

J. Britt Holbrook

Education

- 2004 Ph.D. (Philosophy), Emory University, Atlanta GA
- 1997 M.A. (Philosophy), Emory University
- 1992 B.A., *Magna Cum Laude* (Honors in Philosophy), The University of the South, Sewanee TN

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Science and Technology Policy, Ethics
19th Century, 20th Century, and Contemporary Continental Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Logic and Critical Thinking, History of Modern Philosophy, Kant

Language Competency

Reading Knowledge of French, German, and Spanish

Dissertation

“Selfing Nietzsche” (defended July 26, 2004)
Jean-François Lyotard, Director (died 1998); Rudolf Makkreel, Director

Professional Appointments

- 2008 – Assistant Director, Center for the Study of Interdisciplinarity, University of North Texas
- 2007 – Managing Editor, *Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity*
- 2005 – Research Assistant Professor, University of North Texas
- 2000 – 2002 Regular Instructor, Georgia State University
- 1999 – 2000 Visiting Instructor, Georgia State University
- 1997 – 1999 Assistant Instructor, Emory University
- 1996 – 1999 Part-time Instructor, Georgia State University
- 1995 – 1996 Co-teaching Teaching Associate, Emory University
- 1992 – 1995 Teaching Assistant, Emory University

Federal Grants

Co-PI, NSF grant (\$393,688) from the Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) Program (<http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=0830387>) for a 3-year research project beginning October, 2008 to examine the incorporation of societal impacts criteria

in the peer review of grant proposals at 5 public science and technology funding agencies (<http://www.csid.unt.edu/research/capr.html>).

PI, NSF grant (\$24,964) from the Ethics and Values of SET Program (<http://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward.do?AwardNumber=0649573>) for a workshop held August 5 – 7, 2007: “Making Sense of the ‘Broader Impacts’ of Science and Technology” (<http://www.ndsciencehumanitiespolicy.org/workshop/>).

Publications

Guest and Corresponding Editor of a forthcoming (2010) special issue of *Science and Engineering Ethics* devoted to “The Broader Impacts of Science and Technology.”

Managing Editor, *The Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity*, Robert Frodeman, ed., (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2010).

“Peer Review,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity*, Robert Frodeman, ed., (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2010).

“Beyond Science for the Sake of Science – The National Science Foundation’s ‘Broader Impacts’ Merit Review Criterion,” in the Science Policy Assessment and Research on Climate (SPARC) Handbook (forthcoming).

“Putting Darwin in his Place: the Need to Watch our Language,” co-authored with Paul S. Braterman, in *The American Biology Teacher*, Vol. 71, No. 2 (February 2009), p.p. 84-88.

“A Center for the Study of Interdisciplinarity – Not Just another Interdisciplinary Center,” co-authored with Robert Frodeman, in the *Association for Integrative Studies Newsletter*, (forthcoming) Vol. 30, No. 4 (December 2008).

“Answering NSF’s Question: What Are the Broader Impacts of the Proposed Activity?” co-authored with Robert Frodeman, in *Professional Ethics Report*, Vol. XX, No. 3, Summer 2007: <http://www.aaas.org/spp/sfrr/per/newper50.shtml#NSF>.

“Science’s Social Effects,” co-authored with Robert Frodeman, in *Issues in Science and Technology*, Vol. 23, Issue 3 (Spring 2007), p.p. 28-30: http://www.issues.org/23.3/p_frodeman.html.

Book review of *Lyotard and Greek Thought: Sophistry*, by Keith Crome, in *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, Vol. 44, Number 4, October, 2006, p.p. 676-77.

“Introducing a Policy Turn in *Environmental Philosophy*,” co-authored with Adam Briggles and Robert Frodeman, in *Environmental Philosophy*, Spring 2006, Vol. 3, No. 1, p.p. 70-77.

“Understanding Technological Design,” co-authored with Carl Mitcham, in *Defining Technological Literacy: Towards an Epistemological Framework*, John R. Dakers, ed. (Palgrave, 2006).

“Assessing the Science – Society Relation: The Case of the U.S. National Science Foundation’s Second Merit Review Criterion,” in *Technology in Society*, Vol. 27, Issue 4, November 2005, p.p., 437-451.

“Policy Dimensions of NSF’s Criterion 2,” co-authored with Robert Frodeman, in *Ogmius*, the Newsletter of the Center for Science and Technology Policy Research at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Number 13, Fall 2005:

http://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/ogmius/archives/issue_13/index.html.

“National Science Foundation Second Merit Criterion,” in the *Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics*, Carl Mitcham, ed., (MacMillan Reference, 2005).

Research in Progress

“Philosophy and Demonstrable Results: A Report from the Field,” co-authored with Robert Frodeman and Carl Mitcham, in *Philosophy and Public Policy Quarterly* (currently under review).

“On Grading Participation” (co-authored with Coleen Zoller)

“Five Models of Integrating Societal Impacts Concerns into the Peer Review of Grant Proposals at Public Science and Technology Funding Agencies” (co-authored with Robert Frodeman, Carl Mitcham, Warren Burggren, and William Moen)

Workshops

Invited Participant in a Potomac Institute “International Peer Review Workshop,” Arlington, VA, May 20 – 22, 2009.

Invited participant in a National Science Foundation / Research Council of Norway workshop on “Reconciling the Supply of and Demand for Research in the Science of Science and Innovation Policy,” Oslo, Norway, May 12 – 14, 2009.

Invited participant in a “Dutch-American Universities Hennebach Workshop in Technology and Environmental Philosophy,” co-sponsored by NWO (Netherlands), April 20 – 21, 2009, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO.

Advisory Committee member and invited participant in a Dutch Technology Foundation (STW) / National Science Foundation international workshop on “Research Funding and the Good Life,” University of Twente, Netherlands, March 17 – 18, 2009.

Invited participant in a Department of Energy / National Science Foundation international workshop on the Science of Science Policy, Washington, D.C., December 3 – 4, 2008.

Invited participant in a National Academy of Engineering workshop “Ethics Education and Scientific and Engineering Research: What’s Been Learned? What Should Be Done?” Washington, D.C., August 25 – 26, 2008.

Invited participant in a Millennium Scientific Initiative / CONICYT (Chile) international workshop “Confronting Global Change with a Network of Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research Sites at the South of the Americas,” Punta Arenas and Puerto Williams (Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve), Chile, June 9 – 13, 2008.

Organizer of an NSF-sponsored international workshop “Making Sense of the ‘Broader Impacts’ of Science and Technology,” Golden, CO, August 5 – 7, 2007.

Presentations and Guest Lectures

“The Use and Abuse of Societal Impacts Criteria in Grant Proposal Peer Review,” Potomac Institute International Peer Review Workshop, Arlington, VA, May 21, 2009.

“Testing the Boundaries Between the Supply of and the Demand for Research,” National Science Foundation / Research Council of Norway workshop on Reconciling the Supply of and Demand for Research in the Science of Science and Innovation Policy, Oslo, Norway, May 13, 2009.

“Strategies for Linking Environmental Philosophy and Philosophy of Technology,” Dutch-American Universities Hennebach Workshop in Technology and Environmental Philosophy, co-sponsored by NWO (Netherlands), April 21, 2009, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO.

“Bataille’s Mystifying Communication,” North Texas Philosophical Association Spring 2009 Conference, Denton, Texas, March 26-28 2009.

Poster on “*Integrando la dimensión socio-ecológica en la educación en ecología y conservación* (Integrating the socio-ecological dimension in ecology and conservation education),” co-authored with Diego Sotomayor, Alexandria Poole, Rodrigo Estevez, Christopher B. Anderson, and Ricardo Rozzi. Presented by Sotomayor and Estevez at the 15th Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of Chile, November 26-29, 2008.

“The New Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity,” co-presented with Julie Thompson Klein and Robert Frodeman, 30th Annual Association for Integrative Studies Conference, Springfield, Illinois, October 25th, 2008.

“From Academic Fields to Field Academics,” co-presented with Ricardo Rozzi and Robert Frodeman, 30th Annual Association for Integrative Studies Conference, Springfield, Illinois, October 23rd, 2008.

“Peer Review 2.0,” co-presented with William Moen and Robert Frodeman, Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD Colloquium, University of North Texas, September 12, 2008.

Poster presentation on “Governing Science and Technology via NSF’s Broader Impacts Criterion,” co-authored with Robert Frodeman and Jennifer Rowland, Gordon Research Conference on Science and Technology Policy: Governing Emerging Technologies, Big Sky, Montana, August 17 – 22, 2008.

Guest Lecture on J-F. Lyotard’s “Answering the Question: What is Postmodernism?” in Dr. Catherine Caesar’s class “Special Topics: Recent Art, 1980 to the Present,” University of Dallas, February 14, 2007.

“Suffering in Silence: What Can Scientist’s Say about the Broader Societal Impacts of their Research, and Why Aren’t They Saying It?” 2006 Annual Meeting, Society for the Social Studies of Science, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, November 4, 2006.

“Intelligent Design: How Much Faith Should We Have in Science?” Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science, University of North Texas, November 3, 2005.

“Space Science, Philosophy, and Policy,” co-authored with Mark A. Bullock and Robert L. Frodeman, First Stand-Alone International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) International Conference on the Impact of Space on Society, Budapest, Hungary, March 18, 2005.

Guest lecture on J. Habermas’s “Modernity: An Unfinished Project” and J-F. Lyotard’s “Answering the Question: What is Postmodernism?” in Dr. Catherine Caesar’s M.A./M.F.A. Seminar, University of Dallas, November, 2004.

Invited response to Barbara Montero’s “Proprioception as an Aesthetic Sense,” Georgia State University, Department of Philosophy Colloquium Series, September 20, 2001.

“Bataille’s Mystifying Communication,” The Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, October 6, 2000.

“Witnessing Postmodern Sights: Testifying to the Differend of Homelessness,” The International Association for Philosophy and Literature, May 12, 1999.

Invited response to Michael Veber’s “Nietzsche’s Stiff Relativism,” Graduate Student Philosophy Conference, Emory University, October 31, 1998.

Invited response to Robert Russell’s “Lyotard’s Inhuman Politics,” Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Memphis, Tennessee, February 24, 1996.

Courses Taught

- 2005 – *University of North Texas:*
Tracing Darwin’s Path – Field Course in Sub-Antarctic Conservation (co-taught in Cape Horn, Chile with Christopher Anderson), Introduction to Modern Philosophy, Modern Philosophy, Ethical Theory, Philosophy of Natural Science, Graduate Seminar in Environmental Philosophy and Public Policy (co-taught with Robert Frodeman)
- 1996 – 2002 *Georgia State University:*
Critical Thinking (twenty-three times), Great Questions of Western Philosophy (eight times), Contemporary Moral Problems, History of Modern Philosophy, Logic and Critical Thinking (repeatedly), History of Philosophy 600 B.C. – 1300 A.D.
- 1992 – 1999 *Emory University:*
Introduction to Logic, Introduction to Ethics (twice), Introduction to Philosophy, 19th Century (co-taught with Rudolf Makkreel), Nietzsche Seminar (co-taught with Rudolf Makkreel), History of Western Thought II (co-taught with Donald Rutherford), supervised service as a Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Logic (three times), Introduction to Ethics, Medical Ethics, 19th Century Philosophy, Nietzsche Seminar

Dissertation Précis

“Selfing Nietzsche”
Defended July 26, 2004

Committee: Jean-François Lyotard (Director – died 1998),
Rudolf Makkreel (Director), David Carr, Cynthia Willett,

Pamela Hall (Reader), Steven K. Strange (Reader)

In *Three Rival Versions of Moral Enquiry* Alasdair MacIntyre issues a direct challenge to anyone who purports to defend a Nietzschean view of moral enquiry. My dissertation answers that challenge. After laying out MacIntyre's account of the Nietzschean and post-Nietzschean genealogical project of moral enquiry and his critique of that project, I argue that MacIntyre's critique rests on an illegitimate connection between Nietzsche and Foucault. MacIntyre holds that unless Foucault's efforts to carry on the genealogical project succeed, the genealogical project as a whole fails. He then argues that Foucault's efforts fail. I argue that the Nietzschean and Foucauldian approaches to genealogy are substantially different. Insofar as MacIntyre's critique of genealogy depends on his critique of Foucault, and insofar as Foucauldian and Nietzschean genealogy are different, MacIntyre's critique fails to defeat Nietzsche. MacIntyre's charge against Foucault is directed at Foucault's notion of the self: he argues that, lacking a coherent notion of the self, the genealogical project is not sustainable. I give an account of the Nietzschean view of the self that escapes MacIntyre's critique of Foucault, and conclude with the suggestion that, in place of Michel Foucault, MacIntyre might find Georges Bataille a more fittingly Nietzschean opponent.

Synergistic Activities

Responsible for the design (the aesthetic and the ontology, not the coding) and much of the content of the website for the Center for the Study of Interdisciplinarity: www.csid.unt.edu.

Participated as a member of the faculty of the Texas Governor's School, Summer 2007 (<http://web3.unt.edu/tgs/>), co-teaching a course "Philosophy, Ethics, Science, Technology and Society" (PESTS) with Mrs. Julie Brem, Grapevine High School to gifted and talented rising high-school sophomores from across Texas.

Honors, Awards, and Distinctions

2007	Recognized at Honors Day Convocation as "a source of inspiration and support" by André De Avillez, winner of the John Kimmey Fellowship Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Philosophy and Religion Studies, University of North Texas
1992 – 1996	Graduate Fellowship, Emory University
1992	Phi Beta Kappa
1992	B.A., <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> , Honors in Philosophy
1991	Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish Honor Society
1988 – 1992	Georgia M. Wilkins Scholarship to attend The University of the South

References

Professor Rudolf Makkreel, Department of Philosophy, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322
Telephone: (404) 727-6577

Professor David Carr, Emory

Professor Cynthia Willett, Chair, Emory

Professor Robert Frodeman, Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies, University of North Texas, P.O. Box 310920, Denton, TX 76203-0920
Telephone: (940) 565-2266

Professor Carl Mitcham, Colorado School of Mines, Liberal Arts and International Studies,

Stratton Hall 301, Golden, CO 80401
Telephone: (303) 273-3648

Professor Steve Fuller, Department of Sociology, 2.23 Ramphal Building, University of
Warwick, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry CV4 7AL, England, United Kingdom
Telephone: +44 (0)2476-523940

Dr. Christopher Wellman, Philosophy Department, Washington University in St. Louis, Campus
Box 1073, St. Louis, MO 63130
Telephone: (314) 935-6670

Dr. David Weberman, Department of Philosophy, Central European University, H 1051
Budapest, Nádor u.9
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