

Report for the August 19th – August 21st International Conference to celebrate the centenary of PPA in Springe, Germany, 2022

Between the 19th of August and the 21st of August, thanks to the SFCP's kind support, I was able to attend the International Conference to celebrate the centenary of PPA in Springe, Germany. I took participation in one workshop and was able to enjoy the lectures that were presented in English.

First, I am going to address my participation in Julie-Marie French Devitt and Rachel Kellett's workshop: "Socratic Dialogue in the Woods". My own experience as an organizer of Socratic Dialogues with students is such that our discussions were mainly held in an open environment. The reason behind this decision was related to measures regarding the COVID19 pandemic. However, I was fascinated by the ways in which a nature-based SD can be aided and inspired by the surrounding environment. My experience was quite different in comparison to dialogues I've participated in, that were held behind closed doors. The brocade practices helped me relax and prepare for a mindful discussion. My partner in the preliminary discussion was Esther. The possibility of just walking around the compound and talking about the question gave me the chance to choose my example carefully, also, Esther's questions made it clearer and more precise. Further, the debate about which example to choose went very smoothly, it seemed like no one was nervous or anxious and everyone were just concentrated on the task at hand.

Next spring, I, myself will make an attempt to organize an out-in-the-open SD. I really think that the participants would feel better in such an environment and that it would stimulate them to structure better examples and to reason about them with ease.

As far as to my participation in the lecture portion of the conference, unfortunately, most of the talks were in German and I was not able to benefit from them. However, I had the chance to listen to Dieter Birnbacher's talk, in which he argued that there is difference between *the good reasoning practices in principle* and *practical reasoning about specific cases*. I found his points and examples quite promising and I am going to discuss them with my students during the semester. However, I was not persuaded by his answers to the questions that he received during our discussion.

It would be wrong to end my report before mentioning one of the most beneficial components of such a conference – namely, the chance to continue the conversation during breakfast, lunch breaks, dinners and even later, at social gatherings. I have always found that philosophy is an activity that is not only auditorium based. The one condition for an open dialogue is to find a community of thinkers who are open-minded and unbiased. Therefore, I can not withhold sharing my observation that being together with wonderful people and sharing great ideas gave each one of us the most joy and sense of fulfillment.

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