Committee on Philosophy and Medicine

2015-2016 Membership

Nir Eyal, chair (2016)
Jennifer S. Hawkins, associate chair (2016)
Leonard Fleck (2016)
Andrew Ward (2016)
Matthew C. Altman (2017)
J.S. Blumenthal-Barby (2017)
Moti Gorin (2018)
J. P. Kelleher (2018)
Mary Rorty, newsletter editor
Mark Sheldon, newsletter editor
This was my final year as Chair. Let me start by describing briefly our main activity, which was putting together Committee-sponsored sessions.

The Committee-sponsored session for the APA Eastern Division meeting, titled “Removing Patients from the ICU: Is It Ever Morally Justifiable?”, was put together by Leonard M. Fleck (Michigan State University). The speakers were Marion Danis (Bioethics Center, National Institutes of Health), Luke Gelinias (Spectrum Health), Tim Murphy (University of Illinois–Chicago), and Rosamond Rhodes (Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai).

For the APA Central Division meeting, we put together two panels:

1. A panel on “The Metaphysics of the Human Person and the Definition of Death” was organized and chaired by: Matthew C. Altman (Central Washington University). The panelists were David Hershenov (University at Buffalo–SUNY), John P. Lizza (Kutztown University of Pennsylvania), Donald B. Marquis (University of Kansas), and Marya Schechtman (University of Illinois at Chicago).

2. A panel on “Cognitive (Neuro) Science and Ethics” was organized and chaired by Jennifer Blumenthal-Barby (Baylor College of Medicine). The speakers were John M. Doris (Washington University in St. Louis), Fabrice Jotterand (Regis University), Heidi M. Maibom (Carleton University), and Nomy Arpaly (Brown University).

Our Pacific APA session was entitled “Well-being, Disability, and Self-Reported Quality of Life” it was arranged and chaired by Associate Chair Jennifer Hawkins (Duke University). The main question asked was how to understand the disparity between how doctors, health economists, and the general public tend to grade the quality of life of people living
with disabilities, and the much higher grading that those people tend to assign their lives. The speakers were Sara Goering (University of Washington), who discussed “Competent Judges and Quality of Life”, Teresa Blankmeyer Burke (Gallaudet University), who discussed “Deaf Well-Being: Conceptions of the Flourishing Deaf Life”, Jason Raibley (California State University, Long Beach), who discussed “Well-being and Disability”, and Dan Haybron (Saint Louis University), who discussed “Well-being, Personal Authority, and Disability”.

Our other activities included:

- new Committee newsletters.
- examining the option of starting a blog, and a few potential blog editors – though none were interested.
- Transitioning to incoming Chair Jennifer Hawkins.