CALL FOR PAPERS
Metaphysical Society of America
66th Annual Meeting
University of Georgia, Athens, GA
April 17-19, 2015

Self-Determination and Metaphysics

From the beginnings of philosophical investigation, there has been widespread recognition that reason must be autonomous to think the truth and that philosophy must be the freest of all disciplines. Nonetheless, conceiving self-determination has proven to be a forbidding task, whose very possibility has been called into question. Socrates in Plato’s Republic lamented the apparent impossibility and unintelligibility of self-rule, whereas Kant would later declare freedom to be unknowable by speculative reason. Can self-determination be and be conceived? And if so, what categories must be employed for its specification and what role should self-determination play in metaphysics? Papers are invited that tackle these and other central problems concerning the being and conceivability of self-determination.

Five hundred word abstracts prepared for blind review should be submitted (preferably as e mail attachments) by July 1, 2014 to: Richard Dien Winfield (Department of Philosophy, 103 Peabody Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-1627; winfield@uga.edu). Those whose abstracts are selected by the Program Committee must submit completed papers by December 31, 2014. Further information on the conference will be made available at www.metaphysicalsociety.org.

Aristotle Prize: Papers submitted by persons who have not yet earned a PhD or who have received the PhD within five years of the submission date will be considered for the Aristotle Prize, if the Program Committee is made aware of their eligibility. The prize carries a cash award of $500, inclusion in the program, and assistance with costs associated with attending the meeting. Please encourage graduate students and junior colleagues to consider entering the competition. Papers submitted for the Aristotle Prize must be complete by September 1, 2014.

Travel Grants: Thanks to the generous support of members of the Metaphysical Society and a grant from the Hocking-Cabot Fund for Systematic Philosophy, we are pleased to offer travel grants to graduate students whose papers are selected for the program for our annual meeting. More information and an application can be found on the Society’s website.