

THE GREATEST PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE OF ALL TIME

(Probabilistically Speaking)

IN HONOR OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF PAUL DRAPER

SEPTEMBER 19th-20th
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

The Greatest Philosophy Conference of All Time (*Probabilistically Speaking*)

-Themes from Paul Draper-

September 19–20 • Purdue Memorial Union, West Lafayette, IN

Purdue Memorial Union, 1011 Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47906

Rooms: West Faculty Lounge • Director's Room

September 19

West Faculty Lounge	Director's Room
9:00–9:10am — <i>"Some Introductory Comments"</i> Jim Elliott (Wichita State University) Perry Hendricks ("Please Hire Me" University)	
9:10–10:40am — <i>"Welter and Waste"</i> Jeanine Diller (University of Toledo) Chair: Eric Sampson; Comments: Scott Davison	
10:50–12:20pm — <i>"Draper's Panpsychotheism"</i> Yujin Nagasawa (University of Oklahoma) Chair: Gregory Robson; Comments: Andrew Melnyk	10:50–12:20pm — <i>"Explanatory Stories and the Evidential Problem of Evil"</i> Charity Anderson (Baylor University) Chair: Perry Hendricks; Comments: Blake McAllister
12:20–2:20pm – LUNCH (on your own)	
2:20–3:50pm — <i>"Evil and Multiverses"</i> Timothy O'Connor (Indiana University) Chair: Blake McAllister; Comments: Christopher Tomaszewski	2:20–3:50pm — <i>"Worry and Wonder: Two Findings in Favor of Naturalism"</i> J.L. Schellenberg (Mount Saint Vincent University) Chair: Adrian McCaffery; Comments: Andrew Blanton
4:00–6:30pm — <i>Panel: Intrinsic Probability and Theism</i> Nevin Climenhaga (Texas A&M University) Richard Swinburne (University of Oxford) Michael Tooley (University of Colorado, Boulder) Chair: Luke Wilson	

September 20

West Faculty Lounge	Director's Room
9:00–10:30am — <i>“Core Theism”</i> Mark Murphy (Georgetown University) Particles Arranged Chairwise: Joseph Schmid Comments: Eric Silverman	9:00–10:30am — <i>“Evil, Agnosticism, and Draper's Atheistic Turn”</i> Jason Marsh (St. Olaf College) Chair: Bertha Manninen; Comments: Kristen Irwin
10:40–12:10pm — <i>“Contingent Social Influence as a Defeater for Religious Belief”</i> Michael Bergmann (Purdue University) Chair: Jim Elliott; Comments: Justin Mooney	10:40–12:10pm — <i>“Expectations, Divine and Worldly”</i> Daniel Rubio (University of Toronto) Chair: David Redmond; Comments: Daniel Linford
12:10–2:10pm – LUNCH (on your own)	
2:10–3:40pm — <i>“What Has He Been Smoking?”</i> Graham Oppy (Monash University) Chair: Scott Hill; Comments: Brandon Rdzak	2:10–3:40pm — <i>“Theistic Indifference”</i> Philip Swenson (The College of William and Mary) Chair: David Widerker; Comments: Noah McKay
3:50–4:00pm — <i>“Paul Draper: An Evidential Problem for Atheists”</i> Bertha Manninen (Arizona State University)	
4:00–5:30pm — <i>“Bayes' Theorem and the Probability of the Resurrection”</i> Paul Draper (Purdue University) Chair: Perry Hendricks	

•Contact: tcpcoatdraper@gmail.com – at any point for any questions or concerns•



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Department of Philosophy
College of Liberal Arts

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Many thanks to the Department of Philosophy at Purdue University for their gracious help in supporting this conference.

Presenters

- Jeanine Diller (University of Toledo)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Jeanine “Gotta Theorize ‘em All” Diller. *“From Zeus to Zoroaster — she’s got a model for that.”*
- Yujin Nagasawa (University of Oklahoma)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Yujin “Global God Hunter” Nagasawa - *“Move over Indiana Jones. I’m looking for the Ultimate Reality, and I’ve got the Ontological Argument as my whip.”*
- Charity Anderson (Baylor University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Charity “The Epistemic Sleuth” Anderson – *“Welcome to Onto-Mart. Looking for God? You may want to check the Possible-Worlds aisle.”*
- Timothy O’Connor (Indiana University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Timothy “Causin’ Trouble” O’Connor – *“He’s a Free Agent, and it’s pre-season in the Metaphysical Football League.”*
- J.L. Schellenberg (Mount Saint Vincent University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: J.L. “The Ultimate Natural” Schellenberg – *“Do you think hide-and-seek is fun? God shouldn’t.”*
- Nevin Climenhaga (Texas A&M University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Nevin “Probabilistic Prophet” Climenhaga – *“He turns your gut feelings into tidy probability tables so fast, you *will* know what to do.”*
- Richard Swinburne (The University of Oxford)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Richard “Light Bayes” Swinburne – *“God Exists, and there’s a mathematical possibility He’s Bayesian, a tweed enthusiast, and/or fond of analogies to such an effect.”*
- Michael Tooley (University of Colorado, Boulder)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Michael “Personhood Provocateur” Tooley – *“Time, causation, and moral controversy — the triple threat.”*
- Mark Murphy (Georgetown University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Mark “It’s All-Natural” Murphy – *“Keeps divine law fresh, unprocessed, and ethically farmed.”*
- Jason Marsh (St. Olaf College)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Jason “Procreation Provocateur” Marsh – *“Making babies? Not making babies? Either way, he’s got questions.”*
- Michael Bergmann (Purdue University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Michael “Defeater Eater” Bergmann – *“Your epistemic objections are nothing more than an afternoon snack.”*
- Daniel Rubio (University of Toronto)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Daniel “To Infinity and Beyond” Rubio – *“His decision-making parties get surreal; you’re invited, just make sure to bring your flowchart.”*
- Graham Oppy (Monash University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Graham “Ontological Ozempic” Oppy – *“Keeping it simple and filleting Theism one cut at a time.”*
- Philip Swenson (The College of William and Mary)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Philip “Determinism’s Demon” Swenson – *“I didn’t choose the Indeterministic Life. The Indeterministic Life chose me.”*
- Bertha Manninen (Arizona State University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Bertha “Rights-Wrangler” Manninen – *“It’s not politics, it’s philosophy — and I’ll fight you in the ring of reason!”*
- Paul Draper (Purdue University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Paul “Dark Bayes” Draper – *“Don’t call *him* indifferent; he’s crunching the numbers — and it’s looking less like “a mystery” and more like “bad odds for Theism.”*

Organizers

- Perry Hendricks (“Please Hire Me” University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: Perry “The Not-So-Skeptical Skeptical Theist” Hendricks – “*God has reasons. No, you can’t see them. By the way, have you considered my new Anti-abortion twist?*”
 - Contact: perryhendricks990@gmail.com
- James Elliott (Wichita State University)
 - Pub Quiz Name: James “Oh-So-Humble” Elliott – “*Epistemic Humility is the key to cracking the code on God. Here’s 50,000 words explaining why I’m right.*”
 - Contact: james.elliott@wichita.edu

The Official “Yellow Flag Protocol”

- **Definition:**

The Yellow Flag, and its event-counterpart *throwing the yellow flag*, is a material instantiation of *philosophical indignation*, deployed when a speaker has committed a philosophical transgression so objectively egregious that even David Lewis couldn’t make a defensible argument for it. (cf. *Nicomachean Ethics* 1108a-1108b)

- **Conditions of Deployment:**

Permissible offenses may include *egregious errors* such as when a speaker:

- Treats “existence” as a first-order predicate and/or property.
- Disparages the Rev’d Bayes, the theorem, or hand-waves Bayesianism in general. E.g., “*Priors are nothing more than subjective assertions anyway; Keynes proved this nearly a century ago!*”
- Makes a *noseeum* inference.
- Conflates SEP articles with Holy Scripture
- Excessively Chisholms or gerrymanders entities (e.g., such that they wouldn’t even belong amid PVI’s ontological jungle).

Impermissible offenses, for example, may include when a speaker:

- Does not reference an article you wrote, forthcoming in *American Philosophical Quarterly*, that just so happens to “address this point, in fact.”
- Pronounces “Augustine” as “Uh-gustin” as opposed to “August-een.” (NB - the *via media*, “Uh-gust-een”, is in fact a *permissible offense*.)

- **Normative Force:**

- Throwing the first yellow flag garners the thrower priority rights in the Q&A queue (Note: This doesn’t *necessarily* entail that the first flag thrower gets the first question, but it does mean that the chair will hold the first flag thrower in a general priority.) The Chair is the final authority on the queue and may make a call or veto as seen fit.
- Any flag after the first is redundant and will not help you get higher up in the queue: in fact, it may hurt your chances as too many flags going up is distracting to the presenter.
- To be clear, one and only one flag thrown per presentation, and one flag thrown per comments/response, is acceptable.
- The Yellow Flag must be launched with the epistemic seriousness of an assertion. Side-arm flicks or underhand tosses will be interpreted as lack of doxastic commitment and justifiably ignored. Optimal form is overhand, and with panache.
- Meta-rule: Abuse of the Yellow Flag itself constitutes a paradigmatic case of Yellow-Flag-worthy conduct. (cf. Yablo’s paradox, but with nylon).