AME LEADERSHIP

President        Kaye Cook
Secretary        Dan Fleming
Treasurer        Phyllis Curtis-Tweed

Communications Coordinators
Eric Marx, Messaging
Jason Stephens, Forum Editor

AME BOARD MEMBERS

2017-2020
Silvia Diazgranados
Brandy Quinn
Winston Thompson
Wiel Veugelers
Olivia Williams (2017-2018)

2016-2019
David Aldridge
Ulisses Araujo
Angela Bermudez
Jennifer Mariano

2015-2018
Vishalache Balakrishnan
Maria Rosa Buxarrais
Matthew Hayden
Larry Nucci

Presidential Appointees
Hyemin Han, Kim Stevens

INQUIRIES

For Forum content or announcements, please contact editor at jm.stephens@auckland.ac.nz

For change of address, please email the Secretary at daniel.fleming@svha.org.au

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL EDUCATION
44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Moral Education Toward a Caring Society:
Civic Engagement and Moral Action

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

8-10 November 2018
Barcelona, Spain

AME 2018 Conference Chair
Maria Rosa Buxarrais, University of Barcelona, Spain

To submit a proposal for the 44th Annual Conference, please visit: amenetwork.org/2018

All proposals must be submitted by 6 April 2018. For updates and further information, please consult the Conference website.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Kaye Cook


These words frame the AME mission statement, and are reflected in our yearly conferences. We provide a remarkably diverse forum for moral discussion; our work is representative of the complexity of the field as a whole.

True to tradition, the 43rd Annual Conference in St. Louis was successful and generative. Thank you Wolfgang Althof and Stephen Sherblom for organizing an excellent program with many distinctives: the inclusion of local educators along with international scholars from 27 countries; an enthusiastic young scholars’ mentoring lunch; the welcoming of our second SIG (Peace Education); and a handy conference app that made navigating the many talks easier. The most commonly represented disciplines continued to be psychology, philosophy, and education, although multiple other disciplines informed our understanding and shaped our experience in St. Louis (e.g., sociology, theology, student life, ethics, dentistry, even pharmacology).

As president, I focused on updating the infrastructure of the organization in 2017, with the aim of raising the profile of the organization. Most importantly, I oversaw the transition of our website from GoDaddy to Squarespace. While the address remains the same (amenetwork.org), we have updated our logo and letterhead, and created a more dynamic template for the Forum.

The executive board has always been pivotal in the work of the organization: it is a working board. Ours is an all-volunteer organization and there is much to do. This year, the Board has worked toward providing greater support for the yearly conference, recruiting new members, and expanding our inclusiveness of current issues and theoretical perspectives.

We have also begun conversations about our vision for our joint calling over the next few years, with particular focus on international collaborations and supporting young scholars. Efforts toward grant funding for the organization have been unsuccessful to date; however, partnership with APNME promises increased opportunities for both associations. We hope to offer a joint APNME/AME conference in summer 2021 in England. Recent Board conversation about our mission has focused on young scholars, e.g., a young scholar’s award, web page devoted to resources for early career academics, and webinars for young scholars. Each of these ideas, consistent with our mission, is unfunded and would benefit from leadership.

Finally, please don’t miss our 44th Annual Conference in Barcelona! It promises to be beautiful, creative, thoughtful, and fun, appealing to our aesthetic as well as academic sensibilities. See you there!
MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Dan Fleming

As Kaye Cook, our president, writes in the cool of winter, I do so in the middle of an Australian summer! Greetings to all of you from sunny Sydney. There are just a couple of things to update you on from the Secretary’s desk:

We had a very successful community meeting at our conference in St Louis, held on the afternoon of Saturday 4th November. Following the reports from the AME Board and leaders of our special interest groups, the Community gathered raised several significant and valuable suggestions from the AME going forward.

The Board was able to include these in its deliberations following the conference, and looks forward to drawing on the wisdom contained in these suggestions as it leads AME into the future.

We are finalising our database for this year’s membership list. That list will be sent to Taylor & Francis shortly to activate your in-print and online journal subscriptions, which come with your membership. Don’t forget that if you weren’t at the St Louis conference you’ll need to renew your membership online this year. You can do so on our website.

The Executive Board will be meeting online in the coming weeks to finalise plans for the Barcelona conference.

Happy New Year!
Welcome to the 44th Annual AME Conference! This year’s conference will be held from November 8 to 10, 2018 at the Hotel Alimara in Barcelona, Spain!

This year we will focus on Moral Education Toward a Caring Society, Civic Engagement and Moral Action. Increasingly in today’s global society we are witnessing a focus on personal and local concerns to the detriment of larger human interests. Abstract conceptions of fairness and justice are insufficient to offset self-interest in countries with emerging economies, and in Western societies being challenged by tribalism and a return to ethnic nationalism. In this conference we want to underline the role of care and related constructs of empathy in conjunction with concerns for justice in generating civic engagement and moral action.

Abstracts can be submitted in English, Catalan or Spanish. The 44th Conference provides a platform for researchers to present their ongoing projects and discoveries to a broad audience of peers and the interested public through posters, oral or symposium presentations.

To submit a proposal for the 44th Annual Conference, please visit: amenetwork.org/2018

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 06 APRIL 2018
REVIEW COMPLETION: 15 MAY 2018
NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE: 04 JUNE 2018
PROGRAM FINALIZATION: 15 JULY 2018
Thanks again for joining us in St. Louis for our 43rd Annual Conference. It was, as expected, a terrific meeting. We extend a very special thanks to Wolfgang Althof and Steve Sherblom, our Conference Co-Chairs, for organizing a thoughtful program with wonderful presentations throughout. The observations below include a Young Scholar Perspective of the conference and pictures from the proceedings.

Young Scholar Perspective

I was very pleased to attend AME’s 43rd Annual Conference in St. Louis. At the conference, I presented a poster—“Moral Identity in Predicting Prosocial Behaviors and Aggression”—on research I conducted with my advisor, Gustavo Carlo. The study explored the associations between moral identity, prosocial behavior, and aggression among college students. Doing so provided me the great opportunity to discuss my research with a wide audience including experts in moral development and education. I also had amazing opportunities to meet with distinguished professors from all around the world and to discuss my current and future research ideas with them. In short, the 43rd Annual Conference was a valuable experience for my professional development as it gave me the opportunity to learn more deeply in my field and to discuss ideas with researchers from different perspectives. I am looking forward to attending the 44th Annual Conference in Barcelona!

- Zehra Gülseven, Doctoral Candidate and Jacobs Foundation & ISSBD Doctoral Fellow, Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia
**Invited Keynote Address**

*The Psychology of Dismantling Racism: A Moral Imperative*

Dr. Kira Hudson Banks, at right, delivering the 43rd Annual Conference Keynote Address. Dr. Banks is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Saint Louis University. Her research focuses on race, racial identity and intergroup relations. She has worked in the field to improve intergroup relations since 1998 through research, community outreach, and school-based interventions at the middle school, high school, and college level.

**Kohlberg Memorial Lecture**

*A Bottom-Up View of Morality: Our Primate Background*

Dr. Frans de Waal, at left, making clear our genetic lineage (as well as the origins of morality) in his Kohlberg Memorial Lecture at the 43rd Annual Conference. Dr. Waal is C. H. Candler Professor in the Psychology Department of Emory University, Director of the Living Links Center at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, in Atlanta, Georgia, and a Distinguished Professor at Utrecht University, the Netherlands. His latest books are The Age of Empathy (2009), and The Bonobo and the Atheist (2013). Two recent edited volumes are The Primate Mind (2012) and Evolved Morality (2014).
The Kuhmerker Career Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding, long-term contributions to both the Association for Moral Education, in particular, and to the field of moral development, more broadly. The 2017 Kuhmerker Career Award was awarded to Professor Larry Nucci, University of California, Berkeley. As described by Ann Higgins-D’Allesandro, Chair of the Award Committee, “Larry Nucci’s research program deepened and extended the boundaries of social domain theory by defining and distinguishing a third critical domain, the personal domain. Larry’s work, and that of his students and hundreds of others, has provided robust evidence that from young ages people distinguish among and give differential import to three broad life domains—the moral, the social-conventional, and the personal.”

In keeping with tradition, Larry’s Award came in the form of plaque, inscribed with the reasons why he was its recipient. It read:

Because

- Your scholarly contributions to Social Domain Theory are distinguished by a program of research that is innovative, methodologically rigorous, theoretically significant, and inspiring to generations of researchers,
- Your leadership in Moral and Character education has been instrumental in furthering the field and demonstrating the importance of collaboration across different theoretical perspectives and constituencies,
- Your influence on the practice of Moral Education has encompassed curriculum development, large-scale demonstration projects and web-based resources to teachers worldwide,
- Your longstanding service to the Association in leadership positions and support of its mission as conference chair, board member, and longstanding intellectual contributor, and
- Your personal example as an outstanding colleague and mentor to students nationally and internationally.
AMIE SENLAND: RECIPIENT of the 2017 KUHMERKER DISSERTATION AWARD

The Association for Moral Education gives an annual Kuhmerker Dissertation Award for an outstanding doctoral dissertation. The annual award gives recognition and commendation to doctoral students addressing work that informs, develops, or relates to, the understanding of moral development, moral functioning or moral education.

The 2017 Kuhmerker Dissertation Award winner was Amie Senland for her thesis: “A Mixed Methods Analysis of Moral Reasoning and Empathy during the Transition to Adulthood in Young Adults with High Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder.” Dr. Senland completed her dissertation under supervision of Professor Ann Higgins-D’Alessandro at Fordham University in the Department of Psychology’s Applied Developmental Psychology program.

Amie Senland is now a Laboratory Coordinator and Lecturer in the Psychology Department of Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut. As a teacher, Amie Senland aspires to make a difference for her students and to foster a deeper capacity for and appreciation of learning by developing positive relationships with students, challenging students to engage in more complex thinking and helping students apply content to the real-world. After graduating from Fordham University, she published a number of articles, some of them with leading AME members like Elizabeth Vozzola and former AME presidents Sharon Lamb and Ann Higgins-d’Alessandro.

Amie Senland receiving the 2017 Kuhmerker Dissertation Award from Wolfgang Althof

Amie Senland celebrating her award with her (former) supervisors, Elly Vozzola (left) and Ann Higgins-D’Alessandro.
DR ZEHAVIT GROSS: The 2017 GOOD WORK AWARD RECIPIENT

The AME Good Work Committee members selected Zehavit Gross, holder of the UNESCO Chair for Values Education, Human Rights, Democracy, Tolerance and Peace Education at Bar-Ilan University, Israel, as the 2017 award winner.

Professor Gross is a true moral exemplar with a sustained passion and dedication to enhancing the peaceful coexistence of the people in Israel and the world. Letters from her students gave powerful testimonies about the impact her course ‘Democracy and Education’ has had on their perception of “the other.” They believe the course truly made a difference in how they will act in the future.

Moreover, Professor Gross’s research and publications on the topic of peace education not only substantiate the theoretical underpinning of her course and help to improve it, but also ensure that many academics and professionals can learn from her experiences. As one letter of support read: “the nominee’s strength is her open-mindedness and innovation, focusing on areas of research, which are extremely important in today’s world. She is able to draw on her own, personal background, and brings a range of experiences and expertise to her major areas of research, resulting in an innovative and exemplary approach.”

In accepting the award at the 2017 AME Conference, Zehavit expressed how personally moved she was to hear the words of her former students quoted during the ceremony. “You have the ability to generate change, to teach people to love one another, to accept, not to judge, and to talk - and that’s the most important thing. I wish the whole world could reach this level of understanding that we’re all fellow human beings and we all want to live in peace and tranquility, justice and care.” The AME Good Work Award is a most deserved addition to the recognition Professor Zehavit Gross has received from other learned societies.
2018 KUHMERKER CAREER AWARD

The Kuhmerker Career Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding, long-term contributions to both the Association for Moral Education, in particular, and to the field of moral development, more broadly. Areas of consideration include, but are not restricted to:

1. Scholarly contribution to the field of moral development and/or education. This could consist of: a) long-standing contributions to ethical theory and philosophy; b) substantial and cumulative empirical contributions to the research literatures in psychology, sociology, anthropology, etc.; c) the development of an assessment instrument or strategy adopted by a significant number of researchers; d) the publication of resource material and critical analyses helpful to researchers and/or practitioners; and/or, e) an innovative educational program adopted by a significant number of practitioners;

2. Service to AME, such as acting as a board member, office holder, program planner, or major presenter at conferences;

3. Excellence in teaching and mentoring, including doctoral student supervision, course development and teaching, conceptualization, realization or supervision of educational interventions; and

4. Special/innovative service to the public, workplace, or education.

This award is not limited to AME members, although involvement in the association is given serious consideration as one of the criteria. Please contact John Gibbs, chair of the Kuhmerker Career Award Committee, with questions and nominations by 15 May 2018: gibbs.1@osu.edu

*Recipients of all three awards will be honored at the 2018 Annual Conference in Barcelona, Spain.

Please see the AME website for more information on how to submit a nomination: http://www.amenetwork.org/awards-and-grants
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2018 KUHMERKER DISSERTATION AWARD

The Association for Moral Education gives an annual Kuhmerker Dissertation Award for an outstanding doctoral dissertation (e.g., Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D.). The annual award gives recognition and commendation to doctoral students addressing work that informs, develops, or relates to, the understanding of moral development, moral functioning or moral education. The AME invites submissions from all fields, including psychology, philosophy, pedagogy, cultural studies and so forth. The AME invites dissertations in both English and in languages other than English, and from recent doctoral students of any nationality.

Submissions should be sent to Jan Boom, Chair of the AME Dissertation Award Committee by 30 March 2018: J.Boom@uu.nl

Authors do not need to be a member of the Association to receive the award, but we would like the recipient to attend the AME annual conference for a formal presentation. The award includes an attractive plaque and, if the recipient attends the conference, their conference fee and banquet fee will be paid by the AME and they will receive $500 to help with hotel and travel expenses.

The dissertation must have been completed and the degree awarded within 3 years (36 months) prior to the submission deadline.

For more details, please visit: http://www.amenetwork.org/awards-and-grants
2018 GOOD WORK AWARD

Dear members of AME,

As you know, the Association for Moral Education values not only high quality academic work on moral education, but also moral practices. The Good Work Award puts exemplary moral practices into the spotlight. Each year the association gives an award to a person or group of persons that has initiated a practice or intervention that aims to promote a moral benefit for a community or group beyond that inherent in conducting research, and that is exemplary and of significant interest to moral educators in other circumstances.

The Good Work Committee asks all members for nominations for the Good Work Award 2018. Please send your nomination to the chair of the committee, Elly Vozzola, before 15 June 2018. E-mail address: evozzola@usj.edu

The nomination needs to consist of:

1. Name of the nominee (which can be a person or an organization).

2. A description of the practice in 150-400 words; please provide a website of the (initiator of the) exemplary moral practice if available.

3. A description why you believe the practice deserves the award in 150-400 words. For instance, why is it morally exemplary? Why is it of significant interest to moral educators?

Additionally:

a. Provide at least two credible testimonies of participants, practitioners, or observers - these may be letters, e-mails or webpages.

b. If research has been conducted about the moral practice, please provide references.

Take a look at our webpage for further information and inspiration:

http://www.amenetwork.org/awards-and-grants

Thank you. We look forward to receiving your nomination!

Elly Vozzola and the members of the Good Work Committee: Jay Brandenberger, Susana Frisancho, Andrew Garrod
NON-AME EVENTS OF INTEREST

PRACTICING SCIENCE: VIRTUES, VALUES, AND THE GOOD LIFE

Sponsored by the Templeton Religion Trust
August 9-12, 2018
University of Notre Dame London Gateway
London, UK

Over the last several decades, virtue has attracted increased attention from philosophers, theologians, and psychologists. However, little of this research on virtue has attended to the development and function of virtue within scientific research and practice.

Since 2016, a multi-disciplinary research team at the University of Notre Dame, funded by the Templeton Religion Trust, has been exploring the relationship between virtue and scientific practice with a particular focus on laboratory research in biology (see http://ctshf.nd.edu/research/virtues-and-the-practice-of-science/).

Further details of the conference program can be found online at http://ctshf.nd.edu/news/call-for-papers-practicing-science-virtues-values-and-the-good-life/

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

If so, please let me know: Jason at jm.stephens@auckland.ac.nz or visit us online at amenetwork.org.

Thanks for reading!

Jason M Stephens,
Editor, AME Forum
If you attended the November AME conference in St. Louis your dues are automatically paid for the year 2018. If you did not attend the 2017 conference, and have not renewed online, you may renew on the AME Website, or by using mail the form below. Membership is $95 for regular members and $65 for students.

Your membership includes a subscription to the quarterly Journal of Moral Education and the semi-annual AME Forum as well as online access to five additional journals.

Applications for reduced AME membership rate in cases of hardship for full-time students, unemployed individuals, and untenured faculty in developing countries (as defined by the IMF) are available on the AME and Annual Conference Websites.

To renew your AME membership online at the AME Website (using Paypal), go to http://www.amenetwork.org/membership

To renew your AME membership by mail, please complete the following:

Name _____________________________________________________
Institution __________________________________________________
Business phone _______________________ Home phone ________________________
E-mail _______________________________

Mailing Label: (name)___________________________________________
Line 2 (street address) _____________________________________________
Line 3 (city, state, postal code)_______________________________________
Line 4 (country)__________________________________________________

Mark as appropriate:
________ Regular dues: $95.00 (includes 4 issues of The Journal of Moral Education)
________ Student dues: $65.00 (includes 4 issues of The Journal of Moral Education)
________ Donation to the Kohlberg Memorial Fund: $________.00
________ Total enclosed.

Make your check payable in US dollars to Association for Moral Education, and mail it with this form:
Dr Kaye Cook, Gordon College, 255 Grapevine Road, Wenham, MA 01984
Email: Kaye.Cook@gordon.edu

Again, if you attended the November AME conference in St. Louis your dues are automatically paid for the year 2018.