly after 15h.

8. Discussion of the World Congress in Athens 2013.

8.a. Executive Committee and languages. President McBride noted the 2 issues not finally settled by the signing of the Memorandum in November 2008: the composition of the Executive Committee, and the question of the official languages.

On the Executive Committee, the FISP Board last night proposed that we adhere to the composition of the committee as stipulated in the Bye-Laws concerning the World Congress and as tentatively stated in the existing Memorandum (with the understanding that it would be reconsidered here). This composition is as follows: 2 representatives of FISP and 2 of the host country, along with a single Chairperson from FISP – all to be chosen once the Programme Committee has finished its work, although traditionally the Chair of the Programme Committee is chosen as the Chair of the Executive Committee.

This proposal was endorsed by consensus.

It was decided to postpone the discussion of languages until later in the afternoon or the following day.

8.b. Report of Demetra Sfendoni Mentzou, co-signer of the Memorandum with President McBride. She gave a brief report on the progress to date (attached at the end of these minutes). She noted the additional pressure placed on the Greek Philosophical Society by the current financial crisis. There was a meeting with the President of the Greek Republic just prior to President McBride's visit to sign the Memorandum, and another visit with the President of the Republic in February.

The future Hellenic Organising Committee has not been created, partly for legal reasons, but a new Board of the Greek Philosophical Society has been elected. The Greek Philosophy Society proposes that for the time being this Board assumes the tasks of an Organizing Committee.

The five members of the Steering Committee, whom the GPS proposed as the Greek members of the Programme Committee, are: Kostantinos Boudouris, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, Voula Tsinorema, and Stelios Virvidakis, who is also a member of the FISP CD. Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou ended her report by welcoming her audience to Athens in 2013.

8.c. Choice of the World Congress Theme. There followed a lengthy discussion of the theme for the 2013 World Congress. President McBride announced that 19 different themes had been proposed by various member societies, and he pointed out that CD need not simply choose one of these 19 proposals. At the outset, Samuel Lee suggested postponing the choice of theme. President McBride declared himself opposed to this proposal, since leaving the theme unchosen would leave the Programme Committee that is to be elected today somewhat at sea.

Among the contributors to the ensuing discussion were Ioanna Kuçuradi, Luca Scarantino, David Evans, Herta Nagl, Riccardo Pozzo, Hans Poser, William Sweet, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, Miloslav Kukoc, Peter Kemp, Gholamreza Aavani, Günter Abel, Guido Küng, Jacob Dahl Rendtorff, Didier Deleule, Maija Kuule, Stelios Virvidakis, Joseph C. A. Agbakoba, Gerhard Seel, Marietta Stepaniants, Evandro Agazzi, Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, Wolfgang Kaltenbacher, Marcelo Dascal, Ernest Lepore, Ivan Kalchev, Betül Çotuksöken, and Hyung Chul Kim.

It was then time for a break, and President McBride proposed combining several proposals into a short list, seeing which of those on the list were more popular, and then holding the final vote among them.

After the break, President McBride drew up the list of six themes, which, after some further discussion, was expanded to eight. It was suggested that the vote be taken on the earlier question as to whether to make the decision at this meeting or to postpone the decision until later. The vote favoured an immediate decision by 38-2.

The 8 themes (all with the possibility of rewording them later) were:

“Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life” (originally submitted by the Greek Philosophical Society);

“Contemporary Philosophy and its Heritage”;

“Philosophy and its Prospects”;

“Philosophy in the Global World” (possibly also including a reference to heritage);

“Philosophy and Humanity” (and the 21st Century);

“The Polis”;

“Why Still Philosophy?”;

“How to Live”.

The two proposals receiving the most votes were “Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life” and “Philosophical Heritage in a Global World”.

A second round of voting then showed a preference for “Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life” by 18-11.

8.d. Election of Programme Committee Chair and members of the Programme Committee. President McBride, with the endorsement of the Bureau, proposed Dermot Moran for this position. He was elected unanimously.

Ten individuals were nominated, five by President McBride and five by members of the Steering Committee (not in order): Ilkka Niiniluoto, Paulin Hountondji, Ernest Lepore, Ken-ichi Sasaki, Günter Abel, Marcelo Dascal, Lourdes Velázquez, Didier Deleule, Bhuvan Chandel, and Samuel Lee (although Samuel Lee indicated that he did not wish to be elected). The first five above – Niiniluoto, Hountondji, Lepore, Sasaki, and Abel – received the most votes and will constitute the five FISP members of the Programme Committee, along with Dermot Moran as Chair and President McBride and Secretary General Scarantino as members *ex officio*.

Ioanna Kuçuradi proposed that the exact results of this vote be placed on the FISP website, perhaps as part of these minutes. This proposal was rejected by Scarantino, referring to the customary habits of Cipsh, and other CD members.

The CD also endorsed, as the Greek members of the Programme Committee, the five individuals previously mentioned by Demetra Sfondoni-Mentzou.

9. Discussion of Consultative Committees. President McBride remarked that some of them will require new Chairs.

The Committee on **Philosophical Encounters and International Cooperation**. Maija Kuule, the Chair, summarised her report, submitted in advance, emphasising particularly her collection of articles, *Philosophy Worldwide*, and her plans to expand it to include additional countries.

The Committee on **Ethics and Technology, especially Bioethics**. David Schrader was proposed as chair of this committee, replacing outgoing CD member Gilbert Hottois. Schrader plans to increase the size of the committee and to give it a new name.

There was a very brief discussion of the need to reinvigorate and add new members to **the Committee on Human Rights**. The names of three non-CD members (Stavroula Tsinorema, Georgia Apostolopoulou, and Dimitris Dimitrakos) were added to it.

The Committee on **Intercultural Research**. William Sweet, the Chair, presented a brief report and stressed the importance for FISP of openness to others.

Tuesday, April 7.

The report of the Committee for the **Teaching of Philosophy** was presented by outgoing Chair, Jean Ferrari. He called attention to the preparation of a new volume of articles on the teaching of the history of philosophy, now in press. He hoped that there would be forthcoming volumes on Africa and Latin America. This committee is the largest of the FISP consultative committees. Riccardo Pozzo is appointed as its new Chair.

10. The 2009 International Philosophy Olympiad in Helsinki, May 22-26. Ilkka Niiniluoto gave a brief presentation of the plans. There followed a discussion of the possibility of expanding the IPO to more countries. Contributions to this discussion were made by, among others, Myrto Dragona-Monachou, Thalia Fung, Gholamreza Aavani, Mislav Kukoc, Evandro Agazzi, David Schrader, Tanella Boni, Marcelo Dascal, and Ioanna Kuçuradi, who pointed out that five countries participated in the first Olympiad, and that now there are 25.

11. Proposals for New Consultative Committees. (The detailed proposals were sent in advance.)

11.a. Joint proposal by Gerhard Seel and Ken-ichi Sasaki for a committee on art and aesthetics. Gerhard Seel spoke on its behalf. He discussed the possibility of closer cooperation with the International Society for Aesthetics. This proposal was accepted without dissent.

11.b. Proposal by Hans Poser for a committee on the history of philosophy. Some scepticism was expressed about the creation of several new committees. On the other hand, Mislav Kukoc and others felt that there should be more committees, and that FISP's activities could (and should) be expanded with the help of these committees. It was stressed that the history of philosophy should be treated in an intercultural way. This proposal was accepted also without dissent.

11.c. Proposal for a committee for contact with the media, presented by President McBride. Some scepticism was expressed, especially by David Schrader and Ernest Lepore, about this proposal in part on the grounds of vagueness. It was decided to postpone a decision on this.

11.d. Proposal of associating FISP to the definition of an integral curriculum for teaching in philosophy in primary and secondary school, submitted by the French association Philolab and presented by Secretary General Scarantino. It was agreed that the Committee for the Teaching of Philosophy shall establish a working relationship with the French colleagues and, more generally, include philosophy for children among its future tasks.

11.e. As for a publication committee, Didier Deleule suggested that such a committee already existed and hence a new committee was not needed. This was the consensus of the CD.

12. Report on the aftermath of the Seoul World Congress. Samuel Lee thanked the CD for having helped to make the World Congress a success. As for the publication of the papers from the World Congress, 1,400 of them will be available on disk. But it may also be possible to publish some selected papers in printed form; however, members of the FISP CD and others would have to take the editorial initiative.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that there was not enough time remaining to discuss it in depth. Hence, it was decided to postpone it to the next CD meeting, presumably in Moscow.

Samuel Lee mentioned the need of strengthening intercultural dialogues, in part through the creation of a new journal. He also announced the donation of 30,000 US\$ toward an endowed lectureship on "East-West Dialogues" for future World Congresses. It was agreed that an agreement between the President of FISP and the Korean Philosophical Society shall be drafted in order to establish this fourth endowed lecture.

13. Report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Languages (E. Agazzi, M. Stepaniants, and P. Kemp).

Evandro Agazzi reviewed the history of the official languages of the World Congresses, beginning with that of 1900 in Paris. He discussed the problems, financial and other, of simultaneous translation. The proposal of the Committee, to which Peter Kemp dissented concerning the future role of Chinese, is to keep the five official World Congress languages as they were so designated prior to the Seoul Congress, plus the language of the host country (in the next case, Greek), for the plenary sessions at least. Some questions were raised concerning German, which has diminished in use in recent years as a World Congress language. Marietta Stepaniants proposed that plenary speakers should be able to speak in the language of their choice, with simultaneous translation. She felt that Chinese speakers should bring their own translators, because of the paucity, in a country like Greece, of translators who not only know Chinese but are fluent in *philosophical* Chinese. Further contributions to this discussion were made by Mislav Kukoc, Maija Kuule, David Schrader, Riccardo Pozzo, Luca Scarantino, Demetra Sfondoni-Mentzou, and Günter Abel. Secretary General Scarantino endorsed Stepaniants' proposal, but considered that translation from a limited number of languages should be assured by the Congress organizers, as usual, and that Chinese should be one of these languages. Maija Kuule insisted on the fact that simultaneous translation might be replaced by other forms of translation, as previously circulating papers or others. At the end of this long discussion, President McBride reluctantly proposed postponing the decision about Chinese to the first meeting of the Programme Committee and the next meeting of the CD in Moscow. The proposal to postpone, rather than to decide now, passed by a vote of 16-10. Peter Kemp announced that he would send some notes summarizing his views after the CD meeting.

Dermot Moran, as Chair of the Programme Committee, asked for a clarification of the CD's position on the retention of German as an official World Congress language. It was decided to retain it.

14. Acceptance of new societies. Applications having been received in good order from the International Plato Society, the Philosophical Association of the Philippines, and the Iranian Philosophy Society, they were approved without objection. An application had also been received from the International Society for Islamic Philosophy, which was established in 2008. But the FISP bye-laws call for waiting two years from the founding of new societies before they can be admitted, and it was decided, after an intervention by Gholamreza Aavani, to consider this application, prospectively, at the CD meeting in Moscow.

15. Proposal to give the FISP label to a conference of Slavic countries in October 2009. (See the first page of the FISP Newsletter for spring/summer 2009.) This was approved without dissent.

16. Report on joint UNESCO World Philosophy Day and FISP CD meeting in Moscow/Saint Petersburg, November 16-19, 2009. These plans were presented by Marietta Stepaniants. The theme will be "Philosophy in the Dialogue of Cultures" and a number of outstanding events are planned.

17. Declaration on philosophy and crisis. A draft declaration stressing the role of philosophy in reflecting on the current global economic crisis had been circulated by Marcelo Dascal and was endorsed by the CD.

The meeting ended at 13h.

Ischia, le 6 avril 2009

Depuis la première réunion de ce nouveau Comité Directeur il y a huit mois, j'attends cette réunion actuelle à Ischia afin d'obtenir mes ordres, pour ainsi dire. Je suis enthousiaste pour que nous allions en avant dans autant de domaines que possible – non seulement celui du Congrès Mondial prochain, à propos duquel nous aurons beaucoup à discuter ici, mais aussi en ce qui concerne nos comités divers, des conférences et des congrès intermédiaires, et notre rôle dans la présentation d'une image positive de la philosophie et en assistant la philosophie et les philosophes à faire des contributions significatives au monde très perturbé qui est notre monde actuel.

D'abord, je suis extrêmement reconnaissant à l'Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici pour leur grande générosité en étant nos hôtes ici. Il est particulièrement remarquable à la lumière du climat économique mondial très négatif dans lequel nous nous trouvons, climat qui avait déjà commencé à se voir quand ils se sont engagés envers nous en automne dernier. (Ils avaient été nos hôtes en 1999 et nous avaient invités à revenir il y a deux ou trois ans, mais cette époque-là fut tellement différente de l'époque actuelle!) J'avais craint que nous aurions de la difficulté en trouvant un site pour nous rencontrer; maintenant, grâce à nos collègues russes, nous avons non seulement celui-ci mais aussi un autre site pour nous réunir au mois de novembre. On reviendra à ce sujet.

Ce qui est probablement notre action la plus significative de ces derniers mois a été l'installation de notre bureau à Paris, grâce en grande partie à notre Secrétaire Général, Luca Scarantino, qui a des liens avec l'UNESCO. J'avais toujours trouvé un peu bizarre le fait qu'une organisation comme la nôtre avec une étendue mondiale n'avait pas de bureau de siège hors celui où il arrivait que son Président se trouvait à l'époque. Il est vrai que, pour des buts bancaires, la ville de Fribourg en Suisse est désignée comme notre siège officiel, mais on ne l'a jamais regardée comme notre chef lieu, pour ainsi dire – au moins, depuis des années. J'espère que nous pourrions garder cette nouvelle structure, ou une structure semblable qui, dans le meilleur des cas à cause de nos relations avec l'UNESCO, resterait concentrée à Paris, pendant des années à venir. Nous verrons.

Entretemps Emiliya Ivanova a commencé son travail pour la FISP en tant que Secrétaire Administrative, comme on l'a approuvé en principe à la réunion du CD à Séoul en août dernier; elle a commencé à organiser ce travail avec Luca et moi. Il y a eu un côté tentatif et expérimental de ce travail pendant ses premières semaines, surtout parce qu'il ne peut être que de durée limitée chaque semaine; mais Mlle. Ivanova nous a déjà aidés beaucoup – Luca et moi et la FISP en tant que telle – et avec le passage du temps et la connaissance croissante du travail de la FISP qu'elle a acquise et la connaissance des membres du CD de la FISP que cette réunion lui donnera je prédis que l'avenir de cette relation entre la FISP et elle sera lumineux. Ceci est particulièrement important pour moi parce que je n'ai pas de secrétaire privé – seulement l'assistance de deux personnes qui essaient de soutenir la vingtaine des membres du département de philosophie de mon université.

Ce qui a rendu particulièrement difficile notre voie dans ses débuts a été le changement de format de notre site web. J'avais pensé qu'il serait mieux de le garder dans mon université si celle-ci restait d'accord et si on pouvait y donner accès de Paris à Luca et à Emiliya. Je suis arrivé à ce jugement en partie à cause des histoires négatives que l'on m'avait racontées portant sur des pertes partielles de contenu à l'occasion des changements de site web. La question d'accès fut résolue assez facilement. Mais je suis devenu plus impliqué que prévu dans le changement de format (qui fut obligatoire), pour des raisons à la fois techniques et personnelles – le technicien qui avait été en train de nous assister est parti à un moment délicat – et j'ai éprouvé des moments assez angoissés pendant des mois. Cependant le nouveau site a une allure plus esthétique, au moins selon la plupart de ceux qui l'ont commenté, et il y a quelques semaines j'ai réussi à l'améliorer davantage grâce au nouveau technicien qui a finalement remplacé l'ancien. Nous avons donc un *Bulletin* d'automne et d'hiver 2008 qui comprend les événements principaux du Congrès Mondial (en ce qui concerne la FISP) et des nouvelles de plusieurs sociétés-membres – tandis que pas autant que je n'aurais voulu – et nous sommes prêts à le déclarer terminé et à en commencer un nouveau pour le printemps et l'été 2009. Nous espérons, avec votre assistance, améliorer davantage ce site web et même l'élargir dans l'avenir.

Cette année-ci, la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie de l'UNESCO s'est tenue à Palerme, pas loin d'ici, les 20 et 21 novembre. J'étais surpris et un peu déçu quand j'ai appris que cette année-ci on l'avait organisée – les détails d'organisation sont pour la plupart au gré du comité pour l'UNESCO du pays hôte – de telle manière qu'il n'y avait pas de colloques spéciaux réservés pour la FISP; mais par contre il y avait plusieurs membres du CD de la FISP qui y ont ou bien participé ou bien assisté, et pour la première fois on a invité le Président de la FISP à faire partie officielle, avec le souteneur principal de cet événement, qui est un philosophe qui préside sur la Fondation du Banco di Sicilia, et avec le Secrétaire Général de l'UNESCO et le Ministre de Justice de l'Italie, de la cérémonie inaugurale. C'était une journée splendide, et plusieurs ambassadeurs à l'UNESCO sont venus de Paris pour y assister. Comme quelques-uns parmi vous le savent déjà, il y a eu des discussions, une certaine mise en question du rôle assez

important que l'UNESCO a donné récemment à la philosophie, et je pense que cet événement a laissé une impression assez favorable chez les ambassadeurs.

Entretemps, bien sûr, on a aussi commémoré la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie dans beaucoup d'endroits du monde entier, et de grands remerciements sont dûs à ceux parmi vous et à d'autres collègues qui ont fait de grands efforts – efforts qui, je crois, valent vraiment la peine – afin de faire de cette occasion quelque chose que l'on attend et qui est considérée comme une réussite.

Il faut mentionner également deux autres événements de l'automne dernier auxquels la FISP a été représentée officiellement: la réunion biennale du CIPSH, le Conseil International pour la Philosophie et les Sciences Humaines dont Luca Scarantino est le Secrétaire Général Député et à laquelle j'étais le représentant de la FISP à Stellenbosch, en Afrique du Sud, et la réunion de la Sociedad Argentina de Filosofía à Cordoba, les dates de laquelle furent en conflit direct avec les événements de la Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie, mais à laquelle la FISP a été bien représentée par Lourdes Velázquez. Puis, entre les réunions de Palerme et de Stellenbosch a eu lieu la réunion la plus importante pour nous comme groupe, à savoir la cérémonie de signature du mémorandum d'accord pour le Congrès Mondial de Philosophie qui aura lieu à Athènes en 2013. Ce mémorandum a été signé par le Professeur Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, en tant que Présidente de la Société Philosophique Grecque, et par moi. Quelques-uns de ses collègues ont assisté à la cérémonie assez simple mais digne et au dîner qui l'a suivie, y compris Myrto Dragona-Monachou et Stelios Virvidakis (parmi ceux sont ici à Ischia).

Pendant le mois prochain, l'Olympiade Philosophique International aura lieu à Helsinki, grâce à la générosité du Recteur de cette université, notre collègue Ilkka Niiniluoto. J'attends avec enthousiasme cet événement, qui a lieu, comme vous savez, sous l'égide de la FISP. Mais j'espère qu'il ne sera que le premier d'une série d'activités dans lesquelles la FISP participera et auxquelles nous contribuerons dans les mois à venir. Par exemple, j'ai accepté une invitation à donner le premier discours à une réunion de l'International Society for Universal Dialogue, l'une de nos sociétés membres, qui aura lieu à Pékin en juillet. Mais, pour revenir à ce que j'ai dit au début de ce rapport, je me tourne à vous, ici à Ischia, pour obtenir des directions et des suggestions concernant d'autres initiatives à lancer ou à promouvoir maintenant, quand cette période quinquennale se met en marche pour de bon, tout en attendant en même temps notre prochaine réunion et la prochaine Journée Mondiale de la Philosophie au mois de novembre à Moscou.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT – FISP CD – APRIL 6, 2009

Since the first meeting of this new Steering Committee eight months ago, I have been looking to the present meeting here in Ischia to receive my marching orders, so to speak. I am eager to see us move forward on as many fronts as possible – not only that of the next World Congress, about which we shall have a lot to discuss here, but also in terms of our various committees, of interim conferences and congresses, and of our role in presenting a positive image of philosophy and in helping philosophy and philosophers to make significant contributions to the present, very troubled world scene.

First of all, I am exceedingly grateful to the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici for their great generosity in hosting us here. It is especially noteworthy in light of the very adverse economic climate that has descended on the world, and that was already beginning to descend when they made their commitment to us in the fall. (They had hosted us back in 1999 and had invited us to be their guests again some two or three years ago, but those were both such different times!) I had really feared that it would be very difficult for us to find a venue; and now, thanks to our Russian colleagues, we not only have this one but we also have another one for a meeting in the month of November. But more about that later.

Probably our single most significant accomplishment of the past half-year has been the establishment of our office in Paris, thanks mainly to our Secretary General, Luca Scarantino, with his ties to UNESCO. I had always found it strange that an organization with such a worldwide scope as ours is had no headquarters office except wherever its President happened to be at the time. It is true that, for banking purposes, our seat is designated as Fribourg in Switzerland, but that has never been considered a headquarters – at least not for many years. I hope that we will be able to continue with our new arrangement, or a similar arrangement that would ideally continue to be in Paris precisely because of our connections with UNESCO, for years to come. We will see.

Meanwhile, Emiliya Ivanova has begun her work with FISP as Administrative Secretary, as approved at the August CD meeting in Seoul, and has begun to work out arrangements with Luca and me. A certain amount of tentativeness and experimentation characterized the earliest weeks of this work, especially since Ms. Ivanova's work is only part-time; but she has certainly been of great help already to Luca and to me and to FISP at large, and, now that a few

months have passed since she began, and given the greater familiarity with the overall work of FISP and with the members of the Steering Committee with which this meeting is providing her, the future of this arrangement looks bright. This is especially important to me because I have no private secretarial assistance of my own – only the very occasional help that can be provided by two people who are attempting to assist all 21 members of the Purdue Philosophy Department.

What has made our path particularly difficult at the start has been the changeover in format of our website. I thought that it might be best to keep it at Purdue as long as my university was willing and also as long as Luca and Emiliya could be given access to it from Paris; I made this judgment in part because of bad stories that I had heard about partial losses of material when websites had been moved. The question of access was resolved with relative ease. But I became more involved in the change of format, which had been mandated, than I had anticipated for reasons of both a technical and a personal nature – the technician who had been assisting us left unexpectedly at a crucial moment – and I experienced a number of anxious moments over several months. However, the new website is aesthetically more pleasing, at least by most accounts, and just two weeks ago I managed to get it improved further thanks to the new technician who had at last been hired. So we now have a fall and winter 2008 *Newsletter* covering the main events of the last World Congress as well as news from some member societies – though not nearly as many as I would like to hear from – and will soon declare it closed and will begin one for spring and summer 2009. We can plan, with your assistance, on making further improvements and even expanding the website somewhat as time goes on.

The UNESCO World Philosophy Day was held this year in Palermo, not very far from here, on November 20 and 21. To my surprise and disappointment, it was organized in such a way this year – the organizational details are mainly up to the national committee for UNESCO of the sponsoring country – as to allow for no special FISP panels, but several FISP CD members did participate and/or attend, and for the first time the President of FISP was invited to be an official part of the opening ceremony, along with the principal sponsor, who is the chairperson of the Foundation of the Banco di Sicilia; the Secretary General of UNESCO; and the Minister of Justice of Italy. It was a fine event, with a number of UNESCO Ambassadors coming from Paris to attend. There has been some questioning, some discussion, within UNESCO about the comparatively prominent role it has given philosophy recently, as some of you already know, and I think that the whole affair left a generally good impression with the Ambassadors.

Meanwhile, of course, World Philosophy Day was also celebrated in many venues all over the globe, and a great deal of thanks is owed to those among you and other colleagues who have put in a great deal of effort – I think very rewarding effort – to making this event an annual expectation and success.

Two other fall events at which FISP was officially represented should be mentioned: the biennial meeting of the Conseil International pour la Philosophie et les Sciences Humaines, CIPSH, of which Luca Scarantino is the Deputy Secretary General and at which I was the FISP representative in Stellenbosch, South Africa – and the meeting of the Sociedad Argentina de Filosofía in Córdoba, the dates of which conflicted with the World Philosophy Day events, but at which FISP was ably represented by Lourdes Velázquez. And in between the Palermo meeting and the Stellenbosch meeting there took place the most important meeting of all for us as a group, namely, the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement for the 2013 Athens World Congress by myself and Professor Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, as President of the Greek Philosophical Society. Several of her colleagues were there at the simple signing ceremony and the dinner that followed, including Myrto Dragona-Monachou and Stelios Virvidakis.

Next month, the International Philosophy Olympiad will be held in Helsinki, thanks to the generosity of the Rector of that university, our colleague, Ilkka Niiniluoto. I am looking forward very much to that, which as you know is sponsored by us. But I am hoping that that will be only the beginning of a series of activities in which FISP will participate and to which we will contribute in coming months. I have agreed, for example, to keynote a meeting of the International Society for Universal Dialogue, one of our member societies, in July in Beijing. But, to return to what I said at the beginning of this report, I look to you, here in Ischia, for guidance and suggestions concerning other initiatives to launch and/or promote as this quinquennium gets under way in earnest, looking to our next meeting and World Philosophy Day in November in Moscow..

William Leon McBride, President

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL -- RAPPORT DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

[Click here to view this report](#)

Ischia, Apr 6-7 2009

Report of Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou

It is my great pleasure to participate in this meeting of the Steering Committee, the first after the Seoul World Congress.

Let me start by conveying the most warm greetings from the Greek Philosophical Society. Let me also say how enthusiastic we are about the project of organizing the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy in Athens.

Before presenting my brief report on the steps we have taken thus far, I wish to mention the fact, already pointed out by President William McBride, of the extremely adverse economic climate that has recently appeared globally.

We are already in the middle of a dramatically difficult situation. We've heard today that the India representative in UNESCO expressed himself by the following interesting words: Philosophy has a role to play but "it is not a major priority". This is indeed, as we all know, the general tendency in a world that is facing dramatic financial problems. The governments all over the world, in the U.S.A. and in Europe, have set as their priority to help people not to lose their jobs, to support the industries so that they don't fire their workers, to finance people not to lose their houses.

It is thus clear that we all have to struggle, in order to convince the state and the private institutions that, yes, philosophy has also a significant role to play in this dramatically changing world.

As far as we are concerned, we can assure you that we will do our very best to overcome these difficulties and organize a memorable Congress.

*

Regarding the progress of our preparation thus far, I have to report the following steps taken by the Greek Philosophical Society:

September 9, 2008: Meeting of the President of the GPS, D. Sfendoni-Mentzou with the President of the Hellenic Parliament, Mr Demetrios Sioufas.

October 16, 2008: Press Conference for the announcement of the event of the WCP in Athens. Interview with the President of the GPS by the Channel of the Parliament.

November 19, 2008: Discussion broadcast (with the participation of the president of the GPS, D. Sfendoni-Mentzou and the vice-president P. Gemtos), by the National Channel ERT3 on the occasion of the World Philosophy Day and the event of the 23rd WCP.

November 21, 2008: Meeting of the Board of the GPS with the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Karolos Papoulias, who has accepted our proposal that the Congress will be held under his auspices.

November 22, 2008: Signing of the Memorandum for the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy by the President of FISP William McBride and the President of the Greek Philosophical Society Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou.

November 29, 2008: Elections of the GPS. New Board elected and new President, Kostas Boudouris.

February 5, 2008: Meeting of the Board of the GPS with the Former President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Kostis Stephanopoulos.

*

Concerning the issues of the *Hellenic Organising Committee* and the *Programme Committee* of the Congress, I have to report the following:

The *Hellenic Organising Committee* has not been constituted yet. The Greek Philosophical Society proposes that for the time being the new Board, elected on November 29, 2008, assumes the tasks of an *Organizing Committee*, until this issue is settled according to the signed memorandum.

The five names, whom the GPS proposes as the Greek members of the *Programme Committee*, are the following: Kostas BOUDOURIS, Myrto DRAGONA-MONACHOU, Demetra SFENDONI-MENTZOU, Voula TSINOREMA, and Stelios VIRVIDAKIS, who is also a member of the FISP CD.

In closing, let me say once again, how eager we are to welcome you in Athens in the year 2013, almost four years from now.

[1] Paper sent to Dermot Moran on April 15, 2009.

International Philosophy Olympiad (IPO), Helsinki 22.5-26.5.2009

The IPO has been held since 1993. However, only since 2001 has it taken place in the form in which it takes place today, under the auspices of FISP and UNESCO.

More than 60 young philosophy students from 22 countries participated in the International Philosophy Olympiad in Helsinki. The Helsinki 2009 IPO event was organized by the Finnish National Organizing Committee, chaired by the Chancellor of Helsinki University, Professor Ilkka Niiniluoto. The Steering Board of IPO was chaired by the President of FISP, Professor William McBride. The representative of UNESCO, Ms. Ferial Ait-Ouyahia, attended the event.

During the five days of the event the students had an essay writing contest and joined in cultural activities. The theme of these activities was Cultural Heritage and Time.

The gold medal was awarded to Finnish student Sarri Nironen from Kallio upper secondary school. Two silver medals went to Petar Penev from Bulgaria and Eliza Tymianska from Poland. Kristina Kashfullina from Russia and Luiza Pasca from Romania received bronze medals. Honorary mentions went to Ayse Dilek Izek from Turkey, Hyun-Kyu Kim from South-Korea, and Pietari Kupiainen and Patrick Mujunen from Finland.

The cultural program was built around the themes of UNESCO Cultural Heritage and the perennial philosophical problem of time. As well as visiting the Suomenlinna Island Fortress (World Heritage site), the students were encouraged to put their skills of philosophical analysis and insight to good use in analyzing the changes of values and beliefs that are embodied in various Helsinki sites. The discussions of the nature of time took place during a visit to the Philosophy Department of Helsinki University.

The aim of the International Philosophy Olympiad is to promote and develop studies and the tradition of philosophy in upper secondary schools as well as to provide a channel for talented philosophy students to develop and exercise their critical thinking and argumentation skills.

Another, equally important goal, is to enhance meeting of minds between individuals and dialogue between cultures. The philosophical tradition is essential when evaluating our cultural heritage and seeking new paths for the future.

More information on IPO Helsinki 2009 is to be found on the website: www.typografi.com/ipo

--- by Juha Savolainen and Finnish colleagues

IPO Helsinki 2009

Participants and guests

"SB" = Steering Board Member; "O" = Observer; "T" = Teacher; "L" = Leader; "S" = Student; "G" = Guest

| FISP | | Germany | | Norway | |
|-----------------|----|-------------------|---|------------------|---|
| William McBride | SB | Gerd Gerhardt | L | Thor Steinar Grø | L |
| Gerhard Seel | SB | Sebastian Uffmann | T | Olav Birkeland | T |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|-----------------------------|---|--|----------|
| Dermot Moran | SB | Jan Seidel | S | Marte Sofie Brønner | S |
| UNESCO | | Raimund Rosarius | S | Per Eigil Aalborg | S |
| Feriel Ait-ouyahia | SB | Greece | | Poland | |
| AIPPh | | Giannis Stamatellos | L | Józef Niżnik | L |
| Werner Busch | O | Christophoros Botsis | S | Michał Rozynek | T |
| Luise Dreyer | O | Stavros Demos | S | Eliza Tymiańska | S |
| Herr Dreyer | O | Hungary | | Iga Zgoła | S |
| Argentina | | Attila Pato | L | Romania | |
| Carolina Perez | T | Marta Takacs | T | Eugen Stoica | L |
| Sofia Ambrogi | S | Marcel Kiss | S | Florina Otet | T and SB |
| Melanie Mysler | S | Petro Kalmander de Calendar | S | Alexandru Dan Mândru | S |
| Austria | | India | | Luiza Paşca | S |
| Franz Pöll | L | Kedar Soni | L | Russia | |
| Barbara Conrad | T | Pooja Billimogga | S | Larisa Retynskikh | L |
| Lisa Huber | S | Namrata Patil | S | Vasily Zhelnov | T |
| Helene Sorgner | S | Israel | | Kirill Kovlekov | S |
| Bulgaria | | Itay Snir | L | Kristina Kashfullina | S |
| Ivan Kolev | L | Yael Cohen | T | South-Korea | |
| Yonita Ivanova | T | Noa Dlayahu | S | Dong-Hyun Son | L |
| Petar Penev | S | Yonatan Shabi | S | L.C.Kim Son | G |
| Nely Vladinova | S | Italy | | Ji –Aeh Lee | T |
| Stefka Bezlova-Koleva | G | Tommaso Tuppini | L | Hyun-Kyu Kim | S |
| Teodora Koleva | G | Anna Sgherri | T | Lee-Hyun Kim | S |
| Croatia | | Giada Palazzoli | S | Switzerland | |
| Bruno Curko | L | Nicla Frisone | S | Maximilian Huber | L |
| Marijo Klarin Petrina | S | Adriana Basile | G | Christian Tenisch | T |
| Vedran Mandi | S | Lorenzo Palazzoli | G | Clémence Ecoffey | S |
| Denmark | | Gian Marco Anzellotti | G | Jason Morris | S |
| Peter Jepsen | L | Japan | | Turkey | |
| Karin-Ann Madsen | T | Muneharu Kitagi | L | Nuran Direk | L |
| Kanar Patruss | S | Yoshihiro Hayashi | T | Gülşen Öz | T |
| Stinne Lyngklip Tangsig | S | Masakazu Nakayama | S | Ayşe Dilek İzek | S |
| Estonia | | Mai Tsumura | S | Ozan Siso | S |
| Leo Luks | L | Lithuania | | Participating cultural program: | |
| Toomas Jürgenstein | T | Jurate Baranova | L | Sonja Pohjola | S |
| Eveli Verev | S | Lilija Duobliene | T | Johanna Keskisimonen | S |
| Kai Tiitsaar | S | Vilgaile Dagytė | S | | |
| Finland | | Ignas Rubikas | S | | |
| Juha Savolainen | L | | | | |
| Jari Papunen | T | | | | |
| Sarri Nironen | S | | | | |
| Karoliina Salo | S | | | | |
| Mikko Peltonen | S | | | | |
| Eero Suoranta | S | | | | |
| Pietari Kupiainen | S | | | | |
| Joel Linnainmäki | S | | | | |
| Zaki Hussein | S | | | | |
| Patrick Mujunen | S | | | | |
| Altti Laiho | S | | | | |
| Jenni Rytälä | S | | | | |

National Organizing Committee

Ilkka Niiniluoto
Risto Vilkkö
Heta Gylling
Thomas Wallgren
Pekka Elo (also SB)

Satu Honkala
Ukri Pulliainen
Juha Savolainen

Other staff

Erkki Hulkki
Olli Hakala
Johan Autio
Rebecca Cingi
Hanna Vanhanen
Eero Salmenkivi
Matti Taneli
Tapio Turpeinen
Hanna Tuominen
students

NEWS FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES

NOUVELLES DES SOCIETES-MEMBRES

(National societies are listed first, followed by international societies...Les societes nationales viennent d'abord, suivies par les societes internationales.)

ESPAGNE

SOCIEDAD ACADEMICA DE FILOSOFIA

A new Steering Committee of the SAF has been elected recently. Its complete composition can be found at the following address:

<http://www.safil.info/plantillas/paginas/paginajuntadirectiva.php>

GRANDE BRETAGNE

BRITISH PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION

BPA Executive Committee 2008-9:

Mark Addis (Birmingham City), Treasurer; Maria Alvarez (Southampton); Helen Beebee (Birmingham), Director; Michael Brady (Glasgow); Jeremy Butterfield (Cambridge); Gordon Finlayson (Sussex); Brad Hooker (Reading), President; M.M. McCabe (King's College London); Adrian Moore (Oxford); Pauline Phemister (Edinburgh); Tom Sorell (Birmingham); Alessandra Tanesini (Cardiff); Jo Wolff (UCL)

BPA activities 2008-9

The BPA Executive Committee has been active on various fronts during 2008-9; here is a short summary. The various letters, proposals and consultation responses are all available on our website, www.bpa.ac.uk, as is our 2009 Newsletter.

Arts and Humanities Research Council Fellowships Scheme: Several Executive Committee members attended AHRC consultation workshops on the successor to the Research Leave Scheme, which has been discontinued. The new Fellowships Scheme closely resembles the proposal that the BPA contributed to the consultation.

European Reference Index for the Humanities: The BPA was represented at a meeting between subject associations, learned societies and the AHRC in February 2008. As a result, we wrote to Philip Esler, Chief Executive of the AHRC. We also signed a letter sent by the newly-formed 'Arts and Humanities User Group' (A-HUG).

New website for schoolteachers of philosophy: Our Schools Liaison Officer, Tom Sorell, has been developing a website aimed at schoolteachers of philosophy, including an 'ask a philosopher' facility and links to suitable resources.

Reinstatement of the Philosophy PGCE: We wrote to the Minister for Children, Schools and Families, asking him to consider reinstating the Philosophy PGCE in the light of the huge increase in the number of children taking Philosophy A Level in schools (the number more than doubled, to around 3500, between 2002 and 2007). We are awaiting a response.

Employability workshop for PhD students: In May 2008, several members of the Executive Committee participated in a workshop, co-sponsored by the BPA, the British Postgraduate Philosophy Association and the University of Birmingham Graduate School, aimed at PhD students in Philosophy aspiring to an academic career.

Women in Philosophy survey: We sent a survey out to Heads of Department asking for information about the gender balance of undergraduate and postgraduate students and staff. We will be analyzing the data and considering how to react to it, in collaboration with the Society for Women in Philosophy, later in the year.

New Universities Survey: We also surveyed new universities where philosophy is taught, in order to gain a better understanding of the scale of philosophy provision in new universities, who is involved, and what their particular problems and needs are.

IRAN

SADRA ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SIPRIN)

A Brief Report of the Main Activities of the International Mulla Sadra Society in 2008

Call for Papers and Invitation to Cooperate in the Project of Compiling a Comprehensive History of Philosophy

The International Mulla Sadra Society intends to compile a series of books on a comprehensive history of philosophy. Accordingly, a great number of researchers in Iran have started their activities and studies concerning various subjects in relation to this project. Initial surveys indicate that the series will consist of about 40 volumes.

The International Mulla Sadra Society and SIPRIn invite researchers and university professors who are interested in cooperating in this project to send their proposals to the Scientific Council of the Society for evaluation purposes. The Society will sign a contract with those whose proposals are accepted and will pay them appropriately for their endeavors when their work is completed. This Center also welcomes those researchers who are interested in cooperating in the field of philosophies belonging to particular regions such as Africa, Latin America, and the Far East.

Scientific Meetings to Criticize and Evaluate Designs for Compiling the History of Philosophy

In the framework of the Project for Compiling a Comprehensive History of Philosophy and Wisdom, a series of regular meetings are held with the presence of distinguished professors and researchers in order to examine, criticize, and comment on the various parts of the Project. In line with this purpose, the following meetings will be held in the field of ancient philosophy:

1. The methodology of using archeological sources and evidence in the history of ancient philosophy

Speakers:

- Professor Seyyed Muhammed Khamenei: "The Relation between the History of Philosophy and Archaeology"

- Professor Hikmatullah Mulla Salihi: "On Archaeology"
- Professor Muhammed Ilkhani: "Introducing the History of Philosophy and the Role of Archaeology in this Field"
- Dr. Nasir Chegini: "The Necessity of Using Archaeological Methods in the History of Thought"
- Professor Hassan Fazili: "The Uses of Archaeology in Interdisciplinary Issues"
- Professor Jawad Neyestani: "Structural Issues in Scientific Archaeological Projects"

2. History of Ancient Philosophy

Speakers:

- Professor Seyyed Muhammed Khamenei: "On the History of Philosophy"
- Dr. Hussein Kalbasi: "The Whatness of the History of Philosophy"
- Professor Muhammed Taqi Rashid Muhassil: "Introducing the Theological – Philosophical Texts of Ancient Iran"
- Professor Muhammed Ilkhani: "Religion and Philosophy in Ancient Greece"
- Professor Jaleh Amuzegar: "A Study of Technical Theological Terms in Pahlavi Texts"
- Dr. Ali Bigdeli: "A Study of the Political and Social Conditions of Ancient Greece"
- Dr. Hikmatullah Mulla Salihi: "From Confucius to Ephesus"
- Professor Hassan Mu'allimi: "The Innovations of Islamic Philosophy in Comparison to Greek Philosophy"
- Dr. Janet Blake: "Social and Cultural Perspectives in Ancient Greece"
- Dr. Manuchehr Sani'i: "Theory of Virtue in Greece"

3. The Development of Philosophical Thought in Ancient Iran (First meeting)

Speakers:

- Professor Reza Suleyman Hishmat: "A Comparative Study of Wisdom in Ancient Iran and Greek Philosophy"
- Dr. Tahereh Haj Ibrahim: "The Effect of Iranian Ideas on Judaism"
- Dr. Mehrdad Malikzadeh: "Anaxagoras: Rationalism, Astrotheology, and Materialism"
- Professor Zohreh Zarshenas: "Mani, the Philosopher of Ancient Times"

4. The Development of Philosophical Thought in Ancient Iran (Second meeting)

Speakers:

- Dr. Hussein Kalbasi: "The Magi and Iranian Wisdom in Aristotle's Works"
- Dr. Hikmatullah Mulla Salihi: "The Eastern Roots of Western Culture"
- Dr. Atusa Mo'meni: "An Introduction to the Formation of the First Immigrant Governments in Ancient Elam"

5. The Development of Philosophical Thought in Ancient Iran (Third Meeting)

Speakers:

- Professor Muhammed Rahim Sarraf: "The Culture and Civilization of Elam"

- Professor Mahshid Mir Fakhra'i: "Ahuramazda and Mazdaean Wisdom"

Call for Papers for the Thirteenth Conference to Commemorate Mulla Sadra

The Secretariat of the Conference for the Commemoration of Mulla Sadra sent a call to masters and researchers working in the field of philosophy to send their papers on the theme "Philosophical Training and the Philosophy of Education" to this office.

In order for inferential thought and logical functioning, which are required for man's happiness and well-being, to be constitutionalized, it is necessary to examine the important factors and strategies in philosophical training and study its pathology. As the scientific custodian of reasoning and thought, philosophy plays a significant role in this regard.

Accordingly, the Sadra Islamic Philosophy Institute intends to hold the 13th Conference for the commemoration of Mulla Sadra on 21st May, 2009, the National Day of Mulla Sadra. Therefore, masters and researchers are invited to take part in this Conference by presenting papers on the following subjects: 1) Philosophical Education: What, How, and Why, 2) Teaching Philosophy and its Educational Consequences, 3) Philosophy and Children, 4) Philosophy in Schools, 5) Pathology of Philosophy as an Academic Field, etc.

In order to participate in the conference, interested persons can send the abstracts of their papers until March 5, 2009, and the complete papers until April 8, 2009 to mullasadra@dpimail.net or the permanent Secretariat of the Conference at the following address: Building 12, Imam Khomeini Complex, Risalat Highway, Tehran, Iran. Post Box: 15875/6919

* For more information please visit our internet site at www.mullasadra.org

Publication of Four Issues of the Research-Scientific Journal of *Kheradname-ye Sadra*

Kheradname-ye Sadra Quarterly is one of the prominent journals in the field of philosophy, particularly Islamic philosophy, in Iran. The regular publication of this journal also continued in 2008. It is to be noted that the New Year in Iran begins on the 1st of Farvardin / 20th March, and, therefore, the first issue of each year is published in May. The tables of contents of last year's journals are given below:

Volume 51: Spring 1387/ May 2008

"*The Transcendent Philosophy and the Demonstration of Plurality in the World of Imagination*" by Reza Akbarian and Hasan Moradi

"*Principles of Mulla Sadra's Philosophical Anthropology*" by Muhammed Ali Nawidi

"*The Impact of Wittgenstein on Theology*" by Rasul Bergisian

"*Imagination in Ibn Arabi's Gnostic Manzumah*" by Maryam Sani'pour and Ahmad Beheshti

"*An Introduction to Mulla Sadra's Philosophy of Ethics*" by Seyyed Muhammed Manafiyani

"*A Study of the Oneness of Being in Spinoza's Philosophy with a Look at Mulla Sadra's Philosophy of Existential Oneness*" by Fahimah Shari'ati

"*Beauty in Mulla Sadra's View*" by Ali Akbar Afrasiyabpur

Volume 52: Summer 1387 / August 2008

"*The Rational Beauty and Ugliness of Acts in Mulla Sadra*" by Seyyed Sadr al-Din Tahiri

"*The Ontological Trans-Substantial Motion in the Arc of Ascent and Descent*" by Monireh Palangi

"Causality in Jalal al-Din Dawani and Mulla Sadra's Philosophy" by Abdulrazzaq Hisamifar

"The Relation between Existence and Quiddity in the Philosophies of Aristotle and Ibn Sina" by Reza Akbarian and Suhrab Haqiqat

"An Explanation of the Unity between Cosmology and the Philosophy of Mystic Journey in Rumi's View" by Mahmud Shaykh

"The Semantic and Verbal Nature of Revelation in Mulla Sadra" by Marziyah Akhlaqi

"Philosophy of Art and the Place of Imagination from the Perspective of Islamic Philosophers" by Hussein Hashimnejad

Volume 53: Autumn 1387 / October 2008

"A Methodological Demarcation between the Knowledge of Existent qua Existent and the Knowledge of Separate Substances" by Seyyed Sadr al-Din Tahiri

"Ibn Sina and the Union of the Intellect and the Intelligible" by Gholamhossein Khedri

"Evaluation of God's Knowledge in Suhrawardi's Philosophy" by Mansur Imanpur

"Politics and Government in the Transcendent Philosophy" by Muhammed Ali Nawidi

"A Comparison of the Subjects, Methods, and Purposes of Philosophy from the Viewpoint of Mulla Sadra and Heidegger" by Muhammed Reza Asadi

"A Comparative Study of Mulla Sadra's Esoteric Exegesis and Heidegger's Hermeneutics" by Muhammed Bidhindi

"The Trans-Substantial Motion from 'Aziz al-Din Nasafi to Mulla Sadra" by Davood Firahi and Mahdi Fadaei Mehraban

"A Revision of the Limits of Presential Knowledge and Acquired Knowledge" by Seyyed Ahmad and Ghaffari Gharehbaq

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"Language of the Qur'an as an Allegorical Language in Mulla Sadra's View" by Gholamreza A'awani and Nasir Muhammedi

"Ibn Khaldun and Philosophy" by Muhammed Ilkhani

"A New Account of the Tripartite Division of Being Based on the Transcendent Philosophy" by Mehdi Golparwar Ruzbehani and Seyyed Muhammed Yusef Thani

"An Evaluation of Mulla Sadra's Criticisms of Ibn Sina and Early Philosophers in the Demonstration of the Oneness of the Necessary Being" by 'Aziz Alizadeh Saleteh

"Imagination, Prophethood, and Politics in Ibn Sina's Philosophy" by Ahmed Bostani

"Unity in Dawani" by Hussein Muhammed Khani

"Levels of the Intellect in Aristotle and Ibn Sina" by Ali Asghar Ja'fari Walani

From among the books published last year by the Publication Center of SIPRIn, twelve of them were in the field of philosophy.

1. *The Transcendent Philosophy and Man* (The Collection of the Papers Presented to the 10th Conference on the Commemoration of Mulla Sadra)

Language: Persian

ISBN: 978-600-5101-07-2

2. *Sharh al-usul al-kafi* (vol. 5: *al-Hujjat* Book)

Writer: Mulla Sadra

Research and Edition: Subhan Ali Kusha

Language: Arabic

ISBN: 978-600-5101-09-6

3. *Rihlat al-wujud fi al-insan*

Writer: Seyyed Muhammed Khamenei

Translator: Heydar Najaf

Language: Arabic

ISBN: 978-600-5101-00-3

4. *Risalah fi ittihad al-'aql wal m'aql*

Writer: Mulla Sadra

Research and Edition: Buyuk Alizadeh

Language: Arabic

ISBN: 978-600-5101-06-5

5. *The Transcendent Philosophy and Mulla Sadra*

Writer: Seyyed Muhammed Khamenei

Translator: Akbar Mukhtari

Language: Korean

ISBN: 978-964-7472-98-2

6. *The Philosophy of Being a Woman* (second edition)

Writer: Seyyed Muhammed Khamenei

Language: Persian

ISBN: 978-600-7472-81-1

7. *Soul and Spirit* (second edition)

Writer: Seyyed Muhammed Khamenei

Language: Persian

ISBN: 978-600-5101-08-9

8. *A Philosophical and Gnostic Analysis of the Holy Spirit in Religious Texts*

Writer: Fatimah Alipur

Language: Persian

ISBN: 978-600-5101-02-7

9. *Mulla Sadra, Art, Ethics, and Eschatology* (The Collection of the Selected Papers Presented in the Second World Congress on Mulla Sadra, vol. 5)

Language: Persian

ISBN: 978-964-7972-11-9

10. *Mulla Sadra, Religion, Logic, Memory* (The Collection of the Selected Papers Presented in the Second World Congress on Mulla Sadra, vol. 4)

Language: Persian

ISBN: 978-964-7972-97-5

11. *Islamic Philosophy and Occidental Views* (The Collection of the Selected Papers Presented in the Second World Congress on Mulla Sadra, vol. 3)

Language: English

ISBN: 978-600-5101-03-4

12. *Philosophy, Islamic Views, and Modern Attitudes* (The Collection of the Selected Papers Presented in the Second World Congress on Mulla Sadra, vol. 4)

Language: English

ISBN: 978-600-5101-70-2

ITALIE

ASSOCIAZIONE FILOSOFICA LIGURE

Relazione morale del Presidente

L'Associazione Filosofica Ligure ha continuato a perseguire, nell'anno 2008, l'obiettivo primario del suo Statuto: garantire l'indipendenza della ricerca e dell'insegnamento della filosofia in ogni sede, favorendo la promozione della cultura filosofica nella nostra regione. Rammento che l'ultima Assemblea dei Soci si è tenuta il 25 Giugno del 2008, a un anno esatto di distanza dalla presente.

Come negli ultimi anni, il numero dei soci non ha avuto significative variazioni. Gli iscritti sono attualmente 131. Occorre ancora una volta rilevare che l'Associazione continua ad essere radicata prevalentemente nell'ambito territoriale della Provincia di Genova, ma sono in atto iniziative per propiziare l'espansione. Alcuni nostri soci, come il Segretario, prof. De Lucia, e la prof. Sgherri Costantini, sono in costante contatto con la Società Filosofica nazionale, della quale l'AFL resta una delle sezioni filosofiche locali più numerose ed attive.

Vorrei ora rammentare le principali iniziative dell'Associazione Filosofica Ligure nell'anno solare 2008, e quelle in programma, ed in buona parte già svolte, dell'anno corrente 2009 (Vedi Allegati).

Desidero ringraziare il Segretario, sul quale ricade l'onere della gestione quotidiana dell'Associazione, i Vice Presidenti, i Componenti del Direttivo, i Revisori dei Conti, e tutti i Soci, per il prezioso aiuto fornito al mio lavoro.

Genova, 25 Giugno 2009.

Il Presidente

Prof. Luciano Malusa

Allegato I
Relazione illustrativa dell'attività svolta nell'ultimo anno (2008)

Nel corso dell'anno 2008, numerosi sono stati i Convegni, i Seminari e le Giornate di studio. Se ne dà qui di seguito un Elenco dettagliato.

22 Gennaio, Aula Magna della Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia dell'Università di Genova. Convegno: *La Fenomenologia dello Spirito di Hegel, duecento anni dopo*. Interventi di: G. Cunico, R. Garaventa, O. Meo, F. Michellini, R. Morani, D. Venturelli.

29 Gennaio, Sala di Lettura "Flavio Baroncelli" del Dipartimento di Filosofia dell'Università di Genova. Conferenza di Santino Cavaciuti, dell'Università di Genova, su: *Il problema e la funzione della religione nella nuova Europa*, organizzata in collaborazione con l'Associazione "Santa Maria La Vite - Giuditta Podestà".

21-22 Febbraio, Aula Magna della Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia dell'Università di Genova. Convegno: *Sulle ali del sogno*, con la partecipazione di docenti delle Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Lingue e Letterature Straniere, e Scienze della Formazione.

Febbraio-Marzo. Letture di classici della filosofia rivolte agli Studenti medi (presso il Liceo "Pertini" di Genova).

Febbraio-Aprile. Ciclo di lezioni su *Paideia ieri e oggi*, coordinato dal prof. Angelo Campodonico. Interventi di: A. Campodonico, L. Mauro, E. Cattanei, D. Restani, W. Lapini, F. Gazzano, L. Cresci, A. Scopesi (in collaborazione con la Sezione di Storia delle Idee e Filosofia della Cultura del Dipartimento di Filosofia dell'Università di Genova).

6 Marzo, Sala di Lettura "Flavio Baroncelli" del Dipartimento di Filosofia dell'Università di Genova. Conferenza di D. G. Rügge, Giudice della Repubblica Federale di Germania, su *Il dibattito sulla Costituzione europea in Germania negli ultimi anni*, organizzata in collaborazione con l'Associazione "Santa Maria La Vite - Giuditta Podestà".

10-11 Marzo. Convegno Nazionale di Bioetica sul tema *Ai confini della vita* (promosso dalla Facoltà di Scienze della Formazione dell'Università di Genova, in collaborazione con l'Afl).

7 Aprile. Seminario su *Filosofia, scienza e bioetica*, in occasione della pubblicazione del vol. omonimo in onore del prof. Agazzi. Interventi dei proff. F. Minazzi, D. Cofrancesco, C. Penco, L. Battaglia.

24 Aprile. Tavola rotonda su *Interculturalità: identità e dialogo delle culture*. Interventi dei proff. A. Dal Lago, F. Manti, P. Marchesani, A. Czajka, A. Pirmi.

Maggio. Ciclo di lezioni su *Arte e follia*, in collaborazione con l'Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere, nella sede di quest'ultima, presso il Palazzo Ducale di Genova.

5 Dicembre (Mattina). Seminario di studio *Come leggere oggi la Metafisica di Aristotele*, tenuto presso la Sala di Lettura "Flavio Baroncelli" del Dipartimento di Filosofia dell'Università di Genova dal prof. Enrico Berti, dell'Università di Padova, già Presidente della Società Filosofica Italiana e già Vice-Presidente della Federazione Internazionale delle Società Filosofiche.

5 Dicembre (Pomeriggio). Convegno di studio *Il filosofo Sciacca a Genova*, promosso in collaborazione con l'Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere, nella sede di quest'ultima, presso il Palazzo Ducale di Genova, con la partecipazione dei proff. M. Marsonet, E. Berti, L. Malusa, P. P. Ottonello, G. Cavallini.

Allegato II

Relazione illustrativa del Programma di attività relativa all'anno in corso (2009)

Tra le varie iniziative svolte, od in corso di preparazione, o di svolgimento, segnaliamo le seguenti.

- *I tè filosofici. Incontri conviviali di lettura e riflessione*, presso il Liceo Scientifico del Convitto "Colombo" di Genova: Febbraio-Marzo;

- Letture di classici della filosofia rivolte agli Studenti, presso il Liceo "Pertini" di Genova (E. Cattanei, S. Langella, O. Meo, V. Ottonelli): Febbraio-Aprile;

- Ciclo di Incontri sul tema *Modernità, nichilismo, secolarizzazione* (presso la Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia dell'Università di Genova): Marzo-Maggio;

- Incontro-dibattito sul tema *Il dovere della memoria: consapevolezza ebraica e cultura europea* (Interventi di Luciano Malusa, Letterio Mauro, Paolo De Lucia): 3 Marzo 2009;

- *La scienza e l'anima dell'Occidente* (Incontro culturale presso la Società Economica di Chiavari): 21 Marzo 2009;

- Convegno di Studi sul tema: *Oltre lo sguardo. La fisiognomica e lo studio della natura umana* (presso la Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia dell'Università di Genova): 25-26 Marzo 2009;

- Ciclo di Conferenze "La filosofia pratica" (presso l'Accademia Ligure di Scienze e Lettere):

1) L. Mauro, 2 Aprile 2009, h. 17.30: *La filosofia pratica di Aristotele*;

2) D. Venturelli, 16 Aprile 2009, h. 17.30: *Da Nietzsche a Kant*;

3) V. Ottonelli, 23 Aprile 2009, h. 17.30: *Il rispetto per le persone come principio fondamentale della morale: il dibattito contemporaneo*

- Ciclo di Letture Filosofiche (presso il Liceo "M. L. King"):

1) L. Mauro, 17 Aprile 2009: *Felicità e amicizia in Aristotele*;

2) D. Venturelli, 22 Aprile 2009: *Friedrich Nietzsche*

- Giornata di studi in onore di Antonio Mario Battegazzore (presso la Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia dell'Università di Genova);

- Giornata di studi sulla Filosofia per bambini (sede da definire).

MEXIQUE

SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE FILOSOFIA

On april 15,16,17 and 18 a Regional Congress of the "Sociedad Mexicana de Filosofía" was held in Ciudad Juárez, México. The Congress was about Communication, Arts and Culture. We had the participation of the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, and participants from different members of the North of México

There were also two Magisterial Lectures:

1. Doctora Luz García Alonso: "The difference between Art and Prudence".

2. Manuel Ocampo Ponce: "Etical Values in communication and journalism".

In addition, there were various round tables and work tables.

RUSSIE

RUSSIAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Bulletin
of the Russian Philosophical Society
No. 4 (48) 2008 (240 p.)

We hereby announce publication and circulation of the Bulletin of the Russian Philosophical Society No. 4, 2008 (Editor-in-Chief, Professor A. N. Chumakov; Executive Secretary, Professor N. Z. Yaroschuk).

The opening *Editor's Column* is titled *The Dialectics of Crisis*. This is followed by the official information on the Russian Philosophical Society Presidium guest session in St. Petersburg. The session reviewed the RPhS participation in the Twenty-second World Congress of Philosophy and *the Philosophy Train* cultural event and discussed the forthcoming Fifth Russian Congress of Philosophy in Novosibirsk. The Congress' new time is 25-28 August 2009. To contact the organisers write to congress@philos.nsu.ru. The Congress' web site is <http://rpc2009.nsu.ru>.

The section *Summarising the Twenty-second World Congress of Philosophy and the Philosophy Train* includes *Philosophical Dialogues in Asia* by Pr. R. A. Kurenkova (Vladimir); *The Portrait of the 22nd WCP and the Philosophy Train* by Pr. M. S. Solodkaya (Orenburg); *On the Value Foundations of Contemporary Korean Culture* by Ass. Pr. T. A. Smetanina (Nizhny Novgorod); *The 22nd WCP and the Development of Social Sciences* by Pr. L. G. Titova (Moscow); *The Russian Truth* by F. T. Valishin (Kazan); *The Seoul National University* by Pr. T. G. Leshkevich (Rostov-on-Don); *Meditative Phenomena of the Eurasian Congress* by Pr. V. S. Funtusov (Vladivostok).

Our traditional column *Information from the RPhS Regional Branches and Organisations* includes materials about the All-Russian Theoretical Conference on *Ethnic and National Values under Conditions of Globalisation* held in Makhachkala; the All-Russian Workshop on *Contemporary Federalism: Russian Problems in Comparative Perspective* in St. Petersburg within the framework of the *Days of St. Petersburg Philosophy*; the All-Russian Workshop on *Religions of the Volga Region: Social Service Issues* in Nizhny Novgorod; the *First Strakhov Readings* (dedicated to the memory of philosopher N. N. Strakhov) in Belgorod.

See *News from the Moscow Philosophical Society* for information about the *World Philosophy Day* and the related scholarly events in Moscow; the newly completed research project on *Problems of Preserving the Diversity of Cultural Traditions of Russia under Conditions of Globalisation*; the Second Workshop on *Philosophical Problems of Biology and Medicine: Interdisciplinary Aspects* in Moscow.

Events and Comments inform about the *Fourth Tauric Readings* in the Crimea; the *Seventeenth Theoretical Conference on Topical Problems of Scientific Philosophy* in Perm; the International Scholarly and Public Conference on *The 80th Anniversary of N. K. Roerich's Central Asian Expedition (1924-28)* at The Roerichs International Centre in Moscow; bestowing the title of *Honorary Citizen of Kostroma Oblast* on philosopher Alexander Zinoviev (posthumously); the 30th anniversary of the Department of Philosophy at the Siberian State Technological University, Krasnoyarsk.

Problems of Teaching Philosophy present *Once More on Philosophical Journal: From Illusion to Reality... and Back?* by Pr. V. N. Porus (Moscow).

Read *Managing Education: Contemporary Approaches* for information about the recent meeting of the Presidium of the Council for Instruction Methods in Philosophy, Political and Religious Studies at the Faculty of Philosophy, the Lomonosov Moscow State University; and *New Challenges to the System of Professional Training in Business and Politics* by S. V. Ivanova, D. Phil. Sc. (Moscow)

A *Topical Issue* is discussed in *On the Road to Silicon Community* by Pr. A. A. Krushanov (Moscow) and *Philosophical Problems of Contemporary Information Technologies* by S. N. Konyaev, Cand. Phys. & Math. Sc. (Moscow).

Read *Scholarly Life in the Near Abroad* for *Secular Education and the Origins of Enlightenment in Azerbaijan* by N. K. Mamedov (Baku).

This issue's *Important Talk* is by Pr. N. I. Kiyashchenko (Moscow) on the subject of *Ethical and Esthetical Education and the Humanities*.

Published *By Way of Discussion* are *Ripples in the Water* by Pr. V. A. Kutyrev (Nizhny Novgorod); *Towards the History of Curable Philosophical Diseases: Phenomenology and Its Apologists* by Pr. V. I. Kurashov (Kazan); *Philosophy and Simulation* by Pr. M. M. Prokhorov (Nizhny Novgorod); *A Word in Defence of Wisdom* by Prs. G. Kh. Shenkao and M. A. Shenkao (Cherkessk); *The Role and Place of Oriental Philosophy in the Work of C. Jung* by Ass. Pr. G. M. Ruzmatova (Tashkent); *On the Question of Notions and Definitions* by Asst. Prof. T. S. Suleimenov (Chimkent, Kazakhstan).

See *Global Studies* column for information about the recent meeting of the Regular Seminar for the Philosophy and Methodology of Global Studies on the subject of *Compulsion by Force and Its Peculiarities under Conditions of Globalisation*; and the article on *The Dynamics of Global Transformations* by A. A. Gezalov (Moscow) and A. A. Gamzaev, Cand. Phil. Sc. (Baku)

See *Eurasianism: Prospects of Understanding* column for *The East-West Dialogue in the Context of the Eurasianism* by G. G. Mayorov (Moscow).

Philosophical Anthropology presents *The Metaphysics of Human Loneliness* by A. V. Katsura, Cand. Phil. Sc. (Moscow).

Philosophy and Culture presents *On the Fundamental Question of the Philosophy of Music* by G. G. Kolomiets (Orenburg) and *The Philosophy of the New Hero* by D. G. Shkayev, postgraduate student (Moscow).

Philosophy of Nation's Health presents *The Origins of the Philosophy of Medicine and Health* by I. L. Alekseyev, postgraduate student (Moscow).

See *Philosophy of Business* for *Brand in the Structure of Marketing* by D. G. Shkayev, postgraduate student (Moscow).

Discussion Continues – on the relations between knowledge and faith, Church and education – in *The Letter of the Ten Academicians: A Year Later* by I. I. Kondrashin, Cand. Phil. Sc. (Moscow) and *The Knowing Belief and the Believing Knowledge* by Rev. Georgy (Ryabykh) (Moscow). *Responses to Our Publications* are by Yu. L. Pivovarov, Cand. Tech. Sc. (Moscow), to *Why Does Philosophy Remain Unclaimed* by S. A. Sharakshané, Ph. D. (RPhS Bulletin 2008:1); and by V. I. Dolzhenko (Moscow), to *Morals as the Evolving Dimension of Spiritual Life* by T. I. Koval (RPhS Bulletin 2008:2).

A Letter to the Editors was sent by A. I. Sofronitsky, journalist, titled *A Remark by a Moscow Dilettante*.

Feedback presents analytical reviews of RPhS Bulletin 2008:3, by an independent observer Pr. V. F. Druzhinin (Moscow); and RPhS Bulletin 2008:2, RPhS Bulletin 2008:3, by S. S. Peruansky, Cand. Phys. & Math. Sc. (Moscow).

Read the Young Philosopher's Page for *The Russian Constitution: 15 Years in Legal Space* by G. N. Gamkrelidze, student (Moscow)

See *Philosophy in the Internet for The Internet, Autumn 2008* by R. M. Maslennikov, postgraduate student (Tver).

New Journals present *The Age of Globalisation*.

Philosophical Prose presents *Kolobok, or Where May Computer Literacy Lead* by Vitaly Gorokhov (Moscow) [kolobok is a traditional Russian round loaf – note by the interpreter].

Read *Philosophers Joke Too* for a collection of jokes from Nikolai Biryukov on the subject of the Law of Sufficient Reason.

On the Poetic Page read verses by Svetlana Gromova (Yekaterinburg) and Anatoly Deyev (Moscow)

Read *Attention: The Competition!* for information about the competition of philosophical projects on the subject of *The Philosophy of Public Service and Counteraction Against Corruption* announced by the Russian Philosophical Gazette.

Read Useful Information about the forthcoming Seventh All-Russian Workshop on Optina Pustyn and the Russian Culture (The Kireyevsky Readings) in Kaluga, 23-25 April 2009; and the call for cooperation from the Renaissance Experimental Creative Centre.

Mentioned as Noteworthy is information about the RPhS new website: www.r-f-o.org.

See also book reviews, annotations, book announcements, information about books and journals available at the RPhS Presidium, doctoral (16) and candidate (128) dissertations in philosophy defended in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Published also are letters of congratulations on jubilees and other notable events in philosophers' lives and obituaries.

As usual, the year's concluding issue contains The RPhS Conferences Plan for the forthcoming year (2009, 97 events), and supplement to the information about the RPhS Structure and the RPhS Membership List as published in RPhS Bulletin 2008:3 (47), viz. 14 additional regional branches (totalling 113), 2 additional field branches (totalling 45), new RPhS individual members (totalling 5,885).

Read also requirements for the RPhS membership for 2009. Like in other issues of the Bulletin it is explained that the Russian Philosophical Society counts as its members only those who have paid the yearly membership fee and have been consequently included in the current year membership list. They henceforward enjoy all the privileges of the Society members, including subscription to the RPhS Bulletin. Full membership lists are published yearly in RPhS Bulletin No. 3 for the year in question.

The Bulletin's subscription index in the Rospechat Catalogue is 79643. Please, send your e-mail messages addressed to the RPhS Presidium and the RPhS Bulletin Editorial Board to rphs@iph.ras.ru or rfo.presidium@gmail.com. Our Internet websites are www.logic.ru/~phil-soc; www.dialog21.ru; www.globalistika.ru; www.r-f-o.org. To contact the Editors, please, call (495) 609-90-76 or (495) 203-92-98.

Bulletin
of the Russian Philosophical Society
No. 1 (49) 2009 (240 p.)

We hereby announce publication and circulation of the **Bulletin of the Russian Philosophical Society No. 1, 2009** (Editor-in-Chief, Professor **A. N. Chumakov**; Executive Secretary, Professor **N. Z. Yaroshchuk**). The opening **Editor's Column** is titled Once Again About Civil Society.

Our traditional column **Information from the RPhS Regional Branches and Organisations** includes materials about the initial activities of the RPhS Irkutsk Regional Branch; the activities of the RPhS Kyrgyz Branch and Saratov Branch; the round table on The Principle of Integrity in Cognition of Social Reality in Lipetsk; the Eighth Conference on Creation of Human Society held by the Baikal Primary Organisation in Irkutsk.

See **News from the Moscow Philosophical Society** for information about the forthcoming general meeting of the Moscow Philosophical Society; the conference on Science and Pseudoscientific Forms of Culture at the Russian Friendship of Peoples University; the workshop on Humanism and Philosophical Values held in memory of Rafik Kurbanov at the Institute of Philosophy, the Russian Academy of Sciences; the Third International Workshop on Humanitarians Issues of Our Time at the Moscow State University of Civil Engineering; the first meeting of the Moscow-Petersburg Philosophical Club discussing The Time of the End of Times. Time and Eternity in Contemporary Culture at the Russian Abroad Library Foundation; the round table held at the Central Scientists' Club to discuss Pr. I. A. Gobofov's Where Is Philosophy Falling.

Events and Comments inform about the conference on Truth and Good: The Selivanov Readings in Tyumen; the Third International Conference on The Soviet Culture: Problems of Theoretical Understanding in St. Petersburg; the meeting of the Nizhegorod Philosophical Seminar discussing a presentation by M. Cremona, Professor of Archeology from the USA.

The section **Summarising the Twenty-second World Congress of Philosophy and the Philosophy Train** includes From the Congress to the Crisis by Pr. **N. Z. Yaroshchuk** (Moscow); The European Reason and the Asian Soul in Philosophy and Science by Pr. **M. I. Bilalov** (Makhachkala); Immortality and the Challenge of Rethinking in Contemporary Philosophy by Pr. **I. V. Vishev** (Chelyabinsk); Going by the Transsiberian Philosophy Train by Pr. **Timi Ecmovic** and (Ljubljana, Slovenia) and Pr. **Sang-Yang Song** (Seoul, Republic of Korea); The Philosophy

Forum: Overcoming Geographical and Mental Barriers by Pr. **Xiaotin Liu** and **Baichun Zhan** (Peking, China); To Rethink or to Foresee by **A. D. Korolyov**, Cand. Philos. Sc. (Moscow).

See **Philosophy Abroad** for a letter of congratulation to Louise **Dreyer**, a notable functionary of the International Association of Philosophy Teachers (AIPPh), on her 80th birthday.

Problems of Teaching Philosophy are discussed in Intellect as a Cultural Value by Pr. **V. N. Porus** (Moscow).

Read **Managing Education: Contemporary Approaches** for information about the recent meeting of the Presidium of the Council for Instruction Methods in Philosophy and Religious Studies, the Instructional-Methodological Association for Classical University Education, at the Faculty of Philosophy, the Lomonosov Moscow State University; and Prolegomena to the Ethical Code of a Russian Philosopher by Pr. **V. A. Bazhanov** (Ulyanovsk).

A Topical Issue is discussed in How to Improve the Expert Evaluation of Dissertations by Pr. **I. A. Gobofov** (Moscow).

See **Raising an Issue** for On Some Specific Features of Philosophic Activity under Conditions of Informatisation and Globalisation by **D. I. Dubrovsky**, D. Phil. Sc. (Moscow); Nanophilosophy as the Philosophy of the Nanotechnological Era by Pr. **P. L. Karabushchenko** (Astrakhan); Political Responsibility by **B. I. Zelenko**, D. Polit. Sc. (Moscow).

This issue's **Important Talk** is by Pr. **V. V. Cheshev** (Tomsk) on The Notion of 'Activity' in the Studies of Anthropogenesis.

Civil Society presents Civil Society as an Outcome of Self-organisation by **V. I. Dolzhenko** (Moscow).

Standpoint presents On Revolutionary Reformism by Ass. Pr. **I. I. Shevchuk** (Moscow).

Published **By Way of Discussion** are The Garden of Philosophy: On the Culture of Philosophical Cultivation of Life and Philosophy Itself by **Pr. S. M. Khalin** (Tyumen); Once Again on Ecology... by Ass. Pr. **I. F. Ponizovkina** (Moscow); An Eurasian One? Yes and No by Pr. **N. N. Slonov** (Saratov); The Riddle of the Phenomenon of Work by Pr. **V. Ye. Zolotukhin** (Rostov-on-Don).

Read **From the History of Russian Philosophy** for The Development of the Slavophile Tradition and the Problem of Import of Philosophical Ideas by Pr. **V. I. Krasikov** (Kemerovo); The Russian Philosophy as a Philosophical Problem in the Writings of K. D. Kavelin by **A. O. Belous**, Cand. Philos. Sc. (St. Petersburg).

Philosophical Anthropology presents Symbol in Contemporary Culture by **E. M. Spirova**, Cand. Philos. Sc., and **M. A. Sultanova**, Cand. Philos. Sc. (Moscow).

See **Philosophy of Culture** for The Feast Culture of Caucasian Peoples by Pr. **M. A. Shenkao** (Cherkessk) and The Problem of Synthesizing the Main Definitions of Culture by Pr. **D. V. Pivovarov** (Yekaterinburg).

Cultural Life is depicted in Expendable Cinema with a Pretension to Morality (On 'The Admiral') by Pr. **A. G. Myasnikov** (Penza) and Oscar 2008: A Show of Show by **D. G. Shkayev**, postgraduate student (Moscow).

Read **Philosophy of Business** for an interview with **D. V. Yurkov**, Director, Regional Centre for Security of Education Institutions, the Russian Friendship of Peoples University.

Responses to Our Publications are by Pr. **V. A. Ignatiev** (Ryazan), to The Attainment of Practical Immortality and Real Resurrection by Pr. **I. V. Vishev** (RPhS Bulletin 2007:2); Pr. **V. G. Torosyan** (Krasnodar), to Does Society Need Philosophy? by **A. B. Shulyndina** (RPhS Bulletin 2008:2); **V. V. Farmakovskiy** (Nizhny Novgorod), to Why Does (Is) Not Our Civilisation Love (Loved by) Wisdom? by Pr. **V. A. Kutryov** (RPhS Bulletin 2007:3).

Feedback presents analytical reviews of RPhS Bulletin 2008:4 by an independent observer Pr. **V. F. Druzhinin** (Moscow) and **S. S. Peruansky**, Cand. Phys. & Math. Sc. (Moscow).

Read the **Young Philosopher's Page** for 'Kuznetsova's Honeycomb' and the Principle of Cinema Film 'Kuznetsova's Honeycomb' and the Principle of Cinema Film by **I. I. Rudyak**, postgraduate student (Moscow); The Basic Categories of Kuo Hsiang's Philosophical Doctrine, by **R. V. Gordeyev**, postgraduate student (Moscow); The Society of the 21st Century: Civilisation of Innovations by **M. V. Maksimova**, postgraduate student (Rostov-on-

Don); The Future of Philosophy Belongs to Plato by **A. Kovtunenکو, D. Nyudlchiyev, and Ye. Filippova**, students (Moscow)

See **Philosophy in the Internet** for Scientific Communities in the Internet by Ass. **Pr. Ye. A. Nikitina**, and **R. S. Ivliyev** and **S. F. Zhukova**, postgraduate students (Moscow).

See **New Journals** for information about Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, a journal published by the Institute of Philosophy, the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Philosophers Joke Too presents On Morality and To Scolders of Intelligentsia, satirical poems by Boris **Rezhabek** (Moscow), a response to the recent debate on the issue of morality.

On the **Poetic Page** read verses by Andrei **Ippolitov** (Moscow)

Read **Competition: The Results** for information about the results of the 2008 young scholars and students competition in philosophy, social sciences, psychology and law.

Read **Attention: The Competition!** for information about the competition of philosophical projects on the issue of Fighting Corruption held by the Russian Philosophical Gazette with the support of the Presidential Administration.

Mentioned as **Noteworthy** is information about the new date of the conference in Kaluga.

See also **book reviews, annotations, book announcements**, information about **books and journals available at the RPhS Presidium**, doctoral (2) and candidate (108) dissertations in philosophy defended in the first quarter of 2009.

Published also are **letters of congratulations** on jubilees and other notable events in philosophers' lives and **obituaries**.

Read Supplement to the RPhS Conferences Plan for 2009 (totalling 120 events).

Read also requirements for the RPhS membership for 2009. Like in other issues of the Bulletin it is explained that the Russian Philosophical Society counts as its members only those who have paid the yearly membership fee and have been consequently included in the current year membership list. They henceforward enjoy all the privileges of the Society members, including subscription to the RPhS Bulletin. Full membership lists are published yearly in RPhS Bulletin No. 3 for the year in question.

The Bulletin's subscription index in the Rospechat Catalogue is 79643. Please, send your e-mail messages addressed to the RPhS Presidium and the RPhS Bulletin Editorial Board to rphs@iph.ras.ru or rfo.presidium@gmail.com. Our Internet websites are www.logic.ru/~phil-soc; www.dialog21.ru; www.globalistika.ru; www.r-f-o.org. To contact the Editors, please, call (495) 609-90-76 or (495) 203-92-98.

TURQUIE

TÜRKİYE FELSEFE KURUMU/PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF TURKEY

Activities from July 2008 to August 2009

At the National Level:

- 1. The second seminar on Contemporary Philosophy held in Istanbul on November 27-28, 2008 and hosted by the Department of Philosophy of Yeditepe University. After the inaugural speech delivered by Ioanna Kuçuradi papers were presented by Jale Erzen ("Romantic Art as a Revolt Against the Enlightenment"), Doğan Özlem ("Dilthey's Criticism of Kant's Doctrine of Categories : Relative a priori"), Ahmet Ulri Türkbağ ("The Great Transformation in the Philosophy of Law during the 19th and 20th Centuries"), Güçlü Ateşoğulları ("The Problem of Metaphysics in Hegel's Philosophy in the Light of Today's Debate"), Gürol Irzık ("Rewriting the 20th Century Philosophy of Science"), Tülin Bumin ("European Identity and Philosophy"), Yücel Kayıran ("An Essay on the Concept of*

Fall”), Harun Tepe (“Wittgenstein and Present-day Ethics”), Nebil Reyhani (“A New Approach to N. Hartmann’s New Ontology from the Viewpoint of the Problem of Reductionism”), Çetin Türkyılmaz (“Wittgenstein’s Conception of the Subject”), Özge Ejder-Johnson (“The Place of the Subject in Post-Husserlian Philosophy”), Kurtul Gülenç (“Reason and Science in M. Horkheimer”), Kubilay Hoşgör (“The Form that the Concepts Form and Cause take in Cassirer’s Philosophy”), and Stephen Voss (“Know Thyself”).

Cemal Güzel, Saffet Babür, İsmail Demirdöven and Betül Çostuksöken chaired the sessions.

2. Organization of the XIIth National Philosophy Olympiad on March 1, 2009 in eleven centers all over region w:st="on">Turkey.
3. Organization, by the Section of the Philosophy of Law, of a series of seminars focusing on philosophical problems, for a group of students of the Faculty of Law.

At the International Level:

- Participation in the organization, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, of the conference on “Human Rights 60 Years after the Universal Declaration: Dignity and Justice for all of us”, organized by the Centre of Human Rights of Maltepe University, on November 6-7, 2008.
- Participation of the Section of the Philosophy of Law in the organization of a seminar on “Rethinking the Philosophy of Law: Legal Theories, Constitutions and Human Rights”, organized by the Centre of Human Rights of Maltepe University, on June 24, 2009.
- Organization, in collaboration with the Centre of Human Rights and the Department of Philosophy of Maltepe University, of the Fifth Balkan Countries Seminar of Philosophy, on July 13-15, 2009.

Publications:

- Martin Heidegger: *Was ist Metaphysik/Metafizik Nedir*, bilingual third edition, trans. by Yusuf Örnek, 2009.
- Immanuel Kant: *Grundlegung zur Metaphysik der Sitten/Ahlâk Metafizîğinin Temellendirilmesi*, bilingual third edition, trans. by Ioanna Kuçuradi, 2009.
- Ioanna Kuçuradi: *Çağın Olayları Arasında (Among the Events of our Times)*, third edition, 2009.
- Ioanna Kuçuradi (ed.): *2007 Dünya Felsefe Günü/World Philosophy Day/Journée mondiale de la philosophie*, 2009.

Projects of Activities in Fall 2009 and 2010:

- Organization, in November 2009, of the yearly Istanbul Seminar of the Society.
- Organization of the XIIIth National Philosophy Olympiad in March 2010.
- Organization of the competition for the Macit Gökberk Philosophy Prize.
- Organisation of the General Assembly of the Society

GOTTFRIED-WILHELM-LEIBNIZ-GESELLSCHAFT

Present number of members: 373

Activities:

Monthly lectures, Symposia:

<http://www.gwlb.de/Leibniz/Gesellschaft/Veranstaltungen/>

Publications:

"Studia Leibnitiana";

Daniel J. Cook / Hartmut Rudolph / Christoph Schulte (Hrsg.):

"Leibniz und das Judentum", Stuttgart 2008 (= "Studia Leibnitiana, Sonderheft" 34).

*(Future) Activities:
Monthly lectures, Symposia, IXth International Leibniz Congress (2011)*

COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH ON VALUES AND PHILOSOPHY (CRVP)

REPORT ON

“Philosophy Emerging from Culture:

Islamic Thought and Indonesian Culture”

A set of conferences across Java (Jakarta , Bandung, Yogyakarta, Surabaya, Malang), Indonesia

January 5-15, 2009

· Background

Global times now endow – and challenge – us with a broad diversity of cultures and civilizations. Correspondingly a progressive deepening of human concerns reaches beyond what is clear and distinct to what is of meaning and of diverse peoples. As a result it now becomes ever more manifest how persons and communities, working cumulatively over time, have generated their cultural traditions. In the present context of global awareness these two dimensions of breadth and depth of the human spirit now combine to open new courses for human self-understanding.

This provides the need and opportunity to “rethink philosophy” in order to enable it to be correspondingly more inclusive and profound. Philosophical awareness needs to be enriched so that its horizons can be broad enough for all peoples to be truly at home therein.

For this effort, the International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP) was founded in conjunction with the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP). This provides the means for many parts of the Islamic world, each with their own cultures, to formulate their own heritages and contributions. Its goal is to enable Islam to enrich and be enriched in the modern world in order for its peoples to move forward faithfully and creatively in these times.

· Summary of the Conference Series

The series of conferences discussed the emergence of philosophy from culture in general and the specific contribution of the Indonesian Island of Java and the philosophy of Pancasila adopted by the founding fathers of Indonesia

The conferences were held January 5-15, 2009 at nine leading universities in five cities (Jakarta, Bandung, Yogyakarta, Surabaya, Malang). At each a set of visiting philosophers and local scholars came together to discuss the emergence of philosophy from culture. Specifically this was the Javanese contribution to Islamic thought, both in general and in particular. As but one instance, Javanese culture has a distinctive notion called Memayu Hayuning Bawono. This notion sees human consciousness not as a solipsistic entity but as a disclosure. According to this cultural conception, human consciousness is not trapped within a microcosm (bawono cilik), but reaches toward the macrocosm (bawono gede). This brings new meaning to self-consciousness as not a substance but a relationship. Further it suggests a radical shift in the ethical paradigm for we develop ourselves not only through fulfilling certain universal maxims, but continuously develop an ethic of cosmic solidarity. The series of conferences formulated many such insights from the culture of Java which will be reflected in the volume of papers to follow.

The conferences explored a hermeneutic of how such elements can help to live the Islamic vision. The results constitute an important contribution to all Moslems and indeed to all philosophers. Especially it is hoped that to the degree that this sense of harmony native to the Southeast Asian temperament and

the Islamic self-understanding of Java can be clarified it will contribute to Islam across the world, and thereby enrich its broad contribution to building world peace and cooperation among peoples.

Each conference was arranged to enable in-depth roundtable discussions for a full day. In these the team of visiting scholars joined local scholars and graduate students for direct, penetrating and creative interchange. The resulting substantive papers will be published jointly by [The Islamic College for Advanced Studies](#) (ICAS), the International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP), and the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP) for distribution to 350 university libraries across the world and through general sales, as well as being on the web in full text. The overall series was co-organized by The Islamic College for Advanced Students (ICAS), Jakarta and The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (CRVP), Washington , D.C. ; and sponsored by The International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP). It was carried out with the generous support of the host universities and especially of ICAS, [Mizen Publishing](#) and the H&L Bradley Foundation and the Raskob Foundation.

• Detailed Objectives and Accomplishment

The overall purpose of these series of conferences was to review papers presented by the 5 visiting scholars and 18 local scholars, identifying aspects of Islamic philosophy, local heritages and cultural values, and to prepare summaries and recommendations. Participants (from each province/university) discussed the specific topic within the more general theme: philosophy merging from culture.

Through these conferences, philosophical insights from local cultures were gathered and formulated, particularly regarding living the Islamic tradition in relation to the values and culture of the specific regions, and representatives of the local cultures were encouraged to formulate their views.

Specifically, the following outputs were achieved:

- 1. Collection of papers presented by 6 visiting and the many local scholars with regard to philosophy emerging from culture, specifically that of Java.*
- 2. Comments from the participants of each Round-table discussion and feedback from the paper presenters.*
- 3. General summary and recommendations for formulating philosophical insights from local culture.*
- 4. Culturally specific recommendations on the specific topics.*

Certainly not the least of the accomplishments was to make conscious and put on the agenda this issue of the preservation and creative adaptation of the local culture as an enrichment of the received Islamic heritage. This will remain a significant factor in future philosophical and religious studies in the region for decades to come.

• Format

The conferences, in the form of nine Round-table discussions, were conducted in a series of as many hosting universities, with one day at each. Select professors and graduate students were invited and direct, penetrating and creative interchange was favored. The medium for communication for the series of conferences was English with the national language used as desired in sessions of the host universities. Papers were presented by the five visiting scholars and eighteen prominent professors from the host universities.

• Participating University Centers

While the Islamic College for Advanced Studies, Jakarta, and The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Washington , D.C. were primarily responsible for organizing the overall series, the individual conferences were hosted by:

- 1. The University of Indonesia , Jakarta*
- 2. Islamic State University Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta*

3. *Islamic College for Advanced Studies, Jakarta*
4. *The Center for Ethical Studies, Atmajaya University , Jakarta*
5. *Islamic State University Sunan Gunung Jati, Bandung*
6. *The Center for Religion and Cross-cultural Studies,
and Philosophy Faculty, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta*
7. *Islamic State University Sunan Kalijaga, Yogyakarta*
8. *Islamic State University Sunan Ampel, Surabaya*
9. *The Muhammadiyah University, Malang*

Around 600 participants attended the conference.

· *Specific Subthemes and University Centers*

The discussions evolved serially over the two weeks of the series from the relation of reason and wisdom, to local wisdom, the revival of spirituality, the post-modern challenges, global ethics, values, mysticism and education. More specifically the following issues were treated:

¶ *Islamic State University Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta :*

“Wisdom (hikmah) and Rationality in Islamic Thought”

¶ *University of Indonesia , Jakarta :*

“Contemporary Philosophy, Islamic Thought and Local Wisdom in Multicultural Society: An Indonesian Case”

¶ *Islamic College for Advanced Studies, Jakarta:*

“Connecting Islamic Philosophy and Modern Challenges in a Post-Modernist Age”

¶ *PPE- Atmajaya University , Jakarta :*

“Religious Ethics, Java Ethics, and Global Ethics”

¶ *Islamic State University Sunan Gunung Jati, Bandung :*

“Islamic Thought and Sundanese Values”

¶ *CRCS- Gajah Mada University, Yogyakarta :*

“Islamic Thought in Indonesian Indigenous Philosophy”

¶ *Islamic State University Sunan Kalijaga, Yogyakarta :*

“Islamic Mysticism and Javanese Culture”

¶ *Islamic State University Sunan Ampel and Airlangga University, Surabaya:*

“Islamic Thought in Developing Cultural Values: Rural and Urban Communities”

¶ *University of Muhammadiyah , Malang :*

“Cultivation of Education in Islamic Perspective and Cultural Pesisir”

• **Presenters**

Visiting Scholars:

1. **Prof. Dr. George F. McLean** (Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Catholic University of America, Washington DC; General Secretary of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy [CRVP]; Director of The Center for the Study of Culture and Values [CSCV], The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., USA)
2. **Prof. Dr. Gholamreza Aavani** (Director of the Iranian Institute of Philosophy Iran; Professor of Philosophy at Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran; President of The International Society for Islamic Philosophy [ISIP]; CD Member of The International Federation of Philosophical Societies [FISP])
3. **Prof. Dr. Osman Bakar** (Emeritus Professor of Universiti Malaya, Malaysia; Co-Director of the International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies [IAIS], Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Vice-President of The International Society for Islamic Philosophy [ISIP])
4. **Prof. Dr. Karim Douglas Crow** (Associate Professor at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; Principal Research Fellow, International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies [IAIS], Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; General Secretary of The International Society for Islamic Philosophy [ISIP])
5. **Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yasin** (Director of the Department of Foreign Languages, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa; founding President of The International Society for Islamic Philosophy [ISIP])
6. **Prof. Dr. Baharudin Ahmad** (Deputy Dean, The International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC), a research and postgraduate institution of the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Indonesian Scholars: (in schedule order: Jkt, Bdg, Ygy, Srb, Mlg):

- Prof. Dr. Abdul Hadi WM
- Prof. Dr. Komaruddin Hidayat (Rector of UIN Jakarta)
- Dr. Vincent Jolasa
- Dr. Seyyed Mohsen Tabatabaei (Director of ICAS Jakarta)
- Dr. Budya Paradipta
- Dr. Haidar Bagir
- Husain Heriyanto M.Hum
- Prof. Dr. Alois Agus Nugroho
- Dr. Michael Dua
- Prof. Dr. Mulyadhi Kartanegara
- Herminie Soemitro, M.Hum
- Donny Gahril Adian, M..Hum
- Murniati Agustian, M.Pd
- Prof. Dr. Nanat Fatah (Rector of UIN Bandung)

- Prof. Dr. Juhaya S. Praja
- Prof. Dr. Dadang Ahmad
- Dr. Nurrohman
- Prof. Ir. Sujarwadi, M.Eng, Ph.D (Rector, Gadjah Mada U., Yogyakarta)
- Dr. Mukhtasyar Syamsuddin
- Dr. Agus Wahyudin
- Prof. Dr. Heddy Shri Ahimsa Putra
- Prof. Dr. Amin Abdullah
- Dr. Syafaatun Amirzamah
- Prof. Dr. Munawar Ahmad
- Siti Ruhaini Dzuhayatin, MA
- Prof. Dr. H. Nursyam, M.Si (Rector of IAIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya)
- Dr. Abdul Kadir Riyadi
- Dr. Masdar Helmy, MA
- Prof. Dr. Sujono (Deputy Rector of Muhammadiyah Univ. Malang)
- Dr. Arief Budi Wuriyanto
- Prof. Dr. Ishomuddin
- David Hermawan, M.Pt
- Dr. Asna Husin

Recent Events

The last several months have been especially active. Highlights covered below include:

- *All RVP publications now available in full text on the web for free download and word search; the new RVP book distribution center at OST, 285 Oblate Drive, San Antonio, TX 78216.*
- *Indonesia: Ten January RVP conferences tapped South East Asian Javanese culture and its sense of identity in relationships to open new pathways for peace for Islamic and other philosophies. (See above.)*
- *Cambodia and China: Seven RVP conferences this June and July tackle such contemporary challenges as development, ethics and public administration, and the relation of cultural heritages to globalization.*
- *Washington: Two Seminars August-October, 2009 on "Living Islam Faithfully in Our Changing Times" and "The Sacred and the Secular: Complementary and/or Conflictual?".*
- *18 month project on implications of Charles Taylor's A Secular Age.*

Planning Future Projects of the RVP World Network: Following up on the RVP general assembly in Seoul on the occasion of the World Congress of Philosophy (2008), the RVP invited all members and participants across the world to propose their own projects and to indicate how the RVP might be of

assistance in these and other ways. Many excellent responses were received, some with advanced planning and others ready for implementation. At the same time, a number of philosophers in each region have agreed to help coordinate efforts in their region. All of these provide essential material for the RVP strategy sessions to be held in the June/July 2009 meetings in Cambodia and China. To all we wish to express gratitude and encouragement.

Call for your Suggestions and Cooperation. Please continue to send your ideas for local teams and projects. Typically, these often begin with a year of intense monthly seminars which produce a volume of advanced team research in response to a specific need of one's people; additional scholars then join to critique and supplement the work in a regional conference; and the RVP publishes the resulting substantive volume in its series: "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change." Please keep us informed as you plan a project of this or another type. The RVP is ready to assist, especially with coordination of work in the various regions, and with the publication, printing and distribution of your work worldwide. In all such efforts we look forward to your suggestions and cooperation.

George F. McLean

[Book Projects](#)

The RVP has taken a number of new steps in the RVP book series "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change."

[a\) New titles](#)

The following 8 titles have appeared:

-Vol. I.36 Kantian Imperatives and Phenomenological Force; Randolph C. Wheeler.

-Vol. II.12 The Struggle after the Struggle, Zimbabwean Philosophical Studies, I; David Kaulemu, ed.

-Vol. IIA.19 Understanding Other Religions: Al-Biruni and Gadamer's "Fusion of Horizons"; Islamic Philosophical Studies, XIX; Kemal Ataman, ed.

-Vol. IIIB.13 Faith and Reason Today: Fides et Ratio in a Post-modern Era, Indian Philosophical Studies, XIII; Varghese Manimala, ed.

-Vol. IIID.5 The History of Buddhism in Vietnam, Vietnamese Philosophical Studies, I; Nguyen Tai Thu and Hoang Thi Tho, eds.

-Vol. IIID.6 Relations Between Religions and Cultures in Southeast Asia, Indonesian Philosophical Studies, I; Gadis Arivia and Donny Gahral Adian, eds.

-Vol. IIID.7 Rethinking the Role of Philosophy in the Global Age; Vietnamese Philosophical Studies, III; William Sweet and Pham Van Duc, eds.

-Vol. IVA.37 Truth and Morality: The Role of Truth in Public Life, Romanian Philosophical Studies, VII; Wilhelm Dancă, ed.

[b\) Full text of RVP titles available for free download on the web and also in the Google Book Partner Program](#)

Another major project has been the successful uploading of the full text (in html free downloadable format) of all RVP books to www.crvp.org. Please see the "publications" pages of that website.

Additionally, full text, exact image versions of all RVP books are now available through the Google Book Search Partner Program. Though not downloadable there, all pages of each book appear in exact image for word search and research citation. Search by name of book, author, or title of any book or individual chapter at www.books.google.com.

c) Major book mailing to 350 libraries completed

The major book mailing project of the RVP, mentioned in the fall/winter 2008 newsletter, has been successfully completed. Thanks to generous funding by Our Sunday Visitor Institute, and the cooperation of Yurchak Printing, the RVP shipped boxes of 36 new and recent titles to 350 university libraries across the world: 54 in Africa, 83 in East, South and Southeast Asia, 29 in North America, 50 in Central and South America, 7 in Australia/New Zealand, 116 in Europe, especially central and eastern Europe.

Shipments of RVP books over the years serve three purposes: (a) to stimulate and communicate the innovative work of the philosophical research teams from all parts of humanity, (b) to put their important texts into the hands of scholars who often work with limited to library resources, and (c) to make less heard voices available to thinkers and policy makers across the world.

d) New RVP book distribution center

With gratitude to Ron Rolheiser, President of OST and Donald Joyce, Director of the Donald E. O'Shaughnessy Library in San Antonio Texas, we are pleased to announce the new book distribution center for the RVP book series: "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change." The inventory of the 220 titles in the series has been shipped from the Washington DC office to San Antonio TX. There the new director of RVP book distribution is Mr. Mathew Martin of the Donald E. O'Shaughnessy Library.

All future RVP book orders should be directed to: Council for Research on Values and Philosophy – OST, San Antonio, TX (attn. Mathew Martin), 285 Oblate Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216, USA; telephone: (210)341-1366 x205; Email: mmartin@ost.edu

The International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP) (email: isisphy@gmail.com): founded by the participants in the RVP Islamic seminar in March 2008, elected Professor Gholamreza Aavani, Director of the Iranian Institute of Philosophy, as President at its meeting during the World Congress of Philosophy in Seoul last August. Professor Osman Bakar, Vice Director of the International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies, Malaysia, was appointed Vice President in January 2009 along with a set of regional directors. With the RVP the ISIP cosponsored the 10 university conferences in Indonesia and will cosponsor as well the fall seminar on "Living Islam Faithfully in Our Day" described below. A meeting on "The status of Philosophy in the Present-day Islamic World" is envisaged for November 11-12, 2009 in Tehran. Contact Gholamreza Aavani, President of ISIP, aavani@irip.ir.

* Events, June-October, 2009*

[June-July regional Conferences in Asia](#)

[a\) Cambodia: South East Asian Regional Conference](#)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, June 24-25, "The Role of Philosophy in the Development of South East Asia". A full description and draft program can be found on the web at <http://www.crvp.org/conf/2009/cambodia.htm>

In the aftermath of great tragedies a new generation of Cambodian philosophers is just emerging. A first sign of this is the invitation of The Philosophical Association of Cambodia (PAC) to host the bi-annual RVP Southeast Asia regional meeting – held previously in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. This meeting will be supported by UNESCO in collaboration with the PAC and the RVP.

Theme: The first session will reflect on how philosophy is rooted in the culture of a people whence it emerges through a process of progressively deeper reflection and understanding. The second session will identify elements especially characteristic of Cambodian philosophy. On this basis the conference will then turn to the contributions which Cambodian philosophy can make to education for development and in turn the challenge which such a task constitutes for the philosophy and philosophers of South East Asia today.

[b\) China: Conferences on: "The Enlightenment: a Reassessment"; "Philosophy and Development"; "Ethics, Public Administration and Citizen Participation"](#)

Shanghai: Fudan University, June 28-29, 2009 – "The Enlightenment and its Contemporary Reevaluation"

Theme: The May 4th movement in 1919 thought it necessary to put aside the ancient wisdom of Confucius in order to usher in "Mr. Science" and "Mr. Democracy." More recently, the very success of the resultant "hard power" of modernization has evoked a rethinking of the May 4th. What now is the role of the "soft power" of the culture, values and virtues previously put aside; are these now needed to inspire and humanize the powers of the Enlightenment in order that all might continue to benefit from their fruits; rather than being exiled could Confucius and his classical confreres now be needed more than ever in these postmodern times as genial hosts able to make the "two misters" truly and fruitfully at home.

Shanghai: Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, July 2-3, 2009 – "Diversity in Unity: Harmony in a Global Age"

Theme: Global times call for the protection, promotion and interrelation of human diversity and creativity. In order for these multiple and diverse humane factors to make their rich contribution to social well-being in these times of global interaction, they must be able to be appreciated not as conflictual, but as complementary and relational. Does this, in turn, call for a new paradigm in which they are understood as existing within a larger, integrating whole? Will this enable the diverse realities to be essentially related, not merely physically, but in terms that engage the human search for meaning and purpose? What are the keys to the respect for nature and for one another on which truly global human comity can be built? If philosophy looks even further for the principles which reveal all as intelligible or true and as life giving or good, does this call for a renewed understanding of the classical unity of "all under heaven" (Tian Xia), both for its inherent relationality and for the implications of this source and goal for the meaning and purpose of all? Here the classical philosophical issue of the one and the many reemerges in today's terms of the global whole.

Xian: Xian Jiaotong University, July 5, 2009: "The Role of Philosophy in the Development of China's Northwest".

Theme: Philosophy is challenged to guide the process of change along progressive paths that perfect and improve the status of nature and of humanity itself. For this it is necessary to understand human nature and continuingly to evaluate and adjust possible action so that the immense human effort, now broadly integrated across civilizations, will be positive and constructive.

This evaluative task is extensive as it touches upon every aspect of the changing world. It is itself multiplayered, reaching from utilitarian and self-interested advantage to an ever deeper sense of the human person, to a broader and more inclusive range of social reality, and to the natural world in which we live and which we shape.

Urumqi: Xinjiang University, July 13, 2009: "Local Culture and Social Progress".

Theme: The Xinjiang region is the frontier of two great civilizations. If a civilization is the cumulative achievement of a set of cultures evolved over millennia as a concrete way of striving for human fulfillment, then this border situation is now of the greatest moment. For as we enter the global age life today is characterized not simply by one or another single culture or civilization, by the interaction of multiple civilizations. This is the making of the global world whose nature will be determined by the way in which the multiple civilizations, like gigantic tectonic plates, interact and adjust to one another. This suggests the particular importance for human progress of the dynamics of local cultures on the frontier as they intersect and are mutually enriched and transformed thereby. What is the basis and degree of such mutual compatibility and complementarity; how can conflict be transformed into mutual reinforcement; can change be progressive for all concerned? These and other crucial issues must be considered in this colloquium.

Xian and Urumqi, July 6-8 and July 10-12, 2009: "Ethics in Public Administration and Citizen Participation".

Theme: This will build upon three conferences in 2007 and 2008 in which scholars in the field of public administration from China and overseas discussed the ethics course in the Public Administration program (MPA). It will attend to the development of citizen participation, with special attention to the process of the social and economic development of China's great Northwest centered in the five major provinces of Shanxi, Xingjiang, Guanshu, Ningxia, Qinghai.

The conferences will seek to contribute to the formation of positive suggestions for policy on these issues. They will provide also training for the local leadership and MPS teaching with regard to ways in which public administrators can engage citizen participation in relation to development. Hence they will seek to summarize field experience, to broaden the vision for the development of ethics in public administration, and to train related leadership. Support for this program is offered by The Chinese National MPA Education Steering Committee and Ford-Beijing, with coordination by the RVP.

· Fall Seminars

Islamic Seminar: [Faith and Reason: Living Islam Faithfully in Our Changing Times \(II\)](#)

The RVP has invited 14 Islamic scholars to an intensive month long seminar in order jointly to explore "Faith and Reason: Living Islam Faithfully in Our Changing Times". August 24-September, 18, 2009.

Theme: The letter entitled "[A Common Word](#)" by 138 leading Islamic religious leaders calls for open, rigorous and creative work to bring the insights and inspiration of faith to bear upon the dynamics of our world as we enter the new reality of intense global interchange. Prominent issues here are: (1) the philosophical and spiritual foundations of human dignity and mutual respect embedded in faiths and cultural traditions, and (2) the nature of the relation of this heritage to contemporary change. For this it is important to think through how diverse religious perspectives can engage one another and the secular mind so that faith can be lived more fully, rather than attenuated, in the modern context. A more complete description of the theme of this seminar and its provisions can be found at <http://www.crvp.org/seminar/seminar-2009.htm>.

Seminar on: [The Sacred and the Secular: Complementary and/or Conflictual \(II\)](#)

The RVP annual five week Fall Seminar in 2009 will be held September 28-October 16, 2009, on living cultural and religious heritages in the context recently described by Charles Taylor in his *A Secular Age*.

Theme: The work of Professor Taylor has recounted how from a time in which it was difficult not to believe the converse has become true. Sociological surveys reflect this to be an age marked by an existential search for identity and meaning rather than by commitment to specific religious visions or communities. For philosophy this reopens in contemporary terms the deepest issues of immanent and transcendent values and aspirations for the socio-political and the religious orders.

Special attention will be devoted to appreciating both the unique differences and the relatedness of the world's religious cultures, their relation to the achievement of secular goals, and parallel to this, the positive contribution of secular concerns for living religion fully in this world. The search is for a paradigm that enables mutual understanding and communication in which the many peoples and cultures, both sacred and secular, can be related in a positive manner as complementary.

This effort will be extended during the following 18 months by three research teams studying in detail aspects of the issue for personal growth, political life, and relations between cultures and civilizations in our global age.

A description of the theme of this seminar and its provisions can be found at <http://www.crvp.org/seminar/seminar-2009-fall.htm>.

Both seminars have received support from the Raskob Family Foundation.

For more information on the works, projects and publications of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP), please visit website at www.crvp.org.