



PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE LECTURE SERIES



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*“Darwinian Analogies in Argentina:
The Significance of Situated Science”*

One explanation for the persistent failure to of philosophers account for the success of Darwin’s arguments consists in the hypothesis that these arguments, rather than following some more familiar mode of inductive reasoning, must be understood as involving inferences from analogy. I argue that understanding such inferences and their persuasive power in their particular scientific contexts demand that we treat them as culturally situated. Much about them is revealed when we explore their removal from one cultural situation and their transplantation into another. My paper considers the fate of Darwin’s analogies when removed from the familiar context of Victorian England, and taken further afield than the equally familiar contexts of nineteenth-century Europe and North America. I explore their transformation in nineteenth-century Argentina.

Thursday, October 26th, 2017
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

QUINN 212

*“The Anthropocene Problem:
Engaging Humanistic Scholarship”*

The urgency of global climate change and other aspects of what I call the Anthropocene Problem (AP) are such that philosophers and other humanists are highly motivated to contribute to finding solutions. At the same time, the technical sophistication of scientific debates and the sheer viciousness of public policy debates leave philosophers and other humanists feeling marginalized. This paper is an advertisement for humanistic engagement with the AP, arguing that we have vital contributions to make and the means to articulate those contributions to specialists in other fields.

Friday, October 27th, 2017
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

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