

# **Committee on the Status of Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies**

## **Report to the Executive Board 2007-2008**

**Submitted by Chang-Seong Hong**

This year, the committee sponsored four sessions proposed by three committee members and one guest organizer at the three divisional meetings. Also, Amy Olberding edited the *Fall 2008 Newsletter* on Chinese Philosophy and its status in the American philosophical society with 11 articles contributed.

It has been noticed that the committee membership does not have a representative in Indian Philosophy. Nominations of philosophers in Indian tradition for the membership need to be continuously encouraged.

### ***Committee membership for 2007-2008:***

Sin yee Chan (E), Ruth Chang (2010), Chang-Seong Hong (C, Chair), Amy Olberding (C), Falguni A. Sheth (E), Xiaomei Yang (E), Jinmei Yuan (2010)

### ***Sessions sponsored by the committee***

#### **1. Eastern Division Meetings 2007**

Topic: Grounds for Ethical Norms in Chinese Thought  
Speakers: Chad Hansen (University of Hong Kong),  
"The Foundations of the Path of Virtue"  
Manyul Im (Fairfield University)  
"Particularism, Intuitionism and Mencius"  
May Sim (College of the Holy Cross)  
"Knowledge of the First Principles of Virtue in Zhuxi and Aristotle"  
Commentator: Yang Xiao (Kenyon College)

Topic: Roundtable: Asian-American Feminist Philosophers in Conversation with  
Feminist Philosophers across the Field: Commonalities, Differences, Solidarities?  
Chair: Falguni A. Sheth (University of California–Berkeley/Hampshire College)  
Speakers: Namita Goswami (DePaul University)  
Falguni A. Sheth (University of California–Berkeley/Hampshire College)  
Jennifer L. Vest (University of Central Florida)  
Mariana Ortega (John Carroll University)

#### **2. Pacific Division Meetings 2008**

Topic: Author-Meets-Critics: David Wong, Natural Moralities: A Defense of Pluralistic  
Relativism

Chair: Yang Xiao (Kenyon College)  
Commentators: Lawrence Blum (University of Massachusetts–Boston)  
Chad Hansen (University of Hong Kong)  
Yong Huang (Kutztown University of Pennsylvania)  
Author: David Wong (Duke University)

### **3. Central Division Meetings 2008**

Topic: Ethics and Classical Chinese Philosophy  
Chair: Susan Blake (Indiana University)  
Speakers: Yang Xiao (Kenyon College)  
“Practical Wisdom as Moral Heuristics in Early Chinese Philosophy”  
Steven F. Geisz (University of Tampa)  
“Deliberation, Ritual, and Equality”  
Brian J. Bruya (Eastern Michigan University)  
“Between Reason and Reflex: Elements of a Nondeliberative Ethics”  
Tongdong Bai (Xavier University)  
“A Defense of a Decent (Confucian) People: A Criticism of Rawls’s Law of Peoples”

### ***Fall 2008 Newsletter***

#### **Part I: Perspective from the Field**

Stephen C. Angle, “Does Michigan Matter?”  
Roger T. Ames, “A State-of-the-Art Reflection on Chinese Philosophy”  
Bryan W. Van Norden, “Three Questions about the Crisis in Chinese Philosophy”  
Justin Tiwald, “A Case for Chinese Philosophy”  
Manyul Im, “Taking Stock: A State-of-the-Field Impression”  
Amy Olberding, “Professor Donald Munro on the State of Chinese Philosophy”  
David B. Wong, “The State of Chinese Philosophy in the U.S.”

#### **Part II: Perspectives from Hiring Departments**

Hugh Benson, “One Perspective on Chinese Philosophy in a Ph.D. Program”  
Leslie P. Francis, “I Cannot Imagine Our Department without Asian Philosophy”

#### **Part III: Data on the Profession**

“Ph.D. Granting Programs in the United States with Faculty Specializing in Asian Philosophy,”  
compiled December 2007 by Amy Olberding  
“Job Postings in Chinese, Asian, and Non-Western Philosophy, 2003-2004,” compiled March  
2008 by Amy Olberding