

Zach Weber (University of Otago)

*Title:* On what is possible, what is not, and what is both

*Abstract:* What is possibility, from a fully dialethic perspective? A possible world is a way things could be, and an impossible world is a way things could not have been. But there is a 'not' in that formulation. Suppose we take it to be a dialethic negation. According to dialetheism, there are true contradictions in the actual world. Does this mean that the actual world is an impossible world? To answer this question, and ones like it, we develop the rudiments of a dialethic modal logic using a paraconsistent logic in the background metatheory, to recover some familiar model theory (Kripke frames, etc.). The basic observation that helps us make sense of modality is that dialetheism distinguishes between falsity and absurdity: a true contraction is false, but nothing true is absurd. Through this lens, a new picture of modal space emerges. Part 1 motivates this work; Part 2 provides a technical sketch; and Part 3 considers some applications, e.g. to the problem of 'advanced modalizing'. Dialetheists not only have a workable modal theory available to them, but one that can do useful philosophical work beyond the ambit of the consistent.