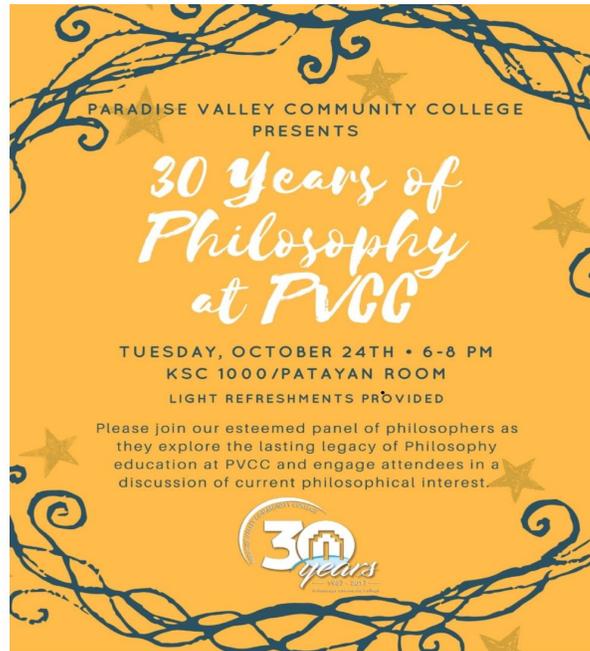


- A. Welcome: Why are we here?
 - a. PVCC's history of Philosophy
 - i. 30 years of philosophy

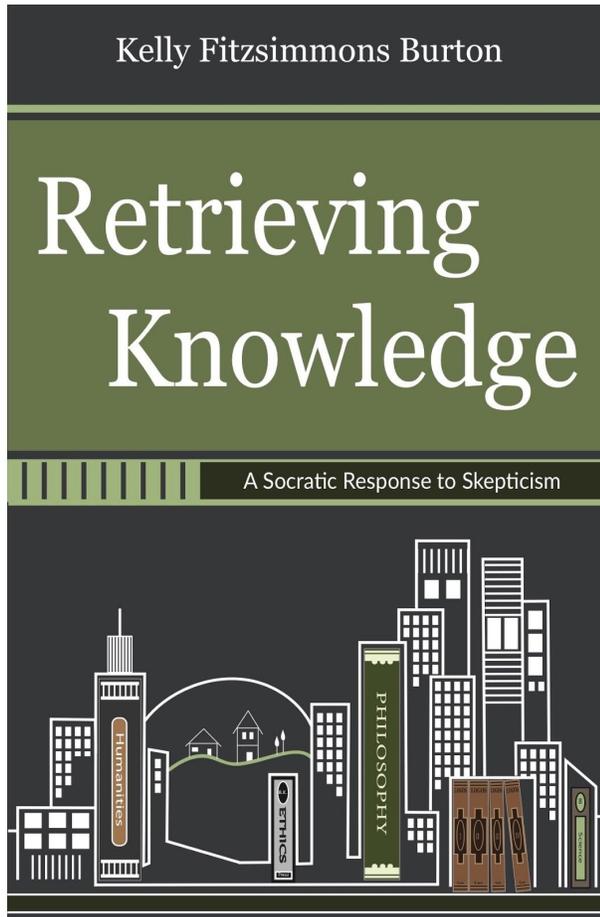


Featured Panelists:

Dr. Surrendra Gangadean - Professor Emeritus PVCC Philosophy
 Dr. Kelly Fitzsimmons Burton - PVCC Residential Faculty
 Dr. Owen Anderson - ASU West Associate Professor of Philosophy & Religious Studies
 Mr. Greg Goodrich - Gateway Community College Residential Faculty
 Mr. Arturo Gastelum - Paradise Valley Christian Preparatory Headmaster & Arizona Christian University faculty

- ii. Many philosophy profs and humanities teachers come from PVCC
- iii. Many friendships come out of PVCC philosophy
- iv. We want to share that community with others
- v. The PVCC lecture series
 1. I finished my Ph.D. in May 2017
 2. I was immediately asked to talk about my work around town
 3. October 2017 - 30-year anniversary event
 4. The natural progression to begin our own lecture series
 - a. Alumni speakers
 - b. PVCC faculty speakers
 - c. Community member speakers

5. I wrote a dissertation that has become a book ([ppp](#))



6. PVCC is my school



- vi. [School](#) as “useless”
- vii. School and leisure
- viii. School of thought
- ix. [Leisure](#) for thinking
- x. University life and the lack of leisure for thinking
- b. PVCC and the [intellectual life](#)
 - i. Thinking life: The life of the mind
 - ii. PVCC Philosophical society as means of intellectual life
 - 1. Friendships forged
 - 2. Leisurely discussions
 - 3. Problems addressed
- c. Intellectual life and the academy
 - i. [Anti-intellectualism](#) and American [culture](#)
 - ii. Pragmatism and the academy
 - iii. Failure of philosophy in the academy and effects on the culture
- d. The academy, [intellectual life](#), and culture
 - i. Culture = cultivate; I want to cultivate the intellectual life
 - ii. Change the culture by creating culture
 - iii. Culture lives in artifacts and institutions (schools, books, the Internet)

- iv. Public philosophy in theory and in practice
- v. The culture of public philosophy
 - 1. Critical thinking
 - 2. Collaboration, cooperation, coordination, community
 - 3. Learning outside the walls of the classroom
 - 4. Lifelong learning
 - 5. Cultivation of the life of the mind for enjoyment and for solving real problems

“Gorgias declares that nothing exists: and if anything exists it is unknowable; and if it exists and is knowable, yet it cannot be indicated to others. To prove that nothing exists he collects the statements of others, who in speaking about what is seem to assert contrary opinions ... and he argues against both sides.”¹ -Gorgias

“A human being is the measure of all things - of things that are, that they are, and of things that are not, that they are not.” -Protagoras

“Concerning the gods, I am unable to know either that they are or that they are not, or what their appearance is like. For many are the things that hinder knowledge: the obscurity of the matter and the shortness of human life.” -Protagoras

“There are two opposing arguments (logoi) concerning everything.”² -Protagoras

“The Greek culture of the Sophists had developed out of all the Greek instincts; it belongs to the culture of the Periclean age as necessarily as Plato does not: it has its predecessors in Heraclitus, in Democritus, in the scientific types of the old philosophy; it finds expression in, e.g., the high culture of two cities. And -- it has ultimately shown itself to be right: every advance in

¹ Aristotle, *Melissus, Xenophanes, and Gorgias in Barnes, Jonathan. The Complete Works of Aristotle* (Princeton: Princeton University Press; 1984), 979.5.1-5.

² Empiricus, Sextus. *Against the Mathematicians* 7.60-80B1. Quoted in S. Marc Cohen, Patricia Curd, and C.D.C. Reeve. *Readings in Ancient Greek Philosophy from Thales to Aristotle* (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company; 1995), 75.

epistemological and moral knowledge has reinstated the Sophists -- Our contemporary way of thinking is to a great extent Heraclitean, Democritean, and Protagorean: it suffices to say Protagorean, because Protagoras represented a synthesis of Heraclitus and Democritus."³

-Nietzsche

- B. What is philosophy?
 - a. Foundational discipline
 - b. Love of wisdom
 - c. Critical use of reason
 - d. Self-examination
 - e. World and life view: Theory and practice
- C. What does philosophy assume? Knowledge is possible
- D. First philosophy and the search for the Logos
 - a. Empiricism and skepticism
 - b. Materialism and nominalism
 - c. Sophistry and relativism
 - d. Objective knowledge is not possible? The end of philosophy?
- E. Rise of the Sophists
 - a. Gorgias: nothing [permanent] exists
 - b. Thrasymachus: might makes right
 - c. Protagoras: man is the measure (knowledge is perception -truth and ethics are relative)
 - d. Benefits of the Sophists: humanists, subjectivity, communication, rhetoric, and possibly early formal logic
- F. Socrates and the Sophists
 - a. Empiricism and skepticism (knowledge is possible)
 - b. Materialism and nominalism (soul and universals)
 - c. Sophism and relativism (the good and the common good)
 - d. Revival of philosophy as the pursuit of knowledge
 - e. What distinguishes philosophers from poets, craftsmen, and politicians is a search for the *logos*
- G. The institution of philosophy
 - a. Plato's Academy
 - b. Aristotle's Lyceum

³ Nietzsche, Friedrich. *The Will to Power*, 428.

https://archive.org/stream/TheWillToPower-Nietzsche/will_to_power-nietzsche#page/n55/mode/2

- c. What is required for building institutions?
- d. Friendship and philosophy (community)
- H. The institution is currently crumbling
 - a. Philosophy is dead
 - b. The academy is seen as a problem
 - c. Culture suffers when the academy is broken
 - d. The academy is broken because philosophy is not being done - the search for the *logos*
 - e. The academy is being run by the Sophists (poets, craftsmen, politicians)
 - i. Materialism
 - ii. Empiricism
 - iii. Skepticism
 - iv. Relativism
 - v. Institutional Pragmatism
- I. Retrieval philosophy: "forward looking because of backward thinking"
 - a. Remember Socrates and the pursuit of knowledge - the search for the *Logos*
 - b. Let's be gadfly to the academy
 - c. Institution building
 - d. Friendship and community
- J. Action Items
 - a. Attend PVCC [public lecture series](#)
 - b. Attend my talk at ASU on Post-Nietzschean philosophy
 - c. Attend the First Friday Philosophy discussion group
 - d. Attend other talks around town: GCC, GCU, ACU
 - e. Talk to your friends
 - f. Be leisurely - turn off all distractions and think
 - g. Seek the Good