

GREGORY SALMIERI

Curriculum Vitae
April, 2011

Department of Philosophy
Caldwell Hall
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
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EDUCATION

The University of Pittsburgh, Department of Philosophy, Ph.D. August, 2008. Dissertation: *Aristotle and the Problem of Concepts*. Committee: James G. Lennox (chair), James Allen, Allan Gotthelf, Jessica Moss.
The College of New Jersey, B.A. in philosophy with honors (classics minor), 2001

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ancient Philosophy, Epistemology, Ethics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Political Philosophy, Modern Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Visiting Assistant Professor, 2008 to present.

PUBLICATIONS

- “The Aspiration of Aristotelian Science” forthcoming in *Metascience*.
“Conceptualization and Justification” and “Forms of Awareness and Three-Factor Theories” forthcoming in Gotthelf (ed.) *Concepts and Their Role in Knowledge*, University of Pittsburgh Press 2012.
“Αἴσθησις, Ἐμπειρία, and the Advent of Universals in *Posterior Analytics* II 19,” in James Lesher (ed.) *From Inquiry to Demonstrative Knowledge: New Essays on Aristotle’s Posterior Analytics* (Apeiron XLIII: 2, 3), 2010.
“Aristotle’s Non-Dialectical Methodology in the *Nicomachean Ethics*,” *Ancient Philosophy* 29, 2009.
“*Atlas Shrugged* on the Role of the Mind in Man’s Existence” and “Discovering Atlantis” in Robert Mayhew, ed., *Essays on Ayn Rand’s Atlas Shrugged*, Lexington, 2009.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

- “Does Virtue Make Money or Make it Good? How to Understand Apology 30b2-4” (available online at <http://www.unc.edu/~salmieri/money.pdf>).
“Aristotle on Selfishness: Understanding the Iconoclasm of *Nicomachean Ethics* IX.8” (available online at <http://www.unc.edu/~salmieri/selfishness.pdf>)
“Aristotle’s Conception of Universality” (available online at <http://www.unc.edu/~salmieri/universality.pdf>).
“How We Choose Our Beliefs” (co-authored with Benjamin Bayer) (available online at <http://www.benbayer.com/how-we-choose-our-beliefs.pdf>).

PAPERS BEING PREPARED FOR INVITED VOLUMES

- “Aristotelian *nous* and *Problemata* XXX 5” in Robert Mayhew (ed.) *Essays on Aristotle’s Problemata*, forthcoming, Brill.
“Aristotelian Definition and the Progression of Science: Reflections on Some Case Studies.” *Concepts, Induction, and the Growth of Scientific Knowledge*, Richard Burian and Allan Gotthelf Burian (eds.).

PAPERS PRESENTED

- “Aristotle on Selfishness,” University of Oslo, May 2012.
“Does Virtue Make Money or Make it Good? How to Understand Apology 30b2-4,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, February 2012.
“Alexander of Aphrodisias and the Choice to Think,” The 29th annual joint meeting of The Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy with The Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science, Fordham University, October 2011.
“Aristotle on Making Up Names,” The University of Texas at Austin, Fall Colloquium Series, October 2010.
“The Act of Awareness,” Warwick University, Conference on Perception Consciousness and Reference, 2009.

- “Perception (Αἴσθησις), Experience (Εμπειρία), and the Advent of Universals in Posterior Analytics II 19,” The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and Duke University, Conference on Aristotle’s Posterior Analytics, April 2009.
- “Aristotle on the Units of Thought and Knowledge,” The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2009.
- “The Universality or Particularity of Aristotelian Forms: What Makes the Uncuttables Uncuttable?” Trinity University, 2009.
- “Aristotle on Concept-Formation in Mathematics and Natural Science,” University of Pittsburgh, Delimiting Aristotle’s Science of Nature, 2008
- “Aristotle’s Conception of Universality,” Rice University, 2008; The University of Notre Dame, 2008.
- “Justification as an aspect of Conceptualization,” The Claremont Colleges, Workshop on Justification and Normativity, 2007.
- “Aristotle on the Ontological Basis of Zoological Classification,” The University of Birmingham, Nature and its Classification: A Metaphysics of Science Conference, 2007.
- “How We Choose Our Beliefs,” University of Miami, Graduate Conference in Epistemology, 2007; The University of Warwick, Mind Grad, 2006.
- “Defining the Virtues: Methodology in Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics III-V,” The University of Pittsburgh Department of Philosophy, Works in Progress Series, 2002.

COMMENTS AND INFORMAL PRESENTATIONS

- Comment on Christine Swanton’s “Virtues of creativity and productivity, Moral Theory, and Human Nature” and Helen Cullyer’s “Pride and Greatness in Aristotle,” APA Pacific Division, April 2011.
- Comment on David Charles’ “Aristotle’s Philosophy of Science Reexamined,” Workshop on Aristotle’s Method(s) of Inquiry, UNC, Chapel Hill, March 2011
- Comment on Riin Sirkel’s “Knowledge of Particulars in Aristotle,” *34th Ancient Philosophy Workshop*, Washington University, March 2011.
- Comment on Ian McCready-Flora’s “Aristotle on Rational Thought: Believing at Will, Aiming at Truth,” APA Eastern Division, December 2010.
- Comment on Fredrick Steinle’s “Concepts and Research Practice: The Case of Faraday,” The University of Pittsburgh, Workshop on Concepts, Induction and the Growth of Scientific Knowledge, September 2010.
- Comment on Rob Bolton’s “Stages of Inquiry in GA I,” University of Western Ontario, Understanding the Methodology at Work in Aristotle’s Generation of Animals, May 2010.
- Comment on Brian Tamanaha’s “The ‘Unless Clause’ of Stare Decisis: Insights Gleaned from the Past,” The University of Texas, Austin, Precedent in Objective Law, 2009.
- Comment on Christine Swanton’s “Virtue Ethics and Objectivity,” The Claremont Colleges, Workshop on Justification and Normativity, 2007.
- Comment on Tara Smith’s “Originalism’s Misplaced Fidelity,” The University of Texas at Austin, Anthem Workshop on Law, 2007.
- Comment on Ravi Sharma’s “Notes on Davidson’s Plato,” The University of Texas at Austin, 30th Annual Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, 2007.
- Comment on Ingo Brigandt’s “Scientific Practice, Conceptual Change, and the Nature of Concepts,” The University of Pittsburgh, Objectivity and Concepts: Knowledge, Science and Values, 2006.
- “Integration and Reduction as Means to Objectivity,” The University of Pittsburgh, Objectivity Workshop, 2005.
- “Objectivity in the Interpretation of the Law” The University of Texas at Austin, Judicial Interpretation Workshop, 2005.
- Comment on Diana Hsieh’s “False Excuses and Moral Growth,” Carnegie Mellon University and The University of Pittsburgh International Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy, 2004.
- Comment on Kyle Craft’s “Unjustified Belief as a Foundation for Justified Belief,” Carnegie Mellon University and The University of Pittsburgh International Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy, 2004.
- “Concepts and Justification,” The University of Pittsburgh, Concepts Workshop, 2004.

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

Co-Organizer, Workshop on Aristotle on Discovery and Justification, University of Pittsburgh, 2012.
 Co-Organizer, UNC Workshop on Aristotle's Method(s) of Inquiry, 2011.
 Co-Organizer, UNC / Duke Workshop on the Intellectual Virtues, 2010.
 Co-organizer, The 6th Annual CMU / University of Pittsburgh International Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy, 2004.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

Fellowship in Objectivity and Values, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2009-2012.
 Member of Junior-Search Committee, The University of Pittsburgh, Department of Philosophy, 2006.
 Mellon Fellowship, The University of Pittsburgh, 2006-07 & 2001-02.
 Philip Cummings Memorial Prize for Best Essay in Philosophy, The College of New Jersey, 2001.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

Referee for *Ancient Philosophy*
 Referee for the *Journal of the History of Philosophy*
 Referee for *Synthese*
 Member of the Steering Committee of the *Ayn Rand Society*
 Member of the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT: *Aristotle and the Problem of Concepts*

My dissertation concerns Aristotle's views of concepts—his position on what is traditionally called the “problem of universals.” The problem is usually understood as a primarily metaphysical issue, and Aristotle is standardly taken as the archetype of the moderate realist position. I show that the issue of universals arose for Plato and Aristotle primarily as an epistemological (rather than metaphysical) problem about how the universality of thought is to be explained and justified. When the problem is so understood, moderate realism amounts to the claim that a concept is based on a relation of partial qualitative identity that holds among a group of particulars. By contrast, I argue that Aristotle held that concepts are based on *causally significant likenesses* among particulars—likenesses which need not (and, in most cases, cannot) be reduced to partial qualitative identity. In the most common sort of concept, the likeness consists in the particulars lying near to one another along a continuum. Such likenesses are causally significant when the like particulars are all causes or all effects of particulars that fall under the same other universal. It is this causal role that makes universals central to explanation, which, for Aristotle, is the aim of human cognition.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Greek, Latin, German

COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Philosophy (4 times at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
 Ancient Greek Philosophy (4 times at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; 3 times at The University of Pittsburgh)
 Special Topics: Aristotle's Ethics (2 times at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
 Theory of Knowledge (2 times at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
 Making Sense of Ourselves (2 times at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
 Introduction to Ethics (2 times at The University of Pittsburgh)

REFERENCES

James G. Lennox (jglennox@pitt.edu), Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, The University of Pittsburgh.
 James Allen (jvallen@pitt.edu), Professor of Philosophy, The University of Pittsburgh.
 David Charles (david.charles@philosophy.ox.ac.uk), Fellow and Research Professor in Philosophy, Oriel College, Oxford.

Allan Gotthelf (gotthelf@pitt.edu), Visiting Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, The University of Pittsburgh; Professor of Philosophy Emeritus, The College of New Jersey.

Marc Lange (mlange@email.unc.edu), Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor and Department Chair, Department of Philosophy, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Geoffrey Sayre-McCord (sayre-mccord@unc.edu), Morehead Alumni Distinguished Professor, Department of Philosophy, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.