

PHILOSOPHIA CHRISTI

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Editor's Introduction

This issue of *Philosophia Christi* proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that this is not a journal of Buddhist studies—in case anyone was wildly confused on that question. Our three lead articles by Dallas Willard, J. P. Moreland, and Mihretu Guta all argue either for or from the “self.” Part of Angus Menuge’s argument in the fourth article also hangs on a concept of the “substantial self.” Having studied Buddhism in graduate school it always strikes me how odd these kinds of arguments would be a world away, say, in Sri Lanka. These articles would lead to great puzzlement in a Theravāda Sangha where *anatta-vāda* (the no-soul doctrine) would be embraced as a nonnegotiable commitment.

In these essays, clear thinking on the “self” emerges as a powerful tool in demonstrating the inadequacy of philosophical naturalism. Perhaps we should have made this a theme issue?

While you are enjoying these articles, notes, and reviews, remember to mark your calendar for the annual meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society in San Francisco on November 16–18 and our annual apologetics conference just across the bay in Berkeley on November 17–19. It will be another wonderful time of learning and camaraderie, so make plans now to drag your substantial self to northern California in November. See you there.

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