

Submitting Papers for the 2021 Annual ACPA National Meeting

“The Diakonia of Truth”
2021 Annual ACPA Meeting

Deadline for Submission: **31 March 2021.**

Send all submissions to: **acpa@acpaweb.org**

1) Here is President-Elect Joshua Hochschild’s description of the theme and call for papers:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the ninety-fifth annual meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association, scheduled next fall in St. Louis, Missouri, appropriately “Rome of the West” and home of America’s first philosophical journal, *The Journal of Speculative Philosophy*.

Philosophy began in conversation with other, non-philosophical claims to wisdom: common sense, technical expertise, political art, poetic inspiration; and it retained a sense of duty (and sometimes even of privilege) to connect, share with, transform, and serve these fields.

Modern academic philosophy can seem inward-looking and separated, not only from the world, but even from other academic disciplines, but the Catholic intellectual tradition remembers a different posture: philosophy as handmaiden, integrating the sciences; philosophy as consolation, as care of the soul, as preparation for death; philosophy as gadfly and as political craft. The business of the wise man is to order – a noble and generous service.

For the 2021 meeting, then, I propose a theme emphasizing this philosophical vocation:

The Diakonia of Truth

How can philosophy serve other disciplines, to formulate and distinguish questions, to recognize their methodological limits, and to integrate them into conversation with other disciplines? What complex problems are only partially addressed by other disciplines, and need the coordination and integration of a philosophical perspective? What can philosophers learn from other disciplines, and take inspiration from new methods of inquiry and developments in other fields?

How might changing circumstances demand continuing reflections in ethics and political theory, and further development of Catholic social teaching? What challenges in science and technology raise fundamental questions of epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics? What new interdisciplinary movements (e.g., behavioral economics, cognitive science, and artificial intelligence) implicate views about human nature and reality, inviting deeper conversation with traditional philosophy?

And, especially in light of the ACPA’s recent statement on “The Integral Place of Philosophy in Catholic Higher Education,” what is the future of philosophical instruction, and how can philosophers help to sustain the purpose of university education in a time of crisis and change?

You are cordially invited to submit a paper from any area of philosophy engaging, in any way, the service that philosophy can render to other disciplines, the university, and the wider world.

2) Papers must be received no later than 31 March 2021. The authors of the papers must be members of ACPA at the moment of submission.

3) Submissions must be received through email. Please save your paper in Microsoft Word (.docx preferred) or PDF. (Other formats are not acceptable.) The text of your paper should not exceed 15 typed, double-spaced pages, 12 point (30 minutes reading time). The paper *must* begin with a short abstract (150 words), suitable for inclusion in the conference program. (The abstract will not be counted against the overall length of your paper.)

4) The format of the paper should be appropriate for *blind* reviewing; that is, nothing in the paper itself should reveal the author's identity. (We will take care that your paper is not identifiable in the way it is saved by us, as blind review is one of the strengths of our conference papers and our proceedings.)

5) *In the body of your email*, please include:

Author's name,

University affiliation,

Postal address,

Phone number,

E-mail address (correct from 1 March 2021 through 1 December 2021).

6) It is understood that, by submitting material for possible presentation at the 2021 Annual Meeting, authors agree that, should the paper be accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting and publication in the annual Proceedings, they will deliver the paper in person at the 2021 ACPA Conference, and they agree to allow the ACPA to hold the copyright to their paper published in the *Proceedings*. If the paper is accepted, you will be asked to sign a publication agreement with us.

7) Those authors who wish to have their papers considered for the ACPA Karen Chan Young Scholar's Award (scholars 35 years of age or younger, regardless of academic position, are eligible) should *indicate as much in the body of their email*.

8) We will acknowledge receipt of your paper by email, shortly after it is submitted. If you do not hear from us within one week of submitting your paper, please contact us by email. Then by 15 July 2021, we will inform you if your paper has been accepted for the conference and publication in the *ACPA Proceedings*.

9) If you would like to comment on a paper or to chair a session, please let the ACPA Secretary know by sending a *separate* e-mail or by writing to the ACPA's National Office. Be sure to provide your e-mail address, as well as your telephone numbers, and your area of philosophical expertise.