14th Annual Duquesne Graduate Students in Philosophy Conference / 7th Annual Duquesne Women in Philosophy Conference

**Theme:** Embodied Voices: Phenomenological, Hermeneutical, and Psychoanalytic Approaches to Health  
**Keynote Speaker:** Gail Weiss (George Washington University)  
**Date:** March 20–21, 2020  
**Deadline for Submissions:** January 14, 2020  
**Contact:** gsipconference2020@gmail.com

We invite submissions to our joint GSIP/D-WiP graduate-student conference on embodiment and health, co-sponsored by Duquesne Minorities and Philosophy (MAP). The conference will be held on Saturday, March 21, featuring participant presentations and the keynote address. We will be hosting panel discussions with invited speakers the night before the conference (Friday, March 20).

We invite abstracts for papers that look at how health and disease have been treated in phenomenology, hermeneutics, and psychoanalysis, and how these fields may help to improve upon the current methodologies employed in medicine. Medicine is taken here more broadly to mean the art of healing or of understanding various human conditions or ways of being alive (e.g., disorders, injuries, disabilities). Traditionally, Western medicine presupposes a strictly biological account of the body, largely ignoring other existential features of human life and thereby actually restricting its understanding of the body. Furthermore, it seems as though a certain flaw in Western medicine is its inability to admit a hermeneutical self-understanding of the patient into its diagnosis and treatment methods. Phenomenological approaches to the body are quite different in that they take the lived body and its diverse and complex experiences into account. Hermeneutical and psychoanalytic approaches are also different in that they introduce an interpretive element into their epistemological framework.

Medicine and the concept of health have historically been used to stigmatize and disenfranchise women, people of color, people with disabilities, people with mental illnesses, LGBTQIA+ people, and other people considered to be “abnormal.” The concepts of illness, health, and disease and the practice of medical diagnosis have historically been used as tools for expanding and perpetuating oppression of women and minorities. As such, we particularly encourage papers that consider how phenomenological, hermeneutical, and psychoanalytic approaches to the concept of health can serve as a means for enabling women and minorities to have their voices heard and contribute to the various social justice movements of the twentieth century and beyond.

Ultimately, then, how might the incorporation of embodied voices widen, enrich, and improve our breadth of knowledge regarding human health and well-being in general, and how might giving those voices a platform also contribute to the philosophy of medicine in particular?

Some topics for consideration include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Phenomenology, Hermeneutics, and Psychoanalysis
- Concepts of Health, Illness, and Disease
- History and Philosophy of Medicine
- Race, Ethnicity, and Critical Race Theory
- Disability, Mental Illness, and Disability Studies
- Sex, Gender, and Women’s Studies
- Sexual Orientation, Sexuality, and Queer Theory
- Gender Identity, Intersexuality, and Transgender Studies
- Reproductive Care
- Gerontology, Ageing, and Ageing Studies
- Psychiatry, Psychopathology, and Mental Health Diagnosis
- Public Health Education and Ethics
- Dietetics and Food Studies
- Death and Dying
- Genetic Therapy
- Biohacking, and Distinguishing Between Enhancement and Treatment
- Environmental and Animal Ethics
- Ecopsychology and Ecophenomenology Movements

We invite paper abstracts (max. 500 words) on any topic related to the conference theme. Selected submissions will be allotted a presentation time of 15–20 minutes.

Please prepare all submissions for blind review. Include all identifying information either as a separate cover sheet or in the body of your email. Identifying information should include the paper title and author’s name, email address, and institutional affiliation. Send submissions via email, as .doc or .pdf files, to gsipconference2020@gmail.com.

Please direct any inquiries to gsipconference2020@gmail.com.