





# ETHICS IN THE CONFLICTS OF MODERNITY: DEBATING MACINTYRE AND HIS RIVALS



29 - 30 June 2017 University of Oxford



# Thursday June 29th

8.45 - 9.00

Registration, Blackfriars Hall

Making Sense of Conflict: Not Realism but not Relativism Either

Keynote Address by John Haldane

### Session 1: Critiques of Modernity and Liberalism

#### Presentations:

- Feeding the Sociological Imagination: MacIntyre as a Reflexive Historical Sociologist of Modernity (Peter McMylor)
- The Joke is in the Word Only: MacIntyre and Williams on the Human Good and What Only Remains for Ethical Objectivity (Tolis Malakos)
- Morality (with a capital M): Modern or Biblical? (Robert Stern)
- After Heidegger: Obstacles and Challenges to the Revival of Aristotle in Late-Modernity (Alexander Duff)

Chair: Michael Zuckert

# Session 2: The Roots of Ethical Enquiry

#### Presentations:

- Narrativity in Ethics (Sophie-Grace Chappell)
- MacIntyre's Philosophical Project and the Claims of Ethics in the Conflicts of Modernity (Andrius Bielskis)
- Debating Aristotle's 'Metaphysical Biology': MacIntyre's 'Ethical Functionalism' and Aristotle's Conception of Human Nature (Eleni Leontsini)
- MacIntyre, Marx and CLR James (Paul Blackledge)

Chair: Stephen Mulhall

# Session 3: Understanding Practical Reasoning

#### Presentations:

- *Criticizing Practices* (Peter Wicks)
- Alasdair MacIntyre's Ethics of Practical Reasoning (Christopher Lutz)
- Complicating Practical Reason: Some Reflections on Ethics in the Conflicts of Modernity (Joseph Dunne)
- Character and Institutions (John O'Neill)

Chair: John Haldane

## Friday June 30th

Registration, Blackfriars Hall

# Alasdair MacIntyre and Leo Strauss

Keynote address by Michael and Catherine Zuckert

Response by Stephen Salkever

# Session 4: Applications of MacIntyre's Thought: *Politeia* and *Poiesis* (Breakout Session)

Poiesis Presentations (Blackfriars Hall)

- MacIntyre at Work (Ron Beadle)
- Teleology, Life Chances and Children's Well-Being (Gideon Calder)
- MacIntyre, Williams and Maritain on Art and Morality (Tom Angier)
- The Psychological Origins and Sociological Implications of Desire: a Girardian Response to MacIntyre (Geoff Moore)

Chair: John Berkman

Politeia Presentations (Faculty of Classics)

- On the Political Relevance of Moral Objectivity (Geoff Sigalet)
- MacIntyre, Justice O'Connor, and the Question of the Best Regime (Nathan Pinkoski)
- Human Rights: Liberal Fictions in Modern Law (Mark Retter)

Chair and Respondent: Kelvin Knight

# Session 5: Debating Contemporary Aristotelianism

#### Presentations:

- Making NeoAristotelianism More Complete (AKA More Radical): A Marxist and Feminist Engagement with Ethics in the Conflicts of Modernity (Jeffrey Nicholas)
- Some Meta-Ethical Options (Terence Irwin)
- Whose Aristotelianism. MacIntyre, NeoAristotelianism, and Morality (Jonathan Sanford)
- MacIntyre vs. Other Contemporary Aristotelians (Joe Brutto)

Chair: Catherine Zuckert