



Council for Research in Values and Philosophy

Winter and Spring 2010



From the President

Letter from the President

It is a special pleasure to introduce the new General Secretary of The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP), Professor Edward Joseph Alam.

Birthdays are always happy occasions, with perspectives looking both to the past and to the future. This happened at my 80th birthday party in Shanghai. We looked back upon decades of cooperation with philosophers around the world. Especially we looked to the future and identified a younger but mature philosopher who will carry this work forward, namely, Edward Alam.

Professor Alam has always been a bridge thinker. After teaching in the United States he returned to his parents' country of origin, Lebanon, to raise his family and continue there his work as professor of philosophy. As director of international academic affairs he took up the traditional relations with the Mediterranean and Europe. But at the same time he turned eastward to develop extensive contacts in Iran, India, South East and East Asia — all areas of intensive RVP concentration.

It is then with confidence as great as our hopes that Professor Alam has been invited to assume the post of RVP General Secretary with special concern for the continued coordination and development of its signature global network of philosophical research teams. This he has already taken up with great generosity and energy, as can be seen from what follows.

As for myself, I remain as RVP President where I will continue to apply my full energy, now enhanced and applied by Professor Alam with whom I would ask you to cooperate in every way. Professor William Sweet with his rich philosophical capabilities and broad experiences has been designated as Vice President for Research. Ms Hu Yeping continues as Vice President for Operations, a post she carries out with amazing reach and competency.

We look forward to cooperating in the continued research work in philosophy by you and your colleagues.

*George F. McLean
February, 2010*

Letter from the General Secretary

Might I begin this newsletter with a personal note of gratitude for the confidence reflected in my nomination to the position of General Secretary of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP). In accepting I do so with acknowledgment of the long and outstanding work done over the years and in the hope of moving this ahead in step with the emerging philosophical modes and opportunities opened by these global times.

As we complete the first decade of the 21st century, the Council looks forward with great hope and expectation. 2010 promises to be as rich and rewarding as was 2009. The last year began with a series of 10 colloquia across the Isle of Java, Indonesia. It ended with Charles Taylor and Francis Cardinal George in a public forum in Washington D.C. which launched a 15 month research project on the theme “Faith in a Secular Age”. This reflected how, during recent years, the broad human search for the metaphysical and value basis of social life — the proper emphasis of RVP activities — has deepened to include the relation between the Sacred and the Secular. These events were punctuated in between by activities in Vietnam, Cambodia, China, Lebanon and Iran.

The Council urgently invites your continued cooperation and participation and looks forward to receiving your input and suggestions regarding ways to extend the outreach of this cooperative effort in philosophy and to deepen its contributions in this global age.

The Council wishes to thank the Ford Foundation, the H&L Bradley Foundation, the Raskob Family Foundation, the OSVI, the OST and the Norton family for their continued support.

The following activities are planned in Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia and America in 2010:

- February 3-5, the RVP coordinator for Africa, Professor J. Agbakoba of Nigeria organized an international conference in Ghana on globalization and intercultural philosophy.
- February 6-20, meetings in Ethiopia and Uganda with the RVP regional coordinators at Addis Ababa University (Professor W. Kelbessa) and Makerere University (Professor E. Wamala) respectively, in order to strengthen the growing network in Africa through public lectures and meetings.
- April 19-22, 2010: The RVP and the University of Lagos will sponsor an international conference on *Higher Education and Peace Culture: Wither Africa?* Particularly promising is the expressed desire on the part of prominent philosophers to establish an RVP chapter at the University of Lagos. Presently, the details of this agreement are being worked out. Professor Joseph Agbakoba as area coordinator will represent the RVP at this conference.
- June 24-26, the RVP coordinator in Poland, Professor T. Buksinski, is organizing an international conference at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland on the theme “Religion and the Public Sphere”.
- June 29-30, an international conference is being organized by Professor A. Karas, the RVP regional coordinator, at Ivan Franco University, Lviv, Ukraine on “The Identity of the Person in the Age of Globalization”.
- October, Professor Tran Van Doan, RVP Regional coordinator in Taiwan, and President of the AACP, will organize two back to back conferences in Shanghai and National Taiwan University in Taipei, the details of which are soon to be announced.
- One of the most exciting developments of 2010 will be the inauguration at Fudan University in Shanghai, in conjunction with the RVP, of a the new Center for the Study of Chinese Culture in Global Context
- October 11-November 19, the annual Fall RVP seminar will be on *Human Identity or Nature: Stable and/or Changing?*

For further information on the 2010 programs, as well as reports on 2009 activities see below and/or visit www.crvp.org.



From the General Secretary

Edward Joseph Alam
February, 2010

ACTIVITIES AHEAD IN 2010

Fall Seminar 2010: Human Identity or Nature: Stable and/or Changing?

Washington, D.C., October 11-November 19, 2010: The tragedies of the last century have made the definition and justification of absolute human rights a most pressing necessity. But the task of understanding human identity or nature and its authenticity or dignity which these rights are meant to defend has proven elusive, even as the need intensifies. Indeed, in some ways we may be moving ever further from achieving this task.

Hence this seminar will begin with a study of the critiques — from Ockham and Bacon via Darwin to Rorty — of the notion of human nature and understanding of science which would do away with nature. Indeed, the very term 'nature,' whether in its substantive or adjectival form, has changed radically over these last few centuries. Moreover, changes in meaning to the substantive form of the term necessarily bring about changes in the meaning of the adjectives that qualify it. Thus, divine and human as describing 'nature' have themselves been drastically altered. These conceptual changes, which began in the West, are now being felt across the globe as the related epistemology of the *via moderna* and its sciences imposes itself.

By way of response, the seminar will seek to restore the relation of reason to wisdom; it will turn to the nature of science in order to determine the necessary but not restrictive role of sense experience in its relation to the imagination and the intellect. Thence it will look for nature, and hence the human essence or identity, as the proper and unchanging object of the human intellect. This will be studied as the metaphysical or existential basis for human dignity and hence of human rights.

But therein lies our dilemma, for to the degree that human nature or identity is stable must it be said to be immutable and thereby an impediment to human progress? Or if changing, to what rights does it entitle one: when and for how long? For answers to these questions the seminar will look to the more recent groundbreaking phenomenological, existential, and hermeneutical developments, as these contribute to discovery with respect to the philosophical anthropology and ethics, aesthetics and indeed the metaphysical wisdom required for human fulfilment in these times and beyond.

Invitation to Apply for Participation:

Applications for participation in this seminar should be sent by email by March 20, 2010, to cua-cscv@cua.edu and include:

- (1) a vita describing one's education, professional positions and activities,
- (2) a list of the applicants' publications,
- (3) a letter stating your interest and involvement in this theme and the relation of participation in this seminar to your past and future work in philosophy and related studies, and
- (4) an abstract of a study(s) you might present as an integral part of the seminar.

Shanghai: Research Center for the Study of Chinese Culture in Global Context

Shanghai: Fudan University: As China emerges so brilliantly to assume its rightful place as a leading global partner it becomes especially important to attend not only to its “hard” industrial power, but to the “soft power” of its philosophical culture and values. This is key to its being a welcomed partner in global affairs, contributing the riches of its long traditions to the heritage of humankind.



After the extensive series of annual conferences there since 1987 on the various aspects of nation building, the RVP now joins with Fudan University in establishing its Center for the

Study of Chinese Culture in Global Context. Its work will be to advance and adapt China’s ancient and contemporary cultural traditions for these global times. The RVP world network of philosophy teams will help relate this effort to the hopes and concerns of all for an harmonious global future. In turn, the Center will be an open bridge meshing the philosophical concerns of the RVP teams to those of China.

This is in addition to the new Center at Notre Dame University under Professor Edward Alam in Beirut, Lebanon. Further the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP), the world coordinating body of all philosophical societies, will now co-sponsor all RVP conferences under its Committee on Intercultural Research in Philosophy, in order to extend thereby its own world outreach.

Africa

Lagos, Nigeria

Lagos, Nigeria, April 19-22, 2010: The RVP and the University of Lagos will cosponsor an international conference on *Higher Education and Peace Culture: Wither Africa?* Particularly promising is the expressed desire on the part of prominent philosophers in Nigeria to establish an RVP chapter at the University of Lagos. Presently, the details of this agreement are being worked out. Professor Joseph Agbakoba of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and RVP area coordinator will represent the RVP at this conference.



Kampala, Uganda



Kampala, Uganda, February 10–14, 2010: Meetings between RVP General Secretary and members of the Philosophy Department at Makerere University took place in order to review the earlier publication of three volumes and to plan for future seminars and publications. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts also participated in the meetings and pledged full support of joint RVP/ Makerere activities.

Cape Coast, Ghana

Cape Coast, Ghana, February 3-5, 2010: The Department of Classics and Philosophy at the University Of Cape Coast and the RVP co-sponsored an international conference on Intercultural Philosophy, which brought together scholars from Canada, Bulgaria, Lebanon, Nigeria, and Ghana. This was designated as well a regional conference of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP). The RVP regional coordinator in Nigeria, Professor Joseph Agbakoba, together with Professor Raymond Osei of Cape Coast, organized the conference under the title "Universalism, Relativism, and Intercultural Philosophy". In his key note address,

Professor William Sweet of Canada addressed the complex role of migrating texts and traditions in intercultural philosophy, raising many key and difficult questions that solicited a plethora of animated responses from the over 50 scholars in attendance. In a paper titled "Reflections on Intercultural Philosophy: Avoiding the Extremes", the RVP General Secretary also raised a number of questions meant to better define what is meant by intercultural philosophy, and noted the work of late Kenyan Philosopher, H. Odera Oruka, and his mentor at the University of Nairobi, Joseph Donders, on "sage philosophy," noting the dynamic interplay between what Oruka called Popular and Didactic Wisdoms. Plans are underway to publish the proceedings of the conference. A delegation from the conference traveled from Cape Coast to Accra and met with the head of the Philosophy Department of the University of Ghana, Professor Helen Lauer, to discuss future RVP activities in Ghana and the upcoming annual conference of the International Society for African Philosophy and Studies (ISAPS), to be held at the University of Ghana in March, 2010.



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, January 27-February 2, 2010: Professor Workineh Kelbessa, RVP coordinator in East Africa, invited RVP General Secretary, Edward Alam, to Addis Ababa University to discuss the development of the RVP network in East Africa. The network already has a presence and history in Uganda and Kenya reaching back to a major meeting on "Society and Truth" at the University of Nairobi in 1980 and the publication of three volumes from Makerere University, Uganda. The present aim is to encourage cooperation and collaboration among all the East African countries. While there, Professor Alam gave a paper titled "Purifying the Concept of Development: The Vocation of Religion and Culture" to the faculty and students of Addis Ababa University; other meetings with the Chairman and Faculty members of the Philosophy Department and with graduate students discussed modes of continuing collaboration. An agreement was reached to pursue a formal RVP/Addis Ababa University memorandum of understanding to promote teams of researchers from Ethiopia to mine their own rich and ancient cultural and philosophical heritage in order better to meet contemporary challenges.

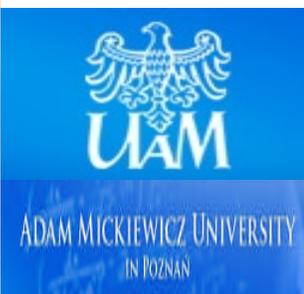


Nairobi, Kenya

Nairobi, Kenya, February 7–10, 2010: Meetings between RVP General Secretary and members of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at the University of Nairobi took place in order to review past conferences and to plan future seminars and publications.



University of Nairobi

Central and Eastern Europe**Poznan, Poland**

Poznan, Poland, June 24-26, 2010: The RVP coordinator in Poland, Professor T. Buksinski, will organize an international conference at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland on the theme "Religion and the Public Sphere". Times of change provide special opportunities to discuss society's most important issues, among which the source of public values has emerged as of special and urgent concern. Earlier ideas and paradigms on this subject which focused on separation are now challenged. Paradoxically this secular age experiences a search for a new paradigm that enables mutual understanding and communication between the sacred and the secular spheres. The conference should be a voice in the public debate concerning the proper role of religion in public spaces.

Contact: Professor T. Buksinski, Director of the Institute of Philosophy, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland, email: (tabu@amu.edu.pl).

Lviv, Ukraine

Lviv, Ukraine, June 29-30, 2010. A major conference on "The Identity and Dignity of the Person in an Age of Globalization" will focus on human identity under the paradigmatic changes in the development of informational technologies, global communication and their unprecedented cultural penetration. The qualitative increase and diversification of knowledge continue to cause fragmentation in the understanding of oneself and of one's cultural and social environment. As this threatens human civilization in new ways attention to the metaphysical and religious dimensions of human civilization becomes ever more imperative. These foundational dimensions of human civilization bring a new challenge for the present role of the sciences and humanities, of knowledge and culture, in social development. This calls for a diagnosis of classical, modern and postmodern models of theoretical, scientific, and artistic thinking related to the problems of personal identity and authenticity.



Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

This conference will address both the potential dangers to human nature and dignity, and the potential opportunities for the realization of more authentic human freedom, which arise in the new context of human identity. It will address also the role of the spirit in the socio-political order of our global world. This entails an analysis of democratic development and the “open”–“closed” dynamic as a social reality in the philosophical trends of the 21st century.



The discussion on conceptions of knowledge and reality from the point of view of contemporary developments of the sciences in general and genetics in particular, as well as of education, are important for interdisciplinary approaches to achieve new insights into human identity. Hence, the conference will discuss the nature of the explanation, understanding, and interpretation of being, social reality, human activity, and the identity of the human person. This will take into account new approaches formed at the intersection of post-structuralism and postmodernism, communicative philosophy and semiotics, philosophy of science and metaphysics both neo-Thomist and existential.

Contact: Organizing Committee (conference.lviv@gmail.com); Professor Anatolij Karas, the Department of Philosophy, anatolijkaras@yahoo.com; Secretary: Oresta Losyk, the Department of Philosophy, o.losyk@yahoo.com.

Asia

Taiwan/Shanghai

Shanghai and Taipei, October, 2010. Professor Tran Van Doan, RVP Regional coordinator in Taiwan, and President of the AACP, will organize two back to back conferences in Shanghai and National Taiwan University in Taipei, the details of which are soon to be announced.



For more information on the works, projects and Publications of the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, please visit website: www.crvp.org

WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN 2009

2009 Seminar: The Sacred and the Secular: Complementary and/or Conflictual (II)



Washington, D.C. The RVP annual five week Fall Seminar was held September 28-October 16, 2009, on living cultural and religious heritages in the context recently described by Charles Taylor in his *A Secular Age*.

Theme: The work of Professor Taylor recounted how from a time in which it was difficult not to believe the converse has become true. Sociological surveys reflect this to be an age marked by an existential search for identity and meaning rather than by commitment to specific visions or communities. For philosophy this reopens in contemporary

terms the deepest issues of immanent and transcendent values and of aspirations for human fulfillment in the socio-political and spiritual orders.

Special attention was devoted to appreciating both the unique differences and the relatedness of the world's cultures, their relation to the achievement of secular goals, and parallel to this, the positive contribution of secular concerns for living religion fully in this world. The search was for a paradigm to enable mutual understanding and communication in which the many peoples and cultures, both sacred and secular, could relate in a positive and complementary manner.

A description of the theme of this seminar, a list of seminar participants and videos can be found at <http://www.crvp.org/seminar/seminar-2009-fall.htm>.

A project extending this research effort is detailed below.

New RVP book distribution center

With gratitude to Ron Rolheiser, President of OST, and Donald Joyce, Director of the Donald E. O'Shaughnessy Library in San Antonio, Texas, the RVP book distribution center for the series: "Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change" has been moved to San Antonio with its inventory of 225 titles. The new director of RVP book distribution is Mr. Mathew Martin.

RVP book orders should be addressed to:

Council for Research on Values and Philosophy – OST, San Antonio, TX

(attn. Mathew Martin)

285 Oblate Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216, USA

Telephone: (210)341-1366 x205

Email: mmartin@ost.edu

Project on “Faith in a Secular Age”

A Pew Foundation report indicates that typical of the exodus of people in their 20s and 30s from religious identification are young persons who seem not to have abandoned their basic beliefs or concern for the spiritual dimension of their lives, but to reflect these in an attitude of search rather than of commitment.

In response, this research project will focus on unfolding the meaning of a transcendent metaphysical dimension for the needs of our evolving human awareness, its challenges and opportunities. In this sense the goal is to open this dimension for Professor Taylor’s contemporary “seeker” and indeed for all, and thereby to render all of personal and social life more fully humane and thereby more theonomous.

A set of research teams or task forces will work for a 15 month period, alternating team meetings for planning and critical discussion with extended periods for personal research, reflection, and writing. This gives founded hope that light can be shed on this crucial issue of our day. Thus far two teams have been formed to focus respectively on:

- (1) the interior search for meaning, led by John Haughey, S.J. of Woodstock Center at Georgetown University, and
- (2) the role of belief in the socio-political order of our global world, led by William Barbieri, Ph.D. (Yale) of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America.

The teams will consist of leading scholars from across the country and beyond.

The project was launched by a dialogue of Professor Charles Taylor, author of *A Secular Age*, and Francis Cardinal George. It aims: (a) to identify a new and deeper research focus appropriate for life in our secular age, (b) to build teams for effective exploration of new paths, and (c) to relate the findings to past heritages and present challenges.

This work is being carried forward with the support of the L.&H. Bradley Foundation and the Raskob Family Foundation.

For more information visit www.crvp.org. For video streaming both live and archived: <http://live.cua.edu>.



Islam

Indonesia: 10 University Conferences on “Philosophy Emerging from Culture”



Indonesia, January 4-16, 2009 the RVP in collaboration with the International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP) and The Islamic College for Advanced Studies (ICAS), Jakarta, sponsored a series of 10 colloquia across the Isle of Java, Indonesia. This was carried out with the generous support of the host universities and especially of ICAS, [Mizen Publishing](#), the H&L Bradley Foundation and the Raskob Foundation.

The theme was: “[Philosophy Emerging from Culture: Indonesian Culture and Islamic Thought](#).” The goal was to harvest the contributions of Javanese culture to Islamic thought and to share this across the Islamic crescent from Indonesia to Morocco, and indeed with all philosophers. This was an important initiative of the new International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP) founded in 2008 in collaboration with the RVP. For a full report please see <http://www.crvp.org/conf/2009/java.htm>.

The International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP)

The International Society for Islamic Philosophy (ISIP) (email: isisphy@gmail.com): founded by the participants in the RVP Islamic seminar in March 2008, elected Professor Gholamreza Aavani, Director of the Iranian Institute of Philosophy, as President at its meeting during the World Congress of Philosophy in Seoul last August. Professor Osman Bakar, Vice Director of the International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies, Malaysia, was appointed Vice President in January 2009 along with a set of regional directors. With the RVP, ISIP cosponsored the 10 university conferences in Indonesia and will cosponsor as well the fall seminar on "Living Islam Faithfully in Our Day" described above. An ISIP meeting on "The status of Philosophy in the Present-day Islamic World" was held on November 11-12, 2009 in Tehran. For further information on ISIP contact Gholamreza Aavani, President of ISIP, aavani@irip.ir.



Southeast Asia

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, June 23, 2009. The RVP held a one-day discussion with the faculty members of the Department of Philosophy at The Royal University of Phnom Penh on the future development of philosophy and philosophical education among the younger generation in Cambodia.



Biannual South East Asian Regional Conference

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, June 24-25, 2009, “The Role of Philosophy in the Development of South East Asia” (see full description and program on the web at www.crvp.org/conf/2009/cambodia.htm). In the aftermath of great tragedies a new generation of Cambodian philosophers is just emerging. A first sign of this was the offer of the Philosophical Association of Cambodia (PAC) to host the biannual South East Asian RVP regional meeting — held previously in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. This meeting was supported also by UNESCO in collaboration with the PAC and the RVP.



Theme: The first session reflected how philosophy is rooted in the culture of a people whence it emerges through a process of progressively deeper reflection and understanding. The second session identified elements especially characteristic of Cambodian philosophy. On this basis the conference then turned to the contributions which Cambodian philosophy can make to education, development and in turn the challenges which such tasks

constitute for the philosophy and philosophers of South East Asia today.

China

Shanghai: Fudan University

Shanghai: Fudan University, June 28-29, 2009 "[The Enlightenment and Its Contemporary Reevaluation](#)".

Theme: The May 4th movement in 1919 thought it necessary to put aside the ancient wisdom of Confucius in order to usher in "Mr. Science" and "Mr. Democracy." More recently, the very success of the resultant "hard power" of modernization has evoked a rethinking of May 4th. Issues treated were: what is the present role of the "soft power" of the classical Chinese culture, values and virtues put aside in 1919? Are these now needed to inspire and humanize the powers of the Enlightenment in order that all might continue to benefit from their fruits? Rather than being exiled, could Confucius and his classical confreres be needed more than ever in these postmodern times as genial hosts able to make the "two misters" truly and fruitfully at home?



Shanghai: Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences

Shanghai: Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, July 2-3, 2009 "[Diversity in Unity: Harmony in a Global Age](#)".

Theme: Global times call for the protection, promotion and interrelation of human diversity and creativity. In order for these multiple and diverse humane factors to make their rich contribution to social well-being in these times of global interaction they must be able to be appreciated not as conflictual, but as complementary and relational. Does this, in turn, call for a new paradigm in which they are understood as existing within a larger, integrating whole? Will this enable the diverse realities to be essentially related, not merely physically, but in terms that engage the human search for meaning and purpose? What are the keys to the respect for nature and for one another on which truly global comity can be built? If philosophy looks even further for the principles which reveal all as intelligible or true and as life giving or good, does this call for a renewed understanding of the classical unity of "all under heaven" (*Tian Xia*), both for its inherent relationality and for the implications of this source and goal for the meaning and purpose of all? Here the classical philosophical issue of the one and the many reemerges in the present terms of the global whole.



Shanghai: Shanghai Institutes for International Studies



Shanghai, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, June 30, 2009. Invited by the former President of the Institutes, Professor Yu Xintian, the RVP delegation visited the Institutes and had a fruitful discussion on issues related to culture and international relations, the role of Chinese traditional culture in the future development between China and East Asia, Central Asia and South Asia; the role of religion in the international relations; the proper policies of China in its relations with other countries.

Xian: Xian Jiaotong University

Xian: Xian Jiaotong University, July 5, 2009 "[The Role of Philosophy in the Development of China's Northwest](#)".

Theme: Philosophy is challenged to guide the process of change along progressive paths that perfect and improve the status of nature and of humanity itself. For this it is necessary to understand human nature and continually to evaluate and adjust possible action so that the immense human effort, now broadly integrated across civilizations, will be positive and constructive.

This evaluative task is extensive as it touches upon every aspect of the changing world. It is itself multilayered, reaching from utilitarian and self-interested advantage to an ever deeper sense of the human person, to a broader and more inclusive range of social reality, and to the natural world in which we live, which we shape and by which in turn we are shaped.



The full text of RVP titles is available for free download on the web and also in the Google Book Partner Program: One major project in 2009 was the successful uploading of the full text (in html free downloadable format) of all RVP books to www.crvp.org. Please see "publications" on this website.

Additionally, full text, exact image versions of all RVP books are now available through the Google Book Search Partner Program. Though not downloadable there, all pages of each book appear in exact image for word search and research citation. Search by author or title of any book or individual chapter at www.books.google.com.

Xian: Ethics and Public Administration

Xian, Xian Jiantong University, July 6, 2009 "[Ethics in Public Administration and Citizen Participation](#)".

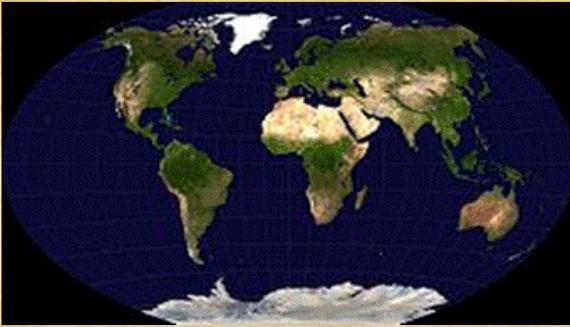
Theme: This built upon three conferences in 2007 and 2008 in which scholars in the field of public administration from China and overseas discussed the ethics course in the Public Administration program (MPA). It attended to the development of citizen participation, with special attention to the social and economic development of China's great Northwest centered in the five major provinces of Shanxi, Xingjiang, Guanshu, Ningxia, Qinghai.

The conference sought positive suggestions for policy on these issues, especially regarding ways in which public administrators can engage citizen participation in relation to development. Thus it sought to summarize field experience, to broaden vision for the development of ethics in public administration, and to train related leadership. Support for this program was provided by The Chinese National MPA Education Steering Committee with coordination by the RVP.



New Books Published in 2009 by the RVP in its Series "Cultural Heritages and Contemporary Change"

- Vol. I.36 *Kantian Imperatives and Phenomenological Force*; by Randolph C. Wheeler.
- Vol. I.38 *Religion and Culture*; by George F. McLean
- Vol. II.12 *The Struggle after the Struggle, Zimbabwean Philosophical Studies, I*; edited by David Kaulemu
- Vol. IIA.19 *Understanding Other Religions: Al-Biruni and Gadamer's "Fusion of Horizons"; Islamic Philosophical Studies, XIX*; by Kemal Ataman
- Vol. IIIB.13 *Faith and Reason Today: Fides et Ratio in a Post-modern Era, Indian Philosophical Studies, XIII*; edited by Varghese Manimala
- Vol. IIID.5 *The History of Buddhism in Vietnam, Vietnamese Philosophical Studies, I*; edited by Nguyen Tai Thu and Hoang Thi Tho
- Vol. IIID.6 *Relations Between Religions and Cultures in Southeast Asia, Indonesian Philosophical Studies, I*; edited by Gadis Arivia and Donny Gahril Adian
- Vol. IIID.7 *Rethinking the Role of Philosophy in the Global Age; Vietnamese Philosophical Studies, III*; edited by William Sweet and Pham Van Duc
- Vol. IIA.33 *Diversity and Dialogue: Culture and Values in a Global Age*; edited by Andrew Blasko and Plamen Makariev
- Vol. IVA.37 *Truth and Morality: The Role of Truth in Public Life, Romanian Philosophical Studies, VII*; edited by Wilhelm Dancă
- Vol. VII.25 *Globalization and Identity*; edited by Andrew Blasko, Taras Dobko, Pham Van Duc and George Pattery



The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP) is a 501C3 not-for-profit entity with the following goals, objectives and operations.

Goals:

To understand and appreciate the cultures and values that shape aspirations and motivate actions.

To understand one's own and other cultures and develop a positive yet critical appreciation thereof.

To build cooperation among peoples by providing horizons that heal deep tensions and promote peace and cooperation on a global scale.

Objectives:

To mobilize research teams to study the nature, interpretation and development of cultures and to apply them to the challenges of contemporary change.

To publish and distribute the results of these efforts.

To organize extended seminars for deeper exploration of these issues and regional conferences for the coordination of this work.

Operations:

Research teams applying the resources of the cultural traditions to contemporary issues, and six to ten week annual seminars in Washington, D.C., for international scholars and representatives of the research teams.

Regional meetings for mutual critique and planning by these teams, and periodic world conferences for exchange of results on a global level.

Publication of the results of this research and critical reflection (over 220 volumes thusfar), and a unique distribution network to 350 university libraries worldwide, as well as through the usual book outlets, with the complete texts available on the web at www.crvp.org.

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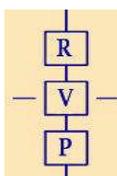
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The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy
Gibbons Hall B-20, 620 Michigan Avenue, NE
Washington DC 20064
Telephone/fax: 202/319-6089
Email: cua-rvp@cua.edu ; Website: www.crvp.org