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Curriculum Vitae

Phillip Bricker

Personal

Department of Philosophy
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Birth: January 5, 1954, Los Angeles, CA

Education

A.B. Philosophy, University of California Berkeley, 1975
A.B. Mathematics, University of California Berkeley, 1975
M.A. Princeton University, 1978
Ph.D. Princeton University, 1983

Dissertation: *Worlds and Propositions: The Structure and Ontology of Logical Space.*
Directed by David Lewis

Academic Positions

Professor of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1998-present
Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1989-98
Associate Professor, Yale University, 1987-89
Assistant Professor, Yale University, 1983-87
Lecturer, Yale University, 1981-83
Instructor, University of Notre Dame, 1980-81

Publications

Book (edited)

Philosophical Perspectives on Newtonian Science, edited with RIG Hughes, Bradford Books, MIT Press (1990).

Articles

- “Truthmaking: With and Without Counterpart Theory,” in *The Blackwell Companion to David Lewis*, Barry Loewer and Jonathan Schaffer (eds.), 2014 (forthcoming).
- “Ontological Commitment,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2014 (forthcoming).
- “The Methodology of *Modal Logic as Metaphysics*,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 88 (2014), 717-725.
- “Concrete Possible Worlds,” in *Contemporary Debates in Metaphysics*, Dean Zimmerman, Ted Sider, John Hawthorne (eds.), Blackwell Publishing (2008), 111-134.
- “Absolute Actuality and the Plurality of Worlds,” in *Metaphysics (Philosophical Perspectives, vol. 20)*, John Hawthorne (ed.), Blackwell Publishing (2006), 41-76.
- “David Lewis: *On the Plurality of Worlds*,” in *Central Works in Philosophy, vol. 5: The Twentieth Century: Quine and After*, John Shand (ed.), Acumen Publishing (2006), 246-267.
- Reprinted (in part) in *Introducing Philosophy: A Text with Integrated Readings, Ninth Edition*, Robert C Solomon, Oxford University Press (2008), 114-117.
- “The Relation Between General and Particular: Supervenience vs. Entailment,” in *Oxford Papers in Metaphysics, vol. 3*, Dean Zimmerman (ed.), Oxford University Press (2006), 251-287.
- “McGinn on Non-Existent Objects and Reducing Modality,” *Philosophical Studies* 118 (2004), 439-451.
- “Island Universes and the Analysis of Modality,” in *Reality and Humean Supervenience: Essays on the Philosophy of David Lewis*, G. Preyer, F. Siebelt (eds.), Rowman and Littlefield Publishers (2001), 27-55.
- “Isolation and Unification: The Realist Analysis of Possible Worlds,” *Philosophical Studies* 84 (1996), 225-238.
- “Identity,” *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Supplement*, Simon and Schuster MacMillan (1996), 251-256.
- “Properties,” *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Supplement*, Simon and Schuster MacMillan (1996), 469-473.
- “The Fabric of Space: Intrinsic Vs. Extrinsic Distance Relations,” *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 18, French, Uehling, and Wettstein (eds.), University of Notre Dame Press (1993), 271-294.

"Plenitude of Possible Structures," *The Journal of Philosophy* 88 (November, 1991), 607-619.

"Absolute Time vs. Absolute Motion," in *Philosophical Perspectives on Newtonian Science*, Bradford Books, MIT Press (1990), 77-89.

"Quantified Modal Logic and the Plural *De Re*," *Contemporary Perspectives in the Philosophy of Language, II, Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 14, French, Uehling, and Wettstein (eds.), University of Notre Dame Press (1989), 372-394.

"Reducing Possible Worlds to Language," *Philosophical Studies* 52 (1987), 331-355.

"Prudence," *The Journal of Philosophy* 77 (July, 1980), 381-401.

Book Reviews

Review of *The Four-Category Ontology: A Metaphysical Foundation for Natural Science*, by E. J. Lowe, in *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 87 (December, 2009).

Review of *Travels in Four Dimensions*, by Robin le Poidevin, in *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 57 (2006), 453-458.

Review of *The Concept of Time*, by Roger Teichmann, in *The Philosophical Review* 106 (October, 1997), 629-32.

Review of *Modality, Morality, and Belief: Essays in Honor of Ruth Barcan Marcus*, Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Diana Raffman, and Nicholas Asher (eds.), in *The Journal of Symbolic Logic* (March, 1997), 328-330.

Review of *Mass Terms and Model-Theoretic Semantics*, by Harry Bunt, in *Journal of Symbolic Logic* (June, 1988), 653-656.

Review of *The Metaphysics of Modality*, by Graeme Forbes, in *The Philosophical Review* 47 (January, 1988), 127-131.

Website

"Realism Without Parochialism" (1992)

"Arguments for Church's Thesis" (1991)

"On Living Forever" (1985)

Contracted Book and Articles in Preparation

Modal Matters: Essays in Metaphysics, Oxford University Press.

“Humean Supervenience,” for *Philosophy Compass*.

“Composition as a *Kind* of Identity,” *Inquiry*.

Invited Papers and Conferences

Lecture, “Ontological Commitment: Entailment vs. Truthmaker Accounts,” Arizona Metaphysics Workshop, January, 2014.

Lecture, “Composition as a *Kind* of Identity,” University of California Irvine, May 31, 2013.

Lecture, “Composition as a *Kind* of Identity,” *The David Lewis Lecture*, Princeton University, May 8, 2013.

Lecture, “Defending Plenitudinous Platonism,” Metaphysical Virtues Conference, Western Michigan University, March, 2013.

Lecture, “Kripke’s Paradox and Kaplan’s Paradox: Two of a Kind?, Conference on Saul Kripke’s *Philosophical Puzzles*, CUNY Graduate Center, September, 2011.

Lecture, “All Worlds In One: Reassessing the Forrest-Armstrong Argument,” Conference on David Lewis’s *On the Plurality of Worlds*, UMass Amherst, April, 2011.

Panel Presentation, Lewis’s *Counterpart Theory Mk. II*, Conference on David Lewis’s *On the Plurality of Worlds*, UMass Amherst, April, 2011.

Lecture, “All Worlds in One; Reassessing the Forrest-Armstrong Argument,” NELLC conference, Holbox Island, Mexico, December, 2010.

Seminar Presentation, “The Fabric of Space,” MIT, April, 2008.

Lecture, “Primitive Modality,” University of Connecticut, April, 2007.

Lecture, “Absolute Actuality and the Plurality of Worlds,” Eastern APA Meetings, December, 2004.

Lecture, “Absolute Actuality and the Plurality of Worlds,” Tufts University, November, 2004.

Discussant, Metaphysical Mayhem VIII, Rutgers University, August, 2004.

Lecture, "General Facts," Arizona State University, February, 2003.

Lecture, "Vagueness and *Sorites* Arguments," *Looking at Language* symposium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, January, 2003.

Lecture, "The Relation Between General and Particular: Supervenience vs. Entailment," Metaphysical Mayhem VII, Syracuse University, August, 2002.

Discussant, Metaphysical Mayhem VI, Syracuse University, August, 2001.

Comments on "Intrinsic Causation," by Ned Hall, Metaphysical Mayhem V, Syracuse University, August, 2000.

Lecture, "The World: Facts or Things?" New York University, February, 1999.

Lecture, "Humean Chance," Columbia University, March, 1998.

Comments on "Realism and Mathematical Change," by Michael Liston, Pacific APA Meetings, March, 1997.

Lecture, "Island Universes and Modality," Princeton University, March, 1996.

Comments on "Reference for the Realist: A Puzzle," by Michael Bishop, Pacific APA Meetings, March, 1994.

Lecture, "Realism Without Parochialism," Symposium, Pacific APA Meetings, March, 1992.

Lecture, "Plenitude of Possible Structures," Symposium, Eastern APA Meetings, December, 1991.

Comments on "On Mechanical Procedures (and Aspects of Mathematical Experience)" by Wilfried Sieg, Mathematics and Mind Conference, Amherst College, April, 1991.

Lecture, "The Alien Threat to Actualism," Dartmouth College, February, 1989.

Lecture, "Quantified Modal Logic and the Plural De Re," Rutgers University, April, 1988.

Lecture, "Quantified Modal Logic and the Plural De Re," University of California at Santa Barbara, April, 1988.

Comments on Lawrence Sklar's "Real Quantities and their Sensible Measures," Newton Conference, Yale University, November, 1987.

Lecture, "Principles of Plenitude," University of Southern California, January, 1987.

Lecture, "Principles of Plenitude," Princeton University, October, 1986.

Discussant, Perspectives in the Philosophy of Language, University of Notre Dame, October, 1985.

Lecture, "Newcomb's Problem and Models of Rationality," Yale Statistics Department, April, 1985.

Comments on "The Rule of Non-Common Location" by Marjorie Price, APA Central Division Meeting, April, 1985.

Lecture, "On Living Forever," APA Pacific Division Meeting, March, 1985.

Lecture, "On Living Forever," Queens College, CUNY, December, 1984.

Comments on a paper by Massimo Piatelli-Palmerini, Davidson Conference, Rutgers University, April, 1984.

Honors, Grants, Fellowships

The David Lewis Lecture, Princeton University, 2013

Griswold Grant for Publishing, Yale University, 1989

Senior Faculty Fellowship, Yale University, 1988-89

Morse Fellowship, Yale University, 1985-86

NEH Summer Stipend, May-June, 1985

Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, 1979-80

Phi Beta Kappa, 1975

Highest Honors in Mathematics, UC Berkeley 1975

Professional Service

Consulting Editor, *Philosophical Studies*, 1993-present.

Editorial Board, *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2005-present.

Consulting Editor, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, 1980-1983.

Referee articles for *Mind*, *Nous*, *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, *Synthese*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Erkenntnis*, *Hume Studies*, *International Journal of*

Philosophical Studies, Journal of Philosophical Logic, Dialectica, American Philosophical Quarterly, Linguistics and Philosophy.

Referee book manuscripts and proposals for Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Acumen Publishing, Harcourt-Brace College Publishers, McGill-Queens University Press, Broadview Press, Columbia University Press, MacMillan Press.

Review tenure or promotion cases for Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University, Brown University, Rochester University, University of California at Riverside, University of Connecticut.

Outside dissertation reader for Australian National University.

Advisory Committee for the Program Committee, Eastern APA:
Philosophy of Mathematics, 2007-2009.
Metaphysics, 1998-2000.

Program Committee, Eastern APA, 1987.

Member, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, 1980-present.

Organizer, conference at UMass Amherst, David Lewis's *On the Plurality of Worlds @ 25*, April, 2011.

Co-organizer, conference at Yale University, Philosophical Perspectives on Newtonian Science, Nov 1987.

University Service

Member, College of Humanities and Fine Arts Research Council, 2011-2013

UMACC Department Coordinator, 2005-2008

Commonwealth College Search Committee, 2003

Member, Academic Honesty Board, 1998-2004, 2013

Member, College of Humanities and Fine Arts Personnel Committee, 1998-2000

Member, Academic Matters Council, 1996-1999

Yale College Executive Committee, 1984-85

Department Service

Graduate Program Director, 2013-present

Department Head, fall, 2001-2010

Acting Department Head, spring, 2001

Graduate Admissions Committee, 1991-1995, 1997-2004. 2006-2010, 2012-3

Graduate Placement Officer, 1995-2001

Speaker Committee Chair, 1991-2001

Graduate Supervisory Committee, 1991, 1992, 1996, 2010

Departmental Personnel Committee, 1990-2001, 2011 (Chair), 2012, 2013

Search Committees, 1995, 1999, 2000 (Chair), 2001 (Chair), 2003 (Chair), 2004, 2005

(Chair), 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 Yale University: 1985, 1988
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Philosophy Department, Yale University, 1987-88

Dissertations Directed

Ted Sider, *Naturalness, Intrinsicity, and Duplication*, 1993

Cranston Paull, *Property Supervenience*, 1994

David Denby, *Metaphysical Theories of Modality: Properties, Relations and Possibilities*, 1997

Neil Schaefer, *The Incompatibility of Determinism and Moral Obligation*, 1998

E. Russ Colton, *Advancing the Counterfactual Analysis of Causation*, 2003

Kristopher McDaniel, *Simples and Gunk*, 2004

Thomas Bell, *Vagueness*, 2006

Stephan Torre, *A Tenseless Account of Tensed Sentences and Tensed Belief*, 2008

Edward Abrams, *'Can' and Consequentialism: An Account of Options*, 2008

Namjoong Kim, *Sleeping Beauty and De Nunc Updating*, 2010

Sam Cowling, *Identity and the Limits of Possibility*, 2011

Barak Krakauer, *Counterpossibles*, 2011

Heidi Buetow, *Disagreement and the Semantics of Predicates of Personal Taste*, 2014

Josh Moulton, in progress.

Jesse Fitts, in progress.

Jordan Kroll, in progress.

Dennis Kavlakoglu, in progress

Dissertation Committee Member

Mark Aronsjahn, Anna Arregui (linguistics), James Binkoski, Einar Bohn, Ben Bradley, Amy Rose Deal (linguistics), Jeff Dunn, Neil Feit, Ed Ferrier, Iaria Frana (linguistics), Geoff Goddu, Meghan Griffith, Masashi Hashimoto (linguistics), Chris Heathwood, Daniel Kervick, Justin Klocksiem, Casey Knight, Mark Lucas, Dan Marshall (ANU), Meghan Masto, Kevin Moon, John Pogue, Paul Portner (linguistics), Jason Raibley, Michael Rubin, Roger Schwarzhild (linguistics), Jennifer Susse, Miles Tucker, Brandt van der Gaast, John Paul Vessel, Kai von Fintel (linguistics), Christopher Wahren (Yale).