

November 2019

ND Philosophy

Philosopher in Print

This month's 'Philosopher in Print' is Grad Student, Ellen Lehet. Her article "Induction and Explanatory Definitions in Mathematics" is available in the September issue of *Synthese*.



Abstract

In this paper, I argue that there are cases of explanatory induction in mathematics. To do so, I first introduce the notion of explanatory definition in the context of mathematical explanation. A large part of the paper is dedicated to introducing and analyzing this notion of explanatory definition and the role it plays in mathematics. After doing so, I discuss a particular inductive definition in advanced mathematics— CW -complexes—and argue that it is explanatory. With this, we see that there are cases of explanatory induction.

[Full article found here](#)

Get to know our Philosophers!

[Geoffrey Hall]

1. Favorite movie? *Dead Ringers*
2. What's the best least known hangout in South Bend? *The high school parking lot*
3. Early bird, or night owl? *Both*
4. If you could be any animal, which would you be? *Mountain goat*
5. Favorite place in the world? *Pacific Ocean*

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November

- 01 Colloquium: Jon Buttaci (CUA)**
"Aristotle on the Origins of Knowledge and Life: Exploring the Curious Cases of Discovery and Spontaneous Generation"
3-5 pm
131 DeBartolo Hall
Reception to follow
- 06 Placement Meeting: Flyouts**
2-3:30 pm
215 Malloy Hall
- 08 Colloquium: Walter Dean (Warwick)**
"On Consistency and Existence in Mathematics"
3-5 pm
131 DeBartolo Hall
Reception to follow
- HPSTV Conference**
November 8-9
Eck Visitors Center
- 09 MWPMW 20**
October 9-10
138 DeBartolo Hall
- 12 Annual McMahon Aquinas Lecture**
"How Christianity Made Mercy Compassionate"
John O'Callahan
St. Mary's College - Rice Commons
7-9 pm
- 15 Colloquium: Kevin Vallier (Bowling Green)**
"Must Politics Be War?"
3-5 pm
131 DeBartolo Hall
Reception to follow
- 20 Grad Student Colloquium: Oliver Traldi**
Title TBA
6:30-7:30 pm
320 Malloy Hall
- 22 Colloquium: Ellen Lehet (ND)**
"Understanding as the Aim of Mathematics"
3-5 pm
131 DeBartolo Hall

philosophy.nd.edu/ for an up-to-date listing

Around Campus November

News and Announcements

- 01 Last day to drop a class
- 02 **Notre Dame vs. Virginia Tech**
2:30 pm
gameday.nd.edu
- 06 **Dirty Book Sale**
November 6-7
- 16 **Notre Dame vs. Navy**
2:30 pm
gameday.nd.edu
- 18 **Spring registration begins - Seniors**
7:30 pm
gameday.nd.edu
- 20 **Spring registration begins - Juniors**
- 21 **Spring registration begins - Graduate**
- 22 **Spring registration begins - Sophomores**
- 25 **Spring registration begins - Freshman**
- 27 **Thanksgiving Break**
- 28 **Thanksgiving Dinner**
12-3:30 pm
North Dining Hall

- **Jeff Speaks makes All Faculty Team**

Notre Dame has a long history of outstanding student-athletes being named to All-American teams. We thought it was time for some of our most outstanding professors to receive similar recognition. Enter the [Notre Dame All-Faculty Team](#). Check out the video [here!](#)

- **In Memoriam: Michael Detlefsen**

Michael "Mic" Detlefsen, the McMahon-Hank Professor of Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame and editor of the Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic, died Monday, October 21. He was 71. More [here](#).

- **Christmas Outreach!**

Every year the staff in the office does some sort of community outreach around Christmas time. This year we decided to involve all of you! We have adopted a family through [The Salvation Army Kroc Center](#). We will be setting up the tree in the office this week that will have tags on it with special items that our family has requested. Simply choose a tag off the tree and go shopping for that item! Return the item to the Philosophy Department by December 4th. Thank you for helping us give back the community this holiday season!

- **Go Grants!**

With the generous sponsorship of the Graduate School, GO Grants provide funding to Notre Dame graduate students and post-docs to participate in a wide variety of enriching and entertaining experiences. From concerts to kayaking, GO Grants can make it more affordable to get out and enjoy all that South Bend and Notre Dame have to offer. Check it out [here!](#)

- **Make sure to register for Spring Courses this month!**

Spring 2020 Registration starts Nov. 18th. Course Descriptions are located on our [department page](#).

- **Philosophy Phone Wallets!!!**

Only \$1 for brand new ND Philosophy phone wallets! Stop by the office to get yours!

Meme of the Month

philosophy class feels after he's played "devil's advocate"



[GRAD CFP'S](#)

[UNDERGRAD CFP'S](#)

