

# Process Philosophy in Under-Explored Traditions in Philosophical History: An online Conference

MAY 19-21, 2026

PROCESS PHILOSOPHY



Force, Relationality and Becoming

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### CONFERENCE SUB-THEMES

Folk wisdom and processism in the history of philosophy  
Alternative logics and philosophy of becoming and relationality  
Selfhood and process philosophy  
Processism in Conversation: African, oriental, and Anglo-American  
Being and relationality in history of philosophy  
Pessimism, meaningfulness, and becoming  
Vitalism, biopsychism, sentience, and panpsychism  
Sagacity and processism in all philosophic: African, Eastern & Western  
Processism and Islam  
Quantum mechanics and process-relational philosophy  
Electromagnetism, energy and relationality  
Relationality and vitalism in philosophy of medicine  
Processism in Buddhist and Hindu thought systems  
Relationality and philosophy of action  
Process theology and the nature of God in classical theology  
Processism in Medieval Christian theology  
Process theology and Indian religious systems and practices  
Afro-Brazilian Religions and Process theology  
Identity, (trans)gender and feminism in relational and vitalist contexts  
Process philosophy and the question of alternative systems of logic  
Africana philosophy and processism  
Death and immortality in Afro-Indo process thoughts  
Process-relational implications for environmental philosophy  
Time and processism in Africa and beyond  
Relational field metaphysics  
The subjectivist principle and the reformed subjectivist principle

### CONFIRMED KEY SPEAKERS

- 1. Jonathan O. Chimakonam**  
(University of Pretoria, South Africa & President, Conversational Society of Philosophy, University of Calabar, Nigeria)
- 2. Mercedes Valmisa Oviedo**  
(Gettysburg College, USA)
- 3. Daniel A. Dombrowski**  
(Seattle University, USA & Editor-in-chief, Process Studies)
- 4. Rein Raud**  
(Tallinn University, Estonia)
- 5. Jessica Xiaomin Zu**  
(University of Southern California, USA & SACP Program Chair, American Academy of Religion)
- 6. James Maffie**  
(University of Maryland, USA)
- 7. Alexis McLeod**  
(Indiana University, USA & Editor-in-Chief, The Philosophical Forum)

### IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY 16, 2026

Abstracts  
submission  
deadline

FEBRUARY 13, 2026

Acceptance  
notification

APRIL 15, 2026

Paper submission  
ends

MAY 19-21, 2026

Online  
conference holds

JULY 31, 2026

Deadline for  
submission of  
papers for review  
and publication  
consideration

### MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE LOC

Emmanuel Ofuasia – LoC Convener/Chair ([emmanuel.ofuasia@up.ac.za](mailto:emmanuel.ofuasia@up.ac.za))

Chukwueloka S. Uduagwu – Media & Publicities ([cuduagwu@noun.edu.ng](mailto:cuduagwu@noun.edu.ng))

Abhishek Tripathi– Liaison officer ([abhishektripathi190@gmail.com](mailto:abhishektripathi190@gmail.com))

### ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION LINK

<https://forms.gle/ppjSjRMGDP8CpRNn7>

### FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE E-MAIL:

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## CONCEPT NOTE

There are two dominant streams for talking about reality in the history of metaphysical thought – substance and process. These two streams are noticeable in virtually all traditions but the former seems to have gained more attention at the expense of the latter which offers a more robust and insightful framework for codifying reality. The metaphysical framework of substance has been elevated as absolute and universal in humanity's comprehension of the self and the world. That metaphysical framework fails in providing a springboard on topics such as value and conscious nature of all ontological entities. As a result, topics such as the cellular basis of consciousness or biopsychism in plant neurobiology, panpsychism and its impact over the inter-relationship among all entities for environmental stability have not received penetrating and convincing analysis from the substance-based perspective. This is why an alternative framework in process metaphysics as broadly construed in all religious and philosophic traditions – African, Oriental, Anglo-American, and Continental become pertinent.

In its most commonly shared formulation, process philosophy, regardless of tradition, lays emphasis on vital force, flux, biopsychism, dynamism, relationality and interconnection among entities such that nothing stands in isolation (see Mesle 2008; Ivakhiv 2018). Among process philosophers, there is a shared acknowledgement that reality is 'becoming' and an interconnected web such that no event stands in isolation. Process philosophers eschew the mainstream and dominant outlook in traditional metaphysics that changelessness implies perfection (see Rescher 1996; Mesle 2008). Extant scholarship offers a more robust explanation for topics like ecology (Ivakhiv 2018; Maffie 2015; McLeod 2023), consciousness (Griffin 2007; Raud 2021; Zu 2025), agency (Valmisa 2025), relationality (Chimakonam & Ogbonnaya 2021; Maffie 2015; McLeod 2023), mystical experiences (Dambrowski 2023), and Being (Ofuasia 2024). These are hot topics that signal the importance of such metaphysics for contemporary scholarship. In spite of this common ground, process scholars in the afore-mentioned philosophical traditions have never engaged one another critically.

This conference will therefore be the first to birth this long overdue intellectual exchange as it offers an improved metaphysical framework for value and consciousness in all ontological entities to address various concerns that are facing humanity: economy, political, and environmental. Although there are hesitant answers to some of these global challenges facing humanity, the influence of substance-based analysis has yet to offer penetrative answers, in addition to the almost lack of interaction among scholars of process to explore their common ground for a common voice in the way that substance thought has done over the centuries.

Based on the foregoing established gap, **abstracts, not more than 250 words** are invited from scholars and researchers of all traditions in philosophic history, who are interested in any of the sub-themes coverage of the Conference, as listed in the foregoing page.

**All abstracts for the online conference MUST be submitted via this link: <https://forms.gle/ppjSjRMGDP8CpRNn7>**

No registration fees but all participants and observers must register before they can get the links to the talks/panels. This will be communicated in due course. For further information, please relate with Dr. Chukwueloka Uduagwu via email: [cuduagwu@noun.edu.ng](mailto:cuduagwu@noun.edu.ng). More information will be made available to participants.

## REFERENCES

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