

# Cheiron Newsletter

Winter 2009/

Spring 2010

## Message from the Executive Officer

Dear Cheironians,

We are still struggling with what should be done with the newsletter and I am asking for your help and advice. You can read about the discussion that occurred at the business meeting last June in the Minutes which are included below. We proposed having some kind of web-based version, but that has not materialized. I think one question that must be addressed is what purpose should

the newsletter serve? Some things that were mentioned in the discussion included,

for the IRS; to have a paper trail to archive. If we elect to adopt a web-based publication, a second question is how do we serve Cheiron members who are not regular internet users? Thanks.

Katharine (Kathy) S. Milar, Executive Officer



Please send your feedback to me before our meeting in June. Email: [kathym@earlham.edu](mailto:kathym@earlham.edu), or snail mail: Department of Psychology, Earlham College, Richmond IN 47374.

## Cheiron 2009

The 41<sup>st</sup> annual meeting was held on the beautiful campus of Pennsylvania State University, June 25-28, 2009. Greg Eghigian served as local arrangements chair. The meeting was sponsored by the Science, Technology and Society Program, as well as the College of Liberal Arts, and the College of Engineering. Sarah Igo, Program Chair, put together an excellent and varied program. The program began on Thursday with a symposium on Erving Goffman organized by Michael Pettit of York University with Karl Scheibe, Wesleyan University as commentator. After the reception and poster session on Thursday evening, David Baker from the Archives of the History of American Psychology showed a film from their child development film archive, "Methods and Techniques" by Arnold Gesell. A full schedule of papers and symposia followed Friday and Saturday ending a little after noon on Sunday. In addition to symposia and paper sessions on psychology and psychiatry, there was a symposium on history of politics, *Moments in a (Self-) Critical History of Political Science*, a paper session devoted to anthropology, and one on *Lists, Labels, and Bureaucratic Documents*; there was also a roundtable

discussion with participants from Penn State's Disability Studies Program, all a little unusual for Cheiron and most welcome. The keynote address by Joan B. Landes of Penn State was entitled, *Tableaux Quasi-Vivantes: Anatomy and Design in Eighteenth-Century French Automata*. Cheiron welcomed a number of participants from outside North America, including Spain, The Netherlands, England and Brazil. The business meeting featured a lively discussion about the future of the Newsletter. We are going to try an online blog-type version this year, designed and updated by Kate Harper, York University, and re-evaluate the Newsletter next summer at the business meeting. Ellen Herman and Russ Kosits rotated off the Review Committee and Dave Schmit, College of St. Catherine, and Leila Zenderland, Cal State Fullerton were elected as their replacements.

The Book Auction after the Saturday evening banquet at the Nittany Lion Inn raised over \$1000 for the Alvin Smith Graduate Student Travel Fund. Auctioneers Ian Lubek, Chris Green and Dave Devonis were entertaining as usual, and Ben Harris auctioned off a number of reprints and other ephemera he contributed which accounted for almost half of the total raised. Thanks to all for their generosity.

## Young Scholar Award 2009

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Beginning in 2008, Cheiron has awarded a prize for the best paper or symposium presentation by a young scholar. Eligibility requires that the presenter is a student or has completed doctoral work not more than five years before the annual meeting. The entries are judged by the Cheiron Program Committee and the Cheiron Review Committee, based on the presentation; no written submission is required for consideration. The winner receives a certificate from Cheiron, and is asked to submit the paper to the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* within three months. If the paper is accepted for publication, the winner receives a \$500 honorarium from Wiley-Blackwell, the publisher

of JHBS. The Young Scholar award was very difficult to determine this year because we had an outstanding group of young scholars from which we had to choose. Leah Gordon, Stanford University, was awarded the prize for her paper "Data and Not Trouble: The Rockefeller Foundation and the Social Science of Race Relations, 1926-1963" Honorable Mentions were awarded to Andrew Fearnley, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, The Netherlands, for his paper, "Individuals, Insanity and Ignorance: Psychiatric Method and the Construction of Race in the Early Twentieth Century", and to Jonathan Hagel, Brown University, for "John Dollard and the Emergence of a Psychology of Prejudice in the 1930s."

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## ' 2010 Cheiron Book Prize goes to John Carson

The Cheiron Book Prize is awarded biennially to an outstanding monograph in the history of the social/behavioral/human sciences. Cheiron is very pleased to announce that the winner for the 2010 Cheiron Book Prize is John Carson, *The Measure of Merit: Talents, Intelligence, and Inequality in the French and American Republics, 1750-1940* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007).

Carson's book is a superbly informed, carefully nuanced examination of an important issue in modern behavioral science. The focus on France and the United States is by no means accidental: these two republics inspired democratic movements that spread, first in Europe and then later throughout the world. It was democracy that raised the stakes for merit or intelligence and forced people to understand and face issues of inequality in new ways. Many other monographs have examined misapplications of concepts of intelligence; Carson's book goes a long way to explain why, in the first place, merit, talent, and intelligence

became so important in modern life. His survey also makes it clear that there could be no single, essential conception of merit or intelligence; differences in French and North American society are clearly reflected in different institutional approaches and different styles of organizing both scientific productivity and political leadership. The interweaving of evidence from political philosophy and empirical science, as they reflect broad social and economic changes, makes this work a major contribution to history in general, in line with the best traditions of Cheiron scholarship.

We anticipate that the 2012 Cheiron Book Prize will have a deadline of September 2011. Please find details, and the list of earlier winners, on the organization website: <http://people.stu.ca/~cheiron>

*2010 Cheiron Book Prize Committee: David K. Robinson (chair), David Devonis, Ann Johnson, Michael Sokal*

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***Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting, June 27, 2009  
Pennsylvania State University, Kate Harper, Scribe***

***Approval of minutes of 2008 meeting  
(published in Winter 2009 Newsletter)***

The minutes from the 2008 Cheiron Meeting were Approved. This was motioned by Mike Sokal, and Seconded by Vincent Hevern.

***Report from Program Chair, Sarah Igo***

57 papers were submitted this year sub this year

38 were stand alone papers

19 papers were submitted for a symposium or panel

7 symposia were officially requested

4 posters were accepted

1 film presentation was accepted

6 rejections were sent out

Sarah Igo, Ingrid Farreras, and Jerry Sullivan were the program committee for the 2009 meeting. Sarah Igo thanked all those who participated in reviewing papers for this year's meeting. Sarah also thanked Greg, Kathy, and Dave for working on the program this year. Sarah mentioned we had a very full program with many high quality papers, panels, and symposia. We also had a variety of fields and some different approaches this year. Sarah hoped we could do more of the same. Sarah brought up the question of whether we should have concurrent sessions, however, due to having many submissions – it is necessary at the moment and anyone wanting to discuss this or has any suggestions should let the review committee know.

There were 18 sessions in total this year, including a keynote speaker, a poster session and a film. Overall there were 21 slots to fit into 3 days. Sarah mentioned we also had 4 new topics this year 1) race and

psychiatry, 2) disability studies, 3) history of political science, and 4) classification, documentation, and practices underwriting the humans sciences. Sarah mentioned we should always keep in mind to “plug” Cheiron to our colleagues who may work on the “fringe” of research that is normally classified as “Cheiron” material. It is great to expand our own interests and get others interested in Cheiron, particularly those areas that may be somewhat unrepresented in Cheiron – she jokingly mentioned that always need some fresh blood, fresh interests, and new ideas at the Cheiron meeting. David Robinson moved that we thank Sarah and the committee for all their hard work; Chris Green seconded it. All were in agreement.

***Report from Local Arrangements Chair,  
Greg Eghigian***

Greg did not have the final number of registered participants for Cheiron, but mentioned that for certain there were between 80-83. Participants were from the US, Canada, and 6 other countries. Greg discussed the fact that this was a very “international” meeting and he was very pleased. He also thanked the Penn State Conference folks for assisting with organizing this conference. There was a motion to thank Greg and the conference committee by Dave Devonis and this was seconded by Chris Green. All were in favor.

***Treasurer's Report, Dave Devonis***

Dave mentioned that Cheiron has now achieved “non-profit” status and is “officially” a public charity in the eyes of the IRS. Dave went over the financial statements with us and I have attached this

here. In addition, Dave confirmed that the Al Smith graduate student travel fund has monies accumulated from donations (on the renewal forms) and from the book auction. Dave also mentioned that tax receipts were now available for those who donate money, however, this does not work with the Canadian money system and tax receipts will probably not help our Canadian members should they choose to donate money. While Cheiron is doing well, Dave was reluctant to do too much projecting on future earnings as we are in the middle of an economic slow down. There was a motion to thank David by Sam and this was seconded by Chris Green – all were in favor. (*Financial Statement is included below*)

#### ***Electronic Communication Report by Ian Nicholson***

This past fall Ian hired a student to assist with re-vamping the Cheiron website. He applied for a grant from St. Thomas University in New Brunswick and was successful with this. The new improvement on the website is that it is now “searchable.” In addition, Ian has established a “google” groups web based list serve, this way comments can be saved and stored and are now searchable as well. However, Ian mentioned that not everyone is signed up to google groups and he will send out another announcement to remind everyone to do so, so that they can keep up with all the recent information. A discussion arose regarding having a second email list serve for those who may not be on google. This way all the conference announcements can be sent out so that no one misses any information. Kathy asked if we want an “announcement” list serve – the answer was yes, so she motioned that we create this, and Vencent Hevern seconded it, all were in favor.

#### ***Archivist Report – Ben Harris***

Ben announced a call out for any old Cheiron materials, he’s looking for photos from old meetings so that he can be sure to collect everything and hang on to it – rather than everyone sending things to Akron. There was a motion to thank Ian and Ben by Sam and this was seconded by Chris Green, all were in favor.

#### ***Newsletter Editor Report (postponed to new business) by Daniela Barberis***

#### ***Nominations and election of new Review Committee members***

Nominees for review committee:

Kathy mentioned that Ellen Herman is leaving the committee and Russ Kosits had been covering for Kathy and he is now off the committee. Thus, nominations were put forward for new members. The nominations were Dave Schmit, Leila Zenderland, Michael Pettit, and Jill Morawski. The continuing members are Cathy Faye, Bob Kugelmann, Ann Johnson, and Kate Harper. The two new members of the Review committee elected were Leila Zenderland and David Schmit

#### ***Report of Executive Officer – Kathy Milar a) Cheiron 2010***

Vinny Hevern discussed the 2010 Cheiron meeting to be held at his University in Syracuse New York. Le Moyne is in central New York about 2 miles from Syracuse University. Le Moyne is a small college close to the finger lakes and Vinny is hoping to arrange a dinner cruise for us. He believes it will be fairly inexpensive. We’ll have the choice to stay in a hotel or on campus. There are a lot of hotels close to campus and there are lots of places to eat and he expects the weather to be fine. Vinny asked that everyone send him any suggestions they may have for the

conference. Vinny mentioned that the dorms were quite new – townhouses – 36 units all air conditioned. These are all double rooms, however, if you want singles, there are other units available, but they are not air conditioned. Vinny cannot promise specific rooms or place in college buildings for the conference as there may be construction going on, but he will keep us posted. Also Vinny wanted us to keep in mind that Le Moyne is a Jesuit institution, thus it is NOT dry. The conference is set for June 24-27, 2010.

**b) Cheiron 2011**

We also discussed the Cheiron 2011 ESHH joint meeting– we are not sure where it will be held and Kathy discussed the idea that we may need to move our meeting that year to be later as to accommodate the Europeans. We agreed that the 2nd or 3rd week of July would be ok. Particularly, since the European group accommodated us at the last joint meeting. Kathy did state that joint meeting will be on the east coast of North America.

**c) Planned production of handbook/checklist for local arrangements chairs**

It was also mentioned that Jerry Sullivan and Sarah Igo had created a program chairs checklist and Vinny mentioned that a handbook/checklist for local arrangements chair might also be helpful. Kathy will work on this using information from Penn State

**d) Book Award committee for 2010**

David Robinson is the Chair of the Book Committee and other members are Ann Johnson, Dave Devonis, and Mike Sokal. A posting on the eligibility for the award will be put on the Cheiron website and books can be sent to David Robinson. The presentation of the award will be at the meeting in 2010.

**-----NEW BUSINESS-----**

***Membership***

Dave asked everyone to check their information on the Cheiron website and make sure it is current – it was suggested that an announcement be sent out on the listserve so that we can get the membership list updated. Dave also mentioned that we were down in terms of membership – and he wants someone to assist him with organizing and taking over looking after the membership end of his job. Dave is doing all the finances and it is a lot for him to do both the treasurer position and the membership. Kate Harper offered to assist with membership organization.

***Newsletter***

Daniela Barberis discussed some concerns regarding the newsletter. There does not seem to be enough news and all the news is “old” by the time it is put in the newsletter. She had concerns as to whether it should continue and if it does continue, do we need to change the format or conception/goals of the newsletter. Kate Harper had some ideas she put forth if we are continuing the newsletter. Kate suggested integrating it into the website, using the newsletter as a recruiting tool for new members, including a student page, articles on teaching, and regular columns dealing with the history of psychology. Kate presented a cover pages she “mocked” up so that we could see what the newsletter would look like should we decide to keep it and revise its format

Ian Lubek mentioned that future historians of Cheiron, may find an archive of our goings- on useful and he felt the need for a paper trace - somewhere, where at least one copy of our newsletter could be archived.

Daniela Barberis mentioned that she did have archived issues of the newsletter. Sam Parkovnick questioned whether we needed print copies. David Robinson said

we can put the newsletter on the web but we need to make sure people pay their dues to have access to it. David believed there was no reason to have the newsletter on the web generally, and he felt he was sure it was being archived at Akron – but he suggested we still have the option to get print copy to our members who do not use web-based information much. Dave Devonis is already sending newsletter by mail for those who check that as an option on dues letter. He mentioned that at one time more requested it by mail than by electronic. However, now about 65 % want electronic and 35% still wanting paper. And we still have to have this as an option. Dave said we still need a newsletter for libraries and for the IRS approval. We have told the IRS we have a newsletter for our nonprofit organization and David is reluctant to change anything with the IRS at this point..

Kathy Milar mentioned there is still a reason to have paper copies for archival reasons.

Floyd Rudmin said we should charge libraries \$1,400 a year for the newsletter to keep it running and he asked we have an ISSN letter for the newsletter and that this may be a way to make it official and be able to charge a fee.

Chris Green said he thinks we have to question the usefulness of any circulation that goes out every 6 months, news now sent out by the day, should be circulated electronically

Kate mentioned that the idea of the newsletter is to re-format it so that it is just not “old” news, but has something new to offer current members and get new members to join.

Chris said we do not need to collect information every 6 months, not a valuable efficient means of communication and he feels we seriously need to rethink it

Kate mentioned that all the ideas from her newsletter could be on the website, facebook, etc. but that we should do something to bring our community together.

Erik mentioned an in between idea: that is to create an organically built website where things put up every 6 months are assembled and printed and sent out and this can be a way to archive it.

Ian Nicholson – discussed the option on google groups to post documents, and this information could be disseminated this way and serve same purpose as the newsletter  
Kathy Milar – I think I hear an interest in web-based document like Kate has proposed, and staple it together every 6 months and call it a newsletter

Ingrid mentioned that we could have permanent links on the website to information from the newsletter.

Elizabeth Scarborough asked “how will I know something new is on the website”

Greg Eghigan – though we should have the google listserve and website and then an “announcement” only listserve for those not googled up.

Ian mentioned that immediate announcements go up on google group listserve.

There was quite a discussion around this, but no decisions made.

Kathy – said we should leave this in the hands of Ian and Kate with consultation with review committee and have people send us feedback about what to do with a newsletter/website integration. All agreed we should keep working on this matter and come to a decision after some ideas and thought come from the Cheiron members.

David Robinson is the chair for Forum for History of Human Sciences and he mentioned the newsletter editor was resigning and that he could speak with him about ideas. We will play with these ideas over the next year.

**\*Any other new business.**

Andrew Winston said we should give our congratulations to Kathy on a great job and Elizabeth Scarborough moved meeting ended – everybody seconded it.

**\*\*Cheiron Financial Condition –  
by David Devonis  
(revised version) July 4, 2009**

**Ohio Corp. 561351; revised articles of  
incorporation filed 10/31/08  
IRS 501(c)(3) status confirmed 12/1/08  
EIN 84-1721954 DLN 17053172322038**

**Total Assets:** \$ 73,079 (2007-08 = \$63,646)  
CD #1 \$ 23,196 2.81% matures 10/20/09  
CD #2 \$ 17,212 1.49% matures 3/10/10  
Money market checking \$ 32,672

**Summary of activity, 2008-09  
(through June 13, 2009)**

Income	Expenses
Dues \$ 3680*	08 Conference exp. \$ 789
Al Smith \$ 1235	PayPal fees \$ 250
Interest \$ 1054**	Grad Stipends 08 \$ 2400
AHAP contribs. \$ 335***	AHAP \$ 615
Memorial \$ 50	Honoraria \$ 1000
Cambridge fee \$ 250	Speaker exp. \$ 773
From 08 Meeting \$ 4883	Book Prize \$ 500
	<b>IRS Fee for filing Form 1023 \$ 750</b>
	<b>Ohio filing fee for bylaw revision \$ 150</b>
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\$ 11,787	\$ 7,227

\* 07-08 = \$4145 \*\*07-08 \$1871 \*\*\*07-08 \$615

**Membership:** 234 members in database, 95 paid up through '09+

7 new members (5 regular + 2 grad students)

Resigned: 1 Deceased: 4 Exempt: 41 Life: 5

New Exempt – 3

Members in arrears: 1 yr- 31 2 yrs- 32 3 yrs- 13  
4 yrs- 3 5+ yrs- 4

Prepared by: David Devonis, Treasurer 6/19/09

**2009-10 (Projected)**

Income	Expenses
Dues \$ 3200****	Newsletter \$ 600
Al Smith \$ 1200****	
Interest \$ 1000	Honoraria etc. \$ 1000
AHAP cont. \$ 400****	AHAP \$ 1000
	Stipends \$ 4400
	09 Conf. fee \$ 2100
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\$ 5,800	\$ 9,100

\*\*\*\* 08-09 actual dues receipts \$3150, augmented by 7 new member (unusual) plus one new life membership (\$300). Our current numbers suggest this lower expectation for dues income in 09-10. Al Smith contributions were \$930, augmented by book auction proceeds of \$305 from Toronto. 08-09 AHAP contributions were \$335, about 1/2 of the 07-08 rate.

**Future Meetings**

Cheiron 2011 will be a joint meeting with the International Society for the History of Neuroscience in at the University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, June 16-19, 2011. Local arrangements chairs are Henderikus Stam, Department of Psychology, and Frank Stahnisch, Department of History, University of Calgary. Fredric Weizmann, York University will be Cheiron's program chair. Cheiron 2012 will be a joint meeting with European Society for the History of the Human Sciences, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, in July, 2012. Sam Parkovnick, Dawson College, is the local arrangements chair. This meeting had to be postponed from 2011 due to unavailability of a suitable east coast site.