

Dean's Weekly
6 April 2011
English and Philosophy

Past Events

1. Dr. Tony McGowan's EP360 (Eastern Art) and MAJ Damon Durall's Studio Arts Forum combined forces on 4 April to host Ryushin Sensei and Hojin Sensei, Abbot and monk, respectively, from the Zen Mountain Monastery near Mt. Tremper, NY. Cadets gathered in the CFAF Studio Art Forum to consider "the way of the brush"—an aspect of Zen meditation. They also received training in basic sumi-e painting techniques, aimed at allowing for a better appreciation of the art many of them are studying in Eastern Art.



Hojin Sensei leads cadets in painting sessions.

2. On 4 April, the Philosophy Forum hosted an evening lecture by Professor Sebastian Rand from the Department of Philosophy, Georgia State University. Professor Rand's topic was "What's Wrong with Rex?" During his lecture he argued that our judgments about defective animals are different in kind from our judgments about moral defects. A spirited and informative question-and-answer period with cadets followed Professor Rand's remarks and capped the evening's activities.



Prof. Rand speaks to cadets during the Philosophy Forum, held 4 April.

Future Events

1. On Saturday, 9 April, the Georgia State University (GSU) Philosopher's Guild and the West Point Philosophy Forum are co-hosting an undergraduate philosophy symposium in Atlanta. This will feature presentations of three cadet papers and three GSU student papers; both students and cadets will serve as commentators as well. In addition to the symposium on Saturday, the cadets on the trip will attend various GSU philosophy courses on Thursday and a Keynote Address on Friday given by Professor Andy Altman of GSU. The cadet papers were written in preparation for the Department of English and Philosophy "Genealogy of the Warrior" AIAD. The three papers selected were authored by Cadet Nicholas Pyskir (APL, '13), Cadet Lee Wakeman (APL, '12) and Cadet John Jesus ('14). The cadets who submitted papers that were not selected will serve as commentators. Other cadets active in the Philosophy Forum will also attend. In all, eight cadets will make the trip to GSU.
2. On 7-10 April, Professors Margaret Downs-Gamble, Tony McGowan, Marc Napolitano, and Drew Moore will attend the Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) Conference at Rutgers University.
3. On 13-15 April, MAJ Crystal Hills will attend the Southeastern Conference on Linguistics at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA and present as a part of the panel on Gullah-Geechee Linguistic Connection in Georgia.