

# CIPScene

Canadian Information Processing Society, Calgary Section

SEPTEMBER 2003

## Speaker

Alice Wheaton

## SEPTEMBER LUNCH MEETING

"Knowledge Sharing and Networking"

## Date

Wednesday,  
September 3, 2003

## Forgive and Forget: A Path to Peace of Mind

## Time

11:30 am

Registration

More and more, relationships are being recognized as the real key to success in many aspects of business. This is particularly true in bridging the gap between business and Information technology. One aspect of cultivating great relationships is to "forgive and forget". This topic will benefit all of us in all aspects of our life, not just in our professional role of delivering Information Technology expertise.

12:00 noon

Presentation

Alice Wheaton's experience in working with thousands of individuals throughout North America revealed that confidence has little to do with motivation and success; confidence is how we feel just before we face the situation! In fact, the most successful people are those who are able to feel and manage their fears, doubts, and insecurities. They have a skill, of which most people are unaware, that leads to their success and happiness. Ms. Wheaton has three published books, with two more in the works.

## Location

Calgary Chamber  
of Commerce

Ms. Wheaton will discuss strategies and actions that will help us release our animosity and resentment, enabling us to cultivate relationships that work. In Alice's words: "There are four kinds of forgiveness and each is blocked by resentment. The opposite of forgiveness is resentment and the path out of resentment is compassion".

4th Floor, 517 Centre  
Street South

What does it take to change and move away from feeling resentment of others and ourselves to forgiveness? The solution is easier than you might think. Although the timing may differ for everyone, the process is similar, and that is the purpose of this program. ☛

**Please register by noon on Friday, August 29, 2003 as seating is limited.**

**Register online at <https://securegs.com/cips/> or phone CIPS at (403) 244-4487.**

You may send a replacement if you cannot attend. **Prepaid seats will be guaranteed until 12:00 noon, at which time they may be released for general admission.**

**PRICES** - Pre-registered  
(Prices include GST)

Members - **\$32.50**  
Non-members - **\$40.00**  
Student Members - **\$21.50**

A two-dollar surcharge will  
apply for all walk-ins.

PLEASE  
NOTE!

### CIPS Calgary Payment Policy

**ALL CIPS EVENTS MUST NOW BE PRE-PAID.**

If payment is to be made by cheque, please forward it to the office *before* the event. All reservations not paid for by the day of the event may be resold.

Payments will not be processed at the event.

## CIPS CALGARY PLATINUM SPONSORS



## IN THIS ISSUE

<b>Executive Notepad</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Alberta Action</b> .....	<b>4</b>
CIPS Alberta President's Report 2002-2003	
<b>The neXt.files</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>CIPS Events</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>CIPS September Seminar</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Email: Complexity and Compliance	
<b>Board Portfolio - CIPS Calgary</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Knowledge and Networking	
<b>The Great Books - The Classics are Relevant Today</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>SIG Spotlight</b> .....	<b>9</b>

## **CIPScene**

CIPScene is a publication of the  
CANADIAN INFORMATION  
PROCESSING SOCIETY,  
CALGARY SECTION

200, 1603 - 10 Avenue SW  
Calgary, Alberta T3C 0J7.

Telephone: (403) 244-4487

Fax: (403) 244-2340

Email: [calgary@cips.ca](mailto:calgary@cips.ca)

Website: [www.cips.ca/calgary](http://www.cips.ca/calgary)

Published by

**At** Associations  
Plus Inc.

Statements of fact and opinion are those of the authors alone, and not the opinion of the officers or members of CIPS. Advertisement of equipment and services does not constitute endorsement by CIPS.

© 2003 by CIPS. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited.

Advertising rate sheets are available from the  
CIPS Office  
(403) 244-4487.

CIPS welcomes articles or story ideas from readers. To submit an article, please contact the CIPS office.

**CIPS CALGARY GOLD SPONSOR**



New Trends in eSecurity

## **GET NOTICED.**

*CIPScene Online Newsletter gives you DOUBLE exposure to an exclusive IT professional market.*

*To find out how, contact:*

*ALISON RAMSAY*

*Phone: 403-244-4487*

*Email: [cipscene@cips.ca](mailto:cipscene@cips.ca)*





Welcome to a new season of CIPS Calgary events! I hope you had a great summer with family, friends, and your favorite activities. While your CIPS Calgary board members were also in summer vacation mode, we have been keenly organizing and planning for a charged up year of knowledge and networking events, and other areas members will find beneficial and valuable.

While we will formally introduce your new board at the annual general meeting in the fall, let me take this opportunity to briefly introduce the team to you now. Contact information for each board member is available through the website at [local.cips.ca/calgary](http://local.cips.ca/calgary):

I would like to sincerely thank our outgoing board members for their outstanding services and contributions towards strengthening the Calgary section:

- Rob Carruthers (Treasurer) has moved to Halifax;
- Matthew Hillhouse (Knowledge and Networking) will continue to assist with this portfolio;
- Nguyen Tran (Special Interest Groups) has made a career change;
- Michele Cariou (Sponsorship) has had an addition to her family;
- Christian Leith (Student Section Chair) has recently graduated; and
- Marnie Shaw (Volunteer Coordinator) will be taking on an expanded role with CIPS Alberta.

Please feel free to contact me or any board member with ideas, suggestions, or feedback throughout the year.

I would also like to thank our many sponsors who make it possible for CIPS Calgary to offer high quality events to the membership. Watch for fall events information in your monthly online *CIPScene*, through *e-Bytes*, and by accessing the events calendar on our website. See you at the September luncheon! ☺

President	Mohamed Teja	Resource Information Systems
Vice President	Sandra Scott	AGTI Consulting Services
Past President	Matthew Williams	Design Group Staffing Inc.
Alberta Regional Director	Maria Anderson	CGI Information Systems
External Liaison	Stuart Quinn	Edge Management Consulting Ltd.
Treasurer	Shilo Beechinor	Independent
Knowledge & Networking	Jeff Wallace	AGTI Consulting Services
Special Interest Groups	Peter McCurdy	Nortel
Publications and Web	Blake Kanewischer	The City of Calgary
Marketing	Bruce Thomas	Finney-Taylor Consulting Group Ltd.
Sponsorship	Shawn Mahoney	Advanced Technology Partners
Events	Alkarim Karmali	Independent
CIO Liaison	Derrick LaRiviere	Resource Information Systems
Membership	Stephanie Hiebert	IBM Canada Ltd.
Academic Liaison	Leon Cygman	DeVry Institute of Technology
Student Section Chair	Ken Wrigley	DeVry Institute of Technology
Director-at-Large	Talib Nanji	Independent
Director-at-Large	Doug Campanaro	KeyLink Systems
Executive Director	Pamela Wilson	Associations Plus Inc.
Volunteer Coordinator	Roy Babiuk	Duke Energy



## CIPS CALGARY SILVER SPONSORS



**CIPS Alberta  
President's Report  
2002 - 2003**

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as president of CIPS Alberta representing the leaders in our field who recognize the importance of professional values and accountability.

In my years in this field, I have seen information technology develop from large mainframe systems in major enterprises to the point where it is an essential element of most business operations irrespective of size. Those older systems worked in batch mode following schedules. Globalization, coupled with electronic business, requires systems to be constantly available and to operate in near real-time mode.

Computers were formerly the exclusive preserve of the professionals in the field. Now, they are to be found in all schools and many homes, as people in all walks of life become familiar with them and connect through the Internet.

The challenge today is to deliver effective and efficient applications that will have the durability and flexibility to deliver valuable services, as they are required. The role of the professional in this field has changed, moving the emphasis to systematic, repeatable process with a heavy emphasis on security and maintainability. That said, the elements of good practice remain constant: integrity, consistent methodology, sound design, and thorough review and testing.

Your CIPS Alberta Board has continued in its efforts to raise the profile of the I.S.P. and promote its value, even as other professional groups recognize the significance of IT and seek to define standards for their members.

At the ICE 2002 Conference in October, Ron Sohnle, I.S.P., a senior manager with Alberta Health and Wellness was proclaimed I.S.P. Professional of the Year 2002. This award recognized Mr. Sohnle's many accomplishments as a professional and was the result of a stringent review process. Our congratulations and thanks go to Mr. Sohnle as a fine example to professionals everywhere. The other two finalists, Helen Banks, I.S.P. and Ken Chapman, I.S.P. should also be congratulated. The results of the 2003 competition will be released this October.

The revised I.S.P. Regulation successfully passed the stakeholder review and the internal review by the Ministry of Human Resources and Employment and has been submitted to Minister Dunford. The Minister will take it forward through the committee process for review and approval.

In April 2003, CIPS Alberta and CIPS Edmonton co-hosted a regional workshop for the CIPS Societal Transition team. The workshop reviewed the work of the committee to date and provided validation and feedback. The CIPS Societal Transition team went on to present its work at the CIPS National Board Meetings in Charlottetown in May, including the results of their workshops. The next stage of this project is to prepare a strategic vision for CIPS, along with the associated gap analysis. Key factors identified are the needs to be inclusive and provide strong ethical guidelines and standards of practice. A big thank you goes to Michael Byrne, I.S.P. for serving as the CIPS Alberta representative on this team.

Our thanks go to Ed Gonzalez, I.S.P. for his work on remodeling the CIPS Alberta website with assistance from the rest of the Board and Incite Solutions. Thank you also to Mark Olson, I.S.P. for his special assistance and for maintaining the website for so many years.

The Provincial Government and other organizations, including the Alberta Society of Engineering Technologists (ASET) and the Calgary Employment Resource Centre for Immigrant Professionals, have asked CIPS Alberta for input relating to IT and professionalism.

I would like to recognize and thank all our Board members for their help, support, and encouragement throughout the year. I am especially grateful to Ed Gonzalez, I.S.P. and Mark Olson, I.S.P. Ed has been the advisor for the I.S.P. Professional of the Year process, as well as leader of the website project, not to mention Vice President. Mark, as Past President, has been a tireless advisor and supporter during my year of office. Micheal Harris, I.S.P. ably assumed the role of Treasurer. Martin James Phillips, I.S.P. is Secretary and our link to the CIPS Alberta office. Don Burdeyney, I.S.P. has done a fine job as Registration Chair and improved our

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5...**

My name is Ken Wrigley and I am proud to accept the challenge of being Chair of the Student Section for CIPS Calgary. As this is the first edition of the new season of CIPS, I thought I would tell you about myself and about some of my goals for the Student Section.

I am currently in my final year at the DeVry Institute of Technology pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems. I intend to pursue a second degree in Project Management upon completion of my first degree.

I am managing two clubs at DeVry: the IEEE Computer Club and the .Net UserGroup. With help from club members and the Dean of CIS, we have successfully completed three onsite programming contests for the IEEE Computer Club, with a fourth one in the second week in August. We currently are in the process of searching for guest speakers to present on various topics that are relevant to the job market, industry today, and tomorrow's industry.

I have just started to get the .Net UserGroup together and am sure that this club will be as successful as the IEEE Computer Club. We are currently in the process of getting a .Net user group website up and running, along with events, that has the potential of helping

the students further understand the .Net suite of tools and better prepare themselves for the ever-changing world of programming.

Some of my favourite pastimes include flying model rockets, biking, playing volleyball and badminton, hiking, and traveling. I have ventured coast-to-coast in Canada and traveled through some of the western United States. More recently, I traveled to Australia and New Zealand and hope to travel more.

One of the goals that I hope to achieve this year is to further students' knowledge about networking, possibly holding student networking sessions, and a networking session at the Chamber of Commerce or a similar function. If you have any suggestions about events you would like to partake in, please email me at gumman@telus.net or the Director responsible for Academic Liaison, Leon Cygman, at lcygman@cips.ca.

The CIPS Calgary Student section is planning to be present at the U of C Science Career Fair. I hope to meet some of the current student members as well as provide information about CIPS to other students.

I look forward to the challenges ahead. I also look forward to meeting many of the CIPS student members at the various events in the upcoming year. ☛

---

## ALBERTA ACTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4...

membership procedures. Peter van der Kloot, I.S.P. was the Discipline Chair and reviewed the discipline process. Marilyn (Marnie) Juel Shaw, I.S.P. is our connection to CIPS publications; she has kept track of deadlines and proofread our articles. Michael Byrne, I.S.P. has been our representative on both the I.S.P. Criteria Review and Societal Transition committees. Devki Nair, I.S.P. is our connection to the Red Deer IT community. Kenneth Fung, I.S.P. has managed the ISP Professional of the Year process for 2002. Dawn Ringrose, CMC, the representative of the public, has once again been invaluable with her advice and support of our activities.

The challenges for the upcoming Board are many. However, it is my expectation that continuing to expand the general recognition of the I.S.P. designation will remain the primary task of CIPS Alberta. This is key to both enhancing the value of the designation to those who hold it and attracting expert practitioners to the designation. This combination will create the necessary critical mass to grow the certified membership.

I thank you for this opportunity to help and to grow and I wish the members and Board of CIPS Alberta the best of success in the future. ☛



## CIPS Calgary Section

Future Meeting Dates

Wednesdays – 11:30 am

September 3, 2003	February 4, 2004
October 1, 2003	March 3, 2004
November 5, 2003	April 7, 2004
December 3, 2003	May 5, 2004
January 7, 2004	June 2, 2004

*All meetings are held at the  
Calgary Chamber of Commerce  
4th Floor, 517 Centre Street South*

### CIPS Events

September 16, 2003	<b>PROJECT MANAGEMENT SIG</b> 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm Fifth Avenue Place Conference Centre 2nd Floor, West Tower 237 - 4 Avenue SW
September 18, 2003	<b>CIPS CALGARY SEMINAR SERIES</b> <i>Email: Complexity and Compliance</i> 7:30 am – 9:15 am Calgary Petroleum Club Devonian Room 319 - 5 Avenue SW

### CIPS CALGARY BRONZE SPONSORS



**To find out how YOUR company can sponsor CIPS Calgary,  
please contact the CIPS office at (403) 244-4487.**

## CIPS CALGARY SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2003 - 2004

### EXECUTIVE

#### President

Mohamed Teja  
263-2272  
m.teja@cips.ca

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Shilo Beechinor  
569-2773  
shilo@cips.ca

#### Past President

Matthew Williams  
520-1551  
mwilliams@dgstaff.com

#### Alberta Regional Director

Maria Anderson  
237-6130-x451  
manderson@cips.ca

#### Vice President

Sandra Scott  
294-1474  
sandra.scott@agti.ca

#### External Liaison

Stuart Quinn  
620-1174  
stuartq@shaw.ca

### DIRECTORS

#### Knowledge and Networking

Jeff Wallace  
294-1474  
jeff.wallace@agti.ca

#### Social

Alkarim Karmali  
alkarimkarmali@shaw.ca

#### SIGs

Peter McCurdy  
p.mccurdy@shaw.ca

#### Student Section Chair

Ken Wrigley  
244-7578  
gum-man@telus.net

#### CIO Liaison

Derrick LaRiviere  
263-2272  
lariviered@ris.ca

#### Director-at-Large

Doug Campanaro  
campanarod@pios.com

#### Publications

Blake Kanewischer  
268-5520  
blakek@cips.ca

#### Director-at-Large

Talib Nanji  
236-5504  
talib@cips.ca

#### Academic Liaison

Leon Cygman  
207-3107  
lcygman@ca.l.devry.ca

#### Marketing

Bruce Thomas  
264-4001-ext-227  
bthomas@finney-taylor.com

#### Membership

Stephanie Hiebert  
539-3820  
stephanie.n.hiebert@ca.ibm.com

#### CIPS Calgary Office

Pamela Wilson,  
Executive Director  
244-4487  
pamelaw@associationsplus.ca  
calgary@cips.ca  
www.cips.ca/calgary

#### Sponsorship

Shawn Mahoney  
508-0778  
smahoney@atpstaff.com

**Speaker**

Scott Wagner, Zentra Computer Technologies Inc.

**Date**

Thursday, September 18, 2003

**Time**

**7:30 am**

Registration and continental breakfast

**8:00 am – 9:00 am**

Presentation

**9:00 am – 9:15 am**

Question and answer period; wrap-up

**Location**

Calgary Petroleum Club,  
Devonian Room  
319 - 5 Avenue SW

Register online at

<https://securegs.com/cips/>

## Email: Complexity and Compliance

We all take email for granted these days - it's like having a phone on the desk - we just assume it works. However good a tool it may be, it is not fault-free and it is not secure. Recent legislation has highlighted the need to understand the fallibility and risks associated with email.

Scott will address emerging new government regulations that will change the way we deal with email. Compliance is fast becoming a very complex area, with pressures arising from new governmental regulations due to come into full force on January 1, 2004, which may require you to store email for up to seven years, as well as have the ability to archive and search for specific messages.

The session objectives are to:

1. educate attendees on changing regulations
2. identify the implications of non-compliance and recommended implementation solutions for email archiving and storage.

Scott Wagner is President of Zentra Computer Technologies Inc. He founded Zentra in 1991 with the objective of providing storage to the mini-computer market. Technical in focus, Scott has been a visionary in the storage business, providing consolidated storage solutions to the market since 1993. Scott's most significant project was his role as a founding shareholder of Telebackup Systems. Scott graduated with a BSc in Computer Science in 1984 from the University of Calgary. ☛

CIPS CALGARY 2002-2003  
**SEMINAR SERIES**

## Board Portfolio - CIPS Calgary

**Jeff Wallace, Director**

Knowledge and Networking

Welcome to a new year for the CIPS Calgary Section. I am pleased to be taking on the role of Director, Knowledge and Networking for the next two years. I have large boots to fill, given Matthew Hillhouse's contributions over the last two years. I would like to thank him for his time and energy in helping me come up to speed on the portfolio and for sharing his ideas.

We have two excellent speakers and topics for both the September luncheon and breakfast seminar. We have undertaken a CIPS Calgary membership e-survey (see questions below) which we hope will guide us to improve the membership value of the luncheon and breakfast sessions. We encourage you to take a few minutes and provide us with your ideas and input - after all, the sessions are for your benefit, so why not have the topics you want? If you have not received

the survey via email and wish to provide your input, please send an email to Pamela Wilson at [pamelaw@associationsplus.ca](mailto:pamelaw@associationsplus.ca).

### Survey Questions

- 1) Is there a topic that you would like to have presented at either a CIPS luncheon or breakfast session?
- 2) If you have a recommended topic, why do you think it would be of interest to the CIPS membership?
- 3) If you have a recommended topic, do you know of a speaker who covers the topic well?
- 4) Do you prefer local speakers or speakers from out of town?
- 5) If we were to bring in a special, high profile speaker from out of town, would you be willing to pay a premium over the normal luncheon fee? If yes, how much? ☛



One of the common laments in modern culture is that today's generation (name your generation - be it the Baby Boomers, Gen X, or the up-and-coming Gen Y) has lost touch with the classics.

The first rumblings of this were heard as the Boomers filled university classrooms in the 1960s and 1970s, and came to a head in 1987 with the publication of Allan Bloom's seminal work, *The Closing of the American Mind*.

Even university curricula reflect this shift away from humanities, classics, and the social sciences. There is an overwhelming pressure among first-generation university students of modest means to choose "marketable" programs - engineering, computer science, business, and the like. Not surprisingly, those students who come from more affluent backgrounds more often have the luxury of choosing less marketable programs - the ones that come to mind when we think of "finding ourselves" at university - English, linguistics, philosophy, or history.

In response to this, numerous institutions have either reinstated or begun "Great Books" curricula, which are curricula that emphasize the classics and usually present them in an integrative format. They range from Homer to Whitman, from Plato to Marx, from the Bible to Max Weber, and from Shakespeare to Dickens.

The lessons inherent in these are legion. The allegory of the cave in Plato's *Republic* is a gripping reminder of the power of belief, the pain of discovery, and the challenges in sharing the truth with others. This

echoes the challenges inherent in transformatory change.

From Machiavelli's *Prince*, we learn that unbridled power is something that many humans seek and aspire to. It's not necessarily something to be ashamed of, for Machiavelli. He argues that territory expanded by the exercise of power and influence is more likely to be productive than territory granted via hereditary or similar means. This makes family businesses very susceptible to failure past the first generation.

Shakespeare's *Hamlet* brings us the famed dictum of the doddering, scheming, old courtier Polonius: "To thine own self be true." One needs only look at the shelves of your local bookstore groaning under the weight of "self-help" titles to measure the impact of this advice.

The Herman Wouk novel, *The Caine Mutiny*, is a testament to the power of teamwork, even in the face of daunting odds. A junior officer is forced to take command of the U.S.S. *Caine* after Captain Queeg's actions during a storm endanger the lives of the ship's crew. This seals a bond amongst the crew, and emphasizes the importance of teamwork.

Marx highlights, in an oblique way, the danger of ritualizing activities - his famed dictum that "religion is the opiate of the people" refers not, as commonly inferred, to faith itself, but to the trappings and practices of faith. When these are practiced without a full understanding of the reasons behind them, faith communities (and organizations) become populated by zombies.

These are but a sampling of eternal truths we can find through the classics - and I didn't even have to think terribly hard to come up with them.

Contrast this with the diversity of "flavour of the month" management books available at your local bookstore: *From Good To Great*, *The One Minute Manager*, *Who Moved My Cheese?*, *Secrets of the Phoenix*, *Business @ The Speed of Thought*, and the list goes on.

It's interesting that I can't articulate a single particularly concrete thought in my mind that I can

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9...**

## WHAT IS CIPS?

**CIPS is a group of professionals from all areas of IT. We offer the only IT professional designation (the I.S.P.) in Canada. Our events, including regular seminars, luncheons, and conferences, are dedicated to promoting continuous learning and networking opportunities. Through learning from other like-minded professionals, we are able to stay ahead in this fast-paced industry.**

## Project Management SIG

The opening session for the 2003-2004 season of the CIPS Project Management SIG will be held:

---

Date: Tuesday, September 16, 2003  
 Time: 12:00 noon (sharp) to 1:00 pm  
 Location: Fifth Avenue Place Conference Center  
 2nd Floor, West Tower  
 237 - 4 Avenue SW

---

Our speaker will be Dr. Francis Hartman, who will address the critical role trust plays in IT projects. This has been the subject of a major multimillion dollar study at the University of Calgary for the past four years. Dr. Hartman is Director of Project Management Specialization at the U of C and is well known in the local and international project management communities.

We want to thank our sponsor for this event, Quality Enhanced Decisions, a management advisory firm that specializes in rapid value building through projects and

effective change and in strategic planning and its effective implementation.

More details will be available soon on the CIPS SIG website at <http://www.associationsplus.ca/cipsig/>.

Although PM SIG events are free, we appreciate you taking the time to register so we can plan sufficient seating for the session.

Please note: In addition to registering for the specific event you wish to attend, if you are not, but would like to be, on the PM SIG Membership list to receive emails about upcoming events, sign up by registering for the "SIG Membership" event listed first in the events. ☛

Should you wish further information please contact:

Karen Wright - Partner, Ethier Associates

Phone: (403) 234-8960

Email: [kwright@ethierassociates.ca](mailto:kwright@ethierassociates.ca)

Ken Wiens - President, KGW Consultants Ltd.

Phone: (403) 813-7973

Email: [Ken.Wiens@kgw-consultants.com](mailto:Ken.Wiens@kgw-consultants.com)

---

### THE GREAT BOOKS - THE CLASSICS ARE RELEVANT TODAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8...

clearly trace back to these books, even though I've read each of them (in some cases multiple times) and have read literally a hundred others.

I have only read Plato's *Republic* twice, but the vast majority of the details are still accessible to me, merely by flipping to the appropriate section and skimming the pages until I find the note I am seeking. The same can be said of *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, or many of Shakespeare's sonnets.

There is something intrinsic in the classics that causes them to entrench themselves in our minds. Perhaps it is the knowledge that a book is a classic. Perhaps it is the sheer volume of profound ideas waiting to be teased out from the flowing, elegant verse of a Whitman, a Poe, or a Donne.

I suspect the appeal and timelessness of the classics stems from the fact they are the underpinnings of almost everything written today. I have books on my bookshelves with titles such as *If Aristotle Ran General Motors*, *All I Need to Know About Life I Learned from Star Trek*, and *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Management Secrets of Spaghetti Westerns*.

By getting a sense of the foundations of thought, it is much easier to build your own thoughts and derive your own insights from them. Keep a journal (or even a private blog) of the insights and thoughts you have as you're reading.

As you read, you will notice connections and insights and abstract ideas that cross boundaries. You will spot an insight from St. Augustine that is echoed in the writings of Bertrand Russell, or something in Stephen Hawking's writings that echoes the work of the Greek philosopher Democritus. Even a couple nights ago, I was able to leverage an idea first articulated by Karl Popper into the arena of human dynamics.

This is the power of the classics. Don't limit yourself! ☛