

**AMINTAPHIL: AMERICAN SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION FOR PHILOSOPHY OF LAW AND SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY**

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**NEWSLETTER #2, 2005 - 06**

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**2006 CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 2 – 5 ST. LOUIS MISSOURI  
TOPIC: COERCION, JUSTICE AND DEMOCRACY**

The conference will be on the Washington University Campus. Paper Deadlines are as follows:

**Principal Papers: Sept. 1**  
**Commentaries: Oct. 10**

Details on hotel reservations, etc. will be in the next newsletter, to be sent in March. Sub-Topics on the general theme can be found on our web page (see below). As a guideline, principal papers should be no longer than 5000 words (about 20 pages) and commentaries no longer than 2500 words (about ten pages). There is no penalty for shorter papers and commentaries.

The Local organizers are Larry May, Marilyn Friedman, and Hamner Hill. The Program Committee is led by David Reidy.

**WEB PAGE**

We have a public AMINTAPHIL web page at  
<http://www.philosophy.utah.edu/AMINTAPHIL/>.

Please have a look. It is full of useful information about AMINTAPHIL and the IVR, and news of all sorts. It contains an application form for new members and links to the newsletters.

There will be a pass-worded part of the web pages for members to post and gain access to conference papers. Details on

that will be available in the next newsletter.

**AMINTAPHIL VOLUMES**

*Universal Human Rights: Moral Order in a Divided World*, edited by David Reidy and Tim Sellers, has been published by Rowman and Littlefield. This is the volume that came out of our 2002 meeting on Human Rights in Washington, D. C. A flyer for the volume is included with the mailed version of this newsletter. It may be ordered online for a 15% discount at [www.rowmanlittlefield.com](http://www.rowmanlittlefield.com).

The Publication of the volume from our 2004 meeting is in process. It is entitled Intervention, Terrorism, and Torture: Contemporary Challenges to Just War Theory. The editor is Steven Lee, Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

## CONFERENCE PROCEDURES

This section is mainly for new members, although continuing members may appreciate the reminders.

AMINTAPHIL is run differently from many other conferences. All those who attend are expected to write either a principal paper on the conference topic or a commentary on one or more of the principal papers. All papers and commentaries are circulated in advance. They are grouped by topic into specific sessions and these sessions are then devoted to discussion of the papers and commentaries. Each session has a moderator, who will either give a very short reminder of the main point of each paper or allow the speakers to do so. Once the moderator has introduced the main ideas, discussion begins. The entire group meets for each session, i.e. each sessions is a plenary session and there are no concurrent sessions. Papers are not subjected to a review process prior to the conference. This means that each paper is fair game for discussion and criticism.

To make this work there are certain norms or conventions for participants, as follows:

i) As noted above, everyone who attends the meeting is expected to have written a principal paper or commentary

and have circulated it in advance. This means that everyone who attends has given some serious thought to the topics and this improves discussion. It also means that everyone has something to say, so there is lively and widespread talk (sometimes difficult to stop!).

No one who shows up without a paper will be sent away, criticized, or ridiculed. It's a norm, not a requirement. [AMINTAPHIL has no penal code!] Nothing is lost if a few people (with good reasons, no doubt) show up without a paper. But it would be a loss if many did so.

Local organizers are generally considered exempt from this norm (they have other work to do).

ii) There are deadlines for papers and commentaries to be circulated. These are typically honored more in the breach than in fact (not unusual for academics). No papers or commentaries are rejected if late (or very short). Some papers even show up (with the participant) on the day of the meeting and are put out on a table for people to pick up.

Despite this, deadlines are important. They give people the opportunity to read the papers before the conference, which is, after all the point of our procedures. So late papers cause problems. They may not get read, they may not get discussed, they may not even get put on the program. So moral and prudential considerations point to meeting the deadline.

iii) Participants are expected to attend all or most of the conference. Themes emerge over the course of the program and continuity of participation makes

this happen. Of course some will have to arrive late or leave early because of schedule considerations, and many will miss a session because they need a break, get ill, or simply must see the local art museum. But continuity of presence is the norm; showing up, as people sometimes do at other meetings, just for one's own session, is definitely not on the agenda.

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, papers and commentaries are circulated electronically through the web page.

Finally, there is usually a reception hosted by the sponsoring institution at or near the beginning of the conference. There is a banquet near the end in which the current president gives a rather brief (typically light-hearted) speech. We end with a business meeting and a summary of our meeting by a group of participants who have agreed to be rapporteurs for each session. Selected papers from each conference are published in an AMINTAPHIL volume. We currently have a contract with Springer Science and Business Media B.V. for publication of our next five volumes.

This section has been primarily meant as a succinct summary for new members. I repeat that these are norms, and no one should be discouraged from attending if they fail to meet one or more of them. As in many things, general adherence to norms is all that is needed; free-riders can be tolerated and (my opinion) we are all entitled to be a free-rider once in awhile.

## IVR

The next meeting of the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (IVR) will be in Krakow, Poland from August 1 – 7, 2007. The topic is Law and Legal Cultures in the Twenty First Century. It will be held at Jagiellonian University which numbers Copernicus and Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II) among its graduates.

I regret to inform you of the death of Aleksander Peczenik, the long-term President of the IVR. Many AMINTAPHIL members knew him well and admired him greatly. Here are some excerpts from the obituary from the most recent IVR Newsletter. The complete version can be found at <http://ivr2003.net/bologna/newsletters/35.pdf>.

“On the morning of September 19, 2005, Aleksander Peczenik died in Lund, Sweden. The community of legal theorists and philosophers of law has lost an outstanding scholar, and those of us who were privileged to count him as our friend have lost an extraordinary human being.

“Aleksander Peczenik was born on November 16, 1937, in Kraków, Poland. In 1955, he took up studies in law at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków....[At] 29 years of age, he became professor at the Institute for Methodology of Law, in Katowice, then a branch of the University of Kraków. Three years later, in 1969, he left Poland.... From 1969 to 1975, he was Assistant Professor for Philosophy of Law in Stockholm...[In] 1975, he commenced work as a Senior Lecturer at

the Law Faculty in Lund...

“After his retirement in Sweden, Aleksander Peczenik embarked on a new career in his homeland. He became Professor of Legal Argumentation and Rhetoric at the Szczecin University in Poland. This new activity, which, we all expected, would culminate in 2007 at the 23rd IVR World Congress, to be held under his presidency in Kraków, the city of his biographical and intellectual origins, was interrupted by his sudden death....He was Vice- President of the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (IVR), and, from 2003 until his death, its President. He not only lent his organizational talents and inspiring ideas to the IVR, but was Managing Editor of the ‘Law and Philosophy Library’ published by Kluwer, Co-Editor of Associations, and a member of the Editorial Committee of the Archives for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy and of Ratio Juris.”

Burt Leiser writes: “Alek Peczenik was a thoughtful, thorough thinker, a careful philosopher of law, and a rather courtly gentleman, as many of our European colleagues tend to be. There was an old-world sense of chivalry about him...At the same time, however, he was thoroughly modern, completely at home with computers, for example, up on the latest Internet jargon, and happy to deal with it. And he was ambitious and tireless in his efforts to preserve the international reputation of IVR and to enhance it. The world congress that he ran in Lund was an outstanding success, as was the conference he ran a few years before in connection with an EC meeting....

“He was adept at translating his ideas into reality, as evidenced by the new. IVR Online Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Law, which he created and implemented in record time. It became available to the public just a few months ago, and is rapidly expanding with new articles constantly being added to those that appeared initially.

“He had a wonderful, gentle sense of humor that was particularly helpful when he was chairing meetings. He was unfailingly polite, never putting anyone down, always finding a delicate way in which to disagree--so gentle, in fact, that it was often difficult to know whether he actually disagreed or not--but in any event, under his leadership, it was easy to reach workable policy decisions and to act upon them....His untimely death leaves an enormous gap in the IVR's leadership, and many of us grief-stricken by the loss of a beloved friend.”

### **IVR DIVERSITY FUND**

There are very few representatives of third world and developing countries at IVR congresses and very few sections in those countries. In our last newsletter, we announced a fund to enhance representation from such countries. The response has been underwhelming.

Larry May and I would like to ask you again to consider a contribution to help third world members attend IVR congresses and begin sections. You can do so by sending a check to me at the address listed in the letterhead, made out to AMINTAPHIL. The funds raised are kept in an account separate from the regular AMINTAPHIL account. We will keep the fund in AMINTAPHIL until the fund is healthy. We will then make

arrangements with the IVR to use these resources to the best effect.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Our last newsletter included a call for you to encourage new members, especially your younger colleagues in appropriate fields, to join AMINTAPHIL. Please keep this in mind. An application form is easily accessible through the web page.

## **RECENT MEMBER PUBLICATIONS**

Here are recent and forthcoming publications by AMINAPHIL members:

Virginia Held, The Ethics of Care: Personal, Political and Global, Oxford University Press,, 2005

Lawrence Houlgate, Children's Rights, State Intervention, Custody and Divorce: Contradictions in Ethics and Family Law, The Edwin Mellen Press, Lewiston, NY, 2005

Larry's May, Crimes Against Humanity: A Normative Account, Cambridge University Press, 2005

Carol Gould, Globalizing Rights, Cambridge University Press, 2004.

David Reidy and Rex Martin, Rawls's Law of Peoples: A Realistic Utopia?, Blackwell, to be published, March, 2006.

David Reidy, On The Philosophy of Law, Wadsworth, to be published, March, 2006.

If you have a book you would like to be

mentioned in the next newsletter please contact me at

[Bruce.Landesman@mail.hum.utah.edu](mailto:Bruce.Landesman@mail.hum.utah.edu).

There is a limited space for book flyers/brochures in the mailed version.

## **CONFERENCE SUBTOPICS**

The program outline and list of sub-topics for the conference in St. Louis is available on the web page and in the September newsletter (downloadable from the web-page). Please contact me if you have any problem gaining access to the sub-topics.