



BRIAN RABERN

CONTACT INFORMATION

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AOS

Philosophy of Language and Philosophical Logic

AOC

Metaphysics & Epistemology, and History of Analytic Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

- [2019–now] Reader, University of Edinburgh, Philosophy
- [2013–2019] Lecturer, University of Edinburgh, Philosophy
- [2017-2018] Visiting Professor, Dartmouth College, Department of Philosophy
- [2012–2013] Visiting Lecturer, University of Illinois, Department of Philosophy

EDUCATION

- The Australian National University. PhD, Philosophy, 2012
 - Dissertation: *The semantics of contextual shifting and sensitivity*
 - Supervisor: David Chalmers
 - External examiners: Jason Stanley and Seth Yalcin
- University of California, Santa Barbara. Graduate Program in Philosophy, 2005–2008
- University of Colorado. MA, Philosophy, 2004
- University of Oregon. BA, Philosophy, 2002

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- [1] The myth of occurrence-based semantics.
Linguistics and Philosophy, forthcoming. [with B. Pickel]
- [2] Binding bound variables in epistemic contexts.
Inquiry, forthcoming.
- [3] The paradox of self-blame.
American Philosophical Quarterly, forthcoming. [with P. Todd]
- [4] Frege and saving substitution.
Philosophical Studies, forthcoming. [with B. Pickel]
- [5] Future contingents and the logic of temporal omniscience.
Nous, 2021, 55(1): 102-127. [with P. Todd]
Reprinted in Todd (2021) *The Open Future*, Chapter 7, Oxford University Press.

- [6] *Might* generics.
Snippets, 2020, 39: 8-9.
- [7] Monsters and the theoretical role of context.
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, 2019, 98(2): 392-416. [with D. Ball]
- [8] A bridge from semantic value to content.
Philosophical Topics, 2017, 45(2): 181-207.
- [9] Against the Russellian open future.
Mind, 2017, 126(504): 1217-1237. [with A. Schoubye]
- [10] Does semantic relationism solve Frege's puzzle?
Journal of Philosophical Logic, 2017, 46(1): 97-118. [with B. Pickel]
- [11] The antinomy of the variable: A Tarskian resolution.
Journal of Philosophy, 2016, 113(3): 137-170. [with B. Pickel]
- [12] The history of the use of $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ -notation in natural language semantics.
Semantics and Pragmatics, 2016, 9(12).
- [13] Well-founding grounding grounding.
Journal of Philosophical Logic, 2016, 45(4): 349-379. [with G. Rabin]
- [14] Descriptions which have grown capital letters.
Mind & Language, 2015, 30(3): 292-319.
- [15] Two-dimensional semantics and the nesting problem.
Analysis, 2014, 74(2): 210-224. [with D. Chalmers]
- [16] Dangerous reference graphs and semantic paradoxes.
Journal of Philosophical Logic, 2013 42(5): 727-765. [with L. Rabern and M. Macauley]
- [17] Monsters in Kaplan's logic of demonstratives.
Philosophical Studies, 2013, 164(2): 393-404.
- [18] Against the identification of assertoric content with compositional value.
Synthese, 2012, 189(1): 75-96.
- [19] Propositions and multiple indexing.
Thought, 2012, 1(2): 116-124.
- [20] A simple solution to the hardest logic puzzle ever.
Analysis, 2008, 68(298): 105-112. [with L. Rabern]

Volume Contributions

- [21] If counterfactuals were neg-raisers, conditional excluded middle wouldn't be valid.
Special issue of *Synthese* on Indeterminacy and Underdetermination, forthcoming [with P. Todd]
- [22] Reviving the parameter revolution in semantics.
The Science of Meaning, 2018, Oxford University Press. [with B. Pickel and J. Dever]
- [23] Index, context, and the content of knowledge.
The Routledge Handbook of Epistemic Contextualism, 2017 (edited by J. Ichikawa).
- [24] Semantic monsters.
The Routledge Handbook on Linguistic Reference, 2021 (edited by S. Biggs & H. Geirsson)

EDITED VOLUMES AND PROCEEDINGS

- [1] *The Science of Meaning: Essays on the Metatheory of Natural Language Semantics*,
Oxford University Press, 2018. [co-edited with D. Ball]
- [2] *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung 21*, 2018 (co-edited with Chris Cummins, Caroline Heycock,
Hannah Rohde, and Robert Truswell), semanticsarchive.net/Archive/DRjNjViN/

IN REVIEW

- [1] Against Fregean Quantification.
- [2] Scorekeeping in a chess game.
- [3] Counterpart theory (for Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy).

TEACHING

University of Edinburgh (Lecturer, Course Organizer)

- Symbolic Logic (2013–2021), sub-honours course, 400+ students
- Philosophy of Language (2013–2018), honours course, 25-30 students
- Puzzles and Paradoxes (2015–2021), honours course, 25-35 students
- Mind, Matter, and Language (2018–2019), sub-honours course, 200+ students
- Philosophy of Linguistics (co-taught with Geoff Pullum) (2018–2019), MSc course, 15 students
- Contemporary Debates in Language (2019–2020), MSc course, 15 students
- The Philosophy of David Lewis (2019–2021), honours course, 15-25 students

Dartmouth College (Visiting Professor) 2017

- Puzzles and Paradoxes

University of Illinois (Lecturer) 2012–2013

- Introduction to Philosophy; Introduction to Ethics; Techniques of Argumentation

AWARDS

- EUSA Teaching award for *Outstanding Innovation in Digital Teaching*, University of Edinburgh in 2020-21.
- Multiple EUSA nominations for Best Course (Logic 1) and Teacher of the Year: University of Edinburgh, 2013-2021. See sample of nominations from 2021 [here](#).

SUPERVISION

- DPhil external examiner, James Kirkpatrick, *Essays on Genericity*, 2019, University of Oxford.
- PhD committee, Eric Mack, *Models of Propositional Content*, 2015, University of Illinois.
- PhD internal examiner, 2020, University of Edinburgh.
- MSc dissertation supervisor, University of Edinburgh, (x8).
- Undergrad dissertations: Various topics including logic of vagueness, future contingents, understanding, proper names, definite descriptions, Frege, modality, and two-dimensional semantics.

GRANTS

- Teaching & Learning Initiative Fund, £3000
- Mind Association and Scots Philosophical Association Grants, *Variables Workshop*, £1700
- Pilot Project Grant, University of Edinburgh, £1650

ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Associate Editor, *Linguistics and Philosophy*, 2019–present.
- Treasurer, Scots Philosophical Association (2017–2020)
- Editorial panel, *Thought: A Journal of Philosophy*, 2012–present.
- PhilPapers editor (2009–present): Context-Dependence, Indexicals and Demonstratives.
- Conferences and workshops organized:
 - *Edinburgh Philosophy of Language Workshop* (x2), University of Edinburgh.
 - *Variables*, University of Edinburgh, June 2015.
 - *Philosophy of Semantics*, University of St. Andrews, May 2013.
- Refereeing: *Philosophical Review*, *Linguistics & Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophers Imprint*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Semantics*, *Synthese*, *Studia Logica*, *Dialectica*, *Thought*, *Acta Analytica*, *Erkenntnis*, among others.

RECENT
PRESENTATIONS

- “Against Fregean Quantification”, with B. Pickel, April 2021 Pacific APA, Invited session (Commentators: R. May & K. Wehmeier) ([online](#))
- “Against Fregean Quantification”, Lingnan University and the University of Hong Kong, June 29, 2020. ([online](#))
- “Semantic monsters”, Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain, Lancaster University, February 5, 2020.
- “Fregean Predicate Logic”, Workshop on Identity and Quantification, University of Birmingham, December 17-18, 2018.
- “Toward a solution to the nesting problem for two-dimensionalism”, Workshop on Philosophical Applications of Modal Logic, University of Oslo, June 13-14, 2018.
- “Future contingents and temporal omniscience”, Dartmouth Sapientia Lecture Series, Hanover, NH, August 8, 2017.
- “The myth of occurrence-based semantics”, Context and variables workshop, All Souls College, Oxford, May 13 2017.
- “A bridge from semantic value to content”, The Jowett Society, Oxford University, October 21, 2016.
- “Future contingents and the retrospections of god”, Edinburgh Language Workshop 2, December 1, 2016.
- “A bridge from semantic value to content”, Glasgow University Philosophy Society, November 2, 2016.
- “The myth of occurrence-based semantics”, What is Said—What is Meant, Berlin, Germany, September 9-13 2016.
- “The myth of occurrence-based semantics”, Mid-Atlantic Philosophy of Language Workshop, Morgantown, WV, August 2-3, 2016.
- “Quantifiers vs intensional operators: a distinction without difference”, Workshop on Operators vs Quantifiers, Barcelona, Spain, July 1, 2016.
- “Binding across quantifiers concealed in diamonds”, MCMP Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy, Munich, Germany, June 9, 2016.
- “Variables under epistemic modals”, M&E Group, University of Toronto, Canada, October 2015.
- “A solution to the problem of recurring demonstratives”, Pacific APA, Vancouver, Canada, April 2015.
- “Semantic pluralism and the meaning of x ”, Semantic Pluralism Workshop, Konstanz, Germany, January 19, 2015.
- “The compositionality argument for temporalism”, Arché Tense in Semantics and Philosophy of Language Workshop, June 5, 2014.
- “Propositional content under contextual shifting and updating”, Meaning Sciences Workshop, Berkeley, CA, March 9, 2014.

(See [full list](#))

REFERENCES

David Chalmers

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