

Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies

REALIZING AN ENIGMA

THE TASK OF COMMUNITY IN HEIDEGGER'S *ON THE WAY TO LANGUAGE*

A Free Talk by Dr. Karen Robertson

Monday, April 14th, 4-5:30pm

Building 356, Room 109 (Theatre)

What is language? What is the relationship between language and community? This talk will draw on Heidegger's work to consider how language shapes and enables our experiences of community life. By thinking about different ways that language allows us to express ourselves, we shall be able to gain insight into how to participate authentically in community life.



Professor Robertson completed her Ph. D. at the University of Guelph, and she is currently teaching at Trent University. Her doctoral thesis, "Heidegger and Institutional Life: A Critique of Modern Politics," uses Martin Heidegger's phenomenology to develop a new approach to interpreting the nature of social institutions, and to develop a critique of modern political life. This research draws mainly on Heidegger, but also employs ideas from Merleau-Ponty, Gadamer and Rawls, and builds on the work of sociologists and anthropologists such as Bourdieu and Mead. Her current research in political philosophy builds upon this analysis of Heidegger; most immediately, she is connecting this research with Hannah Arendt's critique of the cultural and political dimensions of modernity.

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