Fall 2015

Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series

University of Maine Department of Philosophy

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Name
Roger J.H. King

Address
Department of Philosophy, The Maples, University of Maine

Email
Roger.King@umit.maine.edu

Administrative Unit
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Name of Administrator approving the Project (approval indicates awareness of the commitments outlined in this grant proposal)
Prof. Jessica Miller, Chair, Dept of Philosophy

Project Title
Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series

Date(s) of Event

List of individuals or groups directly involved in the project, such as speakers/performers, for which you are requesting honoraria:

John Waterman, Colby College 10/29/15
George Miller, UMaine Farmington 1/28/16
Anthony Weston, Elon College 4/13-16/16
Shannon Hoff, Memorial University of Newfoundland 2/28/16

Project Abstract
The Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series is central to the intellectual life of the Department, and exposes students and other attendees to discussions of different philosophical topics and viewpoints. Two of the speakers this year will address environmental themes. All six speakers will address an audience of students, faculty, and members of the public. The Visiting Scholar will also address the capstone course for majors and provide feedback to the host on his work.

Funding is requested to support 5 of the 6 speakers who are scheduled to speak in the Colloquium Series. Support for the 6th speaker is not requested because he is internal to the Department. Honoraria are requested for four speakers. One speaker is the annual Visiting Scholar whose travel and honorarium are paid for by the Philosophy Department.

Program Description
The Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series brings philosophers to campus to present on different philosophical topics. Philosophy students, faculty from various departments, and community members are welcome to attend. We will have six talks, followed by discussion. One of the speakers is the annual Visiting Scholar. This individual has more extensive responsibilities. In addition to his public lecture, he will meet with...
students in the Philosophy Department's capstone course. He will also read and provide feedback on work given to him in advance by me, the person in charge of organizing this year's series. The Visiting Scholar also spends more time on campus (three days usually) and there are opportunities for informal meetings and conversations with other interested parties. An important part of the mission of the Visiting Scholar position is to provide one faculty member each year with an opportunity to engage with and receive professional guidance from a senior peer.

Audience

The audience for each speaker can be expected to vary somewhat depending on topic and other factors. However, past experience suggests that our minimum size would be something like 20-25, with the maximum being considerably larger. I would anticipate that the Visiting Scholar, discussing issues related to the environment, would bring a larger audience.

The primary audience for these speakers is likely to be Philosophy majors and minors, along with other students taking Philosophy classes. In addition, Department faculty attend, as do some faculty members from other departments and members of the public.

Publicity

Events will be publicized in several ways. The Department has an extensive email list of contacts who have expressed interest in Department events in the past. In addition, events will be posted on a variety of First Class sites, as well as through the CLAS calendar. Some paper posters will be posted on campus as well.

Amount requested from CADLS

$1,679.00

Other funding request

The Department of Philosophy has committed $1,800.00. This will cover the Visiting Scholar's honorarium and meals. The Visiting Scholar is requested to pay for their travel expenses out of the Honorarium amount.

If the CADLS Committee cannot award at the level you request, which items in your budget would have highest priority for these funds?

With the exception of a request to support the cost of meals for the three day visit of the Visiting Scholar, requested funds will be paid as honoraria. If CADLS funds are cut, then we will have to cut one or more of the speakers.

Budget Proposal Form must be attached

- Philosophy-Budge-Proposal-Form.xlsx
## Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund
### Budget Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant/Organization:</th>
<th>Department of Philosophy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Officer:</td>
<td>Roger J.H. King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Title:</td>
<td>Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Date:</td>
<td>multiple dates 2015-2016</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Program Budget:</th>
<th>$3,479.00</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Committed by Applicant Organization:</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding Requested from other funding sources (please list below)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program revenues (if applicable)</th>
<th>n/a</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Requested from CA/DLS Committee:</td>
<td>$1,679.00 *</td>
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</table>

*Please note requests may not exceed 50% of the total program expenses

*Please see guidelines for budget exclusion details.*
# Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund

**Budget Detail**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honoraria/Services (list individuals below)</th>
<th>CA/DLS Request</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Keith Peterson</strong></td>
<td>$350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>John Waterman</strong></td>
<td>$350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>George Miller</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Shannon Hoff</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anthony Weston</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses** $1,679.00 * $1,800.00

*Please see guidelines for budget exclusion details.*
*Please see guidelines for budget exclusion details.*
Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund

Budget Form

Other funds

*Please see guidelines for budget exclusion details.*
Philosophy 2015-2016 Colloquium Series

Thursday, October 29th at 4:00pm
The Maples, Room 10, Weisz Room
University of Maine

John Waterman
Visiting Assistant Professor
Philosophy Department
Colby College

“Skepticism, Self-doubt, and Experimental Philosophy”

Abstract:

Can we study skeptical doubts scientifically? It would seem we have to say "no", since to say anything else would beg the question against the skeptic. Nevertheless, I'll argue that taking an empirical approach to understanding skeptical arguments can be very illuminating, and can help us understand skepticism in everyday life, from climate skepticism to the anti-vaxxer movement. In the course of the talk, I'll discuss the new field of experimental philosophy, and its potential as a new tool for exploring philosophical questions.

All programs in the 2015-2016 Philosophy Colloquium are free and open to the University of Maine community and the public. For more information, contact Roger King, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04469. Phone: 581-3862 or email: roger.king@umit.maine.edu.

This event is sponsored by the University of Maine's Department of Philosophy and is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity / affirmative action institution.
Fwd: Philosophy Department Report
1 message

Gretchen Faulkner <Gretchen_Faulkner@umit.maine.edu>  Mon, Nov 2, 2015 at 11:57 AM
To: Heidi Carlow <Heidi_Carlow@umit.maine.edu>, brittany.brackett@maine.edu

--- Original Message ---

To the members of the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund committee:

In September, I submitted an application on behalf of the Philosophy Department seeking support for the Department's annual colloquium series. The committee only awarded the Department $350 to support the first speaker in the proposed series. I have decided to curtail the series for this year and will not be re-applying for further support at this time.

We have just had the first talk of the series and so I am filing this final report in accordance with the committee's requirements. We will continue to note on our publicity that the committee provided partial support for the series as a whole.

The first talk was by John Waterman of Colby College. His talk was entitled: "Skepticism, Self-doubt, and Experimental Philosophy." He spoke for an hour and then took questions for another 30 minutes. The topic was relevant to students and faculty interested in philosophy in part because it discussed and exemplified a recent development in the field. Waterman's discussion of scepticism both addressed traditional concerns stemming from Descartes' method of doubt in the Meditations, and also recent empirical research in cognitive science about how doubt is created in different contexts. Waterman discussed his own experimental research on this topic as well.

The audience for the talk was small; there were 4 faculty members and 8 philosophy majors in attendance.

Information on the talk was published by the CLAS Weekly that publishes an online calendar of College events each week. It was also publicized through the Department's email contact list, the Philosophy Department's UMaine website, the Department's First Class page, the Philosophy First Class folder, and paper posters.

The Department appreciates the $350 supporting the first talk.

Sincerely yours,

Roger J.H. King
Department of Philosophy
Colloquium coordinator, 2015-2016