PHILOSOPHY | UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

# FREEDOM BEYOND CHOICE

a philosophy talk

by

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### UCLA

**MONDAY
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4:00PM
CLOSE-HIPP
351**

In this work, Gingerich argues against the widely held liberal view that persons have all of the freedom that they could want if they are able to effectively exercise their autonomy and act in accordance with their choices. He contends that "spontaneous freedom" is a further sort of politically worthwhile freedom that requires more than freedom of choice and that persons might lack it even when they can effectively make autonomous choices and act in accordance with them. Particularly, he argues that when the choices persons make are predictable to other agents who have the opportunity to influence their choices, their ability to experience spontaneous freedom is threatened. This conclusion suggests that "big data" that enables governments or corporations to accurately predict the behavior of consumers or citizens can threaten our freedom, even when it does not prevent us from making our own choices.