The Society for Philosophers in America (SOPHIA)
June 28, 2010

“Democracy and Civic Participation:
Two Symposia on Philosophy and Public Engagement”

Project Grant Proposal
Awarded by the American Philosophical Association

I. Names and Affiliations
II. Account of the Project’s Purpose and Timeline
III. Project Budget and Budget Narrative
IV. Designation of the Fiscal Agent
V. Information about Other Funding Obtained or Sought
VI. Promotion Plan
VII. Product as Aid to Philosophers
VIII. Curriculum Vitae for Each Member of the Project Steering Committee
IX. Photo collage from APA sponsored 2009 SOPHIA symposium

I. Names and Affiliations

The SOPHIA project steering committee for this grant proposal consists of:

Dr. Douglas Anderson, Trustee of SOPHIA and Professor of Philosophy at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL.

Dr. John J. McDermott, Trustee of SOPHIA, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Humanities and Abell Professor of Liberal Arts, Texas A & M University, College Station, TX.

Dr. John Robert Shook, Fellow of SOPHIA, Research Associate in Philosophy, Philosophy Department, State University of New York, University at Buffalo, New York.

Dr. Eric Thomas Weber, Executive Director and Trustee of SOPHIA and Principal Investigator for this proposal, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy Leadership, The University of Mississippi, 105 Odom Hall, University, MS, 38677, 662.915.1336 (office), 662.915.1954 (fax), etweber@olemiss.edu.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Dr. Weber.
II. Account of the Project’s Purpose and Timeline

*Purpose.* The purpose of the project “Democracy and Civic Participation: Two Symposia on Philosophy and Public Engagement” is to bring together philosophers and non-philosophers to talk about interests and problems in common involving citizen engagement. The guiding idea behind this project is the motivation of SOPHIA. As an organization, SOPHIA aims to broaden the potential for academic philosophers to demonstrate their value outside the ivory tower, and to pursue new opportunities for professional philosophers, such as in writing, consulting, and other applications of critical thinking. SOPHIA is currently seeking large grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and other funding sources. Thus, the present grant proposal is intended to serve as a seed project for larger grants and as a match for funds we have obtained already. This year we will also be developing a short guidebook, which could be posted on the APA Web site or on our own, that will list the steps necessary to put on a SOPHIA-style event. It is different from more common conferences, fostering conversation with relevant persons/parties who come from outside of university settings. We also help our communities in the form of continuing education credits, which in turn help us to attract greater participation from interested persons.

One more element of SOPHIA’s mission is distinctive. The founders of SOPHIA believed that the traditional way in which academic philosophers initiate dialogue at professional conferences is not ideal for interaction with persons who are not scholars. Generally, philosophers present argumentative papers, often reading them to other philosophers with the hope of hearing challenges to their views. With these critiques, scholars then sharpen their arguments and contribute to debates among a small group of other professional academics. SOPHIA’s aim is to encourage a different kind of dialogue, one in which organized, directed,
and focused conversations are the format for meetings. When people present papers at professional conferences, presenters are the ones who fundamentally frame the debates discussed. By contrast, SOPHIA events involve dialogue which works to set the terms of debate as a group, allowing many voices to participate in the descriptions of the problems we will address through conversation. Also, our events bring together philosophers and non-philosophers, reaching beyond the academy to promote conversation beyond traditional academic settings.

SOPHIA’s workshops aim to initiate conversations that we hope will continue long after our events are over. When we start conversations, we form relationships. These can continue in writings for broader audiences, collaborative work through consultancy, and more. Two examples make the point. First, Dr. Weber in Mississippi this year has been offered a regular contract to write for the state’s major newspaper, *The Clarion Ledger*. Also, in 2009, Dr. Ralph Didlake, M.D., attended our “Ethics at the End of Life” symposium, which the APA supported, and has had a continuing relationship with Dr. Weber and the Oxford campus of the University of Mississippi. Dr. Didlake, who is at the university’s Medical Center campus in Jackson, MS, currently has two students from the Oxford campus working with him in medical ethics fellowships for the summer. Dr. Didlake is also working to offer SOPHIA funding to support our program in 2011, which we hope to put toward travel support for philosophers.

SOPHIA intends to host two events, one at the University of Mississippi and the other at the State University of New York at Buffalo. The first of these symposia will be held in February of 2011 at the University of Mississippi, in Oxford, MS, on the subject of philosophy and disabilities. The title for the event is to be “Disability, Civic Responsibility, and Community Friendship.” As our key facilitator, we will have Dr. Anita Silvers of San Francisco State University lead our discussion. We will also have Dr. Nancy Tuana of Pennsylvania
State University as a co-facilitator for the event. Dr. Weber will organize the event on campus and will promote it extensively beforehand. He will also be applying for continuing education credits to be offered through the event for medical doctors, nurses, school teachers, social workers, lawyers, insurance agents, and realtors, all of who confront challenges involving disabilities and available services in small town America, and all of whom need continuing education credits. We currently have approval to issue some of these credits already. With incentives like these, we will have a substantial turn out at the event. Dr. Andy Mullins, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor at the university, has assured Weber that we will attract several state legislators to the event, given their experience and interests in advocacy for persons with disabilities. Topics for this event will be drawn from the communications we are already receiving from school teachers and other community members about the challenges of addressing special needs in Oxford, a small, rural town.

The second symposium, which Dr. Shook will organize, will concern citizen engagement and democratic access to the formation of public policy. The event is in early planning stages for the summer of 2011, to be scheduled for either June or July. Dr. Shook will bring together philosophers, scholars from other disciplines, as well as members and leaders of the community and representatives of local non-government organizations in Buffalo, NY. The tentative title for this event is “Philosophy and Democratic Engagement in Public Policy.” Dr. Shook, who specializes in democratic philosophy and who has a great deal of experience organizing events for the Center for Inquiry in Amherst, NY, will be finalizing details regarding a facilitator for the event in the next few months. Buffalo, NY, deals with a number of the problems for rural America that occur in Oxford, MS, as well, such as limited access to government and social services. The event in Buffalo will offer leaders a chance to come together to talk, guided by
philosophical scholars, about how to overcome obstacles to civic participation in rural New York.

The key to these and to all SOPHIA-sponsored events is our aim to share with non-philosophers what scholars have to offer about important issues and to learn from practitioners and affected persons about new worries and real problems that impact people. These goals serve to broaden the appeal of professional philosophers beyond the academy and to provide a source of subject matter for further scholarly study.

*Timeline*. The first symposium, “Disability, Civic Responsibility, and Community Friendship,” will take place at the end of February, 2011. The second event, the “Philosophy and Democratic Engagement in Public Policy,” will be hosted in June or July of 2011. A report on each event will be drafted within three months after each workshop.

**III. **Project Budget and Budget Narrative

See the next page for the project budget. The Budget Narrative is listed following the budget tables.
## Proposed Budget for SOPHIA Symposia

“Democracy and Civic Participation: Two Symposia on Philosophy and Public Engagement”

### Disability, Civic Responsibility, and Community Friendship
**The University of Mississippi**
February 25th - 26th, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>APA Funds</th>
<th>SOPHIA Funds</th>
<th>Host Funds</th>
<th>In-kind Support</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food and drinks</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant Travel</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keynotes' travel*</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign-Language Interpreter</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio equipment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizer (sal+ben)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3870</td>
<td>3870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,800</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,970</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,770</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Philosophy and Democratic Engagement in Public Policy
**State University of New York at Buffalo**
June or July 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>APA Funds</th>
<th>SOPHIA Funds</th>
<th>Host Funds**</th>
<th>In-kind Support</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food and drinks</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant Travel</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keynote honorarium</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keynote's travel</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizer (sal+ben)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5643.75</td>
<td>5643.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,744</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,744</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall Totals**

|                          | **$5,000**| **$1,000**   | **$7,800**   | **$11,714**    | **$25,514** |

**Total Funds Requested from the APA:**

$5,000

* We require a special van plus a driver trained in assisting persons who require travel in wheelchairs.

** This column may change in the next few months, given that the idea for this symposium has been developed recently.
Budget Narrative. Leaders of SOPHIA are currently seeking funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities for larger projects that will build on the format and connections fostered at these events. In particular, this year we will be applying for a Media Makers Development Grant from the Division of Public Programs and for a Collaborative Research Grant from the Research Division of the NEH. A grant from the APA would offer additional evidence that SOPHIA’s work is considered valuable to the profession and brings value to constituencies beyond the university from the field of Philosophy.

Beyond these larger grant activities, SOPHIA will be seeking support from the Mississippi Humanities Council to help fund our event in Oxford, MS. Our event will require greater resources than others we have organized given the great likelihood that we will attract many participants with special needs due to disabilities. We ask for support for travel for that event, “Disability, Civic Responsibility, and Community Friendship,” given the expense involved, for example, in securing a handicap accessible van and trained driver who will be needed for accommodating our keynote and facilitator, Dr. Silvers, as well as any other participants who may need it. We hope that the Mississippi Humanities Council will help us to support the travel of philosophers to our event, given the tight budgets that so many have for travel. Dr. Weber has been encouraged to submit a proposal for a grant from the MHC for such support given his history with the organization, which has been successful. We will have a sign-language interpreter at the event in Oxford, which will be sponsored through the university’s funds. We will also seek similar support for the event in Buffalo, NY, as we make more progress in organizing that event.

For food and beverages at each event, we are budgeting a total of $1,000, to include a basic continental breakfast, a simple lunch, and coffee and other simple beverages throughout the
day. To each event, SOPHIA has committed $500, which will support food costs and a small amount of travel support for philosophers who have limited travel funds.

Meeting rooms at each event will be provided by the relevant universities as contributions in kind. Also, parking tags for visitors will be offered, whose value we have estimated at $10 per participant, with the expectation of 50 participants needing the tags.

Finally, our workshop organizers include one assistant professor and one senior scholar. The listing in the budget tables for organizers refers to in-kind contributions to these projects that roughly estimate the value of each organizer’s salary plus benefits for the time taken to organize each event.

In total, we are requesting a total of $5,000 from the APA, to provide roughly 16% of the funds for the event in Oxford, MS and 25% of the budget for the event in Buffalo. It is our aim to offer philosophers a new way to think about what they do and to share with people outside of academic philosophy department the value of philosophers’ scholarship. The support of the APA would be of great help in advancing these initiatives and for planting the seed from which our organization will grow.

IV. Designation of the Fiscal Agent

Given that the principal investigator for this grant is Dr. Eric Thomas Weber at the University of Mississippi, the fiscal agent for this grant application is:

Nina Jones, Director of Accounting, Accounting, The University of Mississippi,
318 Martindale, University, MS 38677, nina@olemiss.edu, 662.915.7078 (phone).
V. **Information about Other Funding Obtained or Sought**

*Current funding sources.* At the time this proposal is drafted, SOPHIA has three sources of funds. The first is its own resources, committing $500 per symposium. The remaining sources of funds are each home institution for the respective symposia: The University of Mississippi and the State University of New York at Buffalo. Funds from these institutions will be provided in-kind in terms of rooms, parking, and salaries for the workshop organizers. Also, the University of Mississippi event has secured support from the Department of Philosophy, the Department of Public Policy Leadership, the Department of Political Science, the Office of Disability Services, with further sources to come.

*Future funding sources.* Dr. Weber will be soliciting further support for the workshop at the University of Mississippi, such as from the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, the Dean’s Office of the College of Liberal Arts, the University Medical Center, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and the Provost’s Office. Where possible, funds will be made available to support philosophers’ travel and hotel stay for the event, given the tightened budgets that many are dealing with today. Plus, as said above, we will apply for support from the Mississippi Humanities Council. We may also seek support from the New York Council for the Humanities for the event in Buffalo.

Beyond these sources, SOPHIA is applying this year for more than one large grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, given SOPHIA’s focus on philosophers in America and its interest in the impact of humanities scholarship on the lives of citizens. Future projects and workshops would be developed also to support the expansion of opportunities for professional philosophers with the support of the NEH especially.
VI. Promotional Plan

For each event, we will seek wide participation from members of the local communities, in Oxford, MS and Buffalo, NY. Several months before each event, we will submit notices via electronic outlets to let scholars know about the upcoming program, to encourage them to plan travel to our events. We will next draft press releases to send to our local newspapers and radio and television news outlets to alert the public of the upcoming event one month before and then two weeks before. Then, we will once again send out announcements and post information at the respective universities two days before the event.

Aside from these promotional strategies, we will seek spots on local television news shows, such as one with which Dr. Weber has connections – the Memphis Live at Nine show, where he promoted a University of Mississippi event in 2010. Outlets such as these are always looking to fill spots with interesting information about events and opportunities for their viewers. For an example, visit Weber’s the “Public Engagement” page on his Web site (http://www.EricThomasWeber.org), where you can watch the video of such an interview online.

Finally, one of the greatest successes in inspiring participation, beyond the successful press releases that worked well in Oxford, MS in 2009 (for the SOPHIA symposium the APA funded then), was the offering of continuing education credits. The first step in this process is to apply for the ability to offer continuing education credit for attendance at our event. As an example, Dr. Weber has secured all the forms necessary to apply for credits for teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers, lawyers, insurance agents, and realtors. Members of each of these groups need continuing education credits, which we can offer for the subject of ethics and disabilities. We have already secured the ability to offer credits for lawyers, given that our institution is preapproved through our office of continuing education. That office will help us with the application process for other forms of credit, which is one of the ways that state universities
demonstrate their value to the citizens of the state. It is difficult in rural communities to gain access to programs that yield continuing credits, so possible participants often jump at the opportunity when they see it. Also, the persons involved have direct experience working on the subjects for which they seek such professional credits..

VII. Product as Aid to Philosophers

One of the enduring products that will come out of this grant will be a document that lays out the steps that are required to put on a SOPHIA-style event. One of SOPHIA’s purposes is to encourage philosophers to try a new way to do philosophy – a way that encourages and enables engagement with groups outside of philosophy departments and beyond universities. This year, with the help of the American Philosophical Association, we will develop a short guide to organizing a SOPHIA-style symposium. It will lay out the kinds of sources to approach for funding, the process of choosing a topic on which philosophers have a great deal to contribute and about which external constituencies can inform and help philosophers. It will also address the ways in which our meetings are generally conducted, which have been extremely well received, plus the methods used to garner a great deal of interest and participation in our events, through promotional tools and incentives like continuing education credits, food, travel support, and more. Finally, the document we will produce will also speak to the possibilities and methods for continuing relationships beyond SOPHIA symposia, such as the relationship Dr. Weber developed with Dr. Ralph Didlake of Jackson, MS, as well as potential for developing recurring programs of continuing education.

VIII & IX. Curriculum Vitae for Each Member of the Project Steering Committee & Photo collage from 2009 SOPHIA symposium – included on pages that follow.
Douglas R. Anderson

Department of Philosophy
3026 Faner Hall
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
618-453-7435
dra3@siu.edu


Areas of Competence: Aesthetics, Ethics, History of Philosophy, American Studies.


Faculty Appointments:
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Wittenberg University, 1984-90.
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Penn State University, 1990-93.
Associate Professor of Philosophy, Penn State University, 1994-2005
Professor of Philosophy, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 2005-

Administrative Experience:
Undergraduate Advisor, SIUC, 2007-
Department Graduate Officer, Penn State, 1996-1998.
Department Undergraduate Officer, Penn State, 1995-96.
Acting Graduate Officer, Penn State, 1993-94.
President (1986-87) and Acting Administrator (1987-1988), Wittenberg Faculty Development Organization.
Director of American Studies (1987-90), Wittenberg University

Awards and Offices:
Executive Director, SOPHIA, 2007-
NEH Summer Seminar Participant, University of New Mexico, 2007.
Penn State University Milton Eisenhower Award for Distinguished Teaching, 2001.
PSEA Friend of the Schools Award, State College Area School District, 1998.

Publications

Books


Edited Books


*Springsteen and Philosophy*, co-edited with Randall Auxier, Open Court, forthcoming.

Articles in Journals


**Essays in Books**


“El juego bonito y el gringo feo,” in *La pelota no dobla? Ensayos filosóficos en torno al


**Papers in Proceedings**


**Reviews**


*Racing the Sunset*, Scott Tinley, for the *Journal for the Philosophy of Sport*, XXXII, 1, 2005, pp. 116-118.


*Truth, Rationality, and Pragmatism*, Christopher Hookway, for *Philosophical Review* (111.2), April 2002.


*Peirce*, Christopher Hookway, for the *Newsletter of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy*, June 1990.


**On-line Writing**

“For You the War is Over: Stories of American Airmen Interned in Switzerland in World War II,” linked at the home site for the American Swiss Internees Association.

**Children’s Literature**


**External Programs**

Guest lecturer, University of Helsinki, Finland, May 26-June 1, 2008.


Special guest, NEH funded workshop on experimental philosophy, Northern Arizona University, July 30-August 2, 2008.

**Editing**

Editor-in-Chief, Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society, 2008-

Co-editor of Book Series in American Philosophy, Fordham University Press, 2000-


Contributing Editor, The Peirce Edition Project, Volumes V, VI.

Teaching and Dissertation Work

Full teaching vita is in a separate file, available on request.

Dissertations Directed

Daniel Campos, Creativity and Discovery in Mathematics, co-director with Emily Grosholz, 2005.
Lara Trout, Peirce and Affectivity, 2005.
Stacey Ake, "The Quest for Individuality within the Evolutionary Matrix," 1999, co-director with Carl Vaught.

Masters Theses Directed


Fellowships and Grants

Rock Ethics Institute New Course Award, for team taught course on food and values, 2004.
John William Miller Research Fellowship, for a book length study on the philosophy of John William Miller.

Speaking Engagements

Speaker


“The Influence of the St. Louis Hegelians on Pragmatism,” Conference on the St. Louis Hegelians, Webster University, April 2008.


“Reading Russon and Philosophy Americana,” Western Canadian Philosophical Association, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada, October 2007.

“What is a Living Tradition?” NEH Summer Seminar, University of New Mexico, July 2007.


“Emerson’s Schellingean Natures,” Center for Pragmatism Studies Ninth Annual Meeting, plenary session, Pontifical University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brasil, November 2006.

“Peirce’s Conception of Nature,” Brasilian Society for Philosophy of Science, Sao Paulo, November 2006.

“Teachers as Public Intellectuals,” Keynote Address, Baptist Association of Philosophy Teachers, Georgetown College, 2006.


"Philosophy Americana (2 lectures)," SAAP Summer Institute, University of Oregon, July 2003.

"James and Endurance Sport," International Association for the Philosophy of Sport, Ohio State University, June 2003.

"Performance Art and Dick Butkus," International Association for the Philosophy of Sport, Penn State, October 2003.


"Peirce's Neglected Argument (2 lectures)," SAAP Summer Institute, Vermont, 2000.

"Hocking, Bugbee, Marcel," Personalist Summer Institute, Western Carolina University, June 2000.

"Bugbee's Inward Wildness," SPEP, Penn State University, October 1999.


"Dewey and American Musics," co-presented with Crispin Sartwell of Vanderbilt University, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy with APA Central Division, Louisville, April 1992.


**Respondent--Chair**


Chair, Peirce Society Meeting, Eastern APA, December 2003.


Organizer and Chair: Symposium on Pragmatism and Feminism. APA Central Division, Louisville, April 1992.


**Professional Service**

Executive Director, SOPHIA, 2007-

Local Arrangements Committee, International Association for the Philosophy of Sport, 2002.


President, The Charles Peirce Society, 2004


Chair, The Personalist Discussion Group of the APA, 1999-


Executive Committee Member, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 1996-1999.

Organizer, Third International Conference for Theology and Philosophy, Bad Boll, Germany, 1998.

Program Committee, APA Central Division, 1992.


Chair of Program Committee, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 1994 meeting.

**Professional Membership**

The Personalist Discussion Group

American Philosophical Association

Charles S. Peirce Society

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy
The Metaphysical Society of America
The William James Society
The Josiah Royce Society
Society of Philosophers in America (SOPHIA)

Radio


Community Service


JOHN J. McDermott
CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL

Born: January 5, 1932
New York City, New York

Citizen: Yes

Address: 701 South Dexter, College Station, Texas 77840-6171

Telephone: (979) 696-1374 (home) or (979) 845-1856 (office)

EDUCATION AND DEGREES

B.A. (Cum Laude) St. Francis College, 1953, Philosophy

M.A. Fordham University, 1954, Philosophy

Ph.D. (With Great Distinction) Fordham University, 1959, Philosophy

Post-Doctoral Fellow: Union Theological Graduate School, 1964-1965, American Studies

L.L.D. (Honoris Causa) University of Hartford, 1970 (for Contribution to Higher Education)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Loughlin High School - Latin & English, 1953-1954

St. Francis College - Philosophy & English, 1954-1957

Queens College, C.U.N.Y. - Philosophy, 1956-1977; Member of Doctoral Faculty, C.U.N.Y., 1970-77

Texas A & M University - Professor and Head, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, 1977-1981

6/24/2010
Distinguished Professor, Philosophy and Humanities, 1981 - present
Abell Professor in Liberal Arts, 1986 - 2009
Professor, Family and Community Medicine, College of Medicine, 1981-1982
Professor and Head, Department of Humanities in Medicine, College of Medicine, 1982 - 1990
Professor, Department of Humanities in Medicine, College of Medicine, 1990 - present
(Since 1981, Professor McDermott has had a joint appointment in College of Liberal Arts and College of Medicine.)
Regents Professor, 2009 - present
Holder of the Melbern G. Glasscock Chair in the Humanities, 2009 - present

Guest Professor (semester or more)- Fordham University Graduate School; Manhattanville College; University of San Francisco; State University of New York at Stony Brook (American Literature); Froman Distinguished Visiting Professor - Russell Sage College; University of California at Berkeley

Fields - American Philosophy, Philosophy of Culture, Environmental Aesthetics, History of Philosophy, Humanities in Medicine

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Manuscript Referee - (selected sample) The University of Chicago Press; University of Illinois Press; University of California Press; Purdue University Press; Texas Journal of Science; Yale University Press; Princeton University Press; Cambridge University Press; International Philosophical Quarterly; Texas Medical Association; University of Indiana Press

Grant Referee - (selected sample) National Endowment for the Humanities - Media Programs, State Based Humanities Program, Research Grants in Philosophy, American Council of Learned Societies, Guggenheim Foundation

Member - Board of Directors and National Vice-President, American Montessori Society, 1963-1965
Fellowship Advisory Council, American Council of Learned Societies, 1975, 1976, 1977
Executive Committee, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, 1979-1982
The National Board of Officers, American Philosophical Association, 1989-1992

Appointed - Advisory Board of the John Dewey Correspondence Project, The Center for Dewey Studies, May 1998 – Present

Advisory Board of the Critical Edition of The Works of George Santayana. Present

President - The Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 1977-1980
Texas A&M Chapter, American Association of University Professors, 1982-1983
The William James Society, 2002
The Josiah Royce Society, 2005

Tenure and Promotion Referee - (selected sample) University of Delaware, Stanford University, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, Texas A&M University, Northwestern University, Denison University, Harvard University

Committees, Texas A&M University - (selected sample) Search for Provost, University Lecture Committee, University Honors Committee, Presidential Committee for Recruitment of Minorities, American Studies Committee, Search Committee for Dean of College of Liberal Arts, Distinguished Professors—Sub-committee for evaluation of promotions, Numerous Departmental Committees, Presidential Search Advisory Committee, Dean of Faculties Search Committee, Enlightened and Shared Governance Task Force

Elected - Academic Council, Texas A&M University 1977-1981
Senator, Texas A&M University Faculty Senate, 1983-1986
Charter Speaker of the Senate, Texas A&M University Faculty Senate, May 1983-1984, American Association for the Advancement of Science

Invited Reviewer - “The Peirce Project,” sponsored by the University of Indiana and the National Endowment for the Humanities, November 1982 - Present
“The Dewey Project,” sponsored by Southern Illinois University and the National Endowment for the Humanities, November 1982-Present
“The Santayana Project,” sponsored by the University of Tampa and the National Endowment for the Humanities, November 1982 - Present
“The Einstein Correspondence Project,” sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, October 1994

Co-Founder and Advisory Editor - The Works of William James, 19 vols.

General Editor, Project Director, and Principal Investigator –
The Correspondence of William James, 12 vols. (University of Virginia Press, 1992-2004)

(Both of these serial works were published as Critical Editions and were sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies.)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Texas A & M University –
Department Head, Philosophy and Humanities 1977-1981

Texas A & M University College of Medicine –
Department Head, Humanities in Medicine. 1983-1990

Texas A & M University – Charter Speaker of Faculty Senate 1983-1984

As Speaker of the first Faculty Senate at Texas A & M University, I supervised new by-laws, renovation of office space, budget allocations, committee assignments and other assorted start-up tasks. The Senate had eighty-five faculty members.

GRANTS

Awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities as Principal Investigator, Project Director and General Editor of a multi-volume critical Edition of The Correspondence of William James to be published by The University Press of Virginia. Awards received biennially starting in 1988 and continuing through 2001. Total award approximately $1,400,000.

Award in name of John J. McDermott as Principal Investigator to the American
Council of Learned Societies for $100,000, from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This award to provide ‘matching funds’ for NEH grant awards to the William James Correspondence Project. Additional Award from the Mellon Foundation for ‘matching funds,’ $75,000 in 2002. This 12 volume Critical Edition was completed in 2004.


PUBLICATIONS

Books:


General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, 1856-1877, Volume IV. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1995), lii, 714. (Foreword, xv-xvii).

General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, 1878-1884, Volume V. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1997), lvi, 677. (Foreword, xvii-xx).


General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, 1885-1889, Volume VI. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1998), xlvi, 746. (Foreword, xvii-xx).
General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, 1890-1894, Volume VII. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1999), lix, 745. (Foreword, xvii-xx).

General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, 1895-June 1899, Volume VIII. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 2000), lxiii, 762. (Foreword, xix-xxii).

General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, July 1899-1901, Volume IX. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 2001), lxi, 752. (Foreword, xvii-xx).


General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, April 1905-1908, Volume XI. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University of Virginia Press, 2003), lxiv, 772. (Foreward, xix-xxii).

General Editor, The Correspondence of William James, April 1908-1910, Volume XII. Edited by Ignas Skrupskelis and Elizabeth Berkeley. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 2004), lxi, 793. (Foreword, xix-xxiii; Afterword, 577-579).


Articles:
Noteworthy selected from more than one hundred publications


“Privacy and Social Therapy,” Soundings 51, no. 2 (summer 1968): 346-357.


“The Renascence of Classical American Philosophy,” American Studies International 16, no. 3 (spring 1978): 5-17; Sources for American Studies,


“The Cultural Immortality of Philosophy as Human Drama,” Faculty Lecture Series (College Station, Texas: Texas A&M University, 1980), 1-28.


“America: The Loneliness of the Quest," The Teacher’s College Record 85, no. 2 (winter 1983): 275-290.


Foreword to The Pluralistic Philosophy of Stephen Crane, by Patrick K. Dooley (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1993), ix-xii.


“All We Seem to Get Is Life: Implicitness, The Practical as Ontological,”


“Peter Hare: A Eulogy” in Remembering Peter Hare ed. James Campbell. The Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 32-33. (2009)


**MEDIA: PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The list below is from 1998 forward.


Meeting with Dean of Humanities to discuss alternative education, Queens University – Belfast, Belfast, Northern Ireland, February 10, 1999.

Conducted evaluation of Middle Tennessee State University Philosophy Department for Higher Education Authority of the State of Tennessee, March 24-26, 1999.

“American Pragmatism” episode of Philosophy Talk radio program. Ben Manilla Productions. Aired December 3, 2006 on San Francisco’s KALW (91.7 FM)


Teleconference with students from St. Mary’s University, Indiana under the supervision of Professor Charles Hobbs. This consisted in a discussion of Professor McDermott’s book The Drama of Possibility and allied issues. March 31st 2009.

VISITING PROFESSOR AND PUBLIC LECTURES:
Selected from more than five hundred presentations
The list below is from 1990 forward.


“‘Work’ as a Metaphor in American Culture,” American Studies Program, University of California, Berkeley, April 1990.


“Vulnerability, Arrogance, Affection, Ambiguity,” University of Illinois, Medical School, Chicago Circle, June 1990.
“Vulnerability, Arrogance, Affection, Ambiguity,” Loyola University, June 1990.


“Herman Melville’s Confidence Man: A Critique of American Culture,” and “William James: Style and Substance,” Graduate Seminars, English Department, University of California at Berkeley, November 1990.


Commentator, The Personalist Society, Oxford University, September 1991.

Visiting Professor, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, November 1991. Public lecture, seminar, and class presentations.


“The Right to Die,” with Dax Cowart, College of Medicine, Texas A&M University, January 1992.

“Pragmatism and Feminism,” American Philosophical Association, Central Division, Louisville, Kentucky, April 1992.


“Philosophy of Plato,” NEH Teacher’s Seminar, State University of New York at Stony Brook, July 1993.

“All We Seem to Get is Life. Implicitness: The Practical as Ontological,” Festschrift for Professor Douglas Browning, Department of Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, September 1993.

“The Right to Die” and “Addiction,” Seminars to the Students and Faculty of the S.U.N.Y. Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York, November 1993.

“Environmental Aesthetics,” Graduate Program, Department of Geography, Texas A&M University, November 1993.


The William James Synoptic Lectures, “Fearing the Vaudeville Hook: From the Street to the Academy,” Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 7, 1994.

Lectures and Seminars on Philosophy of Medicine, The San Antonio Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas, April 15, 1994.


“Philosophy as Therapeia,” Department of Philosophy, Middle Tennessee State University, April 1995.


Presentation on editing of Critical Editions, C. S. Peirce Center, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, May 1996.

“Plato’s Cave,” Visiting Lecturer, N.E.H. Seminar, State University of New York at Stony Brook, July 1996.


Classroom presentation, Josiah Royce, Vanderbilt University, November 1996.


“Losing Our Way: Tao or Dow?,” University of South Carolina, January 1997.


“The Humanities: Ornament or Marrow,” NEH, University of California, Berkeley, July 26, 1997.


Keynote Address, “Aesthetics Against the Grain,” American Society for Aesthetics, Rocky Mountain Division, Santa Fe, New Mexico, July 10, 1998.


Invited lecture on William James, University College - Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, February 9, 1999.

“The Erosion of Moral Sensibility,” Annual Lyceum Lecture, Middle Tennessee State University, March 26, 1999.

“Sir William Osler and Medical School Education,” Renewed Osler Society, Texas A&M University, April 23, 1999.

“Ill at Ease: No Ultimate Canopy of Explanation,” presentation to the American Philosophy Conference at the University of Vermont, July 1999.


Undergraduate Seminars on John Dewey, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, November 11 - 12, 1999.


Visiting Lecturer, California State University at Chico, February 2001. Selected as the first Lottery Visiting Professor at California State University. Chosen on the basis of national reputation as a classroom teacher.


Visiting Lecturer, The University of Oregon, May 2001. Seminar to Graduate Faculty and Students on “Death.”


“Globalization and Higher Education,” The University of Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii, February 20-25, 2002. Member of invitation only panel with conferees from Pakistan, Kashmir, Guatemala, China, Australia, Germany, Italy, among others.


Presentation – Commentator on papers by Jay Martin (John Dewey) and Robert Richardson (William James) at the Biographer’s Conference, Texas A&M University, October 18, 2002.


Presented “A University: The Loss of Marrow,” as the annual Humanities Lecture at California State University, Fresno, February 11, 2003. Also gave classroom presentations of “Plato’s Cave.”

Visiting Professor, Stanford University, February 12-13, 2003. “Philosophical Issues in Addiction Therapy,” Stanford University School of Medicine, Divison of Psychiatry. Public presentation to the Graduate Program, School of education:
“At the Turning: Experience is Pedagogical.” Seminar on selected philosophical texts by William James and John Dewey.

Visiting Lecturer, Seattle University, April 10-12. Delivered the long-standing invited Toulouse Lecture on “The University at the ‘Turning’: The Loss of Marrow.” Lecture to the honors program. Presentation of seminar paper to a gathering of philosophers. Addressed the Northwest Phenomenological Society on “The Importance of the ‘Given’”. On April 11, a banquet was held in honor of Professor McDermott’s 50 years of teaching.

Annual Hurst Lecture at American University, April 2004


Presidential Address to the Josiah Royce Society, Vanderbilt University, April 2005.

Presentation of completed set of the Correspondence of William James to the Glasscock Center for Humanities Research and reading of selected letters, November 4, 2005.


“Founders, Foundering, and Finding” Founders Address to the Annual national/international meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy. College Station, TX March 14th 2009.


On March 15th 2009 national and international scholars, students, and university colleagues gathered to pay homage to the philosophical work and teaching of John J. McDermott. Presented as “The Nectar is in the Journey: A Celebration of the Life and Career of John J. McDermott.” This event featured five panel discussions with responses by Professor McDermott. A program is enclosed.


HONORS AND AWARDS


Queens College Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, 1969-1970

E. Harris Harbison National Award for Gifted Teaching (Danforth Foundation) - 1970

L.L.D. (Honoris Causa) University of Hartford, 1970 (for Contribution to Higher Education)

Teaching Award, State University of New York, Stony Brook, 1971

Appointed one of six senior editors for The Collected Writings of William James, sponsored by N.E.H. and A.C.L.S., 1974 -- 19 Volumes
Humanities Lecturer, representing Texas A&M University in the University Consortium of the Southwest Conference

Chosen as the first lifetime Fellow of the American Montessori Society

Selected as the 1980-1981 University Faculty Lecturer, Texas A&M University

Chosen as Editor, Ten-Year Proceedings of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy

Commencement Address, Texas A&M University, August 1982

Received the Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching from the Association of Former Students of Texas A&M University, May 1983

Elected, Charter Speaker, Faculty Senate, Texas A&M University, 1984

Nominated as candidate for Vice-President/President-Elect of the American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division) October 1985 (Lost by four votes)

Nominated to Steering Committee of The International Federation of Societies of Philosophy (FISP)

Elected, Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, 1986

The Honor Society of Phi Beta Delta, Alpha Beta Chapter, Texas A&M University

Named as George T. and Gladys H. Abell Endowed Professor in Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University, 1986

Awarded grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities as General Editor and Project Director of a multi-volume edition of The Correspondence of William James to be published by The University of Virginia Press

One of Two Texans nominated for the National Humanities Council. (Also nominated by the American Philosophical Association.)

Recipient of Former Students Research Award, Texas A&M University, May 1989

Received the Herbert W. Schneider Award for “Distinguished Contributions to the Understanding and Development of American Philosophy,” from the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 1993

Received 20 Years of Service Award, Texas A&M University, October 1997

Morton N. Cohen Award given for A Distinguished Edition of Letters, Volume VI of The Correspondence of William James, from the Modern Language Association, 1999. (Given to the Editors of the Correspondence).


Received Distinguished Research Award. College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University. 2000.

Endowment of the Speakership of the Texas A&M Faculty Senate in the name of John J. McDermott (provided by Samuel H. Black), 2001.

Conference on the teaching and work of John J. McDermott held at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, October 2001.

Nominated by Texas A&M University as the sole candidate for the Kluge Foundation’s John W. Kluge Prize in the Human Sciences, 2002.

Conference on the teaching and work of John J. McDermott held at C.W. Post College – Long Island University, June 2002.

Received 25 Years of Service Award, Texas A&M University, October 2002

Received 20 Years of Service Award, College of Medicine, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, 2002.

Conference on the teaching and work of John J. McDermott held at Seattle University, April 2003.

Biographical feature in the Texas A&M University Football Program, October 26, 2002.

Featured in the Texas A&M University 125th Anniversary painting by Benjamin Knox, 2002.


My person and work as the feature story in *Pathways*, the annual publication of The College of Liberal Arts, Fall 2003.

Recipient of the 2004 John Dewey Society Achievement Award (presented in San Diego, April 12, 2004).

University Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching from the Association of Former Students, May 2004.

Presidential Professor Award for Teaching Excellence in perpetuity, May 2004.

Selected as Piper Professor of 2005 by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation for outstanding scholarly and academic achievement.

25-Year Pin and Ceremony, College of Medicine, Texas A&M University. December 20, 2006.

*The Nectar is in the Journey: A Celebration of the Life and Work of John J. McDermott.* An all day conference, College Station, Texas, March 15th, 2009 (Program attached)

Appointed Regents Professor, Texas A&M University, 2009

John Robert Shook

Vice President for Education and Research and Senior Research Fellow, Center for Inquiry Transnational

Research Associate in Philosophy, Philosophy Department, University at Buffalo, New York

Center for Inquiry Transnational
3965 Rensch Road
Amherst, NY 14228

716-636-4869 ext. 216

Education

   Special Merit Scholarship, 1990-1993
   Dissertation: John Dewey’s Early Philosophy: The Foundations of Instrumentalism. vi + 295pp. Dr. Peter Hare, Director


B.A. in Philosophy Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. 1988.
   Cum Laude, Honors in Philosophy

Academic Positions

June 2008 to present Vice President for Education and Research and Senior Research Fellow, Center for Inquiry Transnational, Amherst, New York

June 2006 to May 2008 Vice President for Research and Senior Research Fellow, Center for Inquiry Transnational, Amherst, New York

Aug. 2006 to present Adjunct Assistant Professor of Science Education, University at Buffalo, New York

Sept. 2006 to present Research Associate in Philosophy, Philosophy Department, University at Buffalo, New York

July 2003 to May 2006 Associate Professor, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma

Aug. 2000 to June 2003 Assistant Professor, Oklahoma State University

The Pragmatism Cybrary
www.pragmatism.org

shook.pragmatism.org

jshook@pragmatism.org

Shook 1
May 1999 to July 2000  
Associate Professor, Corning Community College, Corning, New York

Aug. 1995 to April 1999  
Assistant Professor, Corning Community College

Aug. 1994 to July 1995  
Assistant Professor (non-tenure track), Jamestown Community College, Jamestown, New York

Aug. 1993 to July 1994  
Instructor (non-tenure track), Jamestown Community College

### Areas of Specialization and Concentration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AOS</th>
<th>AOC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pragmatism, Classical and Contemporary</td>
<td>Modern Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Philosophical Traditions</td>
<td>Analytic Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Intellectual History</td>
<td>American Philosoph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metaphysics and Ontology</td>
<td>Philosophy of Religi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Mind and Philosophical Psychology</td>
<td>Ethical Theories and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Science and Naturalism</td>
<td>Social and Political</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Courses Taught at Oklahoma State University

**Undergraduate Courses**
- Philosophical Classics
- Philosophies of Life
- 19th and 20th Century Philosophy
- Early American Philosophy
- Recent American Philosophy
- Philosophy of Mind
- Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence
- Philosophy of Science
- Biomedical Ethics

**Graduate Courses**
- Topics in Metaphysics
- 20th Century Epistemology
- John Dewey
- Pragmatism and Soci
- Darwin and Dewey
- American Psycholog

### Chair of Thesis Committees


**Books Authored**


Matthew C. Flamm, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Newsletter, no. 86 (June 2000): 16-17.


**Books Edited**


**Book Series Edited**

General Editor of the *Pragmatism in American Thought* series from 2000 to 2006, published first by Thoemmes Press and then by Thoemmes Continuum. The sets in this series are:


Editor of *Studies in Pragmatism and Values*, a special series of the Value Inquiry Book Series from 2000 to 2008, published by Rodopi. The books published:


**Journals Edited**


**Other Editorial Positions**


**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**


“Peter Hare on the Philosophy of Curt John Ducasse.” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, forthcoming.


**Book Essays**


“Introduction.” To The Correspondence of John Dewey, Volume 3: 1940-1953, ed. Larry Hickman (Charlottesville, Va.: Intelex, 2005). A 40,000 word introductory essay for this publication on CD-ROM.


“A Pragmatically Realistic Philosophy of Science.” In Pragmatic Naturalism and Realism, ed.
Reference Articles, Bibliographies, Miscellaneous


Articles Edited


Introductions to Edited Volumes


Prefaces and Forewords


“Editorial Statement.” To The Pluralist v.1 n.3 (Fall 2006): v-vi.


“Preface.” To The Early Critics of Pragmatism, in vol. 1 (Bristol: Thoemmes, 2001), pp. xii-xiii.


“Preface.” To The Chicago School of Functionalism, in vol. 1 (Bristol: Thoemmes, 2001), pp. ix-x.
“Preface.” To The Chicago School of Pragmatism, in vol. 1 (Bristol: Thoemmes, 2000), pp. ix-x.

**Book Reviews**


**Book Notices for Choice:**


**Conference and Society Presentations**


“Pragmatism Caught between Church and State.” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, with the Eastern Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, Boston, December 2004.


“Do We Have Free Will From God’s Omniscient Perspective?” Conference on “God, Free Will, and Determinism” at McMurry University, Abilene, Texas, March 2002.

“Pragmatism and Realism in Philosophy of Science.” Session Presentation at the Summer


Other Invited Presentations

“Peter Hare on the Philosophy of Curt John Ducasse.” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan, March 2008.

“Ectogenesis.” Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, Yale University, November 2007.

“Pragmatism.” Summer Institute of the Center for Inquiry Transnational, Amherst, New York, July 2006.


“Pragmatism and Truth: Naturalizing and Historicizing Knowledge.” Philosophy Department, Oklahoma City University, October 2001.


**Recognitions, Awards, and Grants**

Arts and Sciences Travel Award, Spring 2005
2003 *OSU Distinguished Faculty Award* with meri new roman, Times New Roman,
Arts and Sciences Summer Research Grant, Summer 2003
Junior Faculty Award for Scholarly Excellence, OSU College of Arts and Sciences, 2002.
Dean’s Incentive Grant, Summer 2002
Arts and Sciences Summer Research Grant and Travel Award, Summer 2001
Dean’s Incentive Grant, Summer 2001
Arts and Sciences Travel Award, Fall 2001
Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers, 2000 edition

Courses Taught at Corning Community College

Introduction to Philosophy
Values and Contemporary Society
Introduction to Logic
Critical Thinking
Philosophy of Life
Current Moral Issues
Introduction to Ethics
American Thought and Values
Contemporary Philosophy
Health Care Ethics
Philosophy of Religion
World Religions
Philosophy of the Arts
Social & Political Philosophy
Business Ethics

Other Professional Activities and Affiliations

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy. Coordinator of SAAP sessions at Central APA Meetings (2001-2005); Nominating Committee (2003-2005); Executive Committee (2006-2009)

William James Society. Advisory Board Member (1999-2001); Executive Committee At-Large Member (2001-2003)

Josiah Royce Society. Executive Committee Member (2003-2006)

Webmaster of The Pragmatism Cybrary at www.pragmatism.org

Member,

American Philosophical Association
International Pragmatism Society
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy
Charles S. Peirce Society
William James Society
Josiah Royce Society
Highlands Institute for American Philosophy and Theology
Centro de Estudos em Filosofia Americana e Pragmatismo (Brazil)
ERIC THOMAS WEBER
Curriculum Vitae

Mailing address: Department of Public Policy Leadership
The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss)
105 Odom Hall
University, MS 38677

Phone: 662.915.1336
Fax: 662.915.1954
Email: etweber@olemiss.edu
Website: http://www.ericthomasweber.org

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION
Ethics and Public Policy, Social and Political Philosophy, and American Philosophy.

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

EMPLOYMENT
The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss), Oxford, MS, 2007 – present
Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Department of Public Policy Leadership.

The Clarion Ledger, Major Mississippi newspaper out of Jackson, MS, 2010 – present
Freelance writer / regular columnist on contract, Editorial Desk.

Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, 2004 – 2007
Teaching Assistant, Webmaster, and I.T. support, Dept. of Phil. and Center for Dewey Studies.

Ohio University, Athens, OH, 2002 – 2004
Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, Ohio University.

EDUCATION
Southern Illinois University, Ph.D., Philosophy, 2007.

AWARDS & HONORS
Faculty Travel Support Award, O. of Research and Sponsored Programs, U. M., $1,500 for travel to
the Soc. for the Adv. of Am. Philosophy's Summer Institute, in Eugene, OR, July 26-31, 2010.

Departmental Summer Research Award, Public Policy Leadership, U. of Mississippi, summer 2010.
Honored with Distinguished Membership in the National Society for Collegiate Scholars for
“outstanding contributions to the classroom, the campus, and the community,” September 2009.
American Philosophical Association Grant for 3 projects for the Society of Philosophers in America
(SOPHIA), $2,400 with $3,700 match, 2009.
Mississippi Humanities Council Grant for SOPHIA symposium on “Ethics at the End of Life,” with Jo

Departmental Summer Research Award, Public Policy Leadership, U. of Mississippi, summer 2009.

Last Updated 06.23.10
Mississippi Humanities Council Grant for the Mississippi Philosophical Association’s Medical Ethics Conference, $2,920 with $5,900 match, November, 2008.

Visiting Research Fellow, Center for Inquiry Transnational, Amherst, NY, July 14 – 17, 2008.

Departmental Summer Research Award, Public Policy Leadership, U. of Mississippi, summer 2008.

College of Liberal Arts Summer Research Grant, The U. of Mississippi, $8,400 for summer 2008.

Faculty Travel Support Award, O. of Research and Sponsored Programs, University of Mississippi, $1,500 for travel to “Transforming Regional Economies,” in Baltimore, MD, October 2007.

Invited to the Greek Life luncheon in recognition for “Outstanding service to Ole Miss,” spring 2008.

Andrew P. Smith Writing Award, SIU, 2005.

S. Morris Eames Philosophy Graduate Student Award, SIU, 2004 – 2005.

N.E.H. Young Scholars Summer Research Grant Award, summer 1996.

PUBLICATIONS

Books


Books in Preparation

Democracy and Leadership: Community, Pragmatism, and Social Intelligence, proposal under review.

Bringing Broadband to the Land of the Blues: Technological Paths toward Economic Development and Community in the State of Mississippi, with Dr. Warigia Bowman.

Teaching Civility: The Value of Liberal Arts in a Recession.

Fighting Culture with Culture: Overcoming Self-Fulfilling Prophecies of Failure in Mississippi and Other Poor Places (early title).

Ten Philosophical Lessons for the Good Life.

Professional Ph.D.: Taking Graduate School in the Humanities Seriously.

Scholarly Articles


“On Applying Ethics: Who’s Afraid of Plato’s Cave?” Contemporary Pragmatism, volume 7, issue 1 or 2, forthcoming in June or December of 2010.


Popular Media Publications


“Charters as Step and Experiment,” Guest Columnist for the Clarion Ledger (Jackson, MS), 3/6/2010, scan of the article: http://www.ericthomasweber.org/ETW-Charters-CL.pdf.


**Articles under Review**

“Leadership and Liberal Arts Education,” submitted to *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*.

“Fundraising for Hire: On The Ethical Limits of Outsourced Fundraising,” revising to resubmit to *Public Affairs Quarterly*.

**Articles in Preparation**

“Fiscal Responsibility and the ‘Use it or lose it’ Rationale for Spending,” revising.

“Philosophy and Public Policy Prioritization,” revising.

“Being and Pragmatism,” to be sent to the *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*.

“The Great Benefits of Stoicism, Despite All Its Faults,” to be sent to the *Journal of Philosophy*.

“Robust Constructivism,” revising.

“Democracy, Education, and Economic Growth: Rethinking Causal Relationships,” to be sent to the *Policy Studies Journal*.

“Construction, Art, and Politics: On Creative Leadership,” revising to resubmit to the *Journal for Peace and Justice Studies*.

“Royce and Realism: A Response to Perry’s Conception of Independence,” revising to send to *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*.

“Human Rights without Natural or Moral Rights Theory,” revising.

“Facing Fears of Relativism,” to be sent to the *Journal of Value Inquiry*.

“A New Way to Teach Argumentative Writing,” to be sent to *Teaching Philosophy*.

**Encyclopedia Entries**


**Editing**


**Reviews**


**PRESENTATIONS**


“Leadership in Education,” an invited talk given before select teachers in the DeSoto county schools, MS, as part of a special teacher training program, March 23, 2010.


“Ethics and Environmental Policy,” Invited presentation, Presidential Address, Mississippi Philosophical Association, Environmental Ethics Conference, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, February 5, 2010.


“Leadership in Education,” an invited talk given before select teachers in the DeSoto county schools, MS, as part of a special teacher training program, March 23, 2010.


“Ethics and Environmental Policy,” Invited presentation, Presidential Address, Mississippi Philosophical Association, Environmental Ethics Conference, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, February 5, 2010.


“Funding for Hire: On the Ethical Limits of Outsourced Fundraising,” College of Liberal Arts Faculty Forum Series, University of Mississippi (Oxford), University, MS, February 17, 2009.


“Liberal Arts Education and the Foundations of Democracy,” The Idea of Education, the CERGE-EI of Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, August 9, 2005.


“Combination of Church and State,” The International Association for the Study of Environment, Space and Place, Towson University, Towson, MD, April 30, 2005.


“Thinking for a Better Life,” Cave Hill Philosophy Symposium: Conversations I: Conceptualizing Philosophy, University of the West Indies at Cave Hill, Barbados, April 1, 2005.


TEACHING

The University of Mississippi

Ethics and Public Policy (PPL 300), fall 2008 & 2009.


Advising for honors theses at the University of Mississippi (major professor unless specified):

  Ben Rowley, on “Affordable Housing in Oxford, MS,” defended spring 2009.
  Jake McGraw, on educational injustice in Mississippi, Summer 2009 to present.
  Vince Chamblee, on ethics in international development, Summer 2009 to present.
  Alex McLelland, on the failure of some Mississippi public schools, spring 2010 to present.
  Sarah Rogers, exploratory research on foreign policy, spring 2010 to present.
  Kaylen Addison, on gay marriage, spring 2010 to present.
  Kyle Robbins, exploratory research on social policy, spring 2010 to present.
  Brent Caldwell, serving as second reader, begun spring 2010.
  Alyssa Yuen, for Croft Institute thesis, service as third reader, begun 2010.

Southern Illinois University

Introduction to Ethics (Phil 104), Teaching Assistant, spring 2007.

American Mind, History of American Intellectualism (Phil 210), Instructor, fall 2006.

Philosophy of Science, Nature, and Technology (Phil 307i), Instructor, spring 2006.
Philosophy of Politics, Law, and Justice (Phil 309i), Instructor, fall 2005.
Introduction to Logic (Phil 105), Teaching assistant, 2004 – 2005.

Ohio University

SERVICE

To the Profession


Attending the National Humanities Alliance's Annual Meeting and Humanities Advocacy Day, March 8 - 9, 2010, George Washington University, Washington, D.C., to "meet national leaders and others who shape humanities policy ... and make sure [our voices are] heard in support of the humanities."


Received an MHC grant (state affiliate of the NEH) for the 2008 Medical Ethics Conference.


Volunteered contributions to the APA’s Committee on Public Philosophy, Spring 2009.


Web-Design consultant to the Communications Director of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (S.A.A.P.), summer 2008 – present (http://www.american-philosophy.org).


To the Department and to the University

Lead a discussion on “Dialogue Day,” for the Black History Month programs at UM, 2/24/10, and before that promoted the event on 2/22/10 (see Popular Media Engagements below).

Steering committee member for the Men’s Leadership Series, sponsored by the Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy, summer 2009 – present.

Lecture Series committee member, The University of Mississippi, spring 2008 – present.

Eric Thomas Weber, Assistant Professor of Public Policy Leadership, The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss), Curriculum Vitae, page 9
Serve on the U.M. National Scholarship Advisory Committee, spring 2009 – present.

Web Planning committee member, The University of Mississippi, spring 2009 – present.

Served as moderator for the Ole Miss College Republicans’ and College Democrats’ Student Debate in ‘08, held on September 4th of 2008.

Presented “Keeping Them Honest: How to Use SafeAssignments and Why It’s Good for the University of Mississippi” to the S.M.B. Honors College writing faculty, spring 2009.

Founded and lead U.M. Agraphia, a group of academic researchers that meets every two weeks to talk about writing goals and challenges for mutual support and feedback, fall 2008 – present.


Serve as a faculty advisor for student orgs.: Respect Mississippi, Minority Affairs Committee Awards Gala (planning), and the UM chapter of the Roosevelt Institution, Fall 2007 – present.


External Funding Representative of the Graduate Philosophy Student Union at SIU, since 2005, and Treasurer, since 2006. Designed and implemented the G.P.S.U.’s first fundraising effort. Raised approximately $25,000. The G.P.S.U. can now establish an endowment with the SIU Foundation.


**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Fluent in French, written and spoken – native speaker with 15 years of study.

Conversational in Spanish, written and spoken – 7 years of study.

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

With students, met with the MS State House Committee on Education, re: Charter Schools, 1/13/10.


Attended the “Transforming Regional Economies” conference, in Baltimore, MD, October 2007.

Attended the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy’s Summer Institute, summer 2006.
Own and operate Tempest Records, a small music business, summer 2000 – present.


Emory University in Paris, June through August, French Literature, summer of 2000.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Charles S. Peirce Society.
The International Society for Universal Dialogue.
The International Leadership Association.
The John Dewey Society.
Mississippi Economic Development Council.
The Metaphysical Society of America.
The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Distinguished Membership.
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy.
Society of Philosophers in America (SOPHIA), Executive Director, Trustee, and Treasurer.
Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World.
The William James Society.

POPULAR MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS (OTHER THAN WRITINGS)

Interviewed for Melanie Addington’s article on my work, “Poor Doesn’t Equal Failure,” The Oxford Eagle, June 7, 2010, page 1A and 3A. Taken up by Associated Press. You can find a scan here: http://www.ericthomasweber.org/Addington-PoorDoesntEqualFailure-OxfordEagle060710.pdf

Television interview with Memphis Channel 3’s “Live at Nine” show to talk about the “Day of Dialogue” event at UM, for which I served as a facilitator, 2/22/10.


Radio interview in French with the BBC’s World Service International Program for francophone Africa on the first 2008 Presidential Debate held at the University of Mississippi, Sept. 26th, 2008.

REFERENCES

Dr. Doug Anderson, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Southern Illinois University, Mailcode 4505, Carbondale, IL, 62901, dra3@siu.edu, 618.453.7435.

Dr. Larry A. Hickman, Director, Center for Dewey Studies, Southern Illinois University, Mailcode 6822, Carbondale, IL, 62901, lhickman@siu.edu, 618.453.2629.

Dr. John Lachs, Centennial Professor of Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, 111 Furman Hall, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 37240, john.lachs@vanderbilt.edu, 615.322.2637.
Society of Philosophers in America (SOPHIA)
“Ethics at the End of Life”
The University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, January 30th and 31st, 2009.

Thank you all for your support and participation!!! http://www.philosophersinamerica.com/