

Indiana Philosophical Association
Spring Meeting 14 April
2007 at Indiana
University
Memorial Union Building
Maple Room

Program

- 9:30** Coffee
- 10:00** *Moral Realism and Moral Pluralism*
Jerry Green, Ohio University
Commentator: David Diener, Indiana University
- 11:00** *Physicalism Refuted*
Larry Colter, University of Evansville
Commentator: Stuart Glennan, Butler University
- 12:00** Lunch
- 1:30** Business Meeting
- 2:00** *A Dilemma for Epistemology the Wright Way*
Chris Tucker, Purdue University
Commentator: Joshua Alexander, Indiana University
- 3:00** *Missing Persons*
Andrew Naylor, University of Indiana, South Bend
Commentator: David Woodruff, Huntington University

Abstracts of Papers

"Moral Pluralism and Moral Realism" Jerry Green, Ohio University

In this paper I suggest a possible problem in the metaethical theory proposed in Railton's "Moral Realism," Railton argues, here and elsewhere, that moral goods are reliant, at least in part, on an idealized social point of view and on the things which constitute our well-being. A problem occurs, I suggest, if we consider two groups of people with divergent standards of well-being and differing societal structures. It is unclear what to make of a situation in which there are two apparent sets of moral value. I address four possible responses, arguing that all four responses fail, I question further whether the impasse we reach at this point is a fault of Railton's theory or a flaw in our moral intuitions.

"Physicalism Refuted" Larry Colter, University of Evansville

The standard Anglo-American ontology, especially in the philosophy of mind, is *Monistic Materialism*, the view that everything that exists or is causally active in our world is material or physical, *i.e.*, is made up exclusively of the stuff that a finished physics would posit. But this view cannot be correct. For there can be shown to be a variety of things that exist and are causally active in our world, even though they are not wholly material in the sense explained above or, in some cases, physical at all. In the paper I argue for this position and give a number of examples of the kinds of thing I have just mentioned.

"A Dilemma for Epistemology the Wright Way" Chris Tucker, Purdue University

For over 20 years, Crispin Wright has been developing a sophisticated epistemology. In this paper, I argue that the latest version of this epistemology suffers from the "problem of vanishing warrant." One feature of this problem is that believing the complete truth about epistemology causes one to lose whatever perceptual justification that she previously had. I then argue that the attempt to avoid this problem forces Wright into an uncomfortable dilemma: either he abandons his only motivation for a central feature of his epistemology or he cannot respond to the problem of vanishing warrant.

"Missing Persons" Andrew Naylor, Indiana University, South Bend

This paper offers a partial defense of a biological continuity theory of what it is for you and me, and others like us, to continue to be who we are. It does so by revealing an area of grave difficulty in a main competing theory, the psychological continuity theory (PCT). The difficulty is brought out by considering three examples—an example of psychological "deprogramming" and "reprogramming" (Bernard Williams), a Star Trek-type "teleportation" example (Gary Fuller), and a counterexample to a key element of Fuller's PCT—thereby showing how certain versions of the PCT lose track of persons.

Driving Directions to Memorial Union Building, Indiana University

From North of Bloomington:

Take 37 South into Bloomington. Take IN-BR-37/College Ave. toward North Walnut Street. Continue on N. Walnut Street. Continue on N. College Ave. Turn left at W- 7th St; either park your car in the pay parking lot immediately beside the Memorial Union Building, or drive to the next (unnamed) street leading to the right and park for free in the lot there

From South of Bloomington:

Take 37 North. Turn right at S Old IN-37. Continue on S. Walnut St. Turn right at E. 7th Street; either park your car in the pay parking lot immediately beside the Memorial Union Building, or drive to the next (unnamed) street leading to the right and park for free in the lot there.

From West of Bloomington:

Take 46 east- Turn right at N. College Ave. Turn right to stay on N. College Ave. Turn left at W. 7th Street; either park your car in the pay parking lot immediately beside the Memorial Union Building, or drive to the next (unnamed) street leading to the right and park for free in the lot there.

For more accurate directions visit: http://www.imu.Indiana.edu/about_the_union/direct_park.shtml

This web-site contains a link to that provides directions from anywhere to the Indiana Memorial Union, and contains other details of interest about parking.