

Curriculum Vitæ

Thomas Hofweber

Department of Philosophy
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Caldwell Hall, CB # 3125
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3125
(919) 843-4501
hofweber@unc.edu

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Employment

- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Philosophy
 - Full Professor, 2012 - present
 - Associate Professor, 2007 - 2012
 - Assistant Professor, 2003 - 2007
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Department of Philosophy
 - Assistant Professor, 1999 - 2003

Education

- Ph.D., Philosophy, Stanford University, 1999.
 - Dissertation: *Ontology and Objectivity* Co-supervised by Solomon Feferman and John Perry.
- M.A., Philosophy (major), Logic, and Mathematics (minors), University of Munich, Germany, 1994.

Areas of Specialization

- Metaphysics, philosophy of language, philosophy of mathematics.

Areas of Competence

- Epistemology, mathematical logic, philosophy of logic.

Honors and Awards

- “Idealism and the harmony of thought and reality” featured in the *Best of Philosophy 2019* selection of articles published by Oxford University Press. (2020)
- *Schwab Academic Excellence Award* from the Institute of Arts and Humanities, UNC. (2018)
- “Innocent statements and their metaphysically loaded counterparts” selected by the *Philosopher’s Annual* as “one of the ten best articles published in philosophy in 2007”, (2008).
- *Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement*. “Highest research award for early- to mid-career faculty at the University of North Carolina”, (2007).

- *APA Article Prize* for “Inexpressible Properties and Propositions”, awarded by the American Philosophical Association for “the best article published in the previous two years.” (2006).
- *Oxford Studies Younger Metaphysician Prize* for “Inexpressible Properties and Propositions” awarded by the Editorial Board of Oxford Studies in Metaphysics for a paper by a philosopher within ten years of the PhD, (2004).
- “Proof-Theoretic Reduction as a Philosopher’s Tool” selected by the *Philosopher’s Annual* as “one of the ten best articles in philosophy to appear in the year 2000.” (2001).
- *Wolfgang Stegmüller Prize for Ontology and Objectivity*. Awarded by the German Society for Analytic Philosophy for “outstanding work by a philosopher under age 40.” (2000).

Publications

- Books

- *Idealism and the Harmony of Thought and Reality* Oxford University Press. Oxford, UK. Under contract.
- *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics* Oxford University Press. Oxford, UK. 2016.
 - * Book symposia in: Analysis, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research
 - * Reviewed in: Journal of Philosophy, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Review, Zeitschrift für Philosophische Forschung, Review of Metaphysics
- *Empty Names, Fiction and the Puzzles of Non-Existence*, (co-editor, with Anthony Everett). CSLI Publications. Stanford. 2000.

- Articles

- “The place of the philosophy of language in metaphysics” to appear in *Oxford Studies in the Philosophy of Language*, vol. 3. 2022.
- “The unrevisability of logic” forthcoming in *Philosophical Perspectives* 2022
- “Fundamental ontology and esoteric metaphysics: how to settle the question” Forthcoming in J. Cumpa (ed.) *The Question of Ontology*. Oxford University Press. 2021.
- “Why natural language is the ideal language for metaphysics” in J. Miller (ed.) *The Language of Ontology*. Oxford University Press. Pages 88-101. 2021
- “Fragmentalism and special relativity” (with Marc Lange). *theorema* vol.39.3, pages 5-15. 2020.
- “Is metaphysics special?” In the Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics. R. Bliss and J. Miller (eds.). Pages 421-431. 2020.
- “Idealism and the harmony of thought and reality” in *Mind* vol. 128.511. Pages 699-734. July 2019.
- “What is our concept of number about?” Forthcoming in a special issue of the Creation Journal of Philosophy on the origin of the concept of number.
- “Empirical evidence in the metaphysics of ordinary objects” in *The Nature of Ordinary Objects*. J. Cumpa and B. Brewer (eds.). Cambridge University Press. 2018
- “Conceptual idealism without ontological idealism: why idealism is true after all” in *Idealism: new essays in metaphysics*, T. Goldschmidt and K. Pearce (eds.). Oxford University Press. 2018.
- “Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics” in *Analysis* as part of a book symposium on *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*. Volume 78, Issue 2, Pages 289-291, April 2018.

- “Replies to Eklund and Uzquiano” in *Analysis* as part of a book symposium on *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*. Volume 78, Issue 2, Pages 315-334. April 2018.
- “Précis of *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*” In *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* as part of a book symposium on *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*. Vol. XCIV No. 2, March 2017. Pages 463-5.
- “Replies to Bennett, Rayo, and Sattig” in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* as part of a book symposium on *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*. Vol. XCIV No. 2, March 2017. Pages 488-504.
- “Are there ineffable aspects of reality?” in *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics* vol. 10. K. Bennett and D. Zimmermann (eds.). Pages 124-170. Oxford University Press. 2017.
- “Fine’s fragmentalist interpretation of special relativity” (with Marc Lange) in *Noûs*, vol.51.4. pages 871-883. 2017
- “Intellectual humility and the limits of conceptual representation” in *Res Philosophica* vol.93:3. Pages 553-565. 2016
- “Dickie’s epistemic theory of reference” in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* as part of a book symposium on Imogen Dickie’s *Fixing Reference* (with a reply by Dickie in the same volume). Vol. XCV No. 3, pages 723-729. 2017.
- “From *Remnants* to *Things*, and back again” in *Meanings and other Things: essays on Stephen Schiffer*. (with a reply by Stephen Schiffer). G. Ostertag (ed.). Oxford University Press. 2017.
- “How metaphysics is special: comments on Bennett” in *Philosophical Studies*, vol. 173, pages 39-48. 2016.
- “Hyperreal-valued probability measures approximating a real-valued measure” (with Ralf Schindler) in *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. 57:3, pages 369-374. 2016.
- “Carnap’s big idea” in *Ontology after Carnap*, S. Blatti and S. Lapointe (eds.), Oxford University Press. Pages 13-30. 2016.
- “The place of subjects in the metaphysics of material objects” in *dialectica*. vol. 69.4. 2015. Pages 473-90.
- “Extraction, displacement and focus: a reply to Balcerak Jackson” in *Linguistics and Philosophy* vol. 37. Pages 263-267. 2014.
- “Cardinality arguments against hyperreal-valued probability measures” in *Thought* vol. 3:2. Pages 166-175. June 2014.
- “Rayo’s *The Construction of Logical Space*” in *Inquiry* vol. 57:4, Pages 442-454. 2014. (with a reply by Agustín Rayo in the same volume)
- “Infinitesimal chances” in *Philosophers’ Imprint* vol. 14, no. 2. (February 2014). Pages 1-34. <http://www.philosophersimprint.org/014002/>
- “How to endure” (with J. David Velleman) in *Philosophical Quarterly* vol. 61.1. January 2011. Pages 37-57.
- “Inferential role and the ideal of deductive logic” in *Meaning, Understanding, and Knowledge*, B. Armour-Garbage, D. Patterson, and J. Woodbridge (eds.). The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic and Communication vol. 5. October 2010. 26 pages <http://thebalticyearbook.org/journals/baltic/issue/view/4>
- “Formal tools and the philosophy of mathematics” in *New Waves in the Philosophy of Mathematics*, O. Bueno and Ø. Linnebo (eds.) Palgrave Macmillan. Pages 197-210. 2009.
- “Ambitious, yet modest, metaphysics” in *Metametaphysics*, D. Chalmers, D. Manley, and R. Wasserman (eds.). Oxford University Press. Pages 260-89. 2009.

- “The meta-problem of change” in *Noûs*, vol. 43.2. Pages 286-314. 2009.
- “Validity, paradox, and the ideal of deductive logic” in *Revenge of the Liar*, JC Beall (ed.) Oxford University Press, 2008.
- “Innocent statements and their metaphysically loaded counterparts” *The Philosophers’ Imprint* vol. 7, no. 1. (February 2007). Pages 1-33. <http://www.philosophersimprint.org/007001/>
 - * Reprinted in *The Philosopher’s Annual* 2008.
- “Schiffer’s new theory of propositions” in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. (with a reply by Stephen Schiffer in the same volume). vol. LXXIII. July 2006. Pages 211 - 17.
- “Number determiners, numbers, and arithmetic” *The Philosophical Review*. vol. 114.2. April 2005. Pages 179 - 225.
- “Supervenience and object dependent properties” *The Journal of Philosophy*, vol. **CII**, no 1, January 2005. Pages 5 - 32.
- “Inexpressible properties and propositions” *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, vol. 2, D. Zimmerman (ed.) Oxford University Press. 2006. Pages 155 - 206.
 - * Winner of the *Oxford Studies Younger Metaphysician Prize*
 - * Winner of the *APA Article Prize*
- “A Puzzle about ontology” *Noûs* vol. 39, no. 2. 2005. Pages 256 - 83.
 - * reprinted in Italian translation as “Un enigma per l’ontologia” in *Rivista di Estetica*. vol. 46:2 pp. 41-69. 2006.
- “Logic and ontology” (13,000 word survey article), 2004. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 2004. Revised version 2011.
- “Proof-theoretic reduction as a philosopher’s tool” *Erkenntnis* **53**, 2000. Pages 127-146.
 - * reprinted in *The Philosopher’s Annual* **XXIII**, 2001.
- “Quantification and non-existent objects” in *Empty Names, Fiction and the Puzzles of Non-Existence*, edited by A. Everett and T. Hofweber, CSLI Publications, 2000. Pages 249 - 273.
- “Contextualism and the meaning-intention problem” In *Cognition, Agency and Rationality*, edited by K. Korta, E. Sosa and J. Arzozola, Kluwer, 1999. Pages 93-104.

- Reviews and other publications

- “Review of Karen Bennett’s *Making Things Up* in *Philosophical Review* vol. 128 (2): 237-40. 2019
- “Review of Amie Thomasson’s *Ontology Made Easy*” in the *Journal of Philosophy*, vol. 114 (9):498-502. 2017.
- “Review of Tuomas Tahko (ed.) *Contemporary Aristotelian Metaphysics*” in *Mind*, vol. 125, pages 321-5. 2016.
- “Review of John Burgess’ *Mathematics, Models and Modality*” in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, January 2010.
- “My answers to five questions” in *Five Questions: Metaphysics*, A. Steglich-Petersen (ed), Automatic Press. 2010.
- “Review of Graham Priest’s *Towards Non-Being*” *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, vol 14:1. 2008. Pages 116-18.
- “Review of Jody Azzouni’s *Deflating Existential Consequence*” in *The Philosophical Review*, vol 116.3. 2007. Pages 465-67.

- “Review of Wolfgang Künne’s *Conceptions of Truth*” in *The Philosophical Review* vol. 114.1. 2005. Pages 136-39.
- “Consistency, Existence, and the Philosophical Ambitions of Proof Theory.” (Abstract) in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, vol 10.3. September 2004. Pages 442-3.
- “Review of James R. Brown’s *Philosophy of Mathematics*” in *The British Journal of the Philosophy of Science*, **52**, pages 413-416. 2001.
- “Review of John Burgess and Gideon Rosen’s *A Subject with no Object*” in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, **LXII**, pages 723-727. 2001.
- “Much ado about Nothing” (with A. Everett). Introduction to *Empty Names, Fiction and the Puzzles of Non-Existence*, edited by A. Everett and T. Hofweber, CSLI Publications, pages ix - xxi. 2000.
- “Equivalence Principles and Neo-Fregean Approaches to the Philosophy of Mathematics.” (Abstract) in *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, 2000.
- “Numbers and Number Determiners” (Abstract) *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic*, vol. 4.2, June, page 213. 1998.
- “Nominalismus” *Enzyklopädie der Philosophie*, Felix Meiner Verlag, 1999. Revised and expanded version 2010. [in German]

Talks

- Invited Talks

- tbd, Existence and free logic workshop, Bochum University (10/2021)
- “Immanent metaphysics” to be presented at the Alternative Approaches to Metaphysics Workshop, University of Zurich (10/2021)
- tba, Brown University philosophy department colloquium (~~4/2020~~ postponed due to the pandemic)
- “Defeat and the rational revision of logic” UNCUT II conference. Chapel Hill (9/2019)
- “The unrevisability of logic” presented at:
 - * Abstract objects and circularity conference. University of Munich (7/2019)
 - * Philosophy colloquium. University of St. Andrews (5/2019)
- “Inescapable concepts” presented at:
 - * Cambridge University. Serious Metaphysics Group. (5/2021)
 - * UNC covid-modified department speaker series, online. (10/2020)
 - * Conceptual engineering seminar. University of St. Andrews. (5/2019)
 - * Philosophy department colloquium. University of Tübingen (5/2019)
 - * Philosophy department colloquium Syracuse University (4/2019)
 - * *The Possibility of Metaphysics* conference, University of Düsseldorf, Germany (1/2019)
- “Inescapable concepts and the language-metaphysics gap” Topics in Natural Language Semantics workshop, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany. (1/2019)
- “Idealism and the harmony of thought and reality”
 - * Rice University (3/2019)
 - * Johns Hopkins University (2/2019)
 - * The UNCUT Dialog conference, University of Tübingen. (7/2018)

- * Kant and Analytic Metaphysics conference. University of Toronto (4/2018)
- * Ohio State University logic and language group. (2/2018)
- * The Question of Ontology conference, Madrid, Spain. (2/2018)
- * The Stockholm University, Sweden (11/2017)
- * The Lightness of Being conference, Uppsala, Sweden. (11/2017)
- * Issues in the History of Early Modern Philosophy conference on idealism, New York University. (11/2017)
- * University of Minnesota philosophy department colloquium (9/2017)
- * The Limits of the Intellect conference, Simon Fraser University. Vancouver. (4/2017)
- * Northwestern University philosophy department. (1/2017)
- “Why natural language is the ideal language for metaphysics”, The Language of Ontology conference, Dublin, Ireland. (9/2017)
- “What is our concept of number about?” The Origins of Number conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia. (6/2017)
- “The form of thought and the structure of reality” Substantial form conference. The Hebrew University. Jerusalem. (5/2016)
- “Fundamental truthmakers: combining two bad ideas into one terrible idea” Fundamental Truthmakers Festival. University of Miami. (4/2016)
- Several talks. Heidelberger Kompaktseminar on *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*. University of Heidelberg, Germany. (2/2016)
- “Idealism and the limits of conceptual representation” presented at:
 - * Ineffability conference. Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, Israel. (5/2016)
 - * Tel Hai College, philosophy department colloquium, Israel, (5/2016)
 - * Cornell University philosophy department colloquium. (3/2016)
 - * Oxford University philosophy department colloquium (Jowett Society) (2/2016)
 - * University of Connecticut philosophy department colloquium (11/2015)
- “The internalist conception of (talk about) properties” Conference on properties and relations, Bergamo, Italy (7/2015)
- “Ineffability and why it matters” MADLAB Duke University (6/2015)
- “Intellectual humility and the ineffable”. Conference on *Intellectual Humility: Its Nature, Value, and Implications*. Fuller Institute, Pasadena. (5/2015)
- “Intellectual humility and the limits of conceptual representation” Capstone conference of the Intellectual Humility Project. Catalina Island. (5/2015)
- “The non-referential picture of language” Workshop on nominalizations. University of Hamburg, Germany. (4/2015)
- “The internalist conception of properties” Conference on *The metaphysics of properties and relations*. Bergamo, Italy. (7/2015)
- “Gibt es unbeschreibbare Aspekte der Wirklichkeit?” Hochschule für Philosophie, Munich, Germany (10/2014)
- “The philosophy of arithmetic and the semantics of number words”. Workshop on the semantics of number words, Ohio State University (3/2014)
- “Esoteric and egalitarian metaphysics” presented at:
 - * Symposium on Meta-Metaphysics. Eastern APA Meeting, Baltimore. (12/2013)
 - * The Foundations of Ontology workshop, University of Manchester (9/2013)

- * TAPS conference, Duke University (8/2013)
- “Are there completely ineffable aspects of reality?” Presented at:
 - * Symposium on *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics*. Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany (9/2013)
 - * University of Missouri philosophy department colloquium (4/2013)
 - * Keynote at the LEMMING graduate conference, University of Cologne, Germany. (11/2012)
 - * Carolina Metaphysics Workshop (7/2012)
 - * Second PERSP Metaphysics Workshop, University of Barcelona, Spain. (5/2012)
 - * Oxford University philosophy department colloquium (Jowett Society), Oxford, England (2/2012)
 - * UNC philosophy department colloquium. (1/2012)
- “Fictionalism about ordinary objects” Symposium on fictionalism. Pacific APA meeting, Seattle. (4/2012)
- “Carnap’s big idea”, Symposium on Carnap’s legacy for meta-ontology. Central APA meeting, Minneapolis. (4/2011)
- “Ontology and the ambitions of metaphysics” Presented at:
 - * Princeton University, philosophy department colloquium. (3/2011)
 - * University of Toronto, philosophy department colloquium. (3/2011)
- “On the question of the existence and reality of ordinary objects” presented at
 - * Virginia Commonwealth University, philosophy department colloquium. (11/2010)
 - * Auburn Philosophy Conference on Ordinary Objects. Auburn University (02/2010)
- “Numbers and the Philosophy of Mathematics” Wake Forest University, philosophy department colloquium, Winston-Salem, NC (11/2009)
- “Esoteric and egalitarian metaphysics” Virginia Commonwealth University, philosophy department colloquium, Richmond, VA (10/2009)
- “The domain of metaphysics and the ontological question about properties” Colloquium on nominalistic theories of properties, GAP 7, Bremen, Germany. (09/2009)
- “Inferential Role and the Ideal of Deductive Logic” Fifth International Symposium for Cognition, Logic and Communication. Riga, Latvia. (08/2009)
- “Fictional Objects and Two Kinds of Object Dependence” Special session on fictional objects, APA meeting, Philadelphia (12/2008)
- “Ambitious, yet Modest, Metaphysics” presented at:
 - * NC State University, philosophy department colloquium. (9/2008)
 - * *eidōs* Metaphysics Conference, Geneva. (7/2008)
 - * Ohio State University, philosophy department colloquium. (4/2008)
 - * Arizona Ontology Conference. Tucson, Arizona. (1/2008)
- “Semantics, Ontology, and the Ambitions of Metaphysics” *Semantics and Philosophy in Europe*, Paris. (5/2008)
- “Numbers and the Philosophy of Mathematics” Hettleman Prize talk. UNC. (2008)
- “From *Remnants* to *Things*, and back again”. Presented at a conference in honor of Stephen Schiffer, Pecs, Hungary. (5/2007)
- “The Ideal of Deductive Logic”, Invited talk, Dubrovnik Conference. (5/2007)

- “Ontology as a Philosopher’s Project”, 10th Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference on Meta-Metaphysics. (04/2007)
- “The Ideal of Deductive Logic”, NYU, Philosophy department colloquium. (4/2007)
- “Abandoning the Ideal of Deductive Logic” presented at:
 - * Rutgers, philosophy department colloquium (2/2007)
 - * ECU, philosophy department colloquium. (11/2006)
 - * UNC, philosophy department colloquium. (10/2006)
- “Logicism without Logic” presented at:
 - * University of California at Santa Barbara. Philosophy department colloquium. (5/2006)
 - * University of California at Irvine. Logic and philosophy of science department colloquium. (4/2006)
 - * MIT. Philosophy department colloquium. (4/2006)
 - * Princeton University. Philosophy department colloquium. (3/2006)
 - * Workshop on logicism. Joint meeting of the NC-SC philosophy societies. Columbia. (2/2006)
 - * University of Paris, 1. IHPST colloquium. (1/2006)
- “Number Words and Non-referring Terms” Workshop on non-referring terms. University of Paris, 1. (1/2006)
- “Ontology as a Philosophical Project” University of Pennsylvania. Philosophy department colloquium. (11/2005)
- “The Meta-Problem of Change” 8th Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference on “Time and Identity”. (4/2005)
- “Formal Tools and the Philosophy of Mathematics” presented at Solomon Feferman’s retirement symposium, Stanford. (1/2004)
- “Ontological Questions” University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (3/2003)
- “Inexpressible Properties” Presented at:
 - * Syracuse University (9/2002)
 - * University of Manitoba (9/2002)
- Colloquium on Logicism. Philosophy of Mathematics Spring Seminar. University of Notre Dame. (2/2002)
- “Number Determiners, Numbers, and Basic Arithmetic” Midwest Philosophy of Mathematics Workshop. University of Notre Dame. (9/2001)
- “Fictionalism, Pretense, and Semantics” Symposium on Semantic Pretense. Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA). (12/2000)
- “Innocent Statements and their Metaphysically Loaded Counterparts” New York University. (2/99)
- “A Puzzle about Ontology” Presented at:
 - * University of Alberta, Edmonton (10/2000)
 - * University of Lethbridge (10/2000)
 - * University of Southern California (2/99)
 - * University of Notre Dame (2/99)
 - * University of Texas, Austin (1/99)
 - * Yale University (1/99)
 - * University of California, Santa Cruz (1/99)

- * University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (1/99)
 - “Compositionality and the Alleged Explanatory Role of a Compositional Semantics” Presented at CogLunch 98, an interdisciplinary lecture series in Cognitive Science, CSLI, Stanford. (5/98)
 - “Objects and Objectivity” Departmental Colloquium, Philosophy Department, Stanford University. (5/98)
 - “Does a Compositional Semantics Play an Explanatory Role?” Symposium on Compositionality, European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information, ESSLLI 97, Aix-en-Provence, France. (8/97)
 - “Contextualist Theories of Knowledge and of Knowledge Ascriptions” Co-Main Invited Address in the section “Knowledge in Context” of the International Conference in Cognitive Science, ICCS-97, San Sebastian, Spain. (5/97)
 - “Inferential Role and Domain Conditions” 6th Workshop in Logic, Language and Computation, CSLI, Stanford. (5/97)
- Contributed Talks
 - Refereed Conferences
 - * “In defense of infinitesimal chances” Formal Epistemology Festival, University of Konstanz, Germany. (7/2012)
 - * “Inexpressible Properties” presented at GAP 4, the fourth international congress of the German Analytic Philosophy Society. (9/2000)
 - * “Equivalence Principles and Neo-Fregean Approaches to the Philosophy of Mathematics” presented at the 2000 Annual Meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. (6/ 2000)
 - * “Supervenience and Object-Dependent Properties” Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA), San Francisco. (4/2000)
 - * “Inexpressible Properties” Pacific Division Meeting of the APA, Berkeley. (4/99)
 - * “Numbers and Number Determiners” Spring Meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic, Los Angeles. (3/98)
 - * “Proof-Theoretic Reduction as a Nominalist’s Tool” Workshop on Notions of Reduction in Mathematics and Philosophy, Munich, Germany. (9/97)
 - * “Abriss eines nominalistischen Programms” Third International Conference of the German Analytic Philosophy Society, GAP 3, Munich, Germany. (9/97)
 - * “Inferential Role and Domain Conditions” Workshop on Quantification, Collectivity and Reciprocals, European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information, ESSLLI 97, Aix-en-Provence, France. (8/97)
 - Other Talks
 - Comments on Vera Flocke’s “Carnap’s defense of impredicative definitions”. Symposium on Carnap’s internal-external distinction, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association. Savannah, Georgia. (1/2018)
 - “ $2+2=4$ ” presented at Philosophy in 15 minutes, UNC Chapel Hill. (1/2017)
 - “Are there ineffable aspects of reality?” presented at Philosophy in 15 minutes (UNC Chapel Hill), Philosophy Slam Bamberg, and Philosophy Slam Augsburg. 2014
 - Comments on Karen Bennett, Oberlin Colloquium (5/2014)
 - Comments on Alan Hájek’s “Staying regular?”, Formal Epistemology Workshop, Munich, Germany. (6/2012)

- Comments on Cian Dorr and on Matti Eklund at the *Metaphysical Mayhem*, Rutgers. (5/2008)
- Comments on Sam Scott’s “Saying something about Santa Claus” Pacific APA meeting, San Francisco. (3/2005)
- Comments on Susan Vineberg’s “Nominalism and Naturalism in the Philosophy of Mathematics” Pacific APA meeting, San Francisco. (3/2001)
- “Quantification and Non-Existent Objects” Conference on Empty Names, Fiction, and the Puzzles of Non-Existence, CSLI, Stanford. (3/98)
- “Numbers and Number Determiners” Stanford Logic Lunch. (2/98)

Fellowships

- Senior faculty research and scholarly leave (Spring 2021)
- Institute of the Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship (2015)
- Templeton Fellowship for the project “Intellectual Humility and the Limits of Conceptual Representation” (2014)
- Reynolds Faculty Fellowship (Spring 2010)
- Spray Randleigh Fellowship (2007)
- Junior Faculty Development Award (2004)
- Rackham Summer Interdisciplinary Institute Faculty Fellowship (2002)
- Rackham Summer Fellowship (2001)
- Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (1998-1999).
- Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford University (1994-1998).

Teaching experience

- Courses taught
 - University of North Carolina
 - * Idealism and the harmony of thought and reality (graduate seminar) (Fall 2020)
 - * Conceptual engineering (graduate seminar) (Spring 2020)
 - * AI and the future of humanity (Spring 2019) (Fall 2019)
 - * Introduction to philosophy (Fall 2018)
 - * Aesthetics and the philosophy of art (Summer 2015) (Fall 2015) (Summer 2017) (Spring 2018) (Fall 2019)
 - * Philosophy of mind: idealism (Spring 2018)
 - * Nihilism (graduate seminar) (Fall 2016)
 - * Dissertation research seminar (with John Roberts, Fall 2013) (with Matt Kotzen, Spring 2016) (Spring 2019)
 - * Idealism and the limits of conceptual representation (Graduate seminar) (Fall 2015)
 - * Contemporary idealism (with Bill Lycan) (Graduate seminar) (Spring 2013)
 - * Proto-Seminar (with Ryan Preston-Roedder) (Spring 2011)
 - * First year seminar: Death (Fall 2010)

- * Reading seminar in metaphysics (Fall 2009)
- * Advanced Logic: Set Theory (Graduate seminar) (Spring 2009)
- * Metaphysics (Spring 2009) (Fall 2010)
- * Philosophy of Logic (Graduate seminar) (Spring 2008)
- * The domain and methods of metaphysics (Graduate seminar) (Spring 2007)
- * Topics in Mathematical Logic (Fall 2006)
- * Kenan Seminar in the Philosophy of Logic (with Keith Simmons) (Graduate seminar) (Fall 2005)
- * Meta-metaphysics (Graduate seminar) (Spring 2005)
- * Mathematical Logic (Graduate seminar) (Fall 2004) (Fall 2005) (Fall 2007) (Fall 2009) (Fall 2012) (Fall 2016) (Fall 2018)
- * Introduction to Mathematical Logic online, taught through Carolina Courses Online almost every semester for many years
- * Introduction to Mathematical Logic (Fall 2004) (Fall 2006) (Spring 2007) (Spring 2008) (Summer 2008) (Fall 2008) (Spring 2013)
- * Recent Work in Ontology (Graduate Seminar) (Spring 2004)
- * Philosophy of Time (Fall 2003)
- * Honors Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2003) (Spring 2004)
- University of Michigan
 - * Philosophy of Mathematics (Winter 2003)
 - * Objectivity (Graduate seminar) (Fall 2002)
 - * Knowledge and Reality (Fall 2002)
 - * Mathematical Logic (Winter 2001)
 - * Proseminar (Graduate level survey of contemporary philosophy of language and philosophy of mind) (Fall 2000)
 - * Neo-Carnapian Approaches to Ontology (Graduate seminar) (Winter 2000)
 - * Metaphysics. (Fall 99) (Winter 2001)
 - * Honors Introduction to Philosophy. (Fall 99) (Winter 2000) (Fall 2000) (Winter 2003)
- Stanford University
 - * Science, Philosophy and God. (Summer 98)

Service within UNC-Chapel Hill

- Associate Chair of the philosophy department (2011 - 2014)
- Member of the linguistics advisory committee in the Department of Linguistics at UNC (2018 - present)
- Committee chair:
 - Director of graduate admissions (2019) (2020)
 - Colloquium committee (2017-18) (2018-19)
 - Post-tenure faculty review (2014-15) (2015-16) (2016-17) (2017-18) (2019-2020) (2020-2021)
 - Senior faculty search committee (2013-14)
 - Speakers committee (2007 - 11) (2015-17)
- Committee member:

- Tenure and post-tenure review committees in philosophy and linguistics
- Colloquium committee (2006-7)
- Faculty Recruitment (most years)
- Graduate Studies (2003-4) (2004-5) (2011 - present)
- Placement (2004-5) (2005-6)
- Graduate Admissions (2005-6) (2006-7) (2008-9)
- Library Liaison (2005-7)
- Bibliography Exam Committee in the areas of Logic and Metaphysics (2003 - present)

Service to the Profession

- Co-Editor of the journal *Philosophers' Imprint*
- Subject Editor for the journal ERGO
- Referee for:
 - Book manuscripts: Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, Routledge, Bloomsbury, Blackwell, CSLI Publications.
 - Major Grants: European Science Foundation (ESF), National Science Foundation (NSF), Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
 - Member of the European Science Foundation's Pool of Referees (2007-present)
 - Articles: American Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, British Journal of the Philosophy of Science, Canadian Philosophical Association, Dialectica, Erkenntnis, European Journal of Analytic Philosophy, European Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Inquiry, Journal of Philosophical Logic, Linguistics and Philosophy, Mind, The Monist, Noûs, Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophia Mathematica, Philosophy Compass, Philosophical Papers, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Review, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophy of Science, Studia Logica, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Synthese, Theoria, Thought.
- Jury member for the Sanders Prize in Public Philosophy (2016)
- Five day *Kompaktseminar* taught at the University of Heidelberg on my book *Ontology and the Ambitions of Metaphysics* (2/2016)
- Two week summer course on “The infinitely small and infinitely large in mathematics and philosophy” (co-taught with R. Schindler) organized by the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, Neubeuern, Germany. (8/2013)
- Co-Organizer of a workshop on the Philosophy of Logic, Chapel Hill, 2004.
- Co-Organizer of the Conference *Empty Names, Fiction and the Puzzles of Non-Existence*. Stanford, 1998.
- External dissertation committee member for PhD theses at the University of Toronto (2015) and Washington University, St. Louis (2013).
- External tenure and promotion letter writer for various undisclosed universities.