

## **Grant Ramsey**

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**Area of Specialization:** Philosophy of Science, especially Philosophy of Biology

**Area of Competence:** Logic, History of Biology since Darwin

### **Academic Positions**

#### **June 2016-Now**

*BOFZAP Research Professor (Associate Level)*  
Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven, Belgium

#### **September 2015-June 2016**

*Fellow*  
National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

#### **July 2007-June 2015**

*Assistant Professor*  
Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame  
Program in History and Philosophy of Science, University of Notre Dame  
*Fellow*  
The Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values

### **Education**

Duke University, August 2000 – May 2007  
*Ph.D. in Philosophy*

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington, August 1992 – June 1997  
*B.S. in Biology*  
*B.A. in Philosophy*

### **Research Awards**

2017 Popper Prize, <http://www.thebsps.org/about-bjps/sir-karl-popper-essay-prize/>

*Awarded for:*

Ramsey, G. and De Block, A. (2017) “Is cultural fitness hopelessly confused?” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 68: 305-328. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axv047>

2013 Popper Prize, <http://www.thebsps.org/about-bjps/sir-karl-popper-essay-prize/>

*Awarded for:*

Pence, C. and Ramsey, G. (2013) “A new foundation for the propensity interpretation of fitness” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 64: 851-881. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axs037>

### Teaching Awards

The *Bass Instructorship* award (2006) – awarded for excellence in undergraduate philosophy teaching.

### Major Research Grants

Interne Fondsen KU Leuven (2021): 366,000 euro (US\$425,000) for project entitled “Plant Agency: Inferring Mental Capacities from Plant Behavior”

BOFZAP Startup Grant (2017): 100,000 euro (US\$116,000) for project entitled “Toward a Unified Foundation for Evolutionary Theory”

The National Science Foundation Scholars Award (2015): \$188,000 (with Charles Pence) for project entitled “The evoText Project”

### Residential Fellowship Awards

**National Humanities Center:** Appointed as a fellow for the 2015-2016 academic year. (Accepted.)

**Pittsburgh Center for Philosophy of Science:** Appointed as a fellow for the 2015-2016 academic year. (Declined for National Humanities Center fellowship.)

**Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies:** Appointed as a fellow from September 2015 to July 2017. (Declined for National Humanities Center fellowship and BOFZAP Research Professorship.)

**National Evolutionary Synthesis Center:** Appointed as a fellow for the 2013-2014 academic year. (Accepted for Spring 2014 only.)

**KU Leuven:** Appointed as F+ Fellow summer 2013.

### Graduate Student Placement

**2021 – Bendik Aaby:** Bendik defended his dissertation in the spring of 2021 and started a postdoc at KU Leuven in fall 2021.

**2016 – Hugh Desmond:** In 2017, Hugh accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Biomedical Ethics and Law, KU Leuven. This was followed by a postdoc at L’Institut d’histoire et de philosophie des sciences et des techniques (IHPST), Paris, as well as a part-time Assistant Professorship at the University of Antwerpen.

**2015 – Michael Deem:** In 2015, Michael accepted a tenure-track job at Indiana State University where he was Assistant Professor of Philosophy and an affiliated faculty member in The Center for Genomic Advocacy. In 2017, he accepted an Assistant Professorship at Duquesne University, holding a joint appointment in the School of Nursing and the Center for Healthcare Ethics. In

2021, he accepted a position as Associate Professor in the Center for Bioethics and Health Law at the University of Pittsburgh.

**2014 – Charles Pence:** During his time at Notre Dame he helped develop the evoText project and worked extensively on conceptual issues at the foundation of evolutionary theory. In 2014, he defended his dissertation and accepted a tenure-track job at Louisiana State University's Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. In January 2019 he joined the Université Catholique de Louvain as an Assistant Professor.

**2014 - Anne Siebels Peterson:** Anne's dissertation was advised by Michael Loux but she teamed up me to work on philosophy of biology, especially conceptual issues related to homology. In 2014, she accepted a tenure-track job in The Department of Philosophy at the University of Utah. She was granted tenure in 2020.

### **Postdoctoral Fellow Placement**

**2016 – Lane DesAutels:** Lane came to Notre Dame after earning his Ph.D. at University of Maryland under the tutelage of Lindley Darden in 2014. We worked together until 2016 when Lane accepted a tenure-track job at Missouri Western State University as Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion.

### **Publications – Journal Articles and Book Chapters**

36. Ramsey, G. and Aaby, B. (conditionally accepted) "The proximate-ultimate distinction and the active role of the organism in evolution" *Biology & Philosophy*.
35. Eronen, M. and Ramsey, G. (conditionally accepted) "What are the levels in levels of selection?" *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.
34. Ramsey, G. and De Block, A. (2022) "Tools, tests, and data: An overview of the new history and philosophy of science" in G. Ramsey and A. De Block (eds.) *The Dynamics of Science: Computational Frontiers in History and Philosophy of Science*, University of Pittsburgh Press.
33. Desmond, H. and Ramsey, G. (2022) "Generalized Evolutionary Success and Human Evolution: An Overview" in H. Desmond and G. Ramsey (eds.) *Human Success: Evolutionary Origins and Ethical Implications*, Oxford University Press.
32. Ramsey, G. and Deem, M. (in press) "Empathy and the evolutionary emergence of guilt." *Philosophy of Science*.
31. Climenhaga, N., DesAutels, L. and Ramsey, G. (2021) "Causal Inference from Noise" *Noûs*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/nous.12300> 55: 152-170.
30. Ndhlovu A., Durand, P.M., and Ramsey, G. (2021) "Programmed cell death as a black queen in microbial communities" *Molecular Ecology* 30: 1110-1119. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.15757>

29. Aaby, B. and Ramsey, G. (2019) “Three kinds of niche construction” *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axz054>
28. Durand, P. and Ramsey, G. (2019) “The nature of programmed cell death” *Biological Theory* 14: 30-41. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13752-018-0311-0>
27. Pence, C. and Ramsey, G. (2018) “How to do digital philosophy of science” *Philosophy of Science* 58: 930-941. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1086/699697>
26. Ramsey, G. (2018) “Trait bin and trait cluster accounts of human nature” in T. Lewens and (ed.) *Why We Disagree about Human Nature*, Oxford University Press, 40-57. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198823650.001.0001>
25. Ramsey, G. and De Block, A. (2017) “Is cultural fitness hopelessly confused?” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 68:305-328. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axv047>
24. Ramsey, G. (2017) “What is animal culture?” in K. Andrews and J. Beck (eds.) *Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Animal Minds*, Routledge Press, 345-353. doi: <https://www.routledgehandbooks.com/doi/10.4324/9781315742250>
23. Ramsey, G. (2017) “What is human nature for?” in A. Fuentes and A. Visala (eds.) *Verbs, Bones and Brains: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Human Nature*, Notre Dame, University of Notre Dame Press, 217-230.  
<http://undpress.nd.edu/books/P03289>
22. Ramsey, G. (2016) “The causal structure of evolutionary theory” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 94: 421-434. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00048402.2015.1111398>
21. Ramsey, G. and Pence, C. (2016) “Chance in evolution from Darwin to contemporary biology” in G. Ramsey and C. Pence (eds.) *Chance in Evolution*, University of Chicago Press, 1-11.  
<http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/C/bo24550500.html>
20. Ramsey, G. and Pence, C. H. (2016) “evoText: A new tool for analyzing the biological sciences.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 57: 83-87. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsc.2016.04.003>
19. Deem, M. and Ramsey, G. (2016) “Guilt by association?” *Philosophical Psychology* 29(4): 570-585. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2015.1126706>
18. De Block, A. and Ramsey, G. (2016) “The organism-centered approach to cultural evolution” *Topoi* 35: 283-290. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11245-014-9283-2>

17. Deem, M. and Ramsey, G. (2016) “The evolutionary puzzle of guilt: Individual or group selection?” *Emotion Researcher*, Andrea Scarantino (ed.) <http://emotionresearcher.com/the-evolutionary-puzzle-of-guilt-individual-or-group-selection/>
16. Ramsey, G. (2016) “Can altruism be unified?” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 56: 32-38. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsc.2015.10.007>
15. Pence, C. and Ramsey, G. (2015) “Is organismic fitness at the basis of evolutionary theory?” *Philosophy of Science* 82: 1081-1091. doi: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/683442>
14. Ramsey, G. (2013) “Human nature in a post-essentialist world” *Philosophy of Science* 80(5): 983-993. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/673902>
13. Ramsey, G. (2013) “Can fitness differences be a cause of evolution?” *Philosophy & Theory in Biology*. 5e:401. <http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.6959004.0005.001>
12. Pence, C. and Ramsey, G. (2013) “A new foundation for the propensity interpretation of fitness” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 64: 851-881. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axs037>
11. Ramsey, G. (2013) “Organisms, traits, and population subdivisions: two arguments against the causal conception of fitness?” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 64: 589-608. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axs010>
10. Ramsey, G. (2013) “Culture in humans and other animals” *Biology and Philosophy*. 27: 457-479. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10539-012-9347-x>
9. Ramsey, G. (2012) “Driftability” *Synthese*. 190: 3909-3928. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11229-012-0232-6>
8. Ramsey, G. (2012) “How human nature can inform human enhancement” *Philosophy and Technology*. 25: 479-483. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s13347-012-0087-2>
7. Ramsey, G. and Peterson, A. (2012) “Sameness in biology” *Philosophy of Science* 77: 255-275. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/664744>
6. Ramsey, G. and Brandon, R. (2011) “Why reciprocal altruism is not a kind of group selection” *Biology and Philosophy* 26: 385-400. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10539-011-9261-7>
5. Ramsey, G. (2007) “The Fundamental Constraint on the evolution of culture” *Biology and Philosophy* 22: 401-414. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10539-006-9038-6>
4. Ramsey, G., Bastian, M. L., and van Schaik, C. (2007) “Animal innovation defined and operationalized” *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 30: 393-437.

- doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0140525X07002373> [Note that this is a full target article, not a commentary.]
3. Brandon, R. and Ramsey, G. (2007) “What’s Wrong with the Emergentist Statistical Interpretation of Natural Selection and Random Drift?” in D. Hull and M. Ruse (eds.) *Cambridge Companion to the Philosophy of Biology*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/CCOL9780521851282.004>
  2. Ramsey, G. (2006) “Block fitness” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 37: 484-498. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsc.2006.06.009>
  1. Cobb, A., Nadkarni, N., Ramsey, G., and Svoboda, A. J. (2001) “Recolonization of bigleaf maple branches by epiphytic bryophytes following experimental disturbance” *The Canadian Journal of Botany* 79: 1-8. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1139/b00-134>

**Publications – Books (as author)**

Ramsey, G. (expected 2022) *Human Nature*, Cambridge University Press.

**Publications – Books (as editor)**

3. Desmond, H. and Ramsey, G. (2022) *Human Success: Evolutionary Origins and Ethical Implications*, Oxford University Press.
2. Ramsey, G. and De Block, A. (2022) *The Dynamics of Science: Computational Frontiers in History and Philosophy of Science*, University of Pittsburgh Press.
1. Ramsey, G. and Pence, C. (2016) *Chance in Evolution*, University of Chicago Press.  
<http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/C/bo24550500.html>

**Publications – Books (as series editor)**

22. Weber, M. (2021) *Philosophy of Developmental Biology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
21. Pence, C. (2021) *The Causal Structure of Natural Selection* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <http://doi.org/10.1017/9781108680691>
20. Bourrat, P. (2021) *Facts, Conventions, and the Levels of Selection* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108885812>
19. Dupré, J. (2021) *The Metaphysics of Biology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009024297>



18. Fagan, M. (2021) *Stem Cells* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108680783>
17. Lloyd, E. (2021) *Adaptation* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108634953>
16. O'Connell, J. and Ruse, M. (2021) *Social Darwinism* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108879026>
15. Currie, A. (2021) *Comparative Thinking in Biology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108616683>
14. Ankeny, R., and Leonelli, S. (2020) *Model Organisms* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108593014>
13. Andrews, K. (2020) *How to Study Animal Minds* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108616522>
12. Brandon, R., and McShea, D. (2020) *The Missing Two-Thirds of Evolutionary Theory* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108591508>
11. De Smedt, J., and De Cruz, H. (2020) *The Challenge of Evolution to Religion* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108685436>
10. Jablonka, E. and Lamb, M. (2020) *Inheritance Systems and the Extended Synthesis* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108685412>
9. O'Connor, C. (2020) *Games in the Philosophy of Biology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108616737>
8. Rosenberg, A. (2020) *Reduction and Mechanism* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108592949>
7. Baetu, T. (2019) *Mechanisms in Molecular Biology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108592925>
6. Odenbaugh, J. (2019) *Ecological Models* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108685283>

5. Otsuka, J. (2019) *The Role of Mathematics in Evolutionary Theory* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108672115>
4. Pradeu, T. (2019) *Philosophy of Immunology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108616706>
3. Richards, R. (2019) *The Biology of Art* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108672078>
2. Ruse, M. (2019) *The Darwinian Revolution* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108672047>
1. Turner, D. (2019) *Paleoaesthetics and the Practice of Paleontology* (Elements in the Philosophy of Biology). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108671996>

#### **Publications – Magazine/Blog articles**

- De Block, A. and Ramsey, G. (2015) “The life of culture” *OUP Blog*, <http://blog.oup.com/2015/11/the-life-of-culture/>

#### **Publications – Encyclopedia Entries and Bibliographies**

3. Rosenberg, A., Bouchard, F. and Ramsey, G. (under contract) “Fitness” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
2. Ramsey, G. and Desmond, H. (2016) “Philosophy of Biology” *Oxford Bibliography*. <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195396577/obo-9780195396577-0341.xml>
1. Ramsey, G. and Pence, C. (2013) “Fitness: philosophical problems” *Wiley Encyclopedia of Life Sciences*. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9780470015902.a0003443.pub2>

#### **Publications – Book Reviews**

4. Hollocher, C. H. Pence, G. Ramsey, and M. M. Wirth. (2013) “A path to success? A Review of *Evolution, Development, and the Predictable Genome* by David L. Stern.” *Evolution and Development* 15(1): 80–82. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/ede.12016>
3. Hollocher, H., A. Fuentes, C. H. Pence, G. Ramsey, D. J. Sportiello, and M. M. Wirth. (2011) “[Review of] *On the Origin of Stories: Evolution, Cognition, and Fiction*.” *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 86(2): 137-138. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/659913>
2. Pence, C. H., H. Hollocher, R. Nichols, G. Ramsey, E. Siu, and D. J. Sportiello. (2011) “[Review of] *Did Darwin Write the Origin Backwards?*”



Philosophical Essays on Darwin's Theory." *Philosophy of Science* 78(4): 705-709. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/661775>

1. Ramsey, G., H. Hollocher, A. Fuentes, C. H. Pence, and E. Siu. (2010) "[Review of] Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection." *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 85(4): 499-500. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/656856>

### **Taxonomic web publication**

Ramsey, G., Longino, J., and Kugler, C. (1998) Formicidae: *Rogeria tonduzi* <https://ants.biology.utah.edu/genera/Rogeria/species/tonduzi/tonduzi.html>  
(One of 13 web pages published by us on the ant genus *Rogeria*.)

### **Publications – Books (as illustrator)**

Lombardi, Angel. (1998) *Respecting the Knowledge: Ethnobotany of Western Washington*. Olympia: Washington State Capital Museum.  
(Illustrated by Grant Ramsey)

### **Presentations**

60. "Evolutionary Dappling" Invited talk. Ruhr University Bochum, October 21, 2021.
59. "Niche construction and the causal structure of evolutionary theory" Invited conference talk, Niche Construction and Other Mechanisms in Ecology and Evolution Workshop, <https://ecoevomechanisms2020.wordpress.com>
58. "Phylogenetic Competition: Defining the Selective Environment" Submitted conference talk (with Hugh Desmond). Meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, September 12, 2019.
57. "Developmental Channeling and the Causal Structure of Evolutionary Theory" Submitted conference talk (with Cristina Villegas). Meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, September 13, 2019.
56. "Phylogenetic Competition: Defining the Selective Environment" Submitted conference talk (with Hugh Desmond). International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, July 8, 2019.
55. "Developmental Channeling and the Causal Structure of Evolutionary Theory" Submitted conference talk (with Cristina Villegas). International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, July 8, 2019.
54. "Phylogenetic Competition: Defining the Selective Environment" Invited talk. Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques CNRS/ Université Paris I, Paris, France. May 25, 2019.

53. "Toward a cultural evolutionary theory" Invited talk. Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany. December 11, 2018.
52. "What is the philosophy of biology?" Invited talk. Florida State University. September 29, 2018.
51. "Does evolutionary theory have a unified foundation?" Invited talk. University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway. April 11, 2018.
50. "Does evolutionary theory have a unified foundation?" Invited talk. University of Tilburg, Tilburg, The Netherlands. March 21, 2018.
49. "Biological altruism and the propensity interpretation of fitness" Invited talk. Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques CNRS/ Université Paris I, Paris, France. February 12, 2018.
48. "Does evolutionary theory have a unified foundation?" Submitted conference talk. The Generalized Theory of Evolution Conference, Düsseldorf, Germany. February 1, 2018.
47. "Does evolutionary theory have a unified foundation?" Invited talk. Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques CNRS/ Université Paris I, Paris, France. November 13, 2017.
46. "Does evolutionary theory have a unified foundation?" Invited talk. UNED, Madrid, Spain. May 31, 2017.
45. "Does evolutionary theory have a unified foundation?" Invited talk. University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain. May 30, 2017.
44. "Toward unified concepts of culture and innovation" Keynote talk. Culture Conference 2017, Birmingham, England. May 12-26, 2017.
43. "evoText and the Philosophy of Science" Symposium talk (with Charles Pence). Biennial Meeting of Philosophy of Science Association, Atlanta, Georgia. November 4, 2016.
42. "Trait bin and trait cluster accounts of human nature" Invited talk. Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, Netherlands. September 27, 2016.
41. "Causal-possibility explanations" Submitted conference talk (with Lane DesAutels). Meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association, Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf, Germany, September 24, 2015.
40. "The nature of human nature" Invited talk. Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium, June 24, 2015.
39. "The nature of human nature" Invited talk. Université Paris I, Paris, France. June 17, 2015.
38. "Kinds of kinds" Invited talk. *Social Kinds and/as Natural Kinds* workshop. KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium. May 26, 2015.
37. "The evoText project" Invited symposium talk (with Charles Pence). In the symposium titled "Quantitative textual analysis and philosophy: Hypothesis-testing and data-mining philosophical ideas" at the Annual

- Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, Vancouver, BC. April 4, 2015.
36. "The structure of evolutionary theory" Invited colloquium talk. Department of Philosophy, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY. December 19, 2014.
  35. "Anthropomorphism and anthropodenial" Invited debate with Frans de Waal. KU Leuven, Belgium, December 4, 2014.
  34. "Is cultural fitness hopelessly confused?" Invited colloquium talk. Meeting of the Southern California Philosophy of Biology, University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA. November 22, 2014.
  33. "The causal structure of evolutionary theory" Invited colloquium talk. Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of Irvine, Irvine, CA. November 21, 2014.
  32. "Guilt as an evolutionary problem" Symposium talk (with Michael Deem). Biennial Meeting of Philosophy of Science Association, Chicago, IL. November 8, 2014.
  31. "The possibility of altruism" Invited colloquium talk. Department of Philosophy, University of Leuven, Belgium. October 28, 2014.
  30. "Is cultural fitness hopelessly confused?" Invited plenary talk. Human Evolution and Behavior Network, University of Antwerpen, Belgium. October 23, 2014.
  29. "Human nature, culture, and the human sciences" Conference talk. Transfusion and Transformation: The Creative Potential of Interdisciplinary Knowledge Exchange, Institute for Advanced Study, Durham University, UK, July 16, 2014.
  28. "Is organismic fitness at the basis of evolutionary theory?" Conference talk. British Society for the Philosophy of Science Meetings, Cambridge University, UK, July 10, 2014.
  27. "Using evoText to plumb the depths of the evolutionary literature" Invited talk (with Charles Pence). The National Evolutionary Synthesis Center, May 8, 2014.
  26. "Guilt by association?" Conference talk (with Michael Deem). Georgetown Conference on Emotions and Emotionality, April 12, 2014.
  25. "Is human nature the subject of the human sciences?" Conference talk. Human Nature(s) Conference, University of Notre Dame, April 5, 2014.
  24. "Is human nature the subject of the human sciences?" Invited talk. Department of Philosophy, Duke University, February 28, 2014.
  23. "Is human nature the subject of the human sciences?" Invited talk. Center for Professional and Applied Ethics, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, February 11, 2014.

22. "Can altruism be unified?" Submitted conference talk. International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, Montpellier, France. July 9, 2013.
21. "Guilt by association?" Invited talk (with Michael Deem). Cultural Evolution and the Emotions Conference, Leuven, Belgium, May 29, 2013.
20. "Fitness, selection, and the causes of evolution" Invited talk. Center for Philosophical Psychology. University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium, May 22, 2013.
19. "Human nature in a post-essentialist world." Invited talk. Department of Philosophy, University of Maryland, College Park. March 7, 2013.
18. "Human nature in a post-essentialist world." Submitted conference talk. Department of Philosophy, University of Mississippi. February 2013.
17. "Human nature in a post-essentialist world." Submitted conference talk. Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting. November 15, 2012.
16. "Human nature in a post-essentialist world." Invited talk. Department of Philosophy, University of Leuven, Belgium. October 19, 2012.
15. "Culture in humans and other animals." Invited keynote talk. Human Evolution and Behavior Network, University of Leuven, Belgium. October 18, 2012.
14. "What is cultural fitness?" Invited talk. Center for the Philosophy and History of Science, Boston University. December 2, 2011.
13. "Sameness in biology" Invited talk. Department of Biological Sciences, University of Illinois, Chicago. October 25, 2011.
12. "Can homology be unified?" Submitted conference talk. International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah. July 12, 2011.
11. "Drift as an individual-level process" Symposium talk. Pacific APA. Commentators: Mohan Matthen, Sarah Roe, and Vadim Keyser. April 22, 2011.
10. "Drift as an individual-level process" Invited talk. Metaphysics of Microevolution Workshop, University of Alabama, Birmingham. April 8, 2011.
9. "Can fitness differences be a cause of evolution?" Invited talk. Department of Philosophy, University of Leuven, Belgium. September 16, 2010.
8. "Human behavior and the disunity of fitness." Invited keynote talk. Human Evolution and Behavior Network, University of Leuven, Belgium. September 9, 2010.
7. "Solving and dissolving the problems of fitness" Invited talk. Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Indiana, Bloomington. April 16, 2010.

6. “Biological altruism reconsidered” Submitted conference talk. International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, Brisbane, Australia, 2009.
5. “You can’t get teleology from development alone: A reply to Dennis Walsh” Invited talk. Meeting of the Four University Consortium on the Philosophy of Biology, Montreal, Quebec, 2006.
4. “Why is it good to be cultured?” Submitted conference talk. International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, Guelph, Ontario, 2005.
3. “Conceptual foundations of dual-inheritance theory: An introduction to the work of Peter Richerson” The Evolution of Cognition: Niche Construction, Culture, and Environmental Complexity (Fourth Annual Conference on Recent Work in Biology and Philosophy), Durham, North Carolina, 2005.
2. “Fitness and the fitness environment” Submitted conference talk. International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Biannual Meeting, Vienna, Austria, 2003.
1. “Recolonization of big-leaf maple branches by epiphytic bryophytes following experimental disturbance: Evidence for autogenic factors in early succession” Submitted conference poster. 2nd International Forest Canopy Conference “Forest Canopies ’98: Global Perspectives.” Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida, 1998.

### **Other Awards and Fellowships**

#### *At Notre Dame:*

ISLA (Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts) Exploratory Seminar:  
Evolution Working Group 2012  
ISLA Digital Humanities Working Group 2011  
Henkels Lecture Series grant 2010  
Provost’s Initiative on Building Intellectual Community 2011  
Provost’s Initiative on Building Intellectual Community 2009  
ISLA International Travel Grant  
ISLA RA Funding Grant

#### *At Duke University:*

Duke University Conference Travel Grant 2006  
Duke University Graduate Fellowship 2000 – 2007  
Duke University Summer Research Fellowship 2005  
Duke University Conference Travel Grant 2005  
Vienna International Summer University Travel Grant and Tuition 2003

Vienna International Summer University Travel Grant and Tuition 2001

**Teaching Experience**

*At KU Leuven:*

Epistemology and Philosophy of Science (undergrad), Spring 2022  
Epistemology and Philosophy of Science (undergrad), Spring 2021  
Philosophy of Science (undergrad), Spring 2020  
Philosophy of Human Nature (graduate level), Spring 2019  
Philosophy of Science (undergrad), Spring 2018

*At Notre Dame:*

In Search of Utopia (College Seminar, undergrad), Spring 2015  
The Life and Work of Darwin (400-level, undergrad), Spring 2015  
Image Makers / Image Takers (College Seminar, undergrad), Fall 2014  
Philosophy of Biology (graduate level), Fall 2014  
Image Makers / Image Takers (College Seminar, undergrad), Fall 2013  
The Life and Work of Darwin (400-level, undergrad), Fall 2013  
Scientific Images of Humanity (400-level, undergrad), Spring 2012  
In Search of Utopia (College Seminar, undergrad), Spring 2013  
Image Makers / Image Takers (College Seminar, undergrad), Fall 2012  
Philosophy of Biology (graduate level), Fall 2012  
Darwin, Philosophy, and Theology (400-level, undergrad), Spring 2012  
In Search of Utopia (College Seminar, undergrad), Spring 2012  
Image Makers / Image Takers (College Seminar, undergrad), Fall 2011  
The Life and Work of Darwin (400-level, undergrad), Fall 2011  
Philosophy of Science, Fall 2010  
Heaven on Earth? Utopian Ideals and Human Nature (College Seminar, undergrad), Fall 2010  
Chance and Evolution (graduate level), Spring 2010  
Heaven on Earth? Utopian Ideals and Human Nature (College Seminar, undergrad), Spring 2010  
Scientific Images of Humanity (200-level, undergrad), Fall 2009  
Darwin, Philosophy, and Religion (400-level, undergrad), Fall 2009  
Darwin in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (graduate level), Spring 2009  
The Life and Work of Darwin (400-level, undergrad), Spring 2009  
Scientific Images of Humanity (200-level, undergrad), Fall 2008  
Philosophy of Biology (graduate level), Spring 2008



Philosophy of Biology (200-level, undergrad), Fall 2007

*At Duke University:*

Philosophy of Human Nature, Spring 2007

Philosophy of Biology, Summer 2006

Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2005

Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2004

Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2004

Philosophy of Law, Fall 2003, *Teaching assistant for professor Martin Golding.*

Aristotle, Spring 2003, *Teaching assistant for professor Michael Ferejohn.*

Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2002, *Teaching assistant for professor Owen Flanagan.*

Modern Philosophy, Fall 2001, *Teaching assistant for professor Tad Schmaltz.*

**Professional Review and Editorial Activities**

Series Editor for *Elements in the Philosophy of Biology*, Cambridge University Press

Reviewer for journals, including: *American Naturalist*, *Biology & Philosophy*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosophy and Technology*, *Philosophy and Theory in Biology*, *Philosophy of Science*, and *Theoria*.

Editorial Board, *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (2017 – present)

National Science Foundation grant proposal reviewer.

**Professional Organizational Activities**

*Co-organizer (with Hugh Desmond):* “Human Success: Evolutionary Origins and Ethical Implications” 2019, Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven, Belgium.

*Co-organizer (with Andreas De Block):* “The Science of Evolution and the Evolution of the Sciences” 2016, Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven, Belgium.

*Organizer:* The Evolution Working Group, Fall 2009 – Spring 2015.

*Co-organizer:* “Chance and Evolution” Sixth Annual Conference on Recent Work in Biology and Philosophy, Spring 2007, supported by the Duke University Center for the Philosophy of Biology,  
<http://www.duke.edu/philosophy/bio/conference>

*Co-organizer:* “The Evolution of Cognition: Niche Construction, Culture, and Environmental Complexity” Fourth Annual Conference on Recent Work

in Biology and Philosophy, April 2005, supported by the Duke University Center for the Philosophy of Biology,  
<http://www.duke.edu/philosophy/bio/conference>

*Graduate Student Representative:* Duke University Philosophy Department,  
August 2004 – August 2005.

### **Employment and Research (before earning PhD)**

*Biology Researcher:* Fieldworker and data analyst. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Biology, Robert Peet Lab, May-December 1999.

*Biology Researcher:* Designed and implemented study of herbivore deterrence in the *Pseudomyrmex* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) – *Tripalaris* (Polygonaceae) ant-plant symbiosis in lowland Amazonian rain forest. Manu Biosphere Reserve, Peru, March-June 1998

*Biology Researcher:* Fieldworker and data analyst. Designed and implemented ecological study of epiphyte recolonization in big-leaf maple canopies. This research was published in *The Canadian Journal of Botany* (see citation above). International Canopy Network, Olympia, Washington, August 1997 - March 1998.

*Editor:* Layout Editor and Assistant Copy Editor. “What’s Up: Newsletter of the International Canopy Network.” International Canopy Network, Olympia, Washington, August 1997 - March 1998.

*Biology Researcher:* Designed and implemented study of the *Myrmelachista* – *Ocotea* cloud forest ant-plant mutualism. Monteverde, Costa Rica, December 1995-March 1996.

### **Languages**

English—Native speaker  
Dutch—B2  
Spanish—Basic