

Spring 2018

Dear Reader,

In your hands is Issue V of *Dianoia: The Undergraduate Philosophy Journal of Boston College*. This year, we were pleased to receive a record eighty submissions from North and South America, Europe, and Asia. After a lengthy review process, we selected for publication seven truly impressive philosophical works which present a diverse array of philosophical themes. Our journal begins with two papers—one on Spinoza and Hinduism; another on Heidegger and the Kyoto School—that consider the perennial dichotomy of East and West. Our next paper, the “Praxis of the Soviet Avant-Garde,” employs the thought of such philosophers as Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer to investigate the cultural and economic foundations of Soviet-era Avant-Garde art. From there, our authors bring us on an engaging journey, from a consideration of the representational fallacy and the philosophy of time, to a reflection on the work of Walter Benjamin and Jürgen Habermas, to a reading of the Myth of Er, and, finally, an explication of Martin Heidegger’s *What is Called Thinking?*.

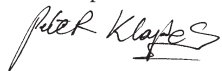
You will find, on our front and back covers, Arkady Rylov’s *In the Blue Expanse*. Its Russian artist calls to mind our paper on the “Praxis of the Soviet Avant-Garde.” On our journal’s back cover, we overlay Rylov’s contemplative, serene masterpiece with the image of the *Enso*, a sacred image of the Zen school of Buddhism and a common subject of Japanese calligraphy. The synergy of these two images, on the front and back—*alpha* and *omega*—of our journal articulates the bridging of culture and ideas that serves as a great impetus for, and cornerstone of, our publication.

Before we close, we want to express our most sincere gratitude to our journal’s friends, supporters, and advocates. First and foremost, we would like to thank publicly our editorial board—of sixteen talented undergraduates—for their keen philosophical and editorial insights. We are also greatly indebted to our faculty advisor, Fr. Ronald Tacelli, S.J., for his words of encouragement and expert advice, and to our graduate advisor, Myles Casey, who constantly made sure that we would have a product to show for our late-night hours of editing and reviewing. We thank Paula Perry of the Philosophy department for her constant support, advocacy, and organizational assistance. And, ultimately, without the generosity of Boston College’s Institute for the Liberal Arts, directed by Dr. Mary Crane, the Center for Centers, the Boston College Philosophy Department, and the Undergraduate Committee of the Philosophy Department, our vision for an international review of undergraduate philosophical work would never become the reality that it is today.


Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Peter Klapes, Editor-in-Chief



Tristan St. Germain, Managing Editor



Noah Valdez, Managing Editor

