

Gary Ebbs

Curriculum Vitae July 2012

Department of Philosophy
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Education

University of Michigan, Ph.D. in Philosophy (1988)
Oberlin Conservatory, B.Mus. in Piano Performance (1982)
Oberlin College, B.A. with High Honors in Philosophy (1981)

Academic Positions

Indiana University: Professor (2006-)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Professor (2005-2006)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Associate Professor (2001-2005)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Assistant Professor (1998-2001)
University of Pennsylvania: Assistant Professor (1990-1997)
Harvard University: Assistant Professor (1988-1990)

Forthcoming Publications

“Putnam and the Contextually A Priori,” in Lewis E. Hahn and Randall E. Auxier, eds., *The Philosophy of Hilary Putnam*, part of *The Library of Living Philosophers* series, (La Salle, Illinois: Open Court)
“Mendola’s Internalism,” in *Analytic Philosophy*
“Quine’s Naturalistic Explication of Carnap’s Logic of Science,” in Gilbert Harman and Ernest Lepore (eds.), *A Companion to Quine* (Blackwell)

Publications

Books

Debating Self-Knowledge, co-authored with Anthony Bruckner. Cambridge University Press (2012)
Truth and Words, Oxford University Press (2009)
Rule-Following and Realism, Harvard University Press (1997)

Articles

“Davidson’s Explication of Meaning,” in Gerhard Preyer, ed., *Donald Davidson on Truth, Meaning, and the Mental* (Oxford University Press, 2012)

- “The Dialectical Context of Putnam's Argument that We are Not Brains in Vats,” in Ebbs and Brueckner, *Debating Self-Knowledge* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), 66-82
- “Self-Knowledge in Doubt,” in Ebbs and Brueckner, *Debating Self-Knowledge* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), 186-216
- “Quine Gets the Last Word,” in *Journal of Philosophy*, Volume 108, Issue 11 (November 2011): 617-632
- “Carnap and Quine on Truth by Convention,” *Mind*, Volume 120, Number 478 (April 2011): 193-237.
- “Anti-Individualism, Self-Knowledge, and Epistemic Possibility: A Clarification and Defense of a Puzzle About Doubt,” in A. Hatzimoysis, ed., *Self-Knowledge* (Oxford University Press, 2011), 53-79
- “Why Skepticism About Self-Knowledge is Self-Undermining,” *Analysis*, Volume 65, Number 3 (2005)
- Addendum to “Rule Following,” in Donald M. Borchert, ed., *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2nd edition (New York: Macmillan, 2005)
- “Denotation and Discovery,” in Frederick F. Schmitt, ed., *Socializing Metaphysics: the Nature of Social Reality* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2003)
- “A Puzzle about Doubt,” in Susana Nuccetelli, ed., *New Essays on Semantic Externalism and Self-Knowledge* (MIT, 2003)
- “Learning from Others,” *Noûs*, Volume 36, Number 4 (2002): 525-549
- “Truth and Trans-Theoretical Terms,” in James Conant and Urszula Zeglen, eds., *Hilary Putnam: Pragmatism and Realism* (London: Routledge, 2002), 167-185, and (translated into Polish) in Urszula Zeglen, ed., *Pragmatism and Hilary Putnam's Philosophy* (Torun: Nicolas Copernicus University Press, 2001), 195-225
- “Is Skepticism about Self-Knowledge Coherent?” *Philosophical Studies* 105 (2001): 43-58
- “Carnap's Logical Syntax,” in Richard Gaskin, ed., *Grammar in Early Twentieth-Century Philosophy* (London: Routledge, 2001), 218-237
- “Vagueness, Sharp Boundaries, and Supervenience Conditions,” *Synthese* 127 (2001): 303-323
- “The Very Idea of Sameness of Extension Across Time,” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, Volume 37, Number 3 (2000): 245-268
- “Bilgrami's Theory of Belief and Meaning,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Volume 58, Number 3 (1998): 613-620
- “Can We Take Our Words at Face Value?” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Volume 56, Number 3 (1996): 499-530
- “Realism and Rational Inquiry,” *Philosophical Topics*, Volume 20, Number 1 (1992): 1-33
- “Skepticism, Objectivity, and Brains in Vats,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, Volume 73, Number 3 (1992): 239-266

Book Review

- Pursuit of Truth*, rev. ed., by W. V. Quine, *The Philosophical Review*, Volume 103, Number 3 (1994): 535-541

Work in progress

- “Can a Deflationism Make Sense of Kripke's Semantic Arguments Against Descriptivism?”
- “Can First-Order Logical Truth be Defined in Purely Extensional Terms?”
- “Satisfying Arithmetical Predicates for First-Order Logical Schemata: the Löwenheim-Hilbert-Bernays theorem”
- “How to Think About Whether We Are Brains in Vats”

“Transparence and Entitlement at the Limits of Doubt”

Selected presentations

- “How to Think About Whether We Are Brains in Vats,” presented at *Philosophy in an Age of Science*, a conference in honor of Hilary Putnam's 85th birthday, 5/11.
- “Replies to Michael Glanzberg and Henry Jackman,” presented at an author-meets-critics session on my book *Truth and Words*, APA, Pacific Division, 4/11.
- “Mendola’s Internalism,” presented at an author-meets-critics session on Joe Mendola’s book *Anti-Internalism*, APA, Pacific Division, 4/11.
- “Transparency and Entitlement at the Limits of Doubt”, presented at a colloquium at Harvard University, 3/11, and as Keynote talk at the Spring 2011 meeting of the Kentucky Philosophical Association, 4/11.
- “Quine and Strawson on Logical truth and Univocality” Indiana University Logic Program Seminar, 9/10
- “Quine Gets the Last Word,” presented at a session titled “Word and Object at 50”, APA, Pacific Division, 4/10
- “Quine’s Naturalistic account of Truth by Convention,” presented at an Early Analytic Philosophy conference, IUPU at Fort Wayne, 4/09
- “Naturalized Epistemology, Translation, and the Genesis of Reference: Comments on Peter Hylton’s *Quine*,” presented at an Author-meets-Critics session, APA, Central Division, 2/09
- “Carnap and Quine on Truth by Convention” University of Chicago, 3/08; University of Illinois at Urbana, 4/08; Harvard University (for the conference “Quine at 100”), 10/08, Johns Hopkins, 11/08, Indiana University Logic Program Seminar, 1/09
- “Can a Deflationist about Reference Make Sense of Kripke’s Semantical Argument against descriptivism?” University of Toronto, 2/08, Western Michigan University, 3/09, Wesleyan University, 12/10
- “Putnam and the Contextually A Priori,” National University, Bogotá, Colombia, 10/07.
- “Wittgenstein on Rules: Comments on Warren Goldfarb’s ‘Rule-Following Revisited’,” Conference on Wittgenstein and Philosophy of Mind, UC-Santa Cruz, 6/07
- “Wittgenstein on Following a Rule,” Jacksonville University, 3/07
- “Quine and Tarski on Truth,” Indiana University Logic Program Seminar, 1/07
- “Intuitions about the Norms of Assertion,” comments on a paper by Michael Rescorla, APA, Central Division, 4/06
- “Truth and Words Across Time,” presented at a Temporal Externalism conference in Toronto, CA, 3/06
- “Temporal Externalism and Sameness of Extension Across Time,” presented at a conference at University of York, UK, 3/05
- “Truth and Words,” invited paper (commentator, Steven Gross), APA, Eastern Division, 12/04, Indiana University, 1/05
- “What is Analytic Philosophy?” Shaanxi Normal University, P.R. China, 5/04
- “Putnam and the Contextually A Priori,” Renmin University, P.R. China, 5/04
- Three lectures on truth, Peking University, P.R. China, 5/04
- “Words and Truth in Practice,” Indiana University, 5/04
- “Quine and Carnap on Truth by Convention,” Conference on Early Analytic Philosophy, Purdue University, 4/04
- “Truth and Denotation in Practice,” Wittgenstein Workshop, University of Chicago, 1/04
- “Vagueness, Supervenience, and Sameness of Denotation across Time,” comments on a paper by Henry Jackman, APA, Pacific Division, 3/03
- “Putnam and the Contextually A Priori,” Wittgenstein Workshop, University of Chicago, 1/03

- “Word and Denotation,” Illinois Wesleyan University, 2/03, Northwestern University, 1/03, Philosophical Society, Oxford University, 11/02, and University of London, 11/02
- “Learning from Others,” David Charles’s Reading Group, Oxford University, 11/02, and University of Reading, 11/02
- “Brandom on Sameness of Content Despite Differences in Belief,” comments on a paper by Ronald Loewler, Illinois Philosophy Association, Edwardsville, IL, 11/02
- “Learning from Others,” Ohio State University, 10/02
- “Analytical Philosophy from Frege to Logical Positivism,” Xiamen University, P.R. China, 4/02
- “Pragmatism and the End of Logical Positivism,” Xiamen University, P.R. China, 4/02; Peking University, P.R. China, 4/02
- “Learning from Others,” Peking University, P.R. China, 4/02
- “In Search of the Contextually A Priori,” Northwestern University, 11/01
- “Learning from Others,” University of Illinois at Chicago, 10/00
- “Denotation and Discovery,” colloquium paper (commentator, Mark Wilson), APA, Central Division, 4/00
- “Discovery without Determinacy,” University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, 10/99
- “Are Twin Earth Cases and Privileged Access Compatible?” comment on a paper by Susana Nuccetelli, APA, Central Division, 5/99
- “A Puzzle about Sameness of Extension across Time,” Grinnell College, 2/99
- “Truth and Trans-Theoretical Terms,” presented at a conference in honor of Hilary Putnam held at the Nicolas Copernicus University, Torun, Poland, 9/98
- “Hall Against the Compatibilists,” comment on a paper by Lisa Hall, APA, Central Division, 5/98
- “The Very Idea of Sameness of Extension Across Time,” University of California, San Diego, 1/98, University of California, Irvine, 1/98, University of Southern California, 1/98, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1/98, Florida State University, 1/98, Arizona State University, 1/98, Smith College, 2/98
- “Vagueness, Sharp Boundaries, and Supervenience Conditions,” written for an Author-Meets-Critics session on *Vagueness*, by Timothy Williamson, APA, Eastern Division, 12/97
- “Skepticism and Self-Knowledge,” comment on papers by Thomas Grundmann and Karsten Stueber, Society for Realism/Anti-Realism, APA, Central Division, 4/97
- “The Very Idea of a Division of Linguistic Labor Across Time,” University of Montana, Missoula, 2/97
- “Anti-Individualism Deflated,” Temple University, 3/96
- “Putnam’s Reasons for Rejecting Carnap’s Analytic-Synthetic Distinction,” NYU, 2/96
- “Carnap’s Analytic-Synthetic Distinction and Descriptive Semantics,” CUNY, 10/95
- “What Constitutes Self-Knowledge?” comment on a paper by Karsten Stueber, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 6/95
- “Can We Take Our Words at Face Value?” Columbia University, 10/93, APA, Central Division, 5/94
- “Brueckner on Semantic Answers to Skepticism,” APA, Pacific Division, 3/93
- “Anti-Individualism, Skepticism, and Self-Knowledge,” CUNY, 11/92
- “Katz and Dreben on Indeterminacy,” comment on papers by Jerrold Katz and Burton Dreben, for a conference sponsored by the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium, held at Swarthmore College, 2/92
- “Kripke and Chomsky on Following a Rule,” Institute for Research in Cognitive Science, University of Pennsylvania, 2/91
- “Skepticism and Brains in Vats,” Bates College, 1/90, University of Pennsylvania, 1/90

Awards, Fellowships, Grants, and Honors

Travel Award for British Academy Workshop on Temporal Externalism, York, UK (2005)
 Grant from Freeman Fellowship Exchange Program (UIUC) for travel to present lectures at Peking University, Renmin University, and Shaanxi Normal University, P.R. China (2004)
 Travel Award for talks in London, Oxford, and Reading, UIUC (2002)
 Grant from Freeman Fellowship Exchange Program (UIUC) for travel to present lectures at Xiamen University and Peking University, P.R. China (2002)
 On "incomplete list" of UIUC professors rated excellent by students (2002, 2003, 2004)
 Fellowship, Center for Advanced Study, UIUC (2001-2002)
 Travel Award for a paper at a conference in Poland, UIUC (1998)
 Academic Fellowship, Philadelphia Association for Psychoanalysis (1997-1998)
 Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award Nominee, University of Pennsylvania (1996)
 Research Foundation Grant, University of Pennsylvania (1992-1993)
 Rackham Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan (1985-1986)

Courses Taught

Advanced (graduate seminars)
 Carnap and Quine
 Rule-Following
 Self-knowledge
 Skepticism and Meaning
 Testimony and Interpretation
 Truth and Reference
 Truth and Words
 Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations*

Intermediate
 Analytic-Synthetic Distinction
 Carnap and Quine
 Formal Logic I (for graduate students)
 Frege, Russell, Early Wittgenstein
 Philosophy of Language
 Rule-Following
 Skepticism

Introductory
 Introduction to Formal Logic
 Introduction to Philosophy

Qualifying Committees

Susan Blake (supervisor)
 Matt Carlson (supervisor)
 Chad Gonnerman
 Blakely Phillips (supervisor)
 Mike Koss
 Sharon Mason
 Andrew McAninch (supervisor)

Dissertation Committees

Indiana

Susan Blake (supervisor)
Matt Carlson (supervisor)
Chad Gonnerman
Marija Jankovic
Andrew McAninch (supervisor)
Mike Koss

UIUC

Ben Bayer (supervisor)
Kyle Broom (supervisor)
Stephen Finlay
Nathalie Morasch (supervisor)
Erica Neely (supervisor)
Mark Sargent
Julia Simon
Sean Stidd
Eric Wampler
Reggie Williams
Loren Zech

Penn

Peter Dillard
Scott Kimbrough (supervisor)
Tom Meyer (supervisor)
Peter Schwartz
Larry Shapiro

Harvard

Sanford Shieh

Teaching Service and Workshops (UIUC)

Campus-wide Advisory Committee for the Center for Writing Studies (2004-2005)
LAS Teaching Circle (participant) (2003-2004) (Committee to investigate the effects of eliminating discussion sections from large lecture courses)
LAS Teaching Academy Mentor for a junior faculty member, focused on balancing teaching and research (2001-2002)
“Balancing Teaching and Research,” presentation to the LAS Teaching Academy Retreat (August 2001)
Reflective Teaching Seminar (participant), LAS Teaching Academy (2000-2001) (Advanced teaching workshop comprising 20 two-hour sessions)
Writing Across the Curriculum Seminar (participant) (May 2000) (Workshop for designing effective writing assignments)

Departmental Service (IU)

Director of Graduate Studies (2008-2010)

Committees

Admissions (2007, 2009, 2010)
 Budget (2006-present)
 Ewing undergraduate prize (2008)
 Search (2006-7, 2008-9, 2011-12, as advisor)
 Graduate Program (2007-present)
 Colloquium (2007-8)
 Scheduling (Chair, 2011-2012)

Departmental Service (UIUC)

Director of Graduate Studies (2002-2006)
 Authored new Preliminary Examination Requirement (2003)

Committees

Admissions (Chair, 2002-2005)
 Caton Prize (1998-2002)
 Chair Search (1999-2001)
 Colloquium (1998-2006; Chair, 2003-2006)
 CS/AI Search (2001-2002)
 Mind/Epistemology Search (Chair, 2004)
 Moral/Political Search (2003-2004)
 Executive (1998-2005)
 Graduate Program (1998-2006; Chair, 2002-2006)
 Placement (2000-2006; Chair, 2002-2006)
 Third-Year Review (Chair, 2002-2003)

University Service (UIUC)

Faculty Senate (1999-2001)

Professional Service

Reviewer for ACLS fellowships in humanities 2012-2012.
 Ad Hoc Referee of Book Manuscripts for *Harvard University Press*, *MIT Press*,
Oxford University Press, *Routledge*; and of Articles for *American Philosophical
 Quarterly*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Dialectica*, *Dialogue*,
Erkenntnis, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, *European Journal of
 Philosophy*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Journal of Philosophical
 Research*, *Mind*, *Noûs*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophers' Imprint*,
Philosophical Papers, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosophical Studies*,
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, *Society for Philosophy and
 Psychology*, and *Synthese*
 Elected member of the Nominating Committee for the American Philosophical Association,
 Central Division (Fall 2006)
 Co-Organizer and host for a four-day IU campus visit by Tim Scanlon, 9/08
 Co-Organizer with Peter Lasersohn (Linguistics, UIUC) of an interdisciplinary
 reading group on demonstratives and concepts (UIUC); our proposal received
 funding for 2003-2004 from the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities
 Organizer and host for a four-day UIUC campus visit by Jeffrey King (of UC-
 Davis), 11/03

Guest “Philosophy Expert” on Extension 720, AM Radio Talk Show, Chicago:
discussed Karl Popper and Ludwig Wittgenstein with host Milton Rosenberg
and guest David Edmonds (co-author of *Wittgenstein’s Poker*) 1/02
Co-Director of the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium (GPPC) (1991-1997)
Co-Organizer with Danielle Macbeth of a GPPC Summer Institute, with lecturers John
McDowell and Robert Brandom, 6/96