University of North Texas Department of Philosophy and Religion Graduate Student Conference Program October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Denton, Texas

Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> Location: ENV 120

8:30 AM Breakfast and Coffee

9-9:45 AM **Diamondian Morality on Leopold's Mountain** James Trybendis, The New School for Social Research Respondent: Maggie Brown, UNT

9:45-10:30 AM

Hematology and the Ch'ixi: From the Singular Doctrine of Blood to a Praxis of Difference Ethan Moscoso, DePaul University Respondent: Ben Larsen, UNT

10:30 - 10:45 AM Coffee Break

10:45-11:30 AM Kant and a Duty to the Land Rene M. Ramirez, Loyola University Chicago Respondent: Kevin Siefert, UNT

11:30 AM-12:15 PM Critiquing Consumption: Why Buying Green Is Not Sustainable Carlie Hughes, DePaul University Respondent: Anna Myers, UNT

12:15-1:30 PM Lunch Break

1:30-2:15 PM Coercion For Good: Han Feizi, Political Realism, and Climate Change Ben Law, Colorado State University Respondent: Zeno Serban, UNT

2:15-3:00 PM Bringing More Food Into the World: An Individual Mental Uptake Account Emma Hardy, University of Michigan Respondent: Sue McRae, UNT

3:00 – 3:30 PM Afternoon Break

3:30-6:30 PM Preksha Meditation Workshop Living Lightly on the Planet: Jain Practice for Reducing Accumulation, Moderating Consumption, and Letting Go of What Weighs Us Down Samani Dr. Chaitanya Pragya and Samani Dr. Him Pragya Location: ENV 130

## Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> Location: ENV 120

8:30 AM Breakfast and Coffee

9-9:45 AM

Racial Identity in a Changing World: The Impacts of Environmental Degradation on a Linked Fate

Rose Benton, University of North Texas Respondent: Anna Kokareva, UNT

9:45**-**10:30 AM

Social Transformation as Niche Construction: A Critique of Conventional Approaches to Coastal Climate Adaptation

Tyler Cooper-Kolb, Oregon State University Respondent: Pedro Brea, UNT

10:30 – 10:45 AM Coffee Break

10:45-11:30 AM Deceptive Epistemic Networks and the Climate Crisis: An Account of Collective Epistemic Responsibility Cayla Clinkenbeard, The New School for Social Research Respondent: Isabelle Bishop, UNT

11:30 AM-12:15 PM

Listening to Oral Histories of Latinx Food Cultures: Lessons from *El Paso Food Voices* Joshua Lopez, University of North Texas Respondent: Bernardo Vargas, UNT

12:15-1:30 PM Lunch Break

1:30-2:30 PM Keynote Presentation and Discussion Beyond the Individual: A Positioned Reflection on Climate (In)justice, the Production of Hunger, and Agrifood Politics Nathalia Hernández Vidal Location: UNT Community Garden

## **Graduate Student Participants**

**Rose Benton** (she/her) is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year PhD student in the UNT Political Science department. She studies the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on political behavior, especially that of marginalized groups.

**Tyler Cooper-Kolb** (he/him) is a second-year Masters student pursuing a dual MS in Applied Ethics and Environmental Science at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. His research interests pertain to the scientific and normative dimensions of adaptation to climate change, political ecology, and environmental justice. Originally hailing from the Chicago Metropolitan Area in Illinois, Tyler pursued his undergraduate studies in St. Augustine, Florida where he studied both coastal environmental science and philosophy. It was experiencing the coastal effects of climate change first-hand (e.g., frequent hurricanes, nuisance flooding, and beach erosion) that inspired Tyler to pursue the ethical dimensions of climate change and social-environmental systems.

**Cayla Clinkenbeard** (she/her) is a PhD candidate at The New School for Social Research, where she studies social epistemology and ethics. Her research examines the role that trust plays in distinguishing knowledge-generating from knowledge-destroying epistemic communities.

**Emma Hardy** (she/her) Emma Hardy is a 5th-year PhD candidate at the University of Michigan. She is interested in how our existing psychological states inform which philosophical theories we are able to fully take on, and in turn how the philosophical theories that we take on influence how we live and interact with the world. She is particularly interested in how this "lived philosophy" takes place in the domain of food. Her dissertation project is on the social metaphysics of food, with an emphasis on what we want a philosophical theory of food to do for us, what distinguishes non-food edible things from food, and what properties are essential to the identity of individual food items. Outside of her research, she also works at the local farmer's market and is involved with the local food and agriculture scene in the Ann Arbor area.

**Carlie Hughes** (she/her) Carlie earned her BA in Philosophy from the University of North Dakota and is currently working on her PhD in Philosophy at DePaul University in Chicago. Her research interests include social and political theory, environmental philosophy and 20<sup>th</sup> century continental thought. Her dissertation project focuses on the work of Georges Bataille and aims to present his philosophy as a mode of ecological thinking, as well as placing his work on political economy, *The Accursed Share*, in conversation with Marxist and environmental theory.

**Ben Law** (he/him) is a first-year graduate student in Philosophy at Colorado State University. Academically, his primary interests include ethics, metaethics, and philosophy of education. He has since forgotten about his other interests outside of philosophy (apparently a common side effect of grad school) but has been told they used to include cycling, tennis, board games, watching Star Trek, and listening to music. After his MA, Ben hopes to continue his studies in a Ph.D. program and aspires to build a career in philosophy where he can inspire the next generation of learners and foster diversity at all levels of education.

**Joshua Lopez** (he/they) Joshua is a PhD candidate in the department of History at UNT. He studies oral history and Latinx food cultures. Joshua is currently writing his dissertation, Joteria In and Out of the Kitchen, which is an oral history project centered upon the food memories of El Paso, Texas's LGBTQ+ community.

**Ethan Moscoso** (he/him) Ethan A. Moscoso is a second-year Philosophy PhD student at DePaul University who earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in Spanish and Philosophy at Grinnell College. His research engages philosophy, literature and art to assess the relationship between the Global North and the Global South, the state of religion in the colonial and contemporary world(s), the weaponization of gender and sexuality to create domains of isolation and stigmatization, and the status of Earth as a philosophical concept and theological entity.

**Rene M. Ramirez** (he/him) is a third year Ph.D. student in Philosophy from Loyola University Chicago. His interest lies primarily in decolonial thought, critical philosophy of race, and indigenous critical theory. While he is in the process of solidifying a precise area of research, he is interested in developing the connection between Western Philosophy and the role that indigenous scholars play in further developing these fields.

**James Trybendis** (he/him) is a PhD student in philosophy at The New School for Social Research. His philosophical interests include the philosophy of sound, environmental philosophy, and aesthetics. He is currently writing a dissertation on the concept of 'timbre' and the human voice. James is also an adjunct instructor at Fordham University and teaches Environmental Philosophy at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

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