

# Program of the 75th Annual Meeting of the New Mexico Texas Philosophical Society

March 28-29, 2025

*Institutional affiliations reflect the institutions of the participants at the time of the conference.*

## Friday Morning Session 1

**Harits Hasra**, University of Arizona

“Uncertainty Mapping for Wellbeing Policy

Comments: **Walter Barta**, University of Houston

**Lamont Rodgers**, Houston Community College

“Locke and the Natural Right to Pardon”

Comments: **Walter Barta**, University of Houston

## Friday Morning Session 2

**Justin Hill**, Tarleton State University

“What a Body Can Do: Subject-Object Distinctions as Self-Estrangement in Horkheimer, Adorno, and Early Marx”

Comments: **N. Mark Rauls**, College of Southern Nevada

**Apple Igrek**, Oklahoma State University

“The Will to Power as an Oppositional Force against Authoritarianism”

Comments: **Justin Hill**, Tarleton State University

## Friday Afternoon Session 1

**Walter Barta**, University of Houston

“The Dog-Whistle/Wolf-Cry Dialectic: Political Divergence via Speech-Act Attribution”

Comments: **Lamont Rodgers**, Houston Community College

### Friday Afternoon Session 2

**Benjamin Koons**, University of St. Thomas

“Sudden Actions and Decisions: Aristotle vs. Contemporary Virtue Ethics”

Comments: **Dan Flores**, Houston Community College

**Ori Respler**, Georgia Southern University

“Spheres, Semantics, and Parricide: The Stranger’s Attack on Parmenides, Sophist 244b-245d”

Comments: **Jacob Mills**, Houston Community College

### Friday Afternoon Session 3

**Angela Bischof**, Northern Arizona University

“Reclaiming Respect: An Indigenous Response to Regan”

Comments: **Allison Fritz**, Chadron State College

**Andres Molina Ochoa**, South Texas College

“Between Borders: Reassessing Moral Obligations and National Identity”

Comments: **Angela Bischof**, Northern Arizona University

### Friday Plenary Panel

Human Horizons at Houston Community College:

A Project of the Teagle Foundation Cornerstone Learning for Living Grant

**Joanna Fax, David Liakos, Melinda Mejia, Jacob Mills,  
and Nathan Smith**, Houston Community College

### President's Address

**Vanessa Voss**, Lone Star College

“Just Laugh or Die: Jokes as Authoritarian Propaganda”

### Saturday Morning Session 1

**Jeffrey Watson**, Arizona State University

“The Problem of Phenomenal Accuracy in Flashbulb Memory”

Comments: Brandon Williams, Houston Community College

**Tarik Tijanovic**, Independent Scholar

“Towards a Psychological Theory of Coincidence”

Comments: **Sarah Woolwine**, University of Central Oklahoma

Weiwei Mo, Rice University

“Calling for Self-Understanding: Rationality of Transformative Choice”

Comments: **Tarik Tijanovic**, Independent Scholar

### Saturday Morning Session 2

**Thomas Rule**, American University in Cairo

“Homesickness and Homecoming: Heidegger and Our Uncanny Dwelling”

Comments: **Graham Bounds**, Central New Mexico Community College

**Robert McKinley**, University of New Mexico

“Heidegger and Schopenhauer on Being’s Conceptual Inexhaustibility”

Comments: **Dave Beisecker**, University of Nevada Las Vegas

**Graham Bounds**, Central New Mexico Community College

“Heidegger on Aristotle’s Definition of κίνησις”

Comments: **Thomas Rule**, American University in Cairo

### Saturday Morning Session 3

**Mirela Oliva**, University of St. Thomas

“On Cosmic Meaning”

Comments: **Andrew Pavelich**, University of Houston - Downtown

**Dan Flores**, Houston Community College

“Gradgrind and Dickens’ Conception of Utilitarianism”

Comments: **Gates Ely**, University of Houston

**Andrew Pavelich**, University of Houston - Downtown

“The Ethics of Suicide Prevention”

Comments: **Justin Bell**, University of Houston - Victoria

### Saturday Afternoon Session 1

**Parish Conkling**, Houston Community College

“Gender as Genocide: An Argument for the Inclusion of Gender as a Protected Group under Article II of the Genocide Convention”

Comments: **Margaret Betz**, Rutgers University Camden

**Alice Hilder-Jarvis**, University of Cambridge

“Towards a Theory of Gender Identity as Self-Interpretation”

Comments: **Weiwei Mo**, Rice University

**Margaret Betz**, Rutgers University Camden

“Can’t You Take a Joke: Humor Figleaves and Sexist Speech”

Comments: **Parish Conkling**, Houston Community College

### Saturday Afternoon Session 2

**Jacob Mills**, Houston Community College

“Inference to the Best Explanation and the Principle of Sufficient Reason”

Comments: **Jeffrey Watson**, Arizona State University

**Gates Ely**, University of Houston

“An Error Theory about Error Theory”

Comments: **Ori Respler**, Georgia Southern University