

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

PRESIDENT: Carol Gould, Philosophy, Political Science, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: BRUCE LANDESMAN, Philosophy, University of Utah,
Address: University of Utah, Philosophy, 260 Central Campus Dr Rm 341, Salt Lake City, UT
84112-9156
Email: Bruce.Landesman@philosophy.utah.edu Phone: 801 581-8361 Fax: 801 585-5195
Web Page: <http://www.philosophy.utah.edu/AMINTAPHIL/>

NEWSLETTER #1, 2007 - 08

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This brief newsletter covers three items: our next meeting, dues for the current year, and the IVR. A longer newsletter will be forthcoming in the near future.

I. 2008 AMINTAPHIL MEETING

Our next meeting will be at Villanova University from Thursday, September 25 to Sunday, September 28, 2008. The topic is **Free Speech in a Diverse World**.

Villanova University is just outside Philadelphia. The Conference hotel is the Radnor Hotel, which is less than a mile from campus. The hotel web site is <http://radnorhotel.com/>. Single rooms are \$159/night and double rooms are \$169/night. When you make reservations, ask for the AMINTAPHIL rate. More information about local arrangements and about directions in the hotel will be forthcoming.

Our host and local arrangements person for the meeting is Sally Scholz of Villanova University. The Program Committee Chair is Deirdre Golash. The rest of the Program Committee will be selected soon and will put together a detailed list of sub-topics

Remember that those who attend are expected to submit either a principal paper or a commentary on one or more principal papers. Deadlines and length guidelines for the papers and commentaries will be announced soon.

A suggestion: This topic was chosen after a close vote. Some may feel less expert on this topic than others and reluctant to write a principal paper. If you fall into this category, please consider attending and writing a commentary.

II. Dues for 2007 – 08

It is now time to pay dues for the current year. Dues are \$30 per year. Dues paying members receive the volumes that come out of AMINTAPHIL conferences at no extra charge.

We are very close to have a set-up so people can pay dues by credit card. I expect this to be fully operation within a week or two.

For now you can either wait and pay by credit card or, as before, send a check made out to AMINTAPHI to the following address:

Bruce Landesman
AMINTAPHIL
University of Utah
Philosophy
260 Central Campus Dr, Rm 341
Salt Lake City, UT 84112-9156

The next newsletter will arrive as soon as information about paying by credit card is available. It will also include news of various sorts. Please feel free to send me any information you would like included in the newsletter

III. IVR, 2007 and 2009

A good number of AMINTAPHIL members attended the IVR World Congress in Krakow in August, 2007. It was an enjoyable conference in an enchanting city.

I want to single out one of our members for special praise. Helga Varden, a relatively new member of AMINTAPHIL, was the recipient of the IVR Prize Winning Paper. She delivered her paper, “Diversity and Unity—an Attempt at Drawing a Justifiable Line” to a plenary session on the final day. Helga is a member of the Philosophy Department at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. On behalf of all our members, I want to congratulate Helga for her prize-winning work.

I also want to note two other members who delivered plenary addresses. Fred Schauer and Larry May. Fred’s address was entitled “Is there a Concept of Law?” Larry spoke on “Genocide, Criminal Trials, and Reconciliation”. Burt Leiser moderated Larry’s session. Burt’s remarks and Larry’s address were especially appropriate, given the closeness of Krakow to Auschwitz.

The IVR arranged an excursion to Auschwitz. This was the only ‘downer’ of Krakow conference, but we all expected that. Those of who went on the excursion saw our visit as an act of piety, honoring those whose lives were so cruelly taken there. There was generally agreement that the tours given were honest, full of information, and pulled no punches. They were conducted with the seriousness and grace required by the events remembered there.

The next IVR conference will occur in the summer of 2009 in Beijing, China. I’ll provide more information about the conference as I receive it.