This month’s “Philosopher in Print” is recent Ph.D. recipient, Michael Longenecker. His piece titled “Imprints in Time: Towards a Moderately Robust Past” is in the August edition of Philosophical Studies.

Abstract:

Presentism says that only present objects exist (timelessly). But the view has trouble grounding past-tensed truths like “dinosaurs existed”. Standard Eternalism grounds those truths by positing the (timeless) existence of past objects—like dinosaurs. But Standard Eternalism conflicts with the intuition that there is genuine change—the intuition that there once were dinosaurs and no longer are any. I offer a novel theory of time—The Imprint—that does a better job preserving both the grounding and genuine change intuitions. The Imprint says that the past and present exist (in the timeless sense), but where the present exhibits mass-energy, the past only consists of curved empty regions of spacetime. We therefore avoid saying that there are dinosaurs, since there is no mass-energy in the past, but the curvature of the past gives us a way to ground the truth that “dinosaurs existed”.

Link to paper found here


**News and Announcements**

- **Holiday Break**
  Reminder that the entire university will be closed from December 24-January 1st. The office will re-open on January 2nd. Plan accordingly.

- **Philosophy t-shirts!!**
  We finally have a winner! Navy Blue, no quote was our chosen design. They have been ordered and we will let you know via email when they are available for purchase! Thanks to everyone that voted!

- **Congratulations to Michael Rauchenbach!**
  Michael defended his dissertation "Spinoza's Isolationism". His director is Sam Newlands, and his committee members are Brian Cutter, Jeff Speaks, and Leopold Stubenberg.

- **CPR News:**
  N.T. Wright, Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St Andrews School of Divinity, presented the Seventh Annual Analytic Theology Lecture titled ‘The Meanings of History: Event and Interpretation in the Bible and Theology’ in conjunction with the AAR & SBL Annual Meetings in Boston on November 9, 2017. You may view the video and read the abstract on our [website].

- **CPR News:**
  The Logos 2018 Workshop will be held at Notre Dame on May 24-26. The title is “Race, Gender, Ability, and Class: Expanding Conversations in Analytic Theology”. Please visit the Center’s [website] for further details.

- **Philosophy Mentors Needed!**
  If you are a graduate student and want to mentor an undergraduate student, email Louise (lwilli16@nd.edu).

- **Do you have any suggestions for our newsletter? Fill out this poll to tell us what!**

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**University Band Winter Concert**
3-4:30 pm
Leighton Concert Hall

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**Last Class Day**

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**Reading Days**
Dec 8-10

**President’s Christmas Reception**
2-4 pm
Main Building

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**Finals Week December 11-15**

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**Happy Hannukah!**

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**Grades Due**

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**Grades can be viewed by students**

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**University Closed Dec. 24-Jan 2**

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**Merry Christmas!**

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**GRAD CFP’S**

**UNDERGRAD CFP’S**

**CONFERENCE**