

Academic Appointments

Associate Professor, West Virginia University, (2013-present)

Assistant Professor, West Virginia University, (2007-2013)

Education

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Wisconsin—Madison, (2007)

B.A. in Philosophy (*Summa Cum Laude*), The College of William and Mary, (2000)

Areas of Research

AOS: general metaphysics, metametaphysics, philosophy of mind

AOC: epistemology, philosophy of religion

Publications

“The Powers View of Properties, Fundamental Ontology, and Williams’s Arguments for Static Dispositions,” *Erkenntnis* (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-017-9966-3>

“Heil’s Two-Category Ontology and Causation,” *Erkenntnis*, 80 (2015): 1091-1099.

“Modal Realism, Counterpart Theory, and Unactualized Possibilities,” *Metaphysica*, 15 (2014): 209-217.

“Type Physicalism and Causal Exclusion,” *Journal of Philosophical Research*, 38 (2013): 405-418.

“Stoljar’s Twin-Physics World,” *Philosophia*, 41 (2013): 127-136.

“Careful, Physicalists: Mind-Body Supervenience Can Be Too Superduper,” *Theoria*, 79 (2013): 8-21.

“Lewis’ Modal Realism and Absence Causation,” *Metaphysica*, 12 (2011): 117-124.

“Defending the Piggyback Principle Against Shapiro and Sober’s Empirical Approach,” *Synthese*, 175 (2010): 151-168.

“Got to Have Soul,” *Religious Studies*, 42 (2006): 417-430.

Presentations

Papers

- “The Dispositionalist’s Causal Gap,” Alabama Philosophical Society (September 2016).
- “Vector Modeling of Powers and Mutual Manifestations,” Society for the Metaphysics of Science (September 2016; Neil Williams, Commentator).
- “Against Static Dispositions,” Alabama Philosophical Society (October 2015).
- “Dispositional Modality,” Mid-Atlantic Philosophy of Language Workshop (August 2015; Invited).
- “Vector Modeling of Powers and Mutual Manifestations,” Midsouth Philosophy Conference (March 2015).
- “Powers and the Transitivity of Causation,” Alabama Philosophical Society (October 2014).
- “Heil’s Two-Category Ontology and Causation,” Alabama Philosophical Society (October 2013).
- “Physicalism, the Mind-Body Problem, and the “Physical”,” Alabama Philosophical Society (October 2012).
- “Type Physicalism and Causal Exclusion,” University of Toronto (March 2012; Invited).
- “Modal Realism, Counterpart Theory and Unactualized Possibilities,” Alabama Philosophical Society (September 2011).
- “Defining the Physical,” Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium (September 2011; Oscar Barragan, Commentator).
- “Physicalism and the Physical,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (March 2011).
- “Careful, Physicalists: Mind-Body Supervenience Can Be Too Superduper,” Alabama Philosophical Society (September 2010).
- “Lewis’ Special Problem of Profligate Causation,” Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium (September 2010; Megan Wallace, Commentator).
- “Type Physicalism and the Exclusion Argument,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (April 2009; Justin Tiehen, Commentator).
- “A Challenge to Type Physicalism’s Advantage in Avoiding the Exclusion Argument,” Pacific Division Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers (October 2008).
- “Non-Reductive Physicalism, Substance Dualism, and the Piggyback Argument,” Society for Exact Philosophy (May 2008).
- “Got to Have Soul,” Wisconsin Philosophical Association (April 2006).
- “Plantinga’s Evolutionary Argument Against Naturalism,” Wisconsin Philosophical Association (April 2005).

Presentations (continued)

Commentary

Comments on Marc Johansen's "How to Be a Humean About Non-Humean Dispositions," Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium (September 2016).

Comments on Ken Hochstetter's "How to Formulate the Problem of Personal Identity," Society for the Metaphysics of Science (September 2015).

Comments on Benjamin White's "The Realization Relation," Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (April 2015).

Comments on Joshua Smart's "Serious Problems and Radical Solutions for Own-Standards Epistemic Rationality," Midsouth Philosophy Conference (March 2015).

Comments on Landon Hedrick's "Counterfactuals for Newcombers," Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (April 2014).

Comments on David Hershenov's "The Costs of the Materialist Account of Mind," Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (February 2014).

Comments on Sam Cowling's "Eternalist Recurrence," Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium (September 2013).

Comments on Douglas Keaton's "Exclusion, Causal Role Realization, and Realization as Determination," Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (April 2011).

Comments on Adam Podlaskowski's "All Paths Lead to Original Intentionality," Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference (October 2010).

Honors and Awards

Nominated for the Eberly College's 2012 Outstanding Teacher Award, West Virginia University

Riggle Fellowship in the Humanities, West Virginia University (2009)

Advanced Opportunity Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2000)

Professional Development

NEH Summer Seminar: Metaphysics and Mind (directed by John Heil at Washington University in St. Louis, 2009)

Courses Taught

West Virginia University

Problems of Philosophy (46 sections, including 17 online)

Mental Causation (junior/senior seminar, 1 section)

Metaphysics (12 sections, including 2 online)

Philosophy of Mind (1 section)

Philosophy of Religion (17 sections, including 3 online)

Service

To the Profession: Referee Reports for Journals (* indicates multiple assignments)

*American Philosophical Quarterly**, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy**, *Dialectica**, *Erkenntnis*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophical Papers*

To the Profession: Reports to Publishers

Oxford University Press, Routledge, W.W. Norton & Company

To the Profession: Reports for Conferences

Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology

To West Virginia University

Student Conduct Board (2009-2014)

To the Department of Philosophy, West Virginia University

Curriculum Committee (2010-2017), Faculty Evaluation Committee (2007-2008, 2010-2011, 2013-2017), Marketing Committee (2007-2008), Search Committee (2008-2009, 2011-2012), Undergraduate Advisor (2007-2017), Worksite Wellness Coordinator (2012-2014)