

# The American Weil Society

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Dear Friends and Members of the American Weil Society:

I am so honored to be writing you as the newly elected President of the American Weil Society, following A. Rebecca Rozelle-Stone's 2014-16 year tenure as its second President. I am happy to be joined by our new Vice President, Sophie Bourgault, our Treasurer, Joseph Cosgrove, and our newly elected webmaster, Mauricio Najarro.

Our recent AWS Colloquy in New Orleans was a great success. On behalf of the AWS, I would like to thank Rebecca Rozelle-Stone for organizing an amazing conference, with excellent accommodations and facilities for the colloquy itself, and for a smooth and enjoyable schedule. We had thirteen papers presented this year, and a list of these can be found on our website. If you have not already sent your 2016 colloquy paper to me, please do so at your earliest convenience so that we can have a more complete archiving of colloquy presentations. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of a particular paper(s) given at the colloquy, email me your request ([estelric@bc.edu](mailto:estelric@bc.edu)), and I will either send you the paper (if I have it), or pass on the email address of its author.

I am pleased to announce the 37th Annual Colloquy of the American Weil Society, which will be held at **Villanova University** on **April 21-22, 2017**, hosted by Dr. Ian Clausen. He has been in contact with the Villanova Conference Center and has reserved some bedrooms for the nights of April 20th, 21st, and 22nd.

The topic of this colloquy is: ***“Simone Weil: Grace, Truth, and Justice.”*** This theme is deliberately broad, so that Weil's religious, political, and/or ethical philosophy may be addressed under the heading. An official “call for proposals” will be sent out over the summer; however, please note the deadline for proposals will be January 15, 2017, and be aware that they should be prepared for anonymous review and emailed to [ian.clausen@villanova.edu](mailto:ian.clausen@villanova.edu). The proposals will be reviewed by a committee, consisting of the host (Dr. Clausen), the President, and the Vice President. As a reminder, in order to present a paper, one must be an up-to-date member of the AWS. If you have not renewed your membership dues, please do so at this time. You may complete the transaction on our website: [www.americanweilsociety.org](http://www.americanweilsociety.org)

I am delighted to inform you that the AWS voted and approved in our last meeting the creation of small annual grants, available for Ph.D. students working on doctoral dissertations studying Simone Weil's philosophy, and willing to present their research, or topics connected to it, in our Colloquy. The name of the grant is "**Junior Weillienne Scholar Grant.**" The total amount of money allocated per year for that purpose is \$300, which will be equally distributed to all the students who qualified. This grant will only be awarded once-per-person per lifetime. Students interested in pursuing the grant should follow the same directions as other applicants to the Colloquy, with the difference that they must mention their interest in the grant, and the title of her/his dissertation on the cover page. If his/her proposal is accepted, the president will notify the student of the amount of money allocated for that year just after the general notifications of acceptances will be made. The money will be given in hand to the student at the Colloquy.

Finally, two important requests:

- As you know, by the end of 2017, our treasurer, Joe Cosgrove will leave office. He is doing an amazing job as treasurer, and he definitely will be difficult to replace. However, despite that, we need to find someone willing to continue this vital job. Thus, if you are willing to take this office, I would really appreciate it if you would get in contact with me by mail or phone.
- Even though it is still in a distant future, I would like to invite all the members of the Society to consider hosting the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquy in 2018 at your university. If you are contemplating that possibility, but you have questions, doubts, or concerns about it, I am happy to talk to you by phone or Skype. It is an amazing opportunity that will change your perspective and connection with the Society.

My best wishes,

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