Causation and Explanation

February 21st-22nd

The Catholic University of America
Washington, D.C.
Annual Spring Graduate Conference

Graduate Student Association
To Learn More about the GSA,
please visit gradstudents.cua.edu

CUA School of Philosophy
For more information, or for
disability accommodations,
please contact Ryan Shea at
82shea@cardinalmail.cua.edu
Friday, February 21st (Aquinas Hall)

Keynote Address
2:00 to 4:00
Dr. Jean De Groot (CUA)
“Causal Dynamism”
Aquinas Hall Auditorium

Saturday, February 22nd (Caldwell Hall)
Morning

Session 1: Concurrent Panels
9:00 to 10:20AM  Happel Room
Reclaiming Aristotle
Moderator: Ryan Shea
“A Neo-Aristotelian Reading of the Physical Theories of Causation.”
Timothy Dolch (University of Dallas)
“Reclaiming Accidental Causation.”
Joe Milburn (University of Pittsburgh)

9:00 to 10:20AM  Caldwell 109
Teleology
Moderator: Erikk Geannikis
“The Teleology of Matter and Form in Physics II: An Examination of 199a-23
in Light of Two Interpretations of Final Causality.”
Catherine Peters (University of St. Thomas)
“Teleology and Time.”
Thomas Marre (University of Pittsburgh)

Session 2: Concurrent Panels
10:30 to 11:50AM  Happel Room
Language in Explanation and Causation
Moderator: Matthew Pietropaoli
“Are Cause and Explanation Coextensive Terms?”
John Boyer (University of St. Thomas)
“Why Explain Things with Words?”
John Brungardt (CUA)

10:30 to 11:50AM  Caldwell 109
Lessons from German Philosophy: Heidegger, Kant, and Leibniz
Moderator: Ryan Shea
“Getting Over Causes: Phenomenology as Fundamental Ontology.”
Robert Talley (CUA)
“The Principle of Reason and the Destiny of Being.”
Sean Skedzielewski (Duquesne University)

12:00 to 1:00PM  Lunch
Basilica of the National Shrine Cafeteria
Saturday, February 22nd (Caldwell Hall)
Afternoon

Session 3: Concurrent Panels
1:00 to 3:10PM   Happel Room
Idealization, Heuristics, and Mixed Sciences
Moderator: Ryan Shea
“Bhaskar, Longergan, and Cartwright on Heuristic Intervention.”
Chris Friel (Boston College)
“Idealization and Causal Explanation.”
Martin King (University of Guelph)
“A Thomistic Phenomenology of the Formal Object of a Subalternate Science: The Case of John of St. Thomas and Jacques Maritain.”
Matthew Minerd (CUA)

1:00 to 3:10PM   Caldwell 109
Cause, Mechanism, and Overdetermination
Moderator: Mike Staron
Lance Gilliam (The New School)
“Overdetermination, Exclusion, and the Metaphysics of Causation.”
Eric Guindon (Yale University)
“Mechanism, Causation, Explanation and Metaphysical Glues.”
Martin McNeela (University of Bloomington)

Keynote Address
3:30 to 5:00PM
Dr. Peter Machamer (University of Pittsburgh)
“Explaining Mechanisms”
Happel Room