

Proposal

femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast

Abstract:

We are requesting funds to support **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**. Podcasts are best thought of as radio programs that are accessible via the internet. Podcasts have become an increasingly important way of providing public access to the latest developments in a field, particularly in the natural sciences, but also in the humanities. There are several important podcasts in philosophy, including Philosophy Bites, Radiolab and Philosophy Talk. Our new program '**femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**' aims to be the first podcast focusing on feminist philosophy.

Although **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** seeks a wide audience, we want to showcase the current work of feminist philosophy without erasing the difficulty and complexity that sometimes comes with academic philosophy. Our website will function not just as a place for storage of the podcasts, but will provide resources for our listeners who want to learn more about the topics our podcast will cover.

Import:

The mission of **femphil, the feminist philosophy podcast**, is to provide a space for feminist discussion of philosophy and public affairs to the world of radio and podcasting. Bringing philosophy into the public discourse improves the public discourse and the public appreciation for philosophy. There are many in the educated public who are interested in philosophical topics and the podcast has become the de rigueur mode of presenting philosophy to the public.

Current feminist philosophers and activists, although involved in public philosophy projects, such as blogs or message boards, have little experience in bringing their ideas to a wider public in the form of broadcast media. Along with our aim of producing high quality feminist philosophy podcasts we are also requesting resources to train the current and next generation of feminist philosophers.

Although the format for our podcasts is not set in stone, several of our podcasts are already produced in the following format:

1. Introduction (of topic and interviewee).
2. Interview with feminist philosopher/panel of feminist philosophers on recent work/topic/book/current affair as it relates to their specialty.
3. Vox Pop: Audio montage of quick street interviews with participants answering one question chosen by the interviewee
4. Short pieces explaining the concepts addressed in the podcast

Although it is easier and cheaper to produce professional quality audio than video, we want our podcasts to be of the highest quality. By this we mean that all interviews for the podcasts will be well recorded, well paced and the diverse audio segments will be interesting in content and style. We will rely on the expertise and experience of those on our advisory board and volunteers to make sure that these programs are extremely well produced.

Description of the Project to the Philosophical and Larger Community:

femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast is an audio program which presents the latest research in feminist philosophy for an educated audience of those interested in philosophy. Comprehensible to the educated public, **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** will also be comprehensive and complex enough to reflect the dialogues within feminist philosophy and to be of interest to professional philosophers and graduate students. **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** will focus both on topics and on figures in philosophy, and will produce programs from all philosophical perspectives (analytic, continental, historical, pragmatist, post-colonial, etc.) and on topics from all areas of contemporary philosophy (Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, etc.). **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** seeks contributors and interview subjects from all areas of feminist philosophy and seeks to be an open forum for all interested in feminist philosophy.

Advisory Committee:

Our advisory committee is made up of feminist philosophers and radio specialists who bring expertise, connections and in some cases the requisite gravitas for a project that is somewhat unusual in the academe. Although philosophers to a certain extent have accepted podcasting and blogs as a normal part of the academic world, either as exercises in teaching, publishing, or service, there is still some reluctance on the part of some philosophers to engage in such projects that bring philosophy to a wider audience. We hope to have put together a committee that will ensure that we produce a podcast of the highest quality that is promulgated far and wide within and outside the bounds of the academy.

Dr. Ericka Tucker (fiscal agent), Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Cal Poly Pomona, Pomona, CA.

Dr. Laurie Shrage, Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, NJ; Director and Professor, Women's Studies Department, Florida International University.

Dr. Ann Gary, Professor Emerita, Department of Philosophy and Gender Studies, Cal State Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Sandra Harding, Professor, Education and Social Sciences, UCLA.

Dr. Emily Lee, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Cal State Fullerton
Lynn Harris Ballen, Producer, *Feminist Magazine*; Member of the Women's Coalition at KPFK Radio, Los Angeles.

Extended Biographies of the members of the Advisory Committee are located in Appendix I.

The Future of the Advisory Committee

The west coast of the United States is currently heavily represented in our advisory board. We are currently approaching feminist philosophers throughout the United States and internationally either to become members of the advisory board or to be contributors or interviewees for the podcast.

Groundwork/Community Relationships:

There are several types of groundwork we have covered, given the communities with which we wish to connect and the type of work in which we are engaged. Below, under each subheading is a brief description of our preparation.

Feminist Philosophers

We have discussed this project with our colleagues and students who make up the feminist philosophical community, and have plans to continue to get the word to those interested in feminist philosophy through presentations at conferences. We have planned our first presentation and training session at the Pacific Society for Women in Philosophy Meeting (November, 2012) to be held at Cal Poly Pomona, Pomona, CA.

Feminist Broadcasting Community

We have prepared the groundwork for this project within the feminist radio community. Although we believe that podcasts are valuable, we also believe that having a traditional broadcast medium is an important route to publicity and also to future funding of the project. We have contacted and made agreements with three longstanding feminist radio programs throughout the United States to air portions of our podcasts on broadcast radio.

The fiscal agent and director of the project, Dr. Ericka Tucker has worked in radio for over 10 years, and has strong connections in the community radio and public radio worlds. As a member of feminist radio programs in Portland, Oregon, Atlanta, Georgia, and Los Angeles, CA, and as a presenter and participant at national conferences (NFCB The National Federation of Community Broadcasters, AIR, The Association of Independents in Radio; AMARC, World Association of Community Broadcasters) Dr. Tucker has a comprehensive knowledge of the independent and public radio world, which will enable **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** to be broadcast nationally and internationally.

Podcast Production and Content Groundwork

We have organized a number of interviews and panels for the summer and fall with noted feminist philosophers on topics of current interest in the field. We expect the website and podcast to go live in early September, with several programs available for download and streaming. We have interviews scheduled throughout the fall to provide content for podcasts in the winter and spring. We have made attempts to reach out to feminist philosophers working in all traditions of contemporary feminist philosophy, including analytic feminism, continental traditions, the history of philosophy and critical theory. Further, the podcast and our advisory board is made up of philosophers working in all

areas of contemporary feminist philosophy, including: Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Public Philosophy and Comparative Philosophy. Our aim is to make this an inclusive podcast that brings out the best work from all traditions and areas of feminist philosophy.

Training

Our ultimate aim is to train professional philosophers and graduate students in the practice of bringing their ideas to the community through both written and aural media. While there are already great feminist projects focusing on video, audio projects, such as this one, are cheaper and easier to produce well. Dr. Tucker, Dr. Schrage and Lynn Harris Ballen have experience producing radio programs of the highest quality and training others to do so (including graduate and undergraduate students). Their experience and skill set the groundwork for a well-produced highly regarded source of feminist philosophy.

Media

Practically, we have already set up a website and social media sites (Facebook, Twitter). We have purchased a domain name (femphil.org) and have secured temporary webhosting. We have organized a contract with a streaming service (at Cal Poly Pomona), and we have coordinated a contract with iTunes to host episodes of the podcast. We have also prepared press releases to send to feminist radio programs in the fall.

Outreach:

We hope to reach out to the public through our media campaigns (above); however, we also plan to reach out to younger philosophers, graduate students and undergraduates to allow for multigenerational participation in **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**. We also hope to present our work at conferences like SWIP, FEAST, FEMMSS, the APA, and the Advancing Public Philosophy Conference.

Website:

We own the domain: femphil.org and will be hosting a site there soon. The production site is located at <http://www.tinyurl.com/femphilpodcast>. The final domain to which a link ought to be put on the apa site is the following: <http://www.femphil.org>

Intellectual Property Licensing

We are producing the podcast under the Creative Commons (Attribution-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported) license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/3.0/legalcode>). This license allows for use, linking, and broadcast of our programs with permission and given proper attribution, which, if this grant is successful, will include the American Philosophical Association. This will also allow us to charge a rebroadcasting fee, which we can use to support the recurring costs of the podcast.

Fiscal Agent

Dr. Ericka Tucker is the fiscal agent of record for this project.

Budget:

1. The cost of and web streaming: **\$500**
 - a. Web hosting and Streaming: \$500 for one year (This is a quote from the internal streaming team at Cal Poly Pomona.)
2. Equipment: 3 portable field recorders (Zoom H2 field recorders) **\$600**
 - a. These field recorders will be used initially for training and then will be lent to feminist philosophers and graduate students to produce programs for **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** as part of our outreach strategy.
3. Cost of travel to the E-SWIP; SWIP; FEAST: **\$2400**
 - a. To present **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**, and to run training sessions for professional philosophers and graduate students
 - b. To record sessions and interviews with philosophers.
4. Legal fees for registering as a non-profit in order to support the program in future: **\$3000**
5. **\$1000** for two to three graduate student stipends, to allow for a call for proposals and to train graduate students to produce pieces for **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**.

Total Amount Requested: \$7500

Budget Timeline:

1. The webstreaming payment is one that should be handled before the end of the 2013 fiscal year, which, for the purposes of Cal Poly Pomona, means that paperwork must be submitted by May 31st, 2013. **\$500**, by May, 2013.
2. Money for equipment is the first priority of this project, as we would like to begin training interested professors, graduate students and advanced undergraduates as soon as possible, but before November, 2012, the date of the first training session and the Pacific Society for Women in Philosophy. **\$600** by November, 2012
3. Travel costs are best distributed as soon as possible, to allow for the cheapest tickets and accommodations possible. **\$2400** by November, 2012.
4. The process of registering as a 501c3 non-profit organization is one that can take time, so it would be best to start this process as soon as possible. Thus, if possible, it would be preferable to receive the funds for legal fees as soon as possible: **\$3000** in September, 2012. This is preferable, although, not necessary.
5. The graduate stipend funding would be an excellent way to encourage young philosophers and to build the project for years to come, but there is no particular timeline for this funding. Ideally, sometime in the Spring of 2013 with disbursements before the summer.

Recurring Costs and Future Support for this Project:

Since one of the aims of this proposal is to ensure that **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** can become self-supporting, we have built in costs for the legal fees to become a non-profit entity, through which we will be able to support more easily our recurring costs.

Our recurring costs include the streaming costs and travel costs. We hope to be able to secure funding for these through donations, grants, and licensing agreements with public

and community radio stations to broadcast episodes of **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**.

Timeline:

June 2012:

- Finalize membership of advisory board
- Recruit interviewees for upcoming podcasts
- Write and Submit APA Grant
- Register Domain Name
- Create Social Media Sites

July 2012:

- Finalize website design and coordinate streaming services
- Travel to interview initial participants and produce the first set of podcasts
- Schedule remaining summer interviews

August 2012:

- Finalize the first set of podcasts

September 2012:

- (Virtual) Meeting of the Advisory Board
 - Evaluation of the first set of podcasts
- Release the first set of podcasts
- Send out press releases/information to feminist philosophy listservs and blogs
- Begin legal process to form a 501c3 non-profit.

November 2012:

- First training and presentation at the 2012 meeting of the Pacific Society for Women in Philosophy

January 2013:

- (Virtual) Meeting of the Advisory Board
 - Evaluation of the second set of podcasts
- Release the second set of podcasts
- Send out the Call for Graduate Student Proposals

Spring 2013:

- Continue to interview, produce and post podcasts
- Determine and Announce Graduate Proposal finalists
- Apply for appropriate grants

October, 2013

- Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST) Conference interviews, networking and possible presentations.

April, 2013

- Eastern Society for Women in Philosophy Conference interviews, networking and possible presentations.

Project Assessment:

The project will be assessed on a quarterly basis by the advisory board as a committee of the whole. We will be using a rubric designed to assess the quality of the podcasts on several different measures. Each member of the advisory board will listen and report on at least three programs, and assess them for quality of the philosophical discussion, production quality, relevance to public debate, and impact on the community. We will be employing Google Analytics on the website and stream to see how many times the website is accessed and the podcast screened or shared. iTunes provides additional analysis of streaming and downloading of podcasts.

Using committee reviews and listening reports will engage the advisory committee in the continuing production of the podcast. This evaluation and reporting process will spark useful debates and ideas for further podcasts as well as providing a method of evaluation and assessment.

Advertisement of the Project:

We will advertise the project primarily through our website, social media sites, conference presentations and trainings (such as those at the Societies for Women in Philosophy, and those at Community Media Conferences such as AIR, AMARC and the NFCB, described above).

We will also provide short news releases about the podcast for existing feminist philosophy blogs. The feminist philosophy blogging world is becoming richer by the day, and we consider these blogs excellent forums for advertising and recruiting new members for the podcast. We will certainly post on the highly regarded Feminist Philosophers blog, among others. We will also send out an announcement to the various feminist philosophy listservs, including, among others, the SWIP and FEAST lists. We will also prepare a description of and links to the podcast for the APA Committee on the Status of Women in Philosophy.

Public Accessibility:

Each podcast will be accompanied by a website which will explain the basic premise of the show and links to relevant articles and books. Unless there is substantial interest and additional funding, we will not be providing transcripts of the programs. However, we may revisit this in the future, depending on funding.

Additional Funding:

The Cal Poly Pomona Foundation has provided funding for this summer's work. It has allowed our fiscal agent (Dr. Ericka Tucker) to travel to meet with advisory board members and to interview and produce podcasts with feminist philosophers throughout the United States.

Future Funding:

We have included the legal costs for forming a non-profit into this grant in order to assure the future funding of **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**. We will seek future funding in several ways: through donations, memberships, and rebroadcast and download fees. Streaming of the podcast will always remain free, however we believe that it would be wise to charge a nominal amount (\$1.99) for downloading archived podcasts. This is a standard practice.

Appendix I: Biographies of Advisory Board

Dr. Ericka Tucker (fiscal agent)

Assistant Professor

Department of Philosophy

Cal Poly Pomona, Pomona, CA

Dr. Tucker specializes in Feminist Political Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy and Philosophy of Emotion. She has degrees in philosophy from Brown University (A.B., 1999) and Emory University (M.A., 2007, Ph.D. 2009) and a Certificate in Women's Studies from Emory University in 2009.

Between 1999 and 2003, Dr. Tucker worked as a freelance radio producer and radio engineer, primarily for feminist collective radio programs in Portland, Oregon. Upon entering graduate school in 2003, Dr. Tucker continued working with radio shows in Atlanta, Georgia, while developing archiving and podcast solutions for radio programs at several community radio stations. Currently, Dr. Tucker is working on a book tentatively titled: "Refugee Community Radio and Democracy". After helping build a community radio station for the large population of East African, Bhutanese and Nepalese refugees in Clarkston, Georgia in 2008, Dr. Tucker has returned to write a book on the impact of the radio station on the community. Although her book is aimed at a wide audience, at its core is an argument for maximally participatory communicative democracy. Below is a brief selection of Dr. Tucker's experience in radio production and training.

Feminist Magazine, KPFK Pacifica, Los Angeles, CA, 2/2010-present

Radio Producer, Audio Engineering Trainer

- As a member of the KPFK Pacifica Women's Coalition I produce and host radio programs, write grants and train volunteers how to use field recorders and edit digital audio for a long-running prime-time feminist public affairs radio program.

Sagal Radio, Atlanta, GA 6/2008-9/2009

HEARMe Project Coordinator

- Built a state-of-the-art radio studio and developed programming on health and wellbeing for a multi-lingual, volunteer-run, refugee-serving community radio station
- Created and ran internship program for refugee and asylee teen interns from the International Rescue Committee in Clarkston, GA

WRFG Community Radio, Atlanta, GA 1/2005-9/2009

Tech and Training Coordinator

- Designed, built, researched and wrote grants to support a community media center and computer lab, where volunteer radio producers and community members learn audio production skills, including podcasting, interviewing, and field recording

KBOO Community Radio, Portland OR, 10/00-9/2003

Producer/Engineer

- Producer and engineer for *Feminista Factor*, an international news program
- Producer and engineer for *Bread and Roses*, a feminist public affairs program

National Breast Cancer Project, Portland, OR, 12/02-3/03

Documentary Fellow

- Produced a documentary on the organization Breast Cancer Action for a special series on Breast Cancer sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

A selection of the radio programs Dr. Tucker has produced:

- “Refugee Community Radio and FGM.” WRFG Community Radio, Atlanta, GA August, 2012)
- World Refugee Day Live Reporting, Sagal Radio, Clarkston, GA, June 18th, 2012.
- ‘CEDAW Revisited: Global Justice for Women?’ *Feminist Magazine*, KPFFK Pacifica, Los Angeles, CA
- ‘Atlanta Meets the World: the U.S. Social Forum’, Special Programming, WRFG Community Radio, Atlanta, GA, July 2007
- ‘Power and Political Participation’, *Class Chronicles*, WRFG Community Radio, Atlanta, GA, June 2007
- ‘Race, Class, and the French Election: a special report from Paris’, *Class Chronicles*, WRFG Community Radio, Atlanta, GA, May 2007
- ‘Communicative Participation in Venezuela’s Low-Power Radio Stations’, Special Programming, WRFG Community Radio, Atlanta, GA, December 2005
- ‘The Politics of International Sex Trafficking’ 4 part series. *Bread and Roses*. KBOO, Portland, OR. 11/19/00 - 01/14/01
- ‘Feminista Factor: Monthly Report.’ Produced by Grace Hague and Ericka Tucker. *Feminista Factor*. KBOO, Portland, OR. Monthly from 10/00-01/02
- ‘Beijing+7: the state of the world for women.’ *International Women's Day Special Report*. KBOO, Portland, OR, 3/8/02
- ‘Rhetoric for social change: an interview with *Mommy Queerest* author Julie Thompson.’ *Bread and Roses*. KBOO, Portland, OR, 2/2/03
- ‘The Reemergence of sweatshops in the U.S.: interviews with Ellen Israel Rosen, author of *Making Sweatshops: Globalization and the U.S. Apparel Industry* and local activists.’ *Bread and Roses*. KBOO, Portland, OR, 2/16/03
- ‘Femicide: International Perspectives on Violence,’ *Bread and Roses*. KBOO, Portland, OR, 3/2/03
- ‘Community Radio for All: Community Radio and Women's Collectives in Global Perspective.’ *International Women's Day Special Report*. KBOO, Portland, OR. 3/8/03
- ‘UNIFEM's Trust Fund for the Elimination of Violence.’ *Bread and Roses*. KBOO, Portland, OR, 3/16/03

Dr. Laurie Shrage

Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, NJ
Professor, Department of Philosophy
Director and Professor,
Women's Studies Department
Florida International University
Miami, FL

Dr. Shrage is a respected feminist philosopher, who has served the field in many ways, including co-editing the journal *Hypatia*, helping start the Women's Studies program at Cal Poly Pomona, where she was a Professor of Philosophy for many years.

Since starting her position as Professor of Philosophy and Director and Professor of Women's Studies at Florida International University in 2009, Dr. Shrage has been working with students producing radio programs for FIU's Campus Radio station and for the local public radio station. She has presented on this work at the APA, and at other forums.

Dr. Shrage brings a wealth of experience and connections in women's studies and feminist philosophy, together with an interest and passion for radio and for public philosophy and is an active supporter and participant in producing podcasts for **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** as well as being a member of the advisory committee.

Dr. Ann Gary

Professor Emerita
Departments of Philosophy and Gender Studies
Cal State Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Ann Gary graciously volunteered for our first podcast on the history, present and future of analytic feminism (*forthcoming, Fall 2012*). Although her technical knowledge of audio production is in the early phases, Dr. Gary brings enthusiasm and a lifetime commitment to supporting feminist philosophy. We are honored to have her as a participant and advisory board member.

Dr. Sandra Harding

Professor, Education and Social Sciences
UCLA
Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Sandra Harding is a well-known and well-respected feminist philosopher and philosopher of science. Her essays and books are classics in both fields and she continues her work today with investigations into trans-cultural feminism, and scientific practices. Her international work and contacts will bring a richness to **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**, and will allow the podcast to expand beyond the focus on the United States.

Dr. Emily Lee

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Cal State Fullerton

Dr. Lee specializes in Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Race, and Phenomenology. She is the former Secretary of the Pacific Society for women in philosophy and is active professionally in her areas of expertise. Dr. Lee brings enthusiasm to the project and is familiar with the technological aspects of podcasting. She is looking forwards to engaging her students in producing pieces for **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast**.

Lynn Harris Ballen

Producer, *Feminist Magazine*

Member of the Women's Coalition

KPFK Radio, Los Angeles, CA

Lynn Harris Ballen is a professional radio producer who runs the podcast and website for Feminist Magazine, one of the longest running feminist radio programs in the United States. In addition to providing her expertise in production and in evaluating the podcasts for quality, Ballen's connections in the larger world of feminist politics and media will allow for those communities who might be interested in **femphil: the feminist philosophy podcast** to hear about it.