Society for Ricoeur Studies

Minutes

November 6, 2010

Montreal, Canada

11:00 AM

Introduction of current officers

Old Business

Post-conference survey from last year led to changes in the program such as longer sessions and three concurrent sessions.

The Ricoeur conference last summer in Lisbon, Spain had over 100 participants

Total membership: 185

Graduate Student Award was Chris Yates, and he was recognized.

New Business

AAR session was held the week before and had good reports.

Graduate Student Award

Le Fonds Ricoeur: Several will be there for the dedication this fall.

Latin American Conference: A meeting will be held soon in Guadalajara, Mexico, and probably in Brazil in the spring.

A meeting is planned for Moscow, probably in September 2011.

Next meeting with SPEP: Philadelphia, October 19-22

New scholarship was recognized

Boyd Blundell, *Paul Ricoeur between Theology and Philosophy*

John Arthos, *The Inner Word in Gadamer’s Hermeneutics*

Greg Johnson, *Elements of the Utopian*

Molly Mann, *Ricoeur, Rawls, and Capability Justice*

Brian Treanor and Henry Venema, eds., *A Passion for the Possible*

Todd Mei, *Heidegger, Work, and Being*

Jay Mootz and George Taylor, editors, *Gadamer and Ricoeur: Critical Horizons for Contemporary Hermeneutics*

Dan Stiver, writing a book in the Continuum series on theology, *Ricoeur and Theology*

Greg Johnson and Dan Stiver, eds., *Paul Ricoeur and the Task of Political Philosophy*, with a call for papers for Lexington Press

Series: Greg Johnson and Dan Stiver informed the Society of a possible series on Ricoeur’s thought with Lexington Press, a division of Rowman and Littlefield

A possible International Ricoeur Association is in germination. More information will be given as available.

Journal: It has been launched. There are two editors, Scott Davidson and Johan Michel. U of Pittsburgh is providing technical staff and services for free at the site, Ricoeur.pitt.edu. One can subscribe to it for notifications and also volunteer to serve as article reviewer. The first issue should be out in December. A CFP is out for the second issue on recognitions. The third issue will focus on work in Latin America, Spain, and Portugal. A book review section is also available. There is a thematic section but also a varia section open to all papers. The journal has free access to make it available worldwide as an aspect of our mission. For longevity, it will be kept on multiple servers. It is available in French and English for titles. The third issue will have some Spanish and Portuguese articles.

A lengthy discussion ensued around the question, how can we facilitate more dialogue with our French colleagues in Canada and North America?

Accept papers in French or English. David Pellauer

Jean Grondin. The Ricoeur studies in Canada feel a minority in the North American situation. Their connection is often more toward Europe. Ricoeur has a tremendous presence, however, in French Canada. Ricoeur was a professor for many professors in Canada. He received one of of his first honorary doctorates here. There is great interest in Ricoeur in the U. of Montreal. There is a young Ricoeur scholar in Quebec and also a presence in Ottawa. Professor Grondin appreciates the journal being multilingual and would like for the society to have French sessions. He invited us to come more often to Quebec and Montreal, which would mean not just following SPEP.

Are we open to psychoanalysis as a theme? (Gaelle Fiasse) Yes. (George) Would the series be open to French. Yes, we think so but are not sure yet. (Greg)

Are there sessions on Ricoeur in French-speaking Canada? (George) There has been a conference, but they lack a critical mass (there are approximately four university professors and eight grad students). (Grondin and Faesse) This is why we are torn between North America and Europe. They are planning to ask for a grant for a team to fund research, and it should happen, and it will build a network. But it will not be large enough to be a full society. Gaelle appreciates the Latin American connection.

David Pellauer. SPEP has been a significant connection, but it will be an ongoing discussion about whether to disconnect from SPEP. The English-speakers are not so good at French. In Lisbon, the English-French connections did not go so well as the English or French sessions. When the papers were available in Powerpoint, it helped, maybe better than copied papers. Possibly we could have translations, but it would still help to have the original language text available. It might be too much to expect translations in time and cost. Sometimes it helped at least to have the abstract or summary available that is translated. Perhaps even have some translators. Would this be necessary only in Montreal? No, we’d like for it to be ongoing. Would the French-speakers come to Philadelphia, for example? Perhaps we could have volunteers for translation, also in connection with peer review. The French in France might not be that good in English.

Perhaps grants could focus on a liaison that supports multilingual approaches. (Molly) That would help in the long run.

The problem is that PowerPoint is not always available. Jean Grondin: Canadian French-speakers will not need translations. It would be good to have an international Ricoeur conference, annually. Is this society North American? No, it is international English-speaking. We have members from twenty countries. Note the UK conference and annual European conferences. There is an interest in having a Latin-American Ricoeur Society. The European meetings have occurred de facto annually.

Le fonds Ricoeur site is wonderful, but the conferences seem to be ad hoc. The French are not used to annual societies. The European conferences have been initiated by individuals.

Remember 2013 as the World Congress, which is Ricoeur’s centennial. The World Congress should not be ignored, but we have to remember the emphasis on the centennial in Paris. We don’t want to exclude the 3 percent in Quebec.

The English-speakers need the French basis to keep roots in the French original texts. Also important to get the French to come.

Are there better ways of communication? Are other universities included in announcements? No. The newsletter of phenomenology has 4000 subscribers and would be good. It is on the Web.

What’s going on in translating? Three books coming out. 2 volumes of lectures. One on pyschoanalysis, mostly done. One on hermeneutics. Third, the Dosse biography is being initiated. The Aristotle lectures of 1953 are a possibility. Need Marcel and Jaspers book. Lecteur 2 was not translated.

Uncollected material is significant. Many scholars now have only looked at the English, such as Pellauer’s work!

New officers. Dan Stiver as president and Roger Savage as Vice-President.

Motion of appreciation for George Taylor by Molly Mann: George has just said yes to so many things, which has been contagious. There was a great round of applause and appreciation.

Reminder of Daylight Savings Time for Sunday’s sessions.

Adjourn.