

Robert J. Howell

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Southern Methodist University
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Employment

Southern Methodist University, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Fall 2013-Present;

Department Chair, Summer 2017 to Present.

Southern Methodist University, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Summer 2008-Summer 2013

New York University, Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy, Fall 2009

Southern Methodist University, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy Fall 2002-Spring 2008

University of Texas at Austin, Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy, Spring 2006

Education

Brown University, Philosophy, M.A., May 2000, Ph.D., May 2002

Dissertation: *Self-Knowledge and Self-Reference*

Advisors: Jaegwon Kim and Ernest Sosa

University of Iowa, Philosophy, B.A., May 1996

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, Metaphysics

Areas of Competence

Neuroethics, Philosophy of Religion

Books

Consciousness and the Limits of Objectivity: The Case for Subjective Physicalism. (2013), Oxford: Oxford University Press

Consciousness and The Mind Body Problem: A Reader (2011), Co-edited with Torin Alter, New York: Oxford University Press

The God Dialogues (2011), With Torin Alter. New York: Oxford University Press

A Dialogue on Consciousness (2009), With Torin Alter. New York: Oxford University Press

Articles

- “Transparency and Subjective Character.” Forthcoming in *The Sense of Mineness*. Eds. Garcia-Carpintero, Manuel García and Marie Guillot. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- “Draining the Will to Make the Sale: The Ethics of Marketing by Ego-Depletion.” With Kenneth Daley. *Neuroethics*. Print forthcoming, online June 2017.
- “Subjective Physicalism and Panpsychism” forthcoming in *The Blackwell Handbook on Panpsychism*. Ed. Seeger, William. Blackwell.
- “Extended Virtues and the Boundaries of the Person,” forthcoming in *The Journal of the American Philosophical Association*.
- “The Knowledge Argument and The Self” forthcoming in Sam Coleman (ed.), *The Knowledge Argument*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- “Phenomenally Mine: In Search of Subjective Character” with Brad Thompson. Forthcoming in *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*.
- “The Physicalist’s Tight Squeeze: a priori vs. a posteriori physicalism,” forthcoming in *Philosophy Compass*.
- “Epistemic Internalism and Perceptual Content,” *Philosophical Studies*, 17, (2015): 2153-2170.
- “The Russellian Monist’s Problems with Mental Causation,” *Philosophical Quarterly*, 65 (258) (2015): 22-39.
- “Perception from the First-Person Perspective” *European Journal of Philosophy*. Online access Nov (2013).
- “The Slide from A Posteriori Physicalism to Russellian Monism” with Torin Alter, in *Between Physicalism and Dualism: Essays on Russellian Monism*. Torin Alter and Yujin Nagasawa (eds.), New York: Oxford University Press (2015): 277-299.
- “Google Morals, Virtue and the Asymmetry of Deference.” *Nous*, 48 (3) (2014): 389-415
- “Physicalism, Old School,” in *Consciousness and The Mind Body Problem*. Torin Alter and Robert Howell (eds.) New York: Oxford University Press (2011): 337-348.
- “The Knowledge Argument and the Implications of Phenomenal Knowledge” *Philosophy Compass*, Vol. 6, Issue 7 (2011): 459-468
- “The Skeptic, the Content Externalist, and The Theist,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 69 (3) (2011): 173-180
- “Subjectivity and the Elusiveness of the Self,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 40 (3), (2010): 459-483.
- “The Ontology of Subjective Physicalism,” *Nous*, 43:2, (2009): 315-345
- “The Two-Dimensionalist *Reductio*,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, 89 (2008): 348-358.
- “Emergentism and Supervenience Physicalism” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 87, No.1, (2009): 83-98.
- “Subjective Physicalism” in *The Case for Qualia*. Ed. Wright, Edmund. Cambridge: MIT Press, (2008): 125-140.
- “Immunity to Error and Subjectivity” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, Vol 37, No. 4, (2007): 581-604.
- “The Knowledge Argument and Objectivity” *Philosophical Studies*, 135, (2007): 145-177
- “Self-Knowledge and Self-Reference” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, January 2006.
- “A Puzzle for Pragmatism” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, 42 (2005): 131-13

“Sensations, Swatches and Speckled Hens” with Jeremy Fantl. *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, 84, 4 (2003): 371-383

Reviews, Encyclopedia Articles, Etc.

Review of Galen Strawson’s *The Subject of Experience*. *Philosophical Review*, forthcoming
 "Deferring to Moral Experts," *The Philosopher's Magazine*, 61 (20) (2013): 37-41.
 Review of Coliva, A. (ed.) *The Self and Self-Knowledge*. Forthcoming in *Analysis*.
 Review of Miguens, S. and Preyer, G. (eds.) *Consciousness and Subjectivity*. Notre Dame Philosophical Review. (2012)
 Review of Baggini, Julian. *The Ego Trip*. *The Philosopher's Magazine*, 55, (2011)
 Review of Mark Siderits, Evan Thompson and Dan Zahavi (eds.) *Self, No-Self*. Notre Dame Philosophical Review (2011)
 “Predestination and the Wages of Sin,” *Philosophy Now*, Issue 74, (2009)
 “The Hard Problem,” *Scholarpedia*, with Torin Alter (2008)
 Review of Stalnaker, Robert. *Our Knowledge of the Internal World*. *Philosophical Quarterly*. (2008)
 Review of O’Brien, Lucy. *Self-Knowing Agents*. Notre Dame Philosophical Review (2008)

Invited Presentations

“The Unity of Consciousness and The Self,” *The Phenomenology of Self-Awareness and the Nature of Conscious Subjects*. University of Fribourg. Spring 2018
 “Hell is Social Media,” *Philosophy Today Lecture Series*, University of Alabama, Spring 2018
 “The Self and the Objective Perspective,” *Self and Subjectivity*. Ovronnaz, Switzerland. Spring 2018
 University of Alabama, Spring 2018
 “Causal Quiddities,” *Russellian Monism: Time for the Details*. Central European University, Budapest. Summer 2017.
 “Transparency and Subjective Character,” *The Sense of Mineness*. University of Barcelona, Summer 2017.
 “The Problem of Consciousness,” Texas A&M, Commerce, Spring 2017
 “Are We Too Dumb for Democracy,” with Joe Kobyłka and Jeffrey Engel. SMU Third Rail Series, Fall 2017; McQuiston Group, Aired Spring 2017
 “Extended Virtues and the Boundaries of Persons,” University of Fribourg Faculty Colloquium, Spring 2016
 “Subjectivity and Consciousness Seminars,” University of Fribourg, Spring 2016

- “Acquaintance, Properties and the Knowledge Argument”
- “Mental Causation and Russellian Monism”
- “Phenomenal Me-ness”
- “Physicalism, Panpsychism, and Subjective Physicalism”
- “Self-Ascription, Transparency and Desire”
- “Self-Reference and Self-Awareness”
- “The Knowledge Argument and The Self”
- “The Presentation Argument and Property Intensionalism”

- “Russellian Monism and Mental Causation,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Spring 2016.
- “Explanatory Targets and Explanatory Goals in the Knowledge Argument,” A Comment on Veillet’s “Epistemic Arguments and Explanatory Targets,” APA Pacific Division, Spring 2015
- “The Short Slide from A Posteriori Physicalism to Russellian Monism,” Institute for Philosophy, Prague, Summer 2015
- “Phenomenally Mine,” Bled Philosophy Conference, Summer 2015.
- “Comments on Farrell’s “What it’s Like Talk is not Technical Talk,” Minds Online Conference, Spring 2015.
- “Exclusion and Causation as Difference Making,” Comments on Otis’ “Exclusion Arguments: A Dilemma for Manipulationism, Pacific APA, Spring 2015.
- "Extended Virtues, Overlapping Persons," Tulane University, Spring 2014; Rice University, Fall 2014
- “Comments on Montero’s “Must Physicalism Imply the Supervenience of the Mental on the Physical?” Consciousness Online, Fall 2013
- “Google Morals,” The Maguire Center for Ethics, Fall 2013
- “Consciousness and Physicalism.” University of Southern Mississippi, Fall 2013
- “The Rewards of Taking Teaching Seriously,” SMU Center for Teaching Excellence Keynote, Summer 2013
- “Space for the Self.” Vanderbilt University, Spring 2013
- “Cogito Contextualism,” University of Houston, Fall 2012
- “The Mind Body Problem in the 21st Century,” Dallas Philosophers Forum, Fall 2012
- “Phenomenal Me-ness” with Brad Thompson, Workshop on Consciousness and the Self, SMU, Spring 2012
- “Phenomenal Content and the New Evil Demon Problem,” APA Pacific Division (Invited Paper), Seattle, Spring 2012
- “What’s Wrong with Google Morals?” Princeton University/Brown University Workshop on Moral Authority, Spring 2011; ROME, Boulder, Colorado, July 2011; University of Alabama, October 2011;
- Comments on Blackmon’s, “Physical Realizations of Consciousness”, APA Pacific Division, Spring 2011
- Comments on Ford’s, “How to Banish Zombies and Disembodied Minds with a Can of Rocks,” APA Central Division, Spring 2011
- “The Hard Problem of the Self,” Northwest Philosophy Conference, Fall 2010
- “The Hard Problem of the Self,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Invited Symposium on the Self, Spring 2010
- “Perception and the Illusion of Transparency,” NYU Consciousness Project, Fall 2009
- Comments on “The Reverse-Zombie Argument against Dualism,” APA Pacific Division, Spring 2009.
- Comments on “Turning the Tables on Dualism,” Online Consciousness Conference, Spring 2009.

“The Problem of Consciousness,” Texas Christian University Philosophy Club, Spring 2009
“Deduction and Necessitation,” Brown University Department of Philosophy, Fall 2008
Comments on John’s “Thau on Qualia and Representational Content,” APA Central Division,
Spring 2008
“Deduction, Necessitation and Consciousness,” Toward a Science of Consciousness, Spring 2008.
“Privileged Access without Self-Knowledge” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology,
Spring 2008
Comments on Bates’ “A Problem with Kim’s Qualia Epiphenomenalism,” APA Pacific Division,
Spring 2008
Comments on Beisecker’s “Knowing What It’s Like: A Zombie’s Perspective” Southern Society for
Philosophy and Psychology, Spring 2007.
“The Ontology of Subjective Physicalism” Washington University in St. Louis, Winter 2006
“Anti-Depressants and Personal Identity” Texas Tech Public Lecture, Fall 2006 (Filmed by
Healthnet at Texas Tech for use in their long distance learning program.)
“The Two-Dimensionalist Reductio” APA Central Division, Spring 2007
Texas Tech Philosophy Department, Fall 2006
Alabama Philosophical Association, Fall 2006
“Emergentism and Supervenience Physicalism” APA Pacific Division, Spring 2006
Comments on Larkins’s “Knowledge, Assertion and Invariant Standards”, Central States
Philosophical Association, Fall 2004.
“Thomas Reid and Scottish ‘Common Sense’ Philosophy,” Dallas Philosopher’s Forum, Spring 2004
Comments on Rousch’s “Tracking with Closure”, APA Pacific Division, Spring 2003

Honors and Fellowships

Dedman Family Distinguished Professor, 2015
Ford Research Fellow, 2015
Maguire Center for Ethics, Public Scholar, 2013-2014
Maguire Center for Ethics Course Development Grant, Summer 2013
President's Associates Award for Outstanding Teaching and Research, SMU, Spring 2011
Nominated for Ford Research Fellowship, Fall 2010
Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor, Spring 2009
Inducted into SMU Academy of Distinguished Teachers, Spring 2009
Nominated for SMU’s “Rotunda Award” for outstanding teaching, Spring 2007, Spring 2008
Nominated for SMU’s “Golden Mustang” award for excellence in teaching, Fall 2006 and Fall 2007
Phi Beta Kappa, Winter 1996
Gustav Bergmann award, University of Iowa, Spring 1996

Teaching Experience

The Self
Neuroethics
Technology, Society and Value

Ancient Philosophy
Epistemology
Existentialism
Introduction to Philosophy
Minds, Machines and Persons
Philosophy of Mind
Metaphysics

Service

Department Chair, Summer 2017 to Present
General Education Review Taskforce, 2016-Present
Academic Policies Committee, Chair, 2015-2017
Committee of Committees, Chair, 2015-2016
President Scholar's Selection Committee, Fall 2013 to present
Academic Policies Committee, Fall 2013 to 2015
Faculty Senate, Executive Committee, Summer 2013 to 2016
Faculty Senate, Fall 2013 to present
Faculty Advisor Board, Maguire Center for Ethics, Fall 2012 to present
Philosophy, Religious and Ethical Inquiry Pillar Committee, chair, Spring 2012-Present
University Curriculum Council, Fall 2011-Summer 2013
Dedman College Tenure Committee, Fall 2009-Spring 2012
University Admissions Council, Fall 2005-Fall 2011
Undergraduate Advisor, SMU Philosophy Department, Fall 2010 to Fall 2011
Faculty Advisor, SMU Philosophy Club, Fall 2005-Fall 2010
Senator, SMU Faculty Senate, Fall 2007-2010, 2012-Present

Professional Activities

Central APA 2014 Planning Committee Member
Co-Organizer, Consciousness and the Self, Conference at SMU Spring 2012
Co-Organizer, Brains, Mind, and Society, Conference at SMU, Spring 2011
Co-Founder and Member, North Texas Neurophilosophy Network
Administrator and Contributor, Brainpains.com, a group blog in the philosophy of mind
NEH Seminar Participant, "Mind and Metaphysics," Summer 2006
Referee, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophical Papers, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Nous, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Consciousness Studies, Erkenntnis, Philosophia, Journal of Philosophical Research, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Mind and Language, Synthese, Episteme, Ethics, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Topoi

References

Douglas Ehring (dehring@smu.edu)
Brie Gertler (gertler@virginia.edu)
John Heil (jh@wustl.edu)
Derk Pereboom (dp346@cornell.edu)
Terry Horgan (thorgan@arizona.edu)