

Committee on the Status of Women

2017–2018 Membership

Charlotte Witt, chair (2019)

Peter Railton (2018)

Lisa Shapiro (2018)

Yolonda Y. Wilson (2018)

Margaret Atherton (2019)

Amy R. Baehr (2019)

Michael C. Rea (2019)

Rachel V. McKinnon (2020)

Julinna C. Oxley (2020)

Katie Stockdale (2020)

Serena Parekh, newsletter editor

Adriel M. Trott, APA Blog Series Editor

Peggy DesAutels, Site Visit Program Director

September 29, 2018

Report from the Committee on the Status of Women 2017-2018

Committee Members for 2017-2018

As of 1 July 2017, the Committee on the Status of Women comprises Charlotte Witt (chair), Peggy DesAutels (ex officio), Serena Parekh (ex officio), Margaret Atherton, Amy Baehr, Rachel McKinnon, Julinna Oxley, Peter Railton, Michael Rea, Lisa Shapiro, Katie Stockdale, Adriel Trott (ex officio) and Yolanda Wilson.

Major Projects and Activities

New Women in Philosophy Blog Series on the Blog of the APA

Working with Nathan Eckstrand the committee inaugurated a Women in Philosophy series on the Blog of the APA. The inaugural editor of the series is Professor Adriel Trott, who has agreed to a two- year commitment in that role. The blog editor is an ex officio member of the Committee on the Status of Women. Thus far, in some dozen posts, the series has ranged widely from reflections on trans issues to the historical figure of Hypatia, from diversity in philosophy journals to difficulties in the norms governing philosophical writing and publishing. This is an exciting opportunity for the committee to reach out to the broader philosophical community and engage in respectful dialogue.

CSW Website

The CSW website, at <http://www.apaonlinecsw.org/>, continues to offer posters featuring contemporary women in philosophy, as well as news about women philosophers. See our recent post publicizing the new blog series Women in Philosophy. Links to excellent resources include one to a database on teaching, with articles and readings; another to the crowd-sourced directory of women philosophers; and one to the APA Ombudsperson for Nondiscrimination, who will receive complaints of discrimination and, where possible, serve as a resource to APA members regarding such complaints. A goal for next year is to update the resources on the CSW website and to add resources concerning women in the history of philosophy.

Site Visit Program

Professor Peggy DesAutels has been re-appointed as director of the Site Visit Program for a five year term.

CSW Sessions at APA Meetings

Unfortunately, our session on “Inclusivity in the Teaching and Practice of Philosophy” planned for the Eastern APA in Savannah had to be cancelled due to the storm.

At the Central Division Meeting the CSW organized a session on “Implicit Bias”.

The CSW participated in planning and co-sponsored a mini-conference on inclusion and diversity at the Pacific Division APA in San Diego. (2018) And we also co-sponsored a session on diversity in philosophy journals.

Concluding Thoughts and Plans

We are looking forward to several initiatives in the next year. One idea that we are discussing is how best to participate in and contribute to the Diversity Summit (currently being planned by Professor Lori Watson). Several committee members are also interested in working on a mentoring project for women philosophy faculty who might feel isolated in their home departments.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Witt, Chair
Committee on the Status of Women