Smith, Hume, Liberalism, Esotericism Conference
November 9 - 11, 2018 at Institute for Humane Studies

FRIDAY, November 9, 2018: Sessions 1, 2, and 3, will workshop papers by new/near PhDs:

9:45am-12:00noon: SESSION 1: Three papers workshopped. Thomas Merrill, commentator.
  1. Dan Klein, "Adam Smith's Anti-esotericism Assertion," (on Ancient Logics fn EPS p. 121ff) (20 minutes only)
  2. Andrew Humphries and Jon Murphy, "Smith's Memory Has Misled Him? Some Curious Errors in The Theory of Moral Sentiments"
  3. Scott Drylie, "Educational Equivocation: Adam Smith on Schooling"

Lunch: 12:00noon-1:00pm

1:30pm-3:30pm: SESSION 2: Three papers workshopped. Thomas Merrill and Nelson Lund, commentators.
  4. Michael Clark, "The Solonic Adam Smith: A Liberal Regard for Prevailing Prejudice" Merrill to comment
  5. Mark Bonica and Dan Klein, "Adam Smith on Reputation, Commutative Justice, and Defamation Laws" Lund to comment
  6. John Robinson and Robert Subrick, "Why Did Adam Smith Suggest a Labor Theory?" Merrill to comment

3:45pm-5:45pm: SESSION 3: Two papers workshopped. Richard Boyd, moderator/commentator.
  7. Paul Mueller, "Who Best Represents Impartiality? The Higher We Go, the More Partial our Judgment"
  8. Erik Matson, "A Dialectical Reading of Adam Smith on Wealth and Happiness: Economic and Moral Lessons from TMS Part IV"

6:30pm-8:15pm: DINNER at hotel KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY ARTHUR MELZER

SATURDAY, November 10, 2018:

9:00am-12noon: SESSION 4: Three papers workshopped. Peter McNamara, commentator.
  9. Danielle Charette, "Cicero and Machiavelli in Hume's Enquiry Concerning the Principles of Morals"

Lunch: 12noon-1:00pm
1:30pm-3:30pm: SESSION 5: Two papers workshopped. Jerry Weinberger, commentator.
   12. Christopher Martin, "Adam Smith, the Poor, and Liberty"
   13. Dylan DelliSanti, "Innovation, Discovery, and the Tumult of Liberalism: An Esoteric Interpretation of Adam Smith"

3:45pm-5:45pm: SESSION 6: Two papers workshopped. Nelson Lund and Thomas Merrill, commentators.
   14. Harrison Searles and Colin Doran, "David Hume and Adam Smith as Discreet Proto-Darwinists" Merrill to comment.
   15. Jon Diesel, "Adam Smith on Usury: An Esoteric Reading" Lund to comment.

6:00pm-8:00pm: DINNER – relaxed, optional, no presentation, withdrawing early is fine.

SUNDAY, November 11, 2018:
9:00am-10:00am: SESSION 7: One paper workshopped. Erik Matson, commentator.

10:10am-12noon: SESSION 8: COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE. Professors Dennis Rasmussen and Brandon Turner will be asked to deliver overview remarks in Session 8 on Sunday. The idea will be for each to elaborate reflections on the approach represented by the papers presented. This session will give everyone the opportunity to hear what leading scholars think of the esoteric approach to Smith and Hume, and of “our” tendency to read Smith as engaged in a project of liberalism.

Lunch: 12noon-1:00pm (optional)/departure.

Total papers workshopped: 16

Not placed in the plan, but part of JEBO project:
- Tom Merrill on Hume’s History and political theory
- Stuart Paul on pre-Smithian literature on usury restrictions