“The Metaphysics of Contingency: East and West”

Thursday March 30

4:00-7:00 PM Registration Table Open in 3rd Floor Foyer The Courtyard by Marriott Boston-Cambridge, 777 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA

4:00-6:00 PM Ballroom B, Courtyard by Marriott

   Society for the Study of Process Philosophies (all MSA members welcome)
   Chair: George R. Lucas, Jr. (U.S. Naval Academy, Emeritus)

   Dan Dombrowski (Seattle University) “Contingent Creativity as Necessary"
   Commentator: Brian Henning (Gonzaga University)

6:00-8:00 PM Welcoming Reception for Attendees
Ballroom A The Courtyard by Marriott

Friday March 31 All Meetings Held in Beren Hall at Harvard Hillel, 52 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA

8:15-9:30 AM Registration Table Open in Foyer of Hillel

9:00 AM Welcome by Edward J. Hall, Chair, Department of Philosophy, Harvard Univ

9:10 AM Introduction to Keynote Speaker by Nancy Frankenberry, MSA President

9:15 AM Opening Keynote Address: Rebecca Newberger Goldstein, NYU
   “Banishing Contingency: Einstein’s God and Spinoza’s Necessity”

10:30 AM Coffee Break

10:45 AM Plenary Session: Aristotle Prize Lecture

   Chair and Commentator: Vincent Colapietro (Pennsylvania State University)
Lisa Landoe Hedrick (University of Chicago Divinity School)  
“Processing Contingency with Theology: A Defense of Whitehead's Pragmatism”

12:00-1:30 Lunch (in Cambridge on your own)

1:45  **Plenary Session: Fundamental Metaphysical Inquiry**

*Chair and Commentator:* William Desmond (Villanova University and Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

Robert Neville (Boston University) “Cosmological and Ontological Contingency”


3:15  **Plenary Session: Presidential Address**

Introduction by Richard Velkley (Tulane University; Vice-President, MSA)

Nancy Frankenberry (Dartmouth College, Emeritus; President, MSA)  
“Consenting to Contingency After Rorty and Nagarjuna”

4:30  Harvard-Hillel to close at sundown

6:00-7:00 Presidential Reception (**Waterfront Ballroom Foyer**, The Courtyard by Marriott Cambridge)

7:00-9:30 Banquet Dinner (**Waterfront Ballroom**, The Courtyard by Marriott Cambridge)

**Saturday April 1 All Meetings Held at The Courtyard by Marriott Cambridge**

8:00-8:55 Executive Board Meeting Ballroom B

8:00-9:00 Registration Table Open 3rd Floor Foyer

9:00  **Plenary Session: Contingency in Comparative Perspective: East-West I**

*Ballroom A*

*Chair and Commentator:* George Lucas (Distinguished Chair of Ethics Emeritus, US Naval Academy)

May Sim (College of the Holy Cross), "Rethinking Contingency with Plato and Zhuangzi"

Timothy Eastman (Plasmas International, Silver Spring, MD), Farzad Mahootian (New York University), Guoxiang Peng (Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China)  
“Contingency, Necessity and *Potentia*, East and West”
10:30 Coffee Break (3rd Floor Foyer)

10:45 Concurrent Sessions: Contingency in Comparative Perspective: East-West II

Chair: Richard D. Winfield (University of Georgia)

Ballroom A


Chair and Commentator: Jonathan Sanford (University of Dallas)

Ballroom B


12:15 Lunch (in Boston/Cambridge on your own)

2:00 Concurrent Sessions: Contingency in Historical Perspective I

Chair and Commentator: Margarita Fenn (Boston College)

Ballroom A


Chair and Commentator: Tyler Tritten (Gonzaga University)

Ballroom B


3:30 Coffee Break (3rd Floor Foyer)
3:45 Plenary Session: Contingency in Historical Perspective II
Ballroom A

Chair and Commentator: Eric v.d. Luft (Gegensatz Press)


2. Jon Burmeister (Assumption College/Boston College), “What is Left to Contingency: Hegel’s Philosophical Minimalism”

5:15 Annual Business Meeting (Announcements, Future Plans, 2018 Atlanta) followed by meeting of the President’s Council (present and past Presidents of the Society)
Ballroom A

6:00 Dinner on your own

Sunday April 2 All Meetings Held at The Courtyard by Marriott Cambridge

9:00 Plenary Session: Contingency in Contemporary Perspective I
Ballroom A

Chair and Commentator: Robert Neville (Boston University)


10:30 Coffee Break (3rd Floor Foyer)

10:45 Concurrent Sessions: Contingency in Contemporary Perspective II

Chair and Commentator: Jessica Wahman (Cornell University)
Ballroom A

1. Michele Mahoney (Memorial University of Newfoundland), “Contingency and Freedom in Peirce’s Logic of Continuity”

2. Edward Papa (Sacred Heart), “The Sense of Historical Contingency in Gadamer’s Philosophical Hermeneutics”

Chair and Commentator: Joseph Carter (University of Georgia)
Ballroom B
| 1. C. Wesley DeMarco (Clark University), "The Touch of Contingency: How Changing My Mind Can Change Your Being" |
| 2. Tyler Tritten (Gonzaga University), “Hume, Boutroux, and the Demise of the Principle of ‘Like Cause Like’ |

12:15 Meeting Adjourns