

## **Duncan Purves**

*October 2016*

Center for Bioethics  
Department of Environmental Studies  
New York University  
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10003

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### **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Ethical Theory, Applied Ethics, Environmental Philosophy, Bioethics

### **AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

Metaphysics, Social and Political Philosophy

### **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Faculty Fellow/Assistant Professor

Center for Bioethics and Department of Environmental Studies  
New York University

Fall 2015—

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy  
University of Wyoming

Fall 2014—Spring 2015

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy  
University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2013—Spring 2014

### **EDUCATION**

PhD in Philosophy, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2013

BA in Philosophy, BA in French, University of Missouri-Columbia (*magna cum laude*), 2006

### **PUBLICATIONS**

“Non-identity for non-humans”—25 pages

*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* (with Ben Hale)

forthcoming

“Robots and respect: a reply to Sparrow”—9 pages

*Ethics and International Affairs* (with Ryan Jenkins)

forthcoming

“When AI should do the wrong thing”—18 pages

Chapter for OUP collection on robot ethics (with Ryan Jenkins and Brian Talbot) forthcoming

“The case for discounting the future”

*Ethics, Policy, and Environment* 19(2): 213—230

2016

- “Accounting for the harm of death”  
*Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 97(1): 89—112 2016
- “Right intention and the ends of war”  
*Journal of Military Ethics* (with Ryan Jenkins) 2016
- “The significance of personal identity for death”  
*Bioethics* 29: 681—682 2015
- “Autonomous machines, moral judgment, and acting for the right reasons”  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 18: 851—872 (with Ryan Jenkins and Bradley Strawser) 2015
- “The harms of death”  
 Cholbi, Michael (ed.) *Immortality and the Philosophy of Death*. Rowman & Littlefield 2015
- “Torture and incoherence: a reply to Cyr”  
*The Journal of Ethics* 19(2): 213—218 2015
- “Genetically modified organisms, future generations, and the limits of precaution”  
*Social Philosophy Today* 31: 99—109 2015
- “Human non-human chimeras: enhancement or creation?”  
*American Journal of Bioethics* 14(2): 26-27 2014
- “Anthropocentric indirect arguments and anthropocentric moral attitudes”  
*Ethics, Policy, and Environment* 17(3): 267-270 2014
- “A counterexample to two accounts of harm”  
*Southwest Philosophy Review* 30(1): 243—250 2014
- “Still in hot water: doing, allowing, and Rachels’ bathtub cases”  
*Southwest Philosophy Review* 27: 129-137 2012
- EDITED BOOK**  
*Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics*—Routledge Earthscan 2016
- UNDER REVIEW**  
 “A quiet revolution in the ethics of organ transplants”—R&R at *Journal of Medical Ethics*
- “Meaning in the lives of humans and other animals”
- SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**  
 “Should we design artificial intelligence to have false moral beliefs?”  
 The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder August 2016

- “Harming, failing to Benefit, and the causing/allowing distinction”  
Bled Philosophical Conference, Bled, Slovenia June 2016
- “Life-improving organ transplantation: some ethical questions”  
Invited Speaker, Society of Bioethics and Medicine, Brooklyn College Spring 2016
- “Death and timeless values”  
The International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Syracuse May 2016
- “Must robots be consequentialists?”  
The Future of Just War, Naval Postgraduate School October 2015
- The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder August 2015
- “The harms of death”  
Young Scholars Workshop for the Immortality Project, UC Riverside May 2015
- “Intergenerational justice and discounting the future”  
Central American Philosophical Association (colloquium), St. Louis February 2015
- “Criteria for a successful account of the harm of death”  
International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Pomona October 2014
- “The case for discounting the future”  
Workshop on the Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics, Helsinki November 2014
- “Right intention and the ends of war”  
Meeting of the International Society for Military Ethics, Notre Dame October 2014
- “How to raise the levelling down objection without appealing to the slogan”  
The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder August 2014
- “A counterexample to two accounts of harm”  
Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society November 2013
- “You are what I eat: moral implications of GMOs for future generations”  
International Social Philosophy Conference, Quinnipiac July 2013
- “Death and disability: two problems for the event-based account of harm”  
Pacific American Philosophical Association (colloquium), San Francisco March 2013
- “The non-identity problem and the levelling-down objection”  
Illinois Philosophical Association, UI Urbana-Champaign November 2012
- “The distinctive feeling of desire theory of pleasure”

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|---|-----------------------|
| Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis   | February 2012         |
| “Still in hot water: doing, allowing, and Rachels’ bathtub cases”<br>Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society | November 2010         |
| <b>COMMENTARIES</b>   |                       |
| Comments on Sharisse Kanet’s: “Minding the gap”<br>International Society for Environmental Ethics                             | June 2014             |
| Comments on Molly Gardner’s: “On the strength of the reason against harming”<br>Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder    | August 2013           |
| Comments on Christopher Pynes’: “The potentiality problem redux”<br>Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis                   | February 2012         |
| <b>AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS</b>  |                       |
| Workshop Fellow—NEH Summer Institute, “Extending the Land Ethic”  | Summer 2016           |
| Invited participant—Younger Scholars Workshop, Templeton Immortality Project  | Spring 2015           |
| Research Travel Grant International Society for Environmental Ethics  | Fall 2014             |
| Research Travel Grant—International Programs at the University of Wyoming   | Fall 2014             |
| University of Colorado Graduate School Conference Travel Grant  | Fall 2012             |
| Graduate Part-time Instructor Teaching Excellence Award Nominee   | Fall 2012             |
| Summer Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship  | Summer 2012           |
| University of Colorado Devaney Dissertation Fellowship Nominee  | Spring 2012           |
| Philosophy Department Summer Graduate Research Fellowship   | Summer 2011           |
| Philosophy Department Dissertation Fellowship   | Fall 2011             |
| Travel Grant awarded by United Government of Graduate Students  | Spring 2010           |
| Graduate Research Fellow under supervision of Brian Talbot  | Fall 2010/Spring 2011 |
| Philosophy Department Summer Graduate Research Fellowship   | Summer 2007-2010      |

**TEACHING**

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| Ethics and Animals   | NYU, Fall 2016               |
| Advanced Introduction to Environmental Ethics-Graduate Seminar | NYU, Spring 2016             |
| Ethics and the Environment                                     | NYU, Fall 2015, Fall 2016    |
| Justice in Health and Healthcare-Graduate Seminar              | NYU, Fall 2015               |
| Metaphysics for Ethics-Graduate Seminar                        | UW, Spring 2015              |
| Philosophy of Language   | UW, Spring 2015              |
| Introduction to Philosophy                                     | UW, Fall 2014                |
| Natural Resource Ethics  | UW, Spring 2015, Fall 2014   |
| Bioethics  | CU, Spring 2014              |
| Environmental Justice  | CU, Fall 2013                |
| Environmental Ethics   | CU, Summer 2013, Fall 2013   |
| Philosophy and Society   | CU, Spring 2013, Spring 2014 |
| Philosophy and Race  | CU, Spring 2012, Fall 2012   |

**MA THESIS SUPERVISION**

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|---|-----------------|
| Stephanie Peterson, “What we owe: justice for climate refugees”   | NYU Spring 2016 |
| Samatha Nemana, “Implementing justice through water access: the PRWSSIP project and gendered access to water resource management” | NYU Fall 2015   |
| Shaked Landor, “Growing up green: a garden-based learning (GBL) proposal to addressing anthropogenic climate change”              | NYU Fall 2015   |

**MEDIA**

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| “Killer Robots: New Reasons to Worry About Ethics”, Interview with Forbes          | January, 2016  |
| “The Badness of Death”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog                    | May, 2014      |
| “The Non-identity Problem”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog                | February, 2014 |
| Review of <i>Climate Matters</i> by John Broome, <i>The Philosopher’s Magazine</i> | 2013           |

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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|---|-------------|
| Consultant—NYU Philosophy Outreach Program  | Spring 2016 |
| Assistant organizer of Stoic Camp, U. of Wyoming  | Spring 2015 |
| Committee member, Biodiversity Institute Grant Competition, U. of Wyoming   | Spring 2015 |
| “The Ethics of Drone Warfare,” for the U. of Wyoming Philosophy Club  | Spring 2015 |
| Assistant coordinator of the Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress   | 2008—2013   |
| Co-organizer of the Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference  | 2011        |
| Department representative, Graduate Student Government, U. of Colorado  | 2008—2009   |
| Research affiliate, <i>The Committee on Environmental Thought</i> : <a href="http://environmentalthought.com/">http://environmentalthought.com/</a> .   |             |
| Contributor, <i>1000-Word Philosophy Blog</i> .   |             |
| Referee for <i>Canadian Journal of Philosophy</i> , <i>Journal of Moral Philosophy</i> , <i>Journal of Military Ethics</i> , <i>Journal of Science and Engineering Ethics</i> , <i>Philosophical Papers</i> , <i>Philosophia</i> , <i>Southwest Philosophy Review</i> , <i>Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress</i> |             |

## REFERENCES

Alastair Norcross  
Associate Professor, Philosophy  
University of Colorado—Boulder  
[Alastair.Norcross@colorado.edu](mailto:Alastair.Norcross@colorado.edu)

Claudia Mills (Teaching)  
Emeritus, Philosophy  
University of Colorado—Boulder  
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Professor, Philosophy  
University of Colorado—Boulder  
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Dale Jamieson  
Professor/Chair, Environmental Studies  
New York University  
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and Philosophy  
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Bradley Jay Strawser  
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