

# CALL FOR PAPERS

[2010-10-25 version]

## Symposium

### 2011 Term of SJSU Center for Comparative Philosophy Workshop/Conference Series

Theme:

## “Daoism and Contemporary Philosophy: Constructive Engagement”

**Time:** April 18-19, 2011

**Place:** Conference Room 225, King Library, San Jose State University, San Jose,  
California, USA

The Center for Comparative Philosophy (CCP) at San Jose State University, California, USA (<http://www.sjsu.edu/centercomphil/>) has established its Workshop/Conference Series since 2009 to promote and enhance the research and scholarship of comparative philosophy as broadly understood in a philosophically interesting way. The Series emphasizes critical discussion and exploration of how distinct approaches from different philosophical traditions and/or from different styles/orientations of doing philosophy can constructively engage each other to jointly contribute to the common philosophical enterprise. The Series is characterized by its flexibility and sensitivity to needs and situations: it might be a half-day workshop or a multiple-day conference; it might present a multiple-topic comprehensive forum or a symposium focusing on one subject; it might be a local meeting or an international conference.

The 2011 term of the CCP Workshop/Conference Series is a symposium on the theme to be specified below (‘the Symposium’ for short below). The Symposium is co-sponsored by Philosophy Department at San Jose State University and is supported by Dr. Chaote Lin Endowment.

### Theme of the Symposium

The theme of the Symposium is “**Daoism and Contemporary Philosophy: Constructive Engagement**”. It is to explore two closely related fronts on the theme: (1) how philosophical thoughts and resources of Daoism (such as those in the *Dao-De-Jing* and the *Zhuang-Zi*) can contribute to our understanding and treatment of a series of philosophical issues (in metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of language and mind, moral and social/political philosophy, etc.) through their constructively engaging relevant approaches/resources in contemporary philosophy; (2) how relevant resources in contemporary philosophy can help and enhance our understanding and elaboration of philosophical points and implications of Daoism through philosophical interpretation.

Although it seems that the first front will especially address the interest of philosophers in general while the second front will especially address the interest of specialists in philosophical Daoism, the two fronts are intrinsically and closely related from the vantage point of the constructive-engagement strategy of comparative philosophy.

One crucial goal and methodological approach of comparative philosophy as broadly understood in a philosophically interesting way ('constructive-engagement strategy' for short) is *to explore how, via reflective criticism (including self-criticism) and argumentation, distinct modes of thinking, methodological approaches, visions, insights, substantial points of view, or conceptual and explanatory resources from different philosophical traditions and/or from different styles/orientations of doing philosophy, can learn from each other and jointly contribute to our understanding and treatment of a series of issues and topics of philosophical value and significance, which can be jointly concerned through philosophical interpretation and from a broader philosophical vantage point.*

The Symposium is to provide an effective channel and forum for critical-discussion on the theme.

### **Submission of Papers to the Symposium**

Papers (in English, together with abstracts) for consideration of their presentations at the Symposium may be submitted electronically (as a MS Word attachment) to Bo Mou at [bo.mou@sjsu.edu](mailto:bo.mou@sjsu.edu). All submitted papers will be judged by the peer review team. [Submissions that demonstratively explore the constructive-engagement between philosophical Daoism and contemporary philosophy in the foregoing sense are expected and welcome. A paper that takes a purely historical approach is not considered to fit the theme.]

The presentation version of submitted papers should be approximately 3000 words, to be presented comfortably in about 30 minutes; their abstracts should be 150-250 words. [However, if the authors of the submissions do have more elaborated full versions of the papers, they are encouraged to also submit their full versions for the need as specified in "Special Note" below.] The deadline for submission is **February 14, 2011**. Notifications of the acceptance decision will be sent out no later than **March 14, 2011**. If the paper is accepted, the deadline for the final version is **April 4, 2011**.

The authors-presenters of the accepted papers via peer review will be honored and awarded US\$100.

All are welcome to attend the Symposium. Coffee/refreshments and meals will be served to the registered participants.

### **Special Note**

Those articles among the accepted papers that are judged by peer review to meet the criterion of "original article of high quality" would be considered for being published in a possible special section on the same theme in one future issue of the peer-reviewed, open-access international journal *Comparative Philosophy: An International Journal of Constructive Engagement of Distinct Approaches toward World Philosophy* (ISSN 2151-6014; <http://www.comparativephilosophy.org>).