Committee on Pre-College Instruction in Philosophy

2018–2019 Membership

Wendy C. Turgeon, chair (2021)
Natalie M. Fletcher (2019)
Steven E. Swartzer (2019)
Marisol Brito (2020)
Amy Reed-Sandoval (2020)
Claire Katz (2021)
John Torrey (2021)
The APA Committee on Pre-College Instruction in Philosophy (CPIP) works on (1) educating the professional philosophical community about pre-college philosophy; (2) developing initiatives to advance pre-college philosophy that can then be supported or further developed by the Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO); and (3) helping to raise the profile of philosophy in the general society.

Consistent with these priorities, CPIP has worked on the following projects during the year July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019:
1. CPIP sponsored sessions at all three APA divisional meetings in 2019, in conjunction with the Teaching Hub at each meeting. This was our main achievement.

Eastern APA - January 2019

Panel: "What’s the value of pre-college philosophy? Views from facilitators and teachers"

John Ryan Torrey, Chair, SUNY-Buffalo State

The value of precollege philosophy
Joseph Biehl, Gotham Philosophical Society

Notes from the front: teaching philosophy in high school,
Wendy Way, Bethpage High School

Philosophy is for adults! Responding to the challengers
Wendy C. Turgeon, St. Joseph’s College-NY

A Student Viewpoint
Cora Drozd
Texas A & M University

This session was well attended (over 20) and generated a lively discussion. Attendees were particularly interested in hearing from the high school teacher about her experiences.

Central APA: February 2019

We sponsored two sessions

Session 1 -- Panel session on “Why (and how) you should support High School Ethics Bowl”

Geoff Sayre-McCord, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Steven Swartzer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Session 2 -- An Interaction session: High School Ethics Bowl: Pedagogy and Practice
Facilitated by Geoff Sayre-McCord and Steven Swartzer

The two NHSEB sessions at the central were successful. They had about 7 people in the audience for each of them, and a lot of good discussion/questions. As part of the second session (the Teaching Hub one) Steve and Geoff were able to arrange for three high school students from a Denver team to stop by and describe their experiences (this was their first year in this program, and they won their regional competition). They were a
great hit! As always, the attendees were very interested to hear the perspectives of the students who participate in this program. We decided to bring this presentation to the Eastern in 2020. See below.

**Pacific APA: In April 2019**

**“Diving in” to Philosophy for Young People – A Workshop with a Variety of Approaches for Participants to Experience**

"Let's Talk About Sex: Pre-college Philosophy as a Model for Just, Inclusive, and Comprehensive Sex Education”
Marisol Brito, Metropolitan State University

“Politics/Social Justice P4K”
Natalie Fletcher, Brila Youth Projects

“P4C in India”
David Shapiro, Cascadia Community College, University of Washington Center for P4C

Unfortunately our fourth scheduled presenter, Amy Reed-Sandoval (“Immersive Spanish Language P4K”) was unable to attend due to a family illness. However, the diverse experiences of the presenters and the cultural and social aspects of these presentations attracted a robust audience who appeared eager to see the implications of pre-college philosophy in this wide range of venues.

**2020 Planned sessions [organized during late spring, early summer 2019]**

**Eastern APA: Pre-College Philosophy as Pedagogy: Lessons for Teaching in Higher Education.**

Chair: Darryl DeMarzio, University of Scranton

Amy Reed-Sandoval, University of Nevada Las Vegas
“Race, Pre-College Philosophy, and the Pursuit of a Critical Race Pedagogy for Higher Education”

Wendy Way and high school student (TBD,) Bethpage High School (Long Island, NY)
“Jerry Maguire and Philosophy: Help Me Help You.”

John Torrey, SUNY Buffalo State
“Pre-College Philosophy and Undergraduate Teaching: Lessons from Philosophy Camp.”

**Second panel (not part of the Teaching Hub)**
The National High School Ethics Bowl: How (and Why you might want) to get involved

Chair: Geoff Sayre-McCord, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,
Panelist: David Boonin, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder
Panelist: Zoë Johnson King, New York University
Panelist; Steve Swartzek, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,

Central APA 2020: Using Pre-College Philosophy to Engage Controversial Subjects and Support Difficult Conversations, organized by Marisol Brito

Claire Katz / Texas A&M University/ Race and Gender

Marisol Brito / Metropolitan State University / Sex and Sexuality

Jennifer Parks / Loyola University / Topic TBD

Brandon Olsen / Loyola University / Chair and alternate if needed

Pacific APA: Pacific APA: “Diving in” to precollege philosophy, with sample sessions Organized by Marisol Brito, Amy Reed-Sandoval, and Natalie Fletcher

Pacific APA 2020:

Philosophical Fiction in Childhood: Curating Meaningful Experiences in Thinking
Christine Ng, Chair
PLATO, San Francisco,

"The Birth of a Genre: Matthew Lipman's Philosophical Novels for Children” – David Kennedy, Montclair State University, NJ,

"Dialectical Images of Childhood: (De)constructing Experience Through Sequential Art – Léa Cossette Brillard, Institute of Philosophy, Citizenship and Youth, Montreal-Canada,

“Can Philosophical Fiction Take Care of Adolescence? – The Co-Construction of a Novel” – Natalie M. Fletcher, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada

2. CPIP holds one in-person meeting each year, at which most members attend and one or two participate by conference call. Unfortunately we were unable to achieve a meeting in 2018-2019 due to conflicts, cancellations, etc. We hope to rectify that lapse this current year.

3. We did present a poster on the nature of the committee at the June 2019 PLATO conference in Florida. This attracted questions from participants and interest in the work of the committee.
4. CPIP continues to be interested in exploring ways to help make philosophy more inclusive and diverse at all levels. The session at the Pacific APA (2019) aimed to highlight particular programs in varying cultural and social milieu. Our program scheduled for the Central for 2020 will tackle difficult subjects.

We are a small working group and everyone is quite busy with their own projects. We would have liked to take on more projects but we were not able to do so this year. We welcome suggestions from the larger philosophical community which might see avenues for the committee on precollege philosophy to pursue.

Prepared by Wendy C. Turgeon

9/27/2019