

Curriculum Vitae

Brad Weslake

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Areas of speciality

Philosophy of Science • Metaphysics

Areas of competence

Philosophy of Mind

Positions

SPRING 2015–	<i>Associate Professor of Philosophy</i> , NYU Shanghai <i>Global Network Professor of Philosophy</i> , New York University
SPRING 2017–	<i>Guest Professor</i> , Department of Philosophy, East China Normal University
FALL 2014	<i>Visiting Associate Professor of Philosophy</i> , New York University
2007–2014	<i>Assistant Professor of Philosophy</i> , University of Rochester

Education

2003–2007	PHD in Philosophy, University of Sydney (with Huw Price)
2002	BA with Class I Honours in Philosophy, University of Newcastle
1997–2001	BCOMPSCI and BA in Philosophy, University of Wollongong

Publications

BOOKS

forthcoming Barry Loewer, Eric Winsberg and Brad Weslake (Eds), *Time's Arrows and The Probability Structure of The World*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA.

contracted Shamik Dasgupta and Brad Weslake (Eds), *Current Controversies in Philosophy of Science*, Routledge, London.

PAPERS

forthcoming “A Partial Theory of Actual Causation”, in *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/wesapt>

forthcoming “Exclusion Excluded”, in *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/wesee>

2017 “Difference-Making, Closure and Exclusion”, in Helen Beebe, Chris Hitchcock and Huw Price (Eds), *Making a Difference*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 215–231.

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198746911.001.0001>

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/wesdca-3>

2014 “Statistical Mechanical Imperialism”, in Alastair Wilson (Ed), *Chance and Temporal Asymmetry*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 241–257.

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/wessmi>

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199673421.003.0012>

2013 “Proportionality, Contrast and Explanation”, in *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, VOL. 91, NO. 4, pp. 785–797.

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00048402.2013.788045>

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/wespca-2>

2013 McCain, Kevin and Weslake, Brad. “Evolutionary Theory and the Epistemology of Science”, in Kostas Kampourakis (Ed), *The Philosophy of Biology: A Companion for Educators*, Springer, Dordrecht, pp. 101–119.

URI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-6537-5_6

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/mcceta-4>

2010 “Explanatory Depth”, in *Philosophy of Science*, VOL. 77, NO. 2, APR 2010, pp. 273–294.

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/651316>

2009 Price, Huw and Weslake, Brad. “The Time-Asymmetry of Causation”, in Helen Beebe, Chris Hitchcock and Peter Menzies (Eds), *Oxford Handbook of Causation*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2009, pp. 414–443.

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199279739.003.0021>

PREPRINT: <http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/4475/>

2006 “Common Causes and The Direction of Causation”, in *Minds and Machines*, Rolf Haenni and Stephan Hartmann (Eds), *Special Issue on Causality, Uncertainty and Ignorance*, VOL. 16, NO. 3, AUG 2006, pp. 239–257.

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11023-006-9042-2>

PREPRINT: <http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/2792/>

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

“The Problem of Disjunctive Explanations”

PREPRINT: <http://philpapers.org/rec/westpo-11>

“Selection, Drift, and Non-Causal Explanation”

“Fitness and Variance”

“Why Think Causally?”

ENCYCLOPÆDIA ENTRIES

contracted “Regularity Theories of Causation” in Edward N. Zalta (Ed), *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Stanford University, Stanford.

contracted “Scientific Explanation”, in Duncan Pritchard (Ed), *Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

2010 “Causation”, in Graham Oppy and Nick Trakakis (Eds), *A Companion to Philosophy in Australia and New Zealand*, Monash ePress, Melbourne.

2006 “Causation”, “Time”, in Martin Cohen (Ed), *Essentials of Philosophy and Ethics*, Hodder Arnold, London, pp. 44–45, 283–284.

REVIEWS

contracted “Review of L. A. Paul and Ned Hall, *Causation: A User’s Guide*”, in *Mind*.

2006 “Review of James Woodward, *Making Things Happen*”, in *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, VOL. 84, NO. 1, MAR 2006, pp. 136–140.

URI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00048400600571935>

2004 “Review of William Robinson, *Understanding Phenomenal Consciousness*”, in *Metapsychology Online Reviews*, VOL. 8, NO. 49, 29 NOV 2004.

Grants and Collaborations

- 2016–2018 Principal Investigator (with Jonardon Ganeri and Anthony Appiah) on NYU Global Seed Grants for Collaborative Research grant *Virtues of Attention: Ethics, Agency, Mind* (US\$ 125,000).
- SPRING 2016 NYU Center for the Humanities Team-Teaching Stipend (with Anna Greenspan) for *Philosophy of Technology* (US\$8,000).
- 2015–2017 Principal Investigator (with Tim Byrnes) on Shanghai Research Challenge Fund grant *Origins of Randomness in Quantum Mechanics* (US\$ 50,000).
- 2013–2015 Invited collaborator for project *Causation and Explanation*, hosted by Philosophisches Seminar der Universität zu Köln and funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

Presentations

- 2019
- “Recent Philosophy of Sex and Gender”, *Gender Studies Discussion Group*, NYU Shanghai, 29 FEB.
- 2018
- “The Philosophy and Physics of Time”, *Volta*, All Club, Shanghai, 19 DEC.
 - “Fitness and Variance”, *Workshop on Modeling and Reasoning in the Sciences*, National Yang Ming University, Taiwan, 23–24 NOV.
 - “Fitness and Variance”, *Philosophy Workshop*, NYU Shanghai, 21 AUG.
 - *Radcliffe Seminar on Causation*, Harvard, 8–9 JAN.
 - Invited Author Meets Critics session on Brad Skow, *Reasons Why*, *American Philosophical Association*, 3–6 JAN.
- 2017
- “Fitness and Variance”, *Frontier in the Philosophy of Specific Sciences*, Tsinghua University, 19–20 AUG.
 - Debate with Paul Glimcher on Neuroscience and Free Will, NYU Shanghai, 24 APR.
 - “Fitness and Variance”, *Foundations of Probability Seminar*, Rutgers, 27 MAR.
 - “Causation, Information and Specificity”, *MuST 10: Causation and Complexity*, Sydney Centre for the Foundations of Science, 1–3 MAR.
- 2016
- “A Confusion in Concepts of Causal Importance”, East China Normal University, 9 DEC.
 - Panel Discussion on Lu Yang, NYU Shanghai Art Gallery, 6 DEC.
 - “Causation, Information and Specificity”, *Philosophy of Science Association*, Atlanta, 3–6 NOV.
 - “Recent Work on The Direction of Causation”, *Causation and the Physical World*, Universität zu Köln, 17–18 JUN.

- “Introduction to Philosophy of Causation” (with Ned Hall), *Causation Workshop*, Harvard, 10–11 JUN.
 - “Probability in the Law: A Case Study”, *International Conference on Facts and Evidence: A Dialogue Between Philosophy and Law*, East China Normal University, 28–29 MAY.
 - “Sudden Infant Death or Murder? The Seductive Allure of Probability Models in the Law”, *Colloquium in the Humanities and Social Sciences*, NYU Shanghai, 3 MAY.
 - “Interventionism, Externalism and Exclusion”, *Emergence, Exclusion, and Causation Workshop*, University of Glasgow, 14–15 APR.
 - “Fitness and Variance”, *Reduction in Physics and Biology*, Instituto de Filosofía y Ciencias de la Complejidad, Santiago de Chile, 4–7 JAN.
- 2015
- “Fitness and Variance”, *15th Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science*, Helsinki, 3–8 AUG.
 - “Fitness and Variance”, *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, Sydney, 5–9 JUL.
 - Invited participant to *Varieties of Understanding Midpoint Conference*, New York, 24–26 JUN.
 - “Why Think Causally?”, University College London, 18 JUN.
 - Invited participant to *Orange Beach Epistemology Workshop 7: Inference to the Best Explanation*, Orange Beach, 18–19 MAY.
 - “Fitness in Evolutionary Theory”, Faculty Lunch Speaker Series, NYU Shanghai, 16 APR.
- 2014
- “Interventionism, Externalism and Exclusion”, *Mental Causation: Old Problems, New Solutions?*, Center for Logic and Analytic Philosophy, Institute of Philosophy, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, 20–21 NOV.
 - “Why Think Causally?”, *Causation: A Workshop with Ned Hall*, Universität zu Köln, 10 NOV.
 - “Selection, Drift, and Causal Explanation”, *Explanation Beyond Causation*, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, 23–24 OCT.
 - “Why Think Causally?”, New York University, 3 FEB.
- 2013
- “Why Think Causally?” *Causation: New Prospects*, Collège de France, Paris, 5–6 DEC.
 - “Explanation and The Explanatory Gap”, Colloquium, Marist College, 11 OCT.
 - “Explanation and The Explanatory Gap”, *Explanation in Metaphysics*, Neuchâtel, 22–23 JUN.
 - “Against Explanatory Fundamentalism”, University of Pittsburgh, 29 MAR.

- “Was Darwin a Materialist?”, Philosophy Colloquium, Nazareth College, 7 FEB.
 - “Comments on Ned Hall, *Physical and Metaphysical Modality*”, *Back at the Ranch*, Tucson, 30 JAN-3 FEB.
- 2012
- “Comments on Jeff Engelhardt, *The Problem of Second Effects*”, Eastern APA, Atlanta, 27-30 DEC.
 - “Difference-Making, Closure and Exclusion”, Causation Workshop, Macquarie University, 23 AUG.
 - “Difference-Making, Closure and Exclusion”, Philosophy Colloquium, University of Sydney, 22 AUG.
 - “Difference-Making, Closure and Exclusion”, Thursday Seminar Series, ANU, 16 AUG.
 - “Difference-Making, Closure and Exclusion”, Philosophy Seminar, University of Tasmania, 15 AUG.
 - “Was Darwin a Materialist?”, XII Gathering of Noble Savages, Hobart, 11 AUG.
 - “Difference-Making, Closure and Exclusion”, Current Projects Seminar, University of Sydney, 23 JUL.
 - “Statistical Mechanical Imperialism”, *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, Wollongong, 1-6 JUL.
 - “Statistical Mechanical Imperialism”, *Semantics and Pragmatics of Ceteris Paribus Conditions*, Düsseldorf, 28-29 JUN.
 - “Comments on Carolina Sartorio, *Who Killed the Thirsty Traveler? And Other Mysteries in Causation in the Law*”, Pacific APA, Seattle, 4-7 APR.
 - “A Partial Theory of Actual Causation”, Work in Progress Seminar, MIT, 15 MAR.
 - “Science and Religion in the Scientific Revolution”, *The Coexistence of Science and Religion*, Interfaith Chapel, University of Rochester, 15 FEB.
 - “Was Darwin a Materialist?”, Darwin Day Lecture, *Rochester Secular Student Alliance*, University of Rochester, 12 FEB.
- 2011
- “A Partial Theory of Actual Causation”, Philosophy Colloquium, University of Sydney, 31 AUG.
 - “Causation, Counterfactual Dependence, and the Transition Problem”, *Temporal Asymmetries Conference*, Monash University, 17-18 AUG.
- 2010
- “A Tangled History: On Science and Religion” (with H. Allen Orr), *Phelps Colloquium Series*, University of Rochester, 3 DEC.
 - “Against Explanatory Fundamentalism”, Philosophy Colloquium, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 8 OCT.
- 2009
- Symposium on Causation, Laws, and Natural Kinds, *European Philosophy of Science Association*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 21-24 OCT.

- “Explanation in Neuroscience and Folk Psychology”, *Neuroscience Cluster Annual Retreat*, University of Rochester, 22 MAY.
 - “Initial Conditions, Laws and Explanation”, *Philosophical Issues in Statistical Mechanics*, Center for Philosophy and the Sciences, Rutgers University, 13–14 MAY.
 - “Causal Relativism”, *Mellon Metaphysics Workshop*, Cornell University, 2 MAY.
 - “Scientific Models and Explanatory Depth”, *Models and Simulations 3*, University of Virginia, 6–8 MAR.
 - “Comments on Brad Skow, *The Dynamics of Non-Being*”, *Arizona Ontology Conference*, Tucson, 7–10 JAN.
- 2008
- “Interventionism and Exclusion”, *Mellon Mental Causation Workshop*, Syracuse University, 30 NOV–1 DEC.
 - “Interventionism and Exclusion”, *CUNY Cognitive Science Symposium*, 14 NOV.
 - “Explanatory Depth”, *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, Melbourne, 6–11 JUL.
 - “Realism and Instrumentalism in Science”, *History and Philosophy of Modern Physics Speaker Series*, University of Rochester, 10 APR.
 - “Comments on Thomas Bontly, *Psychological Explanation without Mental Quasation*”, *Pacific APA*, Pasadena, 19–23 MAR.
- 2007
- “Two Varieties of Causal Anti-Realism”, *The Foundations of Physics Group*, University of Maryland College Park, 7 MAY.
 - “Two Problems for Theories of The Asymmetry of Causal Counterfactuals”, *The 2007 Shapiro Conference: Causal and Epistemic Asymmetry*, Brown University, 27–28 APR.
 - Invited participant to *Workshop on the Foundations of Quantum Mechanics*, Center for Philosophy and the Sciences, Rutgers University, 11–12 JAN 2007.
- 2006
- “Two Varieties of Causal Anti-Realism”, *The Origins and Functions of Causal Thinking III: Intervention, Time and Physics*, University of Sydney, 19 JUL.
 - “Two Varieties of Causal Anti-Realism”, *On What There Isn't: A Mid-Summer Mini-Conference on Metaphysical Anti-Realism*, University of Sydney, 28 FEB.
- 2005
- “There Is No Problem of Mental Causation”, *Postgraduate Work in Progress Seminar*, University of Sydney, 30 NOV.
 - “There Is No Problem of Mental Causation”, *The 11th Annual Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference*, Melbourne University, Melbourne, 28–30 SEP.
 - “The Past Hypothesis and The Asymmetry of Causal Counterfactuals”, *Philosophy, Probability and Physics*, University of Konstanz, Germany, 7–13 AUG.
 - “Lewis on The Asymmetry of Causal Counterfactuals”, *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, University of Sydney, 3–8 JUL.

- “Just Passing Through: Passage in a Block Universe”, *Presentism and Passage*, Centre for Time, Sydney, 6 MAY.
- 2004
- “The Passing of Time, Again”, *The 10th Annual Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference*, Macquarie University, Sydney, 29 SEP–1 OCT.
 - “Common Causes and The Direction of Causation”, *Postgraduate Mini-Conference in Philosophy*, University of Sydney, 24 SEP 2004.
 - “Common Causes and The Direction of Causation”, *Causality, Uncertainty and Ignorance*, University of Konstanz, Germany, 15–21 AUG.
 - “Common Causes and The Direction of Causation”, *Russellian Society Discussion Group*, University of Sydney, 10 AUG 2004.
 - “Reply to Maudlin”, *The Origins of Temporal Experience*, Centre for Time, Sydney, 16–17 JUL.
- 2003
- “Explaining Causal Asymmetry”, *The 9th Annual Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference*, University of Tasmania, Hobart, 1–3 OCT.

Teaching & supervision

GRADUATE SEMINARS

- NYU
ROCHESTER
- Advanced Introduction to Philosophy of Science, 2014.
 - The Direction of Time (Reading Course), 2013.
 - Causation, 2012.
 - Perception (Reading Course), 2012.
 - Philosophy of Biology (Guest Lectures in Department of Biology), 2010.
 - Causation and Counterfactuals (Reading Course), 2010.
 - Models and Idealisation (Reading Course), 2009.
 - Inference to the Best Explanation and Scientific Realism, 2008.
 - Scientific Explanation, 2007.
 - Conditionals and Counterfactuals (Reading Course), 2007.

UPPER LEVEL

- NYU SHANGHAI
- Philosophy of Science, 2015.
 - Philosophy of Biology, 2017, 2019.
 - Philosophy of Technology (with Anna Greenspan), 2016, 2018.
 - Topics in Metaphysics and Epistemology (Reading Course), 2016.
- NYU
ROCHESTER
- Philosophy of Biology, 2014.
 - Darwin and Religion (with H. Allen Orr), 2010, 2012, 2013.
 - Philosophy of Cognitive Science, 2010.
 - Philosophy of Biology, 2009, 2014.
 - Philosophy of Mind, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2014.

	Philosophy of Science, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013.
	Philosophy of Biology (Reading Course), 2008.
RUTGERS NEWARK	Philosophy of Science, 2007.
SYDNEY	Philosophy of Mind, 2005, 2006.
LOWER LEVEL	
NYU SHANGHAI	Global Perspectives on Society (with Duane Corpis), 2017, 2018.
	Central Problems in Philosophy, 2015, 2016.
	Logic, 2015, 2017.
ROCHESTER	Reason and Science, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013a, 2013b.
ADELPHI	Introduction to Philosophy, 2007.
	Morality and Ethics, 2007.
DISSERTATION COMMITTEES	
2011	Kevin McCain PHD, University of Rochester
2011	Hannah Oh PHD, University of Rochester

Service

REFEREEING

American Philosophical Quarterly
Australasian Journal of Philosophy
British Journal for the Philosophy of Science
Canadian Journal of Philosophy
Dialectica
Erkenntnis
International Studies in the Philosophy of Science
InVisible Culture
Journal for General Philosophy of Science
Journal of the American Philosophical Association
Mind
Noûs
Oxford University Press
Philosophers' Imprint
Philosophical Quarterly
Philosophical Studies
Philosophy of Science
Ratio
Social Epistemology
Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C

Synthese
Theoria
Theory and Research in Education
University of Chicago Press

MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association
Australasian Association of Philosophy
Philosophy of Science Association

Referees

Available on request.

<http://bweslake.org/cv/>

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