

Washington, DC Political Theory Colloquium
Alan Levine, Founder and President
Speakers List

2010-11

1. Ralph Lerner, University of Chicago, "Lincoln's Declaration—and Ours"
2. Andrei S. Markovits, University of Michigan, "Obamamania and Anti-Americanism"
3. Jeff J.S. Black, St. John's College in Annapolis, "Rousseau's Project of Human Enhancement"
4. Jacob Levy, "Rationalism, Pluralism, and Freedom"
5. Daniel Malachuk, Western Illinois University, "The Transcendentalists, Higher Law, and the Meaning of the Civil War"
6. James Read, College of St. Benedict and St. John's University, "John C. Calhoun's Political Theory and Its Contemporary Echoes"
7. Diana Schaub, Loyola University, "Learning to Love Lincoln: Frederick Douglass's Journey from Grievance to Gratitude"
8. Hugh Liebert, University of Richmond, "Lincoln's Political Religion"
9. Michael Zuckert, Notre Dame, "Completing the Constitution: the Post Civil War Amendments"
10. William B. Allen, Michigan State University, "What Constitution Have I? Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Moral Imperative of Constitutionalism"

2009-10

1. Tom Merrill, American University, "Hume's Socratism"
2. Shanaysha Sauls, American University, "Publius and the Best Regime, or Why Democracy Is the Stability We Need"
3. Borden Flanagan, American University, "Thucydides on the Kinship of Politics and Religion"
4. Alan Levine, American University, "Skeptical Triangle: A Framework for Comparing Emerson to Montaigne and Nietzsche"
5. Ruth Grant, Duke University, "Strings Attached: Ethics, Incentives, and Democracy"
6. Harvey Flaumenhaft, professor and former dean, St. John's College, Annapolis, "Exegesis and the Executive: How the Founders Disagreed about What a President Is"
7. Stanley C. Brubaker, Colgate University, "Coming into One's Own: John Locke's Theory of Property, God, and Politics"
8. Paul Rahe, Hillsdale College, "Montesquieu and the Logic of Liberty."

2008-09

1. Ralph Hancock, Brigham Young University, "Rethinking the Humanity of Philosophy with Heidegger, Strauss, and Tocqueville"
2. Yuval Levin, University of Chicago & Ethics and Public Policy Center – and former AU undergrad – "Edmund Burke on Nature, Human Nature, and the Meaning of Politics"
3. Michael S. Kochin, Tel Aviv University, "The Superhero Next Door: Democratic Leadership and the Duality of Character"
4. Paul Ludwig, St. John's College, Annapolis, "Civic Friendship: Its Nature, Risks and Benefits, and Its Fate in Modernity"
5. Darren Staloff, City College of New York, "Contending for the Mantle of the Enlightenment:

The Philosophical Exchanges of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams”

6. Richard Boyd, Georgetown University, “Adam Smith and Nationalism.”
7. Non-Theorist: Michael Brown, a former British MP (Conservative Party) and currently a journalist for *The Independent*, “British Views of the American Election.”

2007-08

1. Jeremy Rabkin, George Mason Law School, “Bodin and International Law”
2. Robert P. George, Princeton University & the President’s Bioethics Commission, “Modern Legal Philosophy”
3. Richard Hassing, Catholic University, “Soul Without Heat: Descartes on the Whole Nature of Man”
4. Marc Plattner, National Endowment for Democracy, “Democracy without Borders? Global Challenges to Liberal Democracy.”
5. Non-Theorist: Micheal Oren, noted Israeli scholar at the Shalem Center (& currently Israel’s Ambassador to the United States), “Power Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East 1776 to the Present.”

2006-07

None – Alan Levine on leave at James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University.

2005-06

1. Michael S. Kochin, Tel Aviv University, “The Constitution of Nations”
2. Jerry Weinberger, Michigan State University, “Benjamin Franklin Unmasked: On the Unity of His Moral, Religious, and Political Thought”
3. Amitai Etzioni, George Washington University, “Applying Communitarianism to the Global Society”
4. Dan Malachuk, Daniel Webster College, “American Transcendentalism in the Human Rights Era”
5. Alan Kahan, Florida International University, “Mind vs. Money: The War between Western Intellectuals and Commercial Society”
6. Michael Gillespie, Duke University, “The Problem of Modernity.”

2004-05

1. Aurelian Craiutu, Indiana University, “The Third Democracy: Tocqueville’s Views of America after 1840”
2. Patrick J. Deneen, Princeton University and Georgetown University, “Democratic Faith”;
3. Daniel J. Mahoney, Assumption College, “Bertrand de Jouvenel: Political Philosopher and Voyager in the Twentieth Century”
4. Philip Lyons, EEOC (retired), “The First Civil Rights Revolution: Lincoln and Reconstruction”
5. Non-Theorist: Michael Brown, a former British MP and journalist for *The Independent*, “British Views of the American Election”
6. Non-Theorist: Laurent Murawiec, The Hudson Institute, “The Dangerous Rise and the Coming Fall of the House of Saud”

2003-04

1. John Scott, University of California, Davis, "Rousseau and Political Identity"
2. Claudia Kinkela, Georgetown University, "Against Weber, Schmitt, and Habermas: Dolf Sternberger's Concept of a Republican Order for Post-War Germany"
3. Mitchell Cohen, Baruch College, CUNY, "Listening to Wagner's Politics"
4. Thomas W. Merrill, NRI Postdoctoral Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and an adjunct instructor at American University, "Hume's Original Contract and the Problem of Progress";
5. Alan Levine, American University, "The Idea of America in European Political Thought: 1492-Today"

2002-03

1. Arlene Saxonhouse, University of Michigan
2. Gerald Mara, Georgetown University
3. Catherine Zuckert, Notre Dame

Earlier speakers:**American:**

- Charles Butterworth, University of Maryland
- Ingrid Creppell, George Washington University
- Ralph Hancock, Brigham Young University
- Christopher Kelly, University of Maryland, Baltimore (now at Boston College)
- Emmet Kennedy, George Washington University
- Stephen Macedo, Princeton University
- Harvey Mansfield, Harvard University
- Joshua Mitchell, Georgetown University
- Patrick Riley, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Diana Schaub, Loyola College, Baltimore
- Nathan Tarcov, University of Chicago
- Richard Velkley, Catholic University
- Kenneth Weinstein, Hudson Institute

International:

- G.M. Tamàs, Hungary's leading anti-communist dissident and Professor, Central European University (Budapest)
- Joao Espada, Catholic University of Portugal (Lisbon)
- Ramin Jahanbegloo (Iran)
- Chaibong Hahm, Yonsei University (South Korea)