

Committee on Pre-College Instruction in Philosophy

Annual Report

September 1, 2010

Current Membership:

Committee Chair

P-Jana Mohr Lone (2012)

Committee Members

E-Craig B. Merow (2011)

E-Wendy Turgeon (2011)

E-Carlos Rodriguez (2011)

C-Steven Goldberg (2012)

E-Thomas E. Wartenberg (2012)

C-Alison N.C. Reiheld (2013)

P-David A. Shapiro (2013)

During the year July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010, the Committee has been extremely active. At our summer 2009 meeting, the Committee articulated the priorities of CPIP as follows: (1) Providing a central network for all those involved in pre-college philosophy in the US; (2) Outreach to pre-college philosophy teachers with training and support, including working with the educational community to set standards for pre-college philosophy instruction; (3) Educating philosophy faculty and graduate students about the importance of pre-college philosophy; and (4) Helping to raise the profile of philosophy in the general society.

Consistent with these priorities, CPIP has been involved on the following projects over the last year:

1. CPIP created a new organization, PLATO (Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization), which is dedicated to being a national voice for advocating the introduction of philosophy into pre-college classrooms and to connecting the education and philosophy communities through programs, resource-sharing and the development of a national network of those working in pre-college philosophy. PLATO membership will involve a new APA Teacher Associate membership category, which was approved by the APA board of Officers in November 2009. We are hoping to begin registering new members this fall. Information about PLATO has been distributed in multiple venues.

2. The first annual PLATO Institute will take place in June 2011 in New York City. A steering committee is in the process of creating the program and handling the logistics of this event.

3. CPIP launched a website for PLATO (<http://plato-apa.org>), which includes a wide variety of resources and information for those engaged in pre-college philosophy in the United States.

4. The committee sponsored sessions at all three APA divisional meetings in 2009-10 and plans again to sponsor sessions at all three APA divisional meetings this coming academic year.

5. We are exploring the possibility of making all issues of the journal *Questions* available online.

6. We have been working on strengthening ties to and coordinating programs with the Committee on Teaching Philosophy. We are currently working together on a project to encourage programs that would create new models for partnerships between university philosophy programs and K-12 schools.

7. CPIP is helping to coordinate and sponsor the mini-conference on Philosophy with Children at the Pacific Division meeting in San Diego in April 2011 that is being organized by committee member Tom Wartenberg.

8. CPIP has been meeting twice a year, in New York City in June and at the Eastern Division meeting in December. Several graduate students involved in pre-college philosophy attended our June 2010 meeting, and we are endeavoring to involve graduate students in the work of the committee.

Part of the reason the committee is now able to hold regular meetings is the support of the Squire Family Foundation, which has continued to provide CPIP with organizational, financial and administrative assistance. The Foundation's mission and resources have helped immensely to facilitate CPIP's ability to pursue its charge. The Foundation's Executive Director, Roberta Israeloff, continues to be of invaluable help to CPIP in supporting our activities and meetings.