

CONVERSATIONS ACROSS BOUNDARIES: FORGING FUTURES WITH DELEUZE AND HARRIS

Workshop at Purdue University
21-22 February 2025

***We have reserved two rooms in the Purdue Memorial Union, G077 & G083, located on the ground floor (which is slightly below ground - see maps below). *All sessions will be held in G083.*

Friday, February 21:

9:00 Breakfast

9.30 - 10.30 Session I:

Lee A. McBride III, *The College of Wooster*

Leaving One Plane of Immanence for Another, Struggling without An Algorithm

Daniel W. Smith, *Purdue University*

Technologies of the State from Writing to AI: From Deleuze's Apparatus of the State to Harris's Actuarial Account of Necro-Being

10.45 - 11.45 Session II:

Reyes Espinoza, *Alain Locke Visiting Scholar, Purdue University*

Insurrectionist Ethics, Ontology of Near-Future War Machines, and Artificial Intelligence

Allen Chiu, *University of Dundee*

Übermensch and Nirvāṇa: On the question of AI and Liberation

11.45 - 1.00 Break for lunch

1.00 - 2.00 Session III:

Miron Clay-Gilmore, *Purdue University*

Notes from Inside the Killing Machine – On Racism, Non-Being, and (Counter-Insurgency) Warfare

Mary Beth Mader, *University of Memphis*

Harris and Deleuze: Reflections on Lineage and Racist Predation

- 2.15 - 3.15 Session IV:
- Lilly Markaki, *Royal College of Art, London*
“This full guerrilla warfare”: Emancipation in Harris and Deleuze
- Duncan R. Cordry, *Purdue University*
Reflections on the Spiritualization of Philosophy

- 3.30 - 5.00 Graduate Student Roundtable:
 Rohitashwa Sarkar, Ahmet Aktas, Hyemi Jun, and Alex Dibelka

- 5.30 Dinner at Purdue Memorial Union

Saturday, February 22:

- 10.00 Breakfast

- 10.30 - 12.00 Session V:
- Leonard Lawlor, *Penn State University*
***The Roar of the Sea, the White Wall, and the Lightning Bolt:
 Introduction to Deleuze’s Ethics of the Univocity of Being***
- Jacoby A. Carter, *Boston College*
Conceptualized Being or Being Conceptualized: From Negro to Necro
- Brent Adkins, *Roanoke College*
Contributions to an Insurrectionist Ethics

- 12.00-1.15 Lunch

- 1.15-2.15 Session VI:
- Kenneth Noe, *Sam Houston State University*
***Philosophy as a Way of Life, Born of Struggle: Habits, War Machines,
 and the Ever-Evolving Apparatus of Capture***
- Chris Penfield, *Sweet Briar College*
***Notes for a Minor Philosophy: Harris, Deleuze, and Insurrectionary
 Counterthought***

2.30-3.30

Session VII:

Lacey J. Davidson, *Indiana University*

The Prevention of Being Born: Harrisian Necro-Being and Reproductive Justice

John Protevi, *Louisiana State University*

Marooning and Weathering as Reactions to Necro-being

4:00-5:30

Closing Remarks:

Leonard Harris, *Purdue University*

6:00

Dinner at Smith's, Catering

Conversations Across Boundaries: Forging Futures with Harris and Deleuze

2025 Participants

Lee A. McBride III, *The College of Wooster*

Lee A. McBride III is Frank Halliday Ferris Chair of Philosophy and Interim Chair of the Department of Africana Studies at The College of Wooster (Ohio), specializing in American philosophy, ethics, political philosophy, and philosophy of race. He is the author of *Ethics and Insurrection: A Pragmatism for the Oppressed* (Bloomsbury 2021) and has published articles on human nature, insurrectionist ethics, racism, pragmatist feminism, food ethics, anger, leftist politics, and decolonial philosophy. He is editor of *A Philosophy of Struggle: The Leonard Harris Reader* (Bloomsbury 2020) and co-editor with Erin McKenna of *Pragmatist Feminism and the Work of Charlene Haddock Seigfried* (Bloomsbury 2022). McBride is currently writing two books: one on the philosophy of W.E.B. Du Bois and another on creative rebelliousness and philosophies of struggle. He is President of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP).

Lilly Markaki, *Royal College of Art, London*

Lilly Markaki, PhD, is Lecturer in Race and Culture in Film and Media at Royal Holloway, University of London. Their research spans critical theory, aesthetics and visual culture, media studies, and Black studies, with a particular focus on material and speculative aesthetic practices and the world-making (and unworlding) potential of art. Their writing has appeared in *ArtReview*, *Elephant Magazine*, *Spike Magazine*, *3:AM Magazine*, and the *LSE Review of Books*, among other places. They have presented papers at international conferences and led curatorial and public research programmes, including *Dark Advances: Affect Aliens' & Revolutionary Despair* (2022), *Everywhere It Is Machines* (2021), and *Love Spells and Rituals for Another World* (2020), now a publication. Lilly is also a researcher and programme curator for DEMO: Moving Image Experimental Politics and the founder and editor of *Deleuzine: A Zine for Nobodies Without Organs*.

Reyes Espinoza, *Purdue University*

Reyes Espinoza is the 2024-2025 Alain L. Locke Visiting Scholar at Purdue University's Department of Philosophy. He is working on ethical issues of migration and links between plural cultures. Technology has played an unnecessarily harmful role in maintaining global conflict. This effect of technology can be philosophically criticized. He co-edited a volume at *Inter-American Journal of Philosophy* in 2022. Espinoza's publication record includes articles and book reviews in several peer-reviewed journals as well as one book chapter in an edited collection through Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez. Espinoza led the 2021 Struggle and Liberation Today conference, which can be found online at Purdue University's electronic archives as part of the Philosophy Born of Struggle Conference records as well as www.facebook.com/struggleandliberationtoday.

Mary Beth Mader, *University of Memphis*

Mary Beth Mader's research and teaching interests include twentieth-century continental philosophy, and feminist theory. She visited Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Wuppertal, Germany, May 10-20, 2015 on an Erasmus Mundus Europhilosophie Master's Visiting Scholar Fellowship, and was Visiting Professor at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, as a part of the Erasmus Mundus-Europhilosophie Master's Program. With Prof. Anne Gléonec, she co-taught an intensive graduate course on Foucault's Biopolitics from November 1-10, 2014. She is also Co-Translator of the Deleuze Lectures Translation Project, funded by National Endowment for the Humanities Scholarly Editions and Translations Grant.

Brent Adkins, *Roanoke College*

Brent Adkins is Professor of Philosophy at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia. His primary interests are 19th and 20th Century European philosophy, Modern Philosophy, and politics. He is the author of numerous books and articles in philosophy including *Deleuze and Guattari's A Thousand Plateaus: A Critical Introduction and Guide*, *A Guide to Ethics and Moral Philosophy*, *True Freedom: Spinoza's Practical Philosophy*, and *Death and Desire in Hegel, Heidegger, and Deleuze*.

John Protevi, Louisiana State University

John Protevi is Phyllis M Taylor Professor of French Studies and Professor of Philosophy at Louisiana State University. He received his PhD in Philosophy from Loyola University of Chicago in 1990. His primary area of research is contemporary French philosophy, especially the work of Gilles Deleuze. He also works with concepts drawn from the social, life, and cognitive sciences. His most recent book is *Regimes of Violence: Towards a Political Anthropology*, which will be published by University of Minnesota Press in 2025. Previous books with Minnesota include *Political Affect* (2009); *Life, War, Earth* (2013); and *Edges of the State* (2019). He maintains a website with course materials and research papers at www.protevi.com/john.

Lacey Davidson, University of Indianapolis

Lacey J. Davidson is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of Indianapolis, Director of the UIndy Ethics Center, and a public philosopher. Her research focuses on social structural explanation, oppression and liberation, and individual and collective responsibility for making change. She's specifically interested in the social and psychological mechanisms that support various oppressions, including the way that knowledge systems constrain and enable how we can know and be known. She organizes for transformative community change in Indiana with Indiana Task FORCE (Feminists Organizing and Reimagining Civic Engagement).

Miron Clay-Gilmore, Purdue University

Miron Clay-Gilmore is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Purdue University in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, where his research focuses on the use of artificial intelligence for surveillance and the criminalization of dissident racial populations. In 2023, he became the first Black philosopher to receive a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh. While his research falls under the rubric of social political theory and applied ethics, his expertise resides at the intersection of the history of Africana philosophy, anticolonial theory, and Black Male Studies.

Leonard Lawlor, Penn State University

Leonard Lawlor is Head of the Philosophy Department and Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Philosophy at Penn State University. After being in the Philosophy Department at the University of Memphis for nineteen years, Lawlor joined the Penn State Philosophy Department in 2008. He was Visiting Professor at the Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay, in summer 2018, Professeur invité at the École Normale Supérieure, Rue d'Ulm, Paris, in spring 2022, and, most recently, Visiting Professor at the Peking University, Beijing, in autumn 2023. Lawlor is the author of eight books, most of which concern 20th century French philosophy. The most recent is *From Violence to Speaking out* (Edinburgh 2016). He is currently working on a book called *The Disparate: Deleuze's Ethics of the Univocity of Being*. Over the last four years, he translated Renaud Barbaras's *Introduction to the Phenomenology of Life* (Indiana University Press, 2021) and Henri Bergson's *Freedom* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2024).

Chris Penfield, Sweet Briar College

Chris Penfield has been teaching philosophy for the past eight years at Sweet Briar College, where he is Charles A. Dana Professor of Philosophy. He had the great good fortune to study with Professors Leonard Harris and Dan Smith (among others) as a PhD student at Purdue. While Chris's areas of teaching interest are quite broad, including the history of philosophy (ancient, early modern, 19-21st century), social and political philosophy, ethics, philosophy of art and literature, philosophy of body, and environmental philosophy, his research has focused on postwar French philosophy and critical theory. His monograph, *Deleuze's Foucault: A Virtual Force Ontology*, is forthcoming with Edinburgh University Press.

Kenneth Noe, Harris-Stowe University

Kenneth Noe is Instructor of Philosophy at Sam Houston State University. He earned his PhD in Philosophy at Southern Illinois University Carbondale in 2015. He specializes in Continental Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Race, and the History of Philosophy. He has published articles and book reviews in *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *International Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy*, and *Foucault Studies*. His current book project stages a socio-political critique of Philosophy as a Way of Life as anodyne non-ideal theory.

Jacoby A. Carter, *Boston College*

Jacoby Carter has recently joined Boston College after several years at Howard University, including as Chair of the Department. Prior to that, he taught at the City University of New York: John Jay College of Criminal Justice. His work began with a focus on American pragmatism, specifically in figures such as John Dewey and Alain Leroy Locke, and his current research interests include Africana philosophy, social and political philosophy, value theory (applied ethics), philosophy of race and pragmatism. Dr. Carter is also the Director of the Alain Leroy Locke Society and editor of the African American Philosophy and the African Diaspora Book Series (Palgrave/Macmillan). His most recent publications include *Insurrectionist Ethics: Radical Perspectives on Social Justice* (Palgrave/Macmillan, 2023) and *Philosophizing the Americas* (Fordham University Press, 2024).

Daniel W. Smith, *Purdue University*

Daniel W. Smith received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and works primarily in continental philosophy. He is the author of *Essays on Deleuze* (Edinburgh 2012), the co-editor of the *Cambridge Companion to Deleuze* (2012, with Henry Somers Hall), and has translated, from the French, books by Gilles Deleuze, Pierre Klossowski, Isabelle Stengers, and Michel Serres. He is the co-director of “The Deleuze Seminars” project (deleuze.cla.purdue.edu), which is translating Deleuze’s seminar lectures and is supported by grants from the National Endowment of the Humanities. He is currently working on a book entitled *Technicity and Thought*. In his free time he enjoys not working.

Leonard Harris, *Purdue University*

Leonard Harris is the Joyce and Edward E. Brewer Chair in Applied Ethics at Purdue University. He is the editor of *Philosophy Born of Struggle* (1983) and three books on the philosopher Alain Locke. Harris is the author of “struggle philosophy,” an approach to philosophy that is different from the Socratic dialogue method, the ethics of insurrection, critical pragmatism, advocacy aesthetics and the concept of racism as “necro-being.” A graduate of Central State University, Ohio, and Cornell University, in addition to being a professor of philosophy at Purdue University, Harris is a Board member of the [Philosophy Born of Struggle Association](#) and the [Alain L. Locke Society](#).

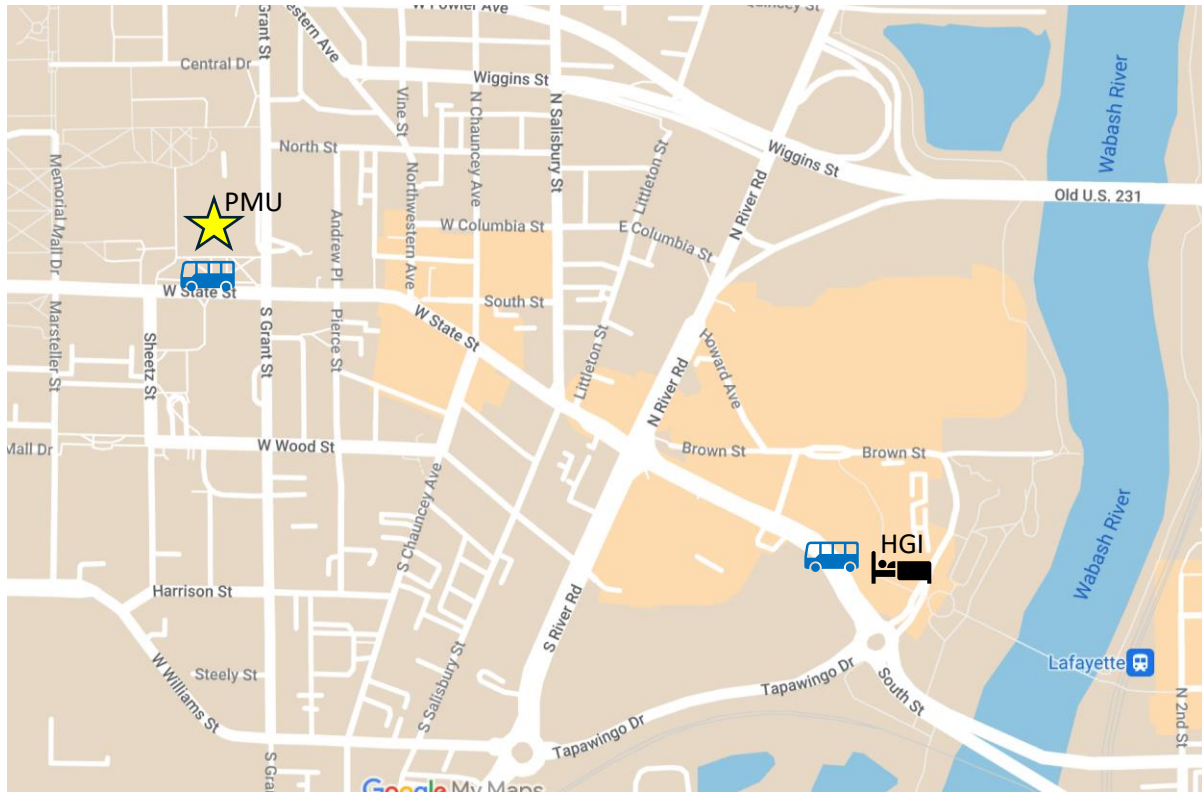
Allen Chiu, *University of Dundee*

Allen J. Chiu obtained his PhD in Philosophy from the University of Dundee in March 2023. His research explores the metaphysical similarities between the works of Gilles Deleuze and Nāgārjuna, focusing on their shared rejection of essentialism, nihilism, and Truth via their respective ‘answers’ of Deleuze’s *Übermensch* and Nāgārjuna’s nirvāṇa. He is currently editing a monograph for publication with Edinburgh University Press, which offers a comparative examination of these two thinkers’ metaphysical projects. Chiu’s current work also addresses the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI), suffering, and ethics, exploring whether sentient AI could experience suffering and how the philosophical concepts of liberation and transformation, as articulated by Deleuze and Nāgārjuna, might apply to non-human intelligences. By drawing on Deleuze’s ideas of becoming and Nāgārjuna’s teachings on emptiness, he is developing a framework for understanding our moral obligations toward sentient AI. Beyond his interest in AI, Chiu continues to investigate the practical implications of the philosophical common ground between Deleuze and Nāgārjuna, especially in terms of their respective traditions and fields. He aims to contribute to both philosophical discourse and the growing field of AI ethics, offering fresh insights into how these thinkers can inform our understanding of contemporary problems.

Duncan R. Cordry, *Purdue University*

Duncan Cordry is a Ross-Lynn Research Fellow and PhD candidate in philosophy at Purdue University. His research approaches topics in the philosophy of technology through insurrectionist ethics, focusing especially on the relationships between technology, sociogeny, and corporeality. His dissertation engages with the concept of political spirituality to examine how technologies and technological evolution affect social change and social cohesion in a revolutionary context.

***There is a bus system that runs through Lafayette and West Lafayette called CityBus. **Line 23** is free for all riders – no id or pass required to board. It conveniently has stops in front of both the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel as well as PMU, which are marked in blue on the map below. Here’s a link to the website and schedule: [CityBus of Greater Lafayette: 23 The Connector FREE FOR ALL](http://www.citybus.com/line23)



We have reserved both G077 and G083 (marked as 5 and 6 below):

GROUND FLOOR

- Gender Neutral Restrooms
- Lactation Room
- Men's Restroom
- Women's Restroom
- Elevator
*No Union Rack & Roll and Boiler Game Area only

- Student Org Offices
- Union Rack & Roll
- Boiler Game Mine

PURDUE MEMORIAL UNION

FOOD VENUES

- Anyway You Slice It
- Rose Market
- Burgers + Fries
- Food Lab
- Tenders, Love & Chicken
- Starbucks*
- Zen
- Sushi Boss
- DSJ Asian Grill
- Aatish
- Walk-On's
- Boilermaker Market

EVENT VENUES

- Meeting Room G083
- Meeting Room G077
- Fireside Lounge
- Hall Purdue Stage
- West Terrace
- Ever True Stage
- East Terrace
- 1869 Meeting Room G011

OFFICE SUITES

- Purdue Food Co. G085

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

GROUND FLOOR