

Amy E. Ferrer  
Executive Director  
American Philosophical Association  
University of Delaware  
31 Amstel Avenue  
Newark, DE, 19716

September 30th, 2016

Dear Amy E. Ferrer et al.,

First let me express my gratitude for the small grant fund provided by the American Philosophical Association for the “Feminist Decolonial Politics: A Decolonial Thought Workshop.” The small grant was instrumental in making the workshop a success in 2016. In regard to the written report requested by the APA, below we have provided the following information: i) a summary of the event; ii) details of how the APA funding was spent; iii) an evaluation of the Feminist Decolonial Politics Workshop; iv) an account of how the spending was in keeping with the proposal submitted last year.

### Summary of the Event

The Decolonial Feminist Politics Workshop took place in Charlotte, NC from Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> until Friday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2016. Participants met from 10:00AM until 4:00PM each day. There were either two 2-hour presentations each day, or a 2-hour presentation followed by a screening of a documentary. We worked through three texts by Trinh T. Minh-ha; *Woman, Native, Other* (1989); *When the Moon Waxes Red* (1991); and *Elsewhere, Within Here* (2010). We also watched two documentaries by Trinh: *Naked Spaces: Living is Round* (1985) and *Reassemblage* (1982). For more information about the workshop, please visit the website at <https://decolonialthoughtworkshop.wordpress.com/>.

### Details of APA grant spending

<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Travel Reimbursement: Participant #1 (Kaitlyn)</b>	\$200.00
<b>Travel Reimbursement: Participant #2 (Chris)</b>	\$200.00
<b>Travel Reimbursement: Participant #3 (Ashley)</b>	\$200.00
<b>Travel Reimbursement: Participant #4 (Yvonne)</b>	\$415.00
<b>Accommodation (For participants 1 and 2)</b>	\$391.85
<b>Parking Passes</b>	\$24.00
<b>One catered lunch for all participants</b>	\$69.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1500.16</b>

Receipts for all spending can be submitted upon request.

## **Evaluation of the Workshop**

The 2016 Decolonial Feminist Politics workshop was a great success and the small grant fund from the APA was instrumental in making it so. The participants were from various levels within academia (MA and PhD students, adjuncts, post-docs, and an assistant professor), and most participants were in philosophy, with the exception of one participant who is a sociologist. Participants were representative of various gender, racial, and sexual identities (women-identified, trans, queer, people of color) and from differing geo-political locations. They traveled primarily from the East Coast of the U.S. There were also various other persons interested in the workshop from Canada, South Africa, and Eastern Europe who were unable to attend for financial reasons.

The participants of this workshop were able to work through three texts by Trinh T. Minh-ha. The texts were dense and complicated and provided a site for analytic attention to the writings of a woman of color feminist whose work is dedicated to understanding transnational networks of solidarity, critical epistemology, and conceptions of the self. Her work provided a rich framework for the many intersecting analytic perspectives from the workshop participants.

Participants were excited about the material we analyzed and have already expressed interest in continuing to study Trinh's work. One participant is working on a book project and intends to include various themes developed by Trinh. Also, several participants are planning on putting together a panel presentation for a feminist philosophy conference, as well as a number of individual conference proposals. In addition, we discussed ways to include Trinh's work in our various courses. Participants were motivated after the workshop and were eager to continue to work on women of color and decolonial feminism. In addition, the workshop provided an opportunity for women and gender-nonconforming people in philosophy to find community and create a system of support outside of their respective academic institutions.

## **Evaluation in keeping with the proposal**

In the proposal, we stated that the funding would be used for three purposes. First, we intended on inviting a prominent scholar to speak with workshop participants and to give a public presentation. Second, we intended to use funds for the purpose of inviting scholars (namely graduate students and those who are under/unemployed) who might not have access to institutional funding. Third, we intended on using funds in order to secure a works space in which to conduct the workshop.

Fortunately, we were able to secure a free meeting space in which to hold the workshop. Furthermore, we decided it was most appropriate to fund the workshop participants rather than to provide funding to a prominent scholar and for this reason chose not to invite a prominent scholar in 2016. Several workshop participants were allocated \$200 towards travel, accommodation, and expenses while attending the workshop, prior to attending the workshop. Unfortunately, several persons who had applied to the workshop and were accepted ultimately were unable to attend the workshop because of a lack of funds. Leftover funds were then distributed at the end of the workshop to participants who were able to participate in the workshop. In addition, eating out every day was proving to be very expensive for many of the workshop participants. In light of this added expense, we paid for one lunch for all participants with a small portion of the grant funds. Finally, we facilitated the purchase of parking passes for

participants to park their cars on campus. Passes are required to park on campus and buying them in bulk made the transaction more cost effective.

Again, I would like to thank you for awarding us the American Philosophical Association small grant fund. The majority of the participants were able to attend the workshop because of the grant. As a result, the grant had a big impact on the success of the workshop and we feel that the workshop will have a continued impact on scholarship done in philosophy, as well as providing much needed support to marginalized persons in this field. If you need any additional information, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Paquette

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