

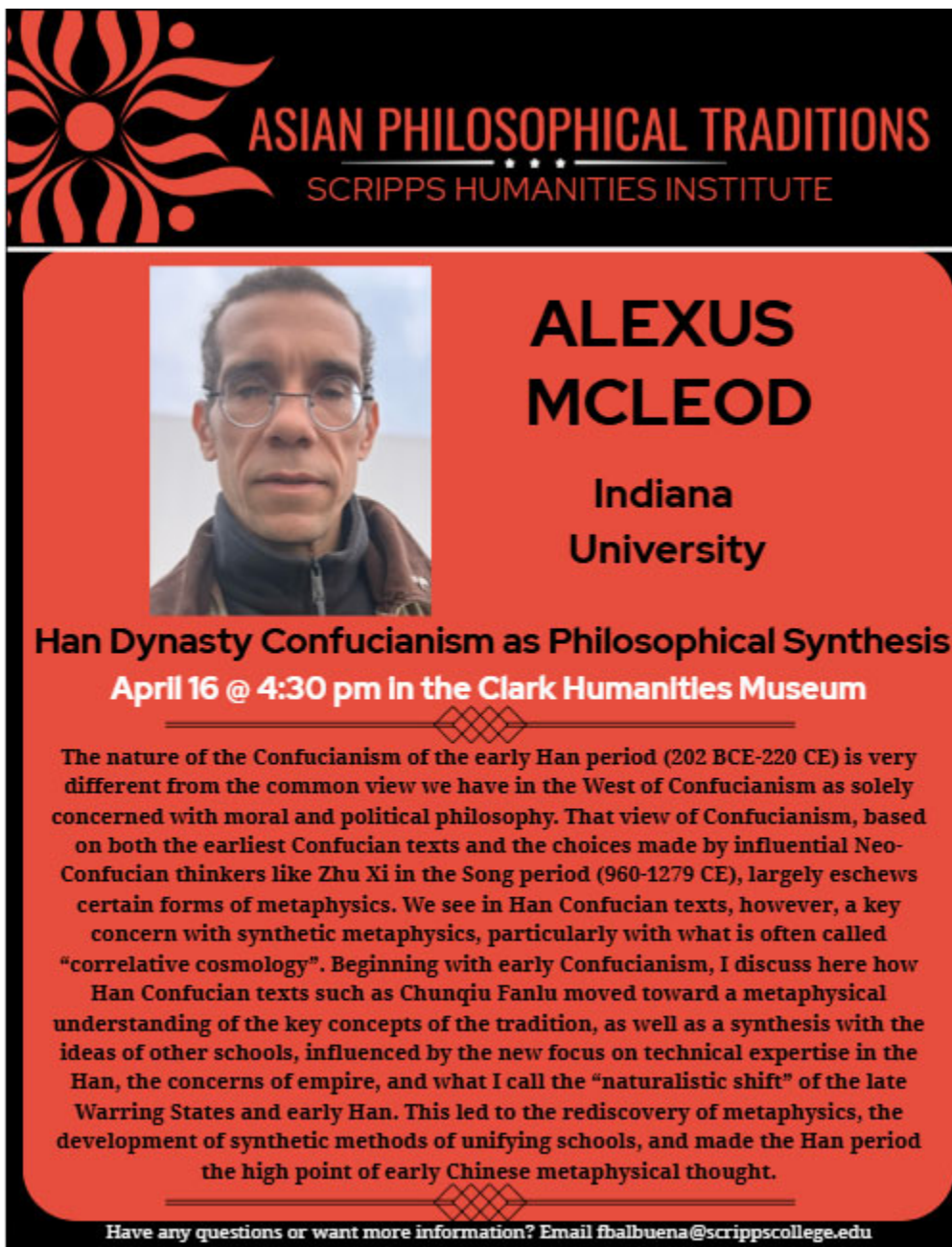
Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform
Subject: EM: Scripps Humanities Institute Presents: NEXT WEEK 4/16 Alexis McLeod discuss the Han Dynasty Confucianism as Philosophical Synthesis

From: Faith Balbuena

Please send out to all CMC Students

Scripps Humanities Institute invites you **NEXT WEEK 4/16** to hear from Alexis McLeod discuss **“Han Dynasty Confucianism as Philosophical Synthesis.”** For more details see the flier below.



The flier has a black background with a red decorative floral pattern on the left. The text is in white and red. It features a portrait of Alexis McLeod, a man with glasses and a dark jacket, against a light background. The event title and date are in red, while the speaker's name and affiliation are in white. The main text is in white, and the contact information is in red at the bottom.

ASIAN PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS
SCRIPPS HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

**ALEXUS
MCLEOD**

Indiana
University

Han Dynasty Confucianism as Philosophical Synthesis
April 16 @ 4:30 pm In the Clark Humanities Museum

The nature of the Confucianism of the early Han period (202 BCE-220 CE) is very different from the common view we have in the West of Confucianism as solely concerned with moral and political philosophy. That view of Confucianism, based on both the earliest Confucian texts and the choices made by influential Neo-Confucian thinkers like Zhu Xi in the Song period (960-1279 CE), largely eschews certain forms of metaphysics. We see in Han Confucian texts, however, a key concern with synthetic metaphysics, particularly with what is often called “correlative cosmology”. Beginning with early Confucianism, I discuss here how Han Confucian texts such as Chunqiu Fanlu moved toward a metaphysical understanding of the key concepts of the tradition, as well as a synthesis with the ideas of other schools, influenced by the new focus on technical expertise in the Han, the concerns of empire, and what I call the “naturalistic shift” of the late Warring States and early Han. This led to the rediscovery of metaphysics, the development of synthetic methods of unifying schools, and made the Han period the high point of early Chinese metaphysical thought.

Have any questions or want more information? Email fbalbuena@scrippscollege.edu