Free to Universalize or Bound by Culture? Philosophy in a Multicultural Context

October 20, 2012; Humanities 1, room 210; University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)

Conference Organizers: Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther ; Institute for Humanities Research, UCSC

Website
http://philosophy.ucsc.edu/news-events/news/multiculturalphilosophy.html

Funding: IHR; Philosophy Department; College 8; Cowell College; Merrill College; Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (all UCSC); Impact Media Group

10:00-10:15   Welcome Remarks: UCSC Humanities Dean William Ladusaw

10:15-10:45   Keynote: Helen Longino (Stanford)

10:45-11:30   Panel 1: Analytic Philosophy: universalizing island unto itself, agora of free inquiry, culturally-conditioned product, or…?
         Panel Leader: Helen Longino
         Daniel Guevara (UCSC)
         Carlos Montemayor (SFSU)

11:30-11:40   Break

11:40-12:40   Panel 2: Comparative Philosophy
         Panel Leader: Bo Mou (SJSU)
         Justin Tiwald (SFSU)
         Manuel Vargas (USF)

12:40-2:00   Lunch

2:00-3:00   Panel 3: Philosophy across the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences
         Panel Leader: Vanita Seth (UCSC)
         Scott Lokey (UCSC)
         Ronald Sundstrom (USF)

3:00-3:10   Break

3:10-4:10   Panel 4: Philosophy in Society
         Panel Leader: Mohammad Azadpur (SFSU)
         Amir Najmi (Google)
         Ásta Sveinsdóttir (SFSU)

4.10-4.20   Closing Remarks: Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther (UCSC)

4:20-5:20   Open Discussion

5:20-6:00   Reception

Conference Aims

This public conference investigates the relation between philosophy and its multicultural context. Are there immutable questions and universal answers regarding knowledge, values, and reality, or is philosophical inquiry bound by history, geography, and culture? Should the philosopher be responsible to the public? Four panels of local intellectuals from Google, San Francisco State University, San José State University, Stanford, UC Santa Cruz, and University of San Francisco wish to engage with a diverse audience.