

2006

Thirty-First Annual Midwest Philosophy Colloquium, 2006-2007

University of Minnesota - Morris. Philosophy Department

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Everyone is cordially invited to the first session of

THE 31st
MIDWEST PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM
Personal Identity

Marya Schechtman
(Professor of Philosophy, University of Illinois at Chicago)

Will present

“Just Be Yourself”

Monday, October 23, 7:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church
200 East 5th Street, Morris

It would seem that one couldn't help but be oneself; yet, popular wisdom has it that being oneself can be a very difficult task indeed. Professor Schechtman will explore the range of challenges to being oneself that have been discussed in philosophy, literature, and everyday life, asking related questions about authenticity, self-knowledge and a meaningful life.

Professor Schechtman will also present “Stories, Lives, and Basic Survival: A defense and refinement of the narrative view” at 2:30 p.m., Prairie Lounge, Student Center, UMM, Monday, October 23. All are cordially invited.

The second session of the 31st Midwest Philosophy Colloquium is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, March 26th, 2007**. Professor **Eric Olson of the University of Sheffield** will present “When Do We Begin and End?” More information will follow.

These lectures are funded by the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Dean, UMM.

Program Notes

We are very pleased to have with us tonight:

Marya Schechtman

Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of Illinois at Chicago

She will present:

Just Be Yourself

It would seem that one couldn't help but be oneself; yet, popular wisdom has it that being oneself can be a very difficult task indeed. Professor Schechtman will explore the range of challenges to being oneself that have been discussed in philosophy, literature, and everyday life, asking related questions about authenticity, self-knowledge and a meaningful life.

Selected Relevant Bibliography:

- Cheshire Calhoun, "Standing for Something," *Journal of Philosophy* 92 (May 1995): 235-260. Excerpt reprinted in *Thirteen Questions in Ethics*, edited by Lee Bowie, Kathleen Higgins, and Meredith Michaels (Harcourt Brace, 1999).
- Harry Frankfurt, *Necessity, Volition, and Love*, Cambridge University Press, 1999
- Harry Frankfurt, *The Importance of What we Care About*, Cambridge University Press, 1988
- Christine Korsgaard, *The Sources of Normativity*, Cambridge University Press, 1996
- Peter Kramer, *Listening to Prozac*, Viking Penguin, 1993
- Amélie Oksenberg Rorty, *The Identities of Persons*, University of California Press, 1976
- Marya Schechtman, *The Constitution of Selves*, Cornell University Press, 1996
- Marya Schechtman, "Self Expression and Self Control," *Ratio*, 17 (2004), pp. 409-427
- Diana Tietjens Meyers, *Being Yourself: essays on Identity, Action, and Social Life (feminist constructions)*, Rowan and Littlefield, 2004
- David Velleman, *Self to Self: selected essays*, Cambridge University Press, 2006

These lectures are funded by the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Dean, University of Minnesota, Morris

Everyone is cordially invited to the second session of

THE 31st
MIDWEST PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM
Personal Identity

Eric Olson

(Professor of Philosophy, University of Sheffield, UK)

Will present

“When Do We Begin And End?”

Monday, March 26, 7:30 p.m., Newman Center
306 East 4th Street, Morris

The gradual nature of development from fertilization to birth and beyond leaves it uncertain when we come into being; and advances in medical technology leave it increasingly uncertain when we cease to exist. Many philosophers have tried to answer these questions. Professor Olson will argue that most of these answers are wrong, and that a simpler answer follows from the apparent fact that we are biological organisms.

Professor Olson will also present “Objects and Their Matter” at 2:30 p.m., Prairie Lounge, Student Center, UMM, Monday, March 26. All are cordially invited.

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