American Philosophical Association Diversity and Inclusiveness Grant Application

Contact Information:

Peter Zuk
peter.d.zuk@rice.edu
APA Member

Funding Information:

Charles Tarantino, Assistant Controller, Rice University
P.O. Box 1892 – MS 74
Houston, TX 77251-1892
rchacctg@rice.edu

Funding Amount Requested: $9,845.00
Duration of Funding Requested at Above Level: 2 Years

Project Information:

Title: Ethics and Society at Rice University

Abstract: Ethics and Society at Rice University is a three-week summer enrichment program for rising juniors and seniors who qualify for free or reduced-price meals in Houston-area public and charter schools. The program both addresses a deep disparity in educational opportunities and has the potential to contribute to diversity within the field of philosophy: while most pre-college philosophy programs at U.S. universities are cost-prohibitive for students from mid- to low-income families, ours offers free tuition, meals, and supplies for the fifteen participants. By opening the program to students from economically disadvantaged families, our student body is constituted by demographic groups that are underrepresented in the field.

In 2016, our fledgling program received generous support from Humanities Texas and the Doerr Institute for New Leaders at Rice University. We now seek funding for the next two years so that we can continue to deliver this innovative and transformative educational experience to qualified and deserving students.

Steering Committee:

1. Dr. Jennifer Blumenthal-Barby, Cullen Associate Professor of Medical Ethics, Baylor College of Medicine (APA Member)
2. Dr. Gwen Bradford, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Rice University (APA Member)
3. The Rev. Gregory Han, Executive Director of Interfaith Relations, Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston (Non-Member)
4. Dr. Donald Morrison, Professor of Philosophy and Classical Studies and Department Chair, Rice University (APA Member)
5. Adam Valenstein, High School Teacher, The John Cooper School (APA Member)
6. Brandon Williams, Doctoral Student, Rice University (APA Member)
7. Dr. Vida Yao, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Rice University (APA Member)
8. Peter Zuk, Doctoral Student, Rice University (APA Member)

Project Description:

For several years, the Philosophy Department at Rice University has sought to promote philosophical ethical reflection and civil discourse among young people, chiefly by hosting the Houston High School Ethics Bowl. In March 2015, members of the department felt a strong need to increase our mission-driven efforts for community engagement. Ethics and Society was both an extension and amplification of this important work. The program recruited promising students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals in local schools. At the same time, our first cohort was composed of students whose race and ethnicity are underrepresented in the field. Of the fifteen students, ten were Hispanic/Latina/o; two were Asian (Nepalese and Vietnamese); two were African-American, and one was Native American. Thus, Ethics and Society weds our desire to introduce philosophy to adolescents with our tenacious commitments to equality of educational opportunity and to increasing diversity within the field.

The program itself will be an exciting blend of innovative pedagogy and experiential learning. During the first week, two advanced doctoral students in philosophy will deliver the content through engaging lessons and activities. Topics including human rights, economic fairness, moral equality, and democratic participation will be centerpieces of individual and collective inquiry. At the end of the first week, a faculty member from the Philosophy Department will conduct a Socratic dialogue with the students.

The second week will bridge theory with practice. We will conduct three site visits to industries central to Houston’s economy and identity:

1. Anadarko Petroleum is a Fortune 250, oil and gas company; there, the students will learn about corporate ethical culture and corporate social responsibility from senior administrators.

2. Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston, Refugee Services is one of the largest resettlement programs in the U.S. At IMGH, we will meet with case workers to discuss the challenges for their clients and the duties we have – as individuals and as a nation – to refugees.

3. At Baylor College of Medicine’s Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, one of the staff bioethicists will lead the students through case studies.

Each of these visits will help our students contextualize and concretize their theoretical learning.
In the third and final week, students will select issues in contemporary ethics, inspired by the site visits, and deliver presentations as “ethical consultants” to a large audience of diverse project stakeholders.

Project Goals and Objectives:

Student Participant-Centered Program Objectives:

1. We seek to recruit 15 talented rising juniors/seniors who qualify for free or reduced-price meals in Houston public/charter schools by working closely with school administrators and counselors during the selection process.

2. We plan to deliver the content areas – normative ethical theory and philosophical conceptions of justice – through engaging lessons and activities.

3. We will engage the wider Houston community by conducting three site visits: Anadarko Petroleum, Baylor Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, and Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston - Refugee Services.

4. Students will improve their presentation skills: demonstrating content-area expertise; using body language appropriately and effectively; and speaking with clarity, volume, and purpose.

5. Students will cultivate a greater sense of personal initiative and responsibility in the pursuit of their own goals, the baseline for which will be each student’s statement of interest in the program (received as part of their application) and a personal reflection writing assignment done in class on the first and penultimate days.

6. Students will gain proficiency in the content areas.

7. Students will improve their critical reasoning skills (viz. evaluating arguments for assumptions, premises, and conclusions; generating challenges to arguments; and reconciling opposing views).

8. Students will gain familiarity with university library databases and conducting research efficiently.

Instructor-Centered Program Objectives:

1. Instructors will gain awareness of their own leadership strengths through critical self-reflection and third-party evaluation in the form of an EQi assessment and leadership coaching.

2. Instructors will develop programming skills and gain experience in setting a clear vision and actionable goals for group development.
3. Instructors will practice effective time-management in the settings of professional meetings, group discussion, and classroom facilitation.

Project Status: Currently, we are completing the program with our first cohort. Thus, we have established and cultivated relationships with diverse project stakeholders: from counselors and administrators at over eight local schools in Houston and Spring Branch Independent School Districts to key personnel at our site visits and senior administrators at Rice. We anticipate that the logistics for the 2017 and 2018 cohorts will run even more smoothly and successfully since we already have laid the groundwork for the program.

Project Timeline:

Phase 1:

(Dec. 16, 2016): 1. Finalize application process and materials; 2. Design and print informational literature


(Jan. 16 through March 10, 2017): 1. Open application period; 2. Attend summer job fairs at charter networks to share the program

(March 13 through 17, 2017): Evaluate applications and admissions

(March 20, 2017): 1. Email decisions and paperwork to students; 2. Inform school administrators and counselors of decisions.

(May 15 through 26, 2017): Communicate with students and families to confirm participation.

(May 31, 2017): Mail invitations to Academic Symposium to project stakeholders.

Phase 2:

(June 12 through 30, 2017): Program runs in Humanities Building and Fondren Library at Rice University with additional site visits.

(June 16, 2017): Socratic discussion with a Rice philosophy faculty member.

(June 19, 2017): Site visit #1. Baylor College of Medicine, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy.

(June 21, 2017): Site visit #2. Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston Refugee Services.

(June 23, 2017): Site visit #3. Anadarko Petroleum.

Phase 3:

(July 3, 2017): Email Tier 1 Feedback Form.

(Aug. 4, 2017): Email summative feedback (viz. evaluations of students’ performance) to students, families, school administrators, and college counselors.

(Oct. 2, 2017): Email Tier 2 Feedback Form.

(Early Nov., 2017): Debrief results from two-tier evaluation in light of project goals.

Outreach Plan:

Outreach works in two ways for the program. First, we would like to recruit qualified and deserving students from the Houston-area. To achieve this goal, the Program Coordinator works directly with school counselors, administrators, and charter school opportunity managers. Other out-of-school programs that assist students from economically disadvantaged families, like Breakthrough Houston, have specific summer opportunity fairs in January/February that we plan to attend. Second, we invite all project stakeholders to our culminating Academic Symposium. Here, we send both personalized emails and a formal invitation. Invitees include friends and family members of the students, the entire philosophy department (faculty, staff, students), the entire administration/staff of Office of Humanities, the entire administration/staff of the Doerr Institute, and every school official who helped students enroll in the program. For 2017/18, we are considering inviting members of other Houston-area philosophy departments (e.g. the University of Houston and Texas A&M).

Accessibility Plan:

It is the mission of Rice University’s Disability Support Services (DSS) to be committed to providing access to the educational environment for students. DSS also assists faculty, staff, and visitors with accommodation requests to help ensure equal access and opportunity.

The role of Disability Support Services at Rice University is:

● To obtain and file disability-related documents,
● To certify eligibility for services,
● To help to determine reasonable accommodations,
● To develop plans for the provision of accommodations for students, faculty, staff and visitors, and
● To advise Rice University regarding the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 and the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
It is the goal of DSS, in the pursuit of its mission and its role, to achieve the standards for excellence from the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD).

Furthermore, DSS is committed to providing service that is:

- Accessible to all
- Accepting of differences
- Inclusive of diversity
- Respectful of needs, and
- Knowledgeable in implementation

Students (including graduate students and postdoctoral trainees), faculty or staff members who may need accommodations should contact Disability Support Services to discuss their needs and begin the registration process. Disability related requests for accommodations and services are evaluated individually, based on documentation and completion of the registration process.

**Evaluation Plan:**

We will implement five measures to gauge the success of the program for high school student participants. Students will be assessed in three ways: (1) they will complete pre- and post-tests covering the content area to measure proficiency; (2) they will be assessed for the quality of their oral presentations, using a summative rubric; and (3) instructors will write narratives on each student’s overall contributions to the program with an emphasis on styles of engagement in group work and other leadership skills, which we will send to their respective college counselors and families. The program will be assessed using a two-tier evaluation tool. Upon completion of the program, students will complete the Tier 1 Form, which asks students to evaluate the quality of instruction, appropriateness of the curriculum (readings, lectures, site visits, library services), their overall engagement, and how they intend to apply learned content when they return to their respective school contexts. Then, in October, students will complete the Tier 2 Form, which asks students to report on the transferability of learned content and skills within their high school curricula, including its impact on their growth as leaders in peer groups, educational settings, and broader contexts of civic engagement.

We will employ at least four methods to promote and evaluate leadership development and success on the part of the graduate student instructors: (1) an emotional intelligence test (EQI) to establish a baseline for various dimensions of interpersonal aptitude and instructors will reflect on their own development in these areas as they keep a reflective journal during the program; (2) engagement with a leadership coach to identify and work toward fulfilling leadership potential; (3) a resultant leadership development profile (created in consultation with a leadership coach) to facilitate teaching excellence with respect to the program as well as future leadership roles; (4) reflective journaling as a method of constructive self-evaluation.

**Funding Plan:**

We are seeking $9,845 for both 2017 and 2018, which will allow us to compensate our program coordinator and cover expenses, like supplies, materials, transportation, and food services.
In the future, we most likely would seek funding for a three-year period to give the project sustainability; possible new sources of revenue might include the Anadarko Foundation, the Doris and Donald Fisher Fund, and special funds at Rice University.

Project Budget (2017 & 2018):

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NAME
Jennifer Blumenthal-Barby PhD

POSITION TITLE
Cullen Associate Professor of Medicine and Medical Ethics
Associate Director of Medical Ethics

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login)
jenblubar01

EDUCATION/TRAINING
(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH

DEGREE (if applicable)
B.S.
M.A.

MM/YY
1998-2002
2002-2004

FIELD OF STUDY
Health Science
Philosophy

Positions and Employment

2016 – Cullen Associate Professor (tenured), Department of Medicine, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine
2015 – Associate Professor (tenured), Department of Medicine, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine
2008 – 2015 Assistant Professor (tenure track), Department of Medicine, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine
2009 – Assistant Professor (adjunct appointment), Department of Philosophy, Rice University

Other Experience and Professional Memberships (selected)

2013 – Founding Leader (with Peter Ubel MD and Meredith Stark PhD), American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Medical Decision Making Affinity Group
2011 – Member, International Patient Decision Aids Standards Collaboration (IPDAS), Background Update Group on Balancing Presentation of Options
2011 – Member, Society for Medical Decision Making
2007 – Member, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities

Honors (selected)

2011 Faculty Scholars in Bioethics Award, Greenwall Foundation, a “career development award to enable outstanding junior faculty members to carry out original research that will help resolve important policy and clinical dilemmas at the intersection of ethics and the life sciences”
2011 Medical and Academic Partners (MAP) Fellowship in Bioethics Award, Pfizer Foundation, a “nationally competitive award to support the career development and promotion of talented researchers early in their careers”
2011 Junior Scholar in Bioethics Award, Wake Forest University Junior Scholars in Bioethics Program, for “junior faculty working in bioethics to present their work to senior scholars in bioethics”
2005 1st Prize, Bioethics Network of Ohio Bioethics Case Analysis Competition for “best case analysis submitted by a graduate or undergraduate professional student”

Selected Peer-reviewed Publications (from 58 peer-reviewed publications)


Selected Ongoing Research Support

Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Award
“Development and User Testing of a Decision Aid for Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) Placement”
Role: Principal Investigator
February 2014-February 2017 ($1,343,703)

The Greenwall Foundation Making a Difference in Real-World Bioethics Dilemmas Grant Initiative
Senior Collaboration Project on “Ethically Responsible Choice Architecture in Medical Decision Making” with Robert J. Volk, PhD
Role: Principal Investigator
July 2014-July 2016 (40% salary support)

Greenwall Faculty Scholar Award in Bioethics Blumenthal-Barby (PI) 7/01/11 – 6/30/14
“Integrating Ethics into the Science of Behavior Change: An Ethical Framework for Clinicians and Policymakers”
This junior faculty award aims to offer conceptual clarity about the relation between forms of influence and autonomy, and ethical insight as to when the use of behavior change techniques is acceptable or desirable. By articulating and defending normative guidelines for policymakers and clinicians, this work will promote the responsible development and deployment of behavior change techniques in clinical practice and health policy.

Pfizer Foundation MAP Fellowship in Bioethics Blumenthal-Barby (PI) 7/01/11 – 6/30/13
“Integrating Ethics into the Science of Behavior Change: An Ethical Framework for Clinicians and Policymakers”
This junior faculty award aims to promote the responsible development and deployment of behavior change techniques in clinical practice and health policy.

U01 HG10017 R Green (PI), Role: Co-I 12/1/11 – 12/1/15
“Integration of Whole Genome Sequencing into Clinical Medicine”
In a randomized exploratory trial among 200 patients and 20 physicians (half from primary care and half from cardiology), we will compare the receipt of clinically meaningfully information derived from whole genome sequencing versus current standard of care without the use of whole genome sequencing. We will examine the preferences and motivations of physicians and patients enrolled, evaluate the flow and utilization of genomic information within clinical interactions, and assess understanding, behavior, medical consequences and healthcare costs associated with the use of whole genomic sequencing in medical practice. This work will accelerate the use of genomics in clinical medicine by creating and safely testing models for its integration.
ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, Rice University (2010-current)
Faculty Fellow, Center for Ethics and Public Affairs, Murphy Institute, Tulane University (2013-2014)

EDUCATION

Yale University, Philosophy Department
Ph.D. (2010)
M.Phil (2008)

University of Toronto, Trinity College

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Moral philosophy (value theory, normative ethics)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

History of moral philosophy; epistemology; applied ethics

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Papers

Encyclopedia Entries

Book Reviews

Other
Invited Talks

Author-meets-critic, Achievement, Canadian Philosophical Association, Calgary, Alberta, May 2016
“The Badness of Pain,” University of Missouri, May 2016
Author-meets-critic, Achievement, APA Pacific, San Francisco, March 2016
“Achievement,” Lone Star College Book Symposium, Houston, TX April 2016
“Achievement,” Brown University, February 2016
“The Badness of Pain,” University of Toronto, January 2016
“The Badness of Pain,” University of California San Diego, November 2015
“Uniqueness,” University of Alabama Huntsville, March 2015
“Achievement and the Meaning of Life,” Invited session, APA Central, St. Louis, February 2015
“Pain and Perfectionism,” Tulane University, New Orleans LA, January 2014
“Pain and Perfectionism,” New Orleans University, March 2014
“Uniqueness,” Tulane University Philosophy Club, New Orleans LA, November 2013
“Problems for Perfectionism,” University of Houston, Houston TX, April 2013
“Problems for Perfectionism,” University of Mississippi, Oxford MS, November 2012
“Evil Achievements and the Principle of Recursion,” SMU, Dallas TX, February 2012
“Difficulty,” Northern Illinois University, 2010
“Difficulty,” University of Florida, 2010
“Difficulty,” Rice University, 2010

AWARDS

Rice University Humanities Research Center Symposium Award, as part of the Why So Few committee (2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016)
Faculty Fellowship, Murphy Institute Center for Ethics and Public Affairs, Tulane University (2013-2014)
Rice University Humanities Research Center Faculty Fellow (2012-2013)
Mellon Sawyer Seminar participant (2012-2013)
NSF ADVANCE Departmental Grant and Rice Humanities Research Center Grant (2010)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Area Editor, Value Theory, Misc., and Category Editor, Perfectionism, PhilPapers.org (2015-current)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Resident Associate and Faculty Fellow, Will Rice College (2015-current)
Honor System Task Force (2015-current)
CENHS Steering Committee (2015-current)
Senator, Faculty Senate, Rice University (2014-current)
Healthy Campus Committee (2015)
Mellon Sawyer Seminar in Cultures of Energy Participant (2012-2013)
Library Committee, Rice University (2011-2012, 2012-2013)

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Director of Admissions (Spring 2016)
Search Committee (2015-2016)
Admissions Committee (2014-2015)
Search Committee (2014-2015)
Colloquium Curatorial Committee, Tsanoff Prize Committee (2013-2014)
Why So Few Committee (2012-current)
Search Committee (2012-2013)
Tsanoff Prize Committee (2012)
Admissions Committee (2012)
Director of Placement (2011-2012)
ADVANCE Committee (2010-2012)
Fulton Prize Committee (2010-2011)
EDUCATION:

- Hopkins Shareholder, 1996-97, an award given to six second-year students in the Master of Divinity program, based upon demonstrated ministerial promise.

Georgetown University, Washington DC. Bachelor of Arts, American Studies, June 1993
- Concentration in American Religious History.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Director of Interfaith Relations, Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston (IMGH). June 2014-Present
- Guided and led four-person department responsible for building relationships for Houston’s oldest interfaith service organization. Managed budget and staff and served on organization’s executive team.
- Developed programs that promote faith dialogue and understanding across religious traditions.
- Shepherded relationships between IM and faith communities in one of the most diverse cities in the United States.
- Built relationships for IM as well as served as source of information for Houston organizations seeking speakers and resources concerning issues of religion and faith. Frequent presenter and teacher on faith traditions.

Faculty, Religion & English, Chapel Guild Sponsor, St. John’s School, Houston TX. September 2008-May 2014
- Created and taught upper level electives in religion (world religions, history of Christian thought) from 2009-2013 and philosophy (ethics and moral reasoning) during school year 2012-2013.
- Taught English literature and composition at 9th-grade level. Created and taught seminar-style classes at 12th-grade level, focusing on meaning in literature and ethics in literature.
- Faculty Sponsor for student group that coordinated weekly chapel program for Upper School (grades 9-12). Faculty Co-Sponsor for East Asian Affinity Group, Philosophy Club, and Ethics Bowl team (2nd place in 2014 Houston Regional competition). Served on various school committees, including committee on spirituality, committee on community service, and search committee for Head of Upper School.
- Advised two groups of students (2008-2012, 2012-2014) over the course of their education in Upper School.

- Primary preacher, pastoral leader, and vision-setter for suburban Houston congregation.
- Guided congregation from conflicted history (church burned down in 2001) to visioning for a future of growing staff, ministries, and facilities.
- Led the church through a capital campaign and worked with congregational leaders on plans for building expansion.
- Taught or co-taught 14-week confirmation class as well as a Sunday morning adult education class.

Associate Pastor, St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX. September 2000-December 2004.
- Preached monthly, led worship weekly.
- Coordinated and regularly taught in the youth fellowship program, both Sunday mornings and evenings.
- Developed and taught curriculum for 30-week youth confirmation class.
- Regularly taught for adult education classes, ranging from Biblical Studies to Church History.

Chaplain Resident, St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, Houston, TX. September 1999-August 2000.
- Provided pastoral care for cardiac recovery areas as well as two pediatric units at Texas Children’s Hospital.
- Worked with five other chaplain residents in honing pastoral and interpersonal skills through the CPE process.
- Led worship on a monthly basis, as well as serving as the on-call chaplain for the hospital on a weekly basis.

- Developed and taught curriculum for weekly college fellowship gathering first year.
- Organized and taught Sunday School program second year.
- Assisted in Sunday worship two times each academic year.
- Primary leader of Morning Prayer, a daily, 15-minute prayer service.
- In-residence advisor for two classes of 22 Harvard Freshmen.
- Provided guidance, support, and care during students’ first year at college.
- Served as students’ primary academic advisor, offered curricular guidance, and approved course selections.
- Acted as Harvard’s professional presence, enforcing guidelines and communicating with parents.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

Participant, The Center for Houston’s Future Business/Civic Leadership Forum, Spring 2016 (Class XXXI)
- Sponsored by “The Region’s Think Tank,” invitation-only leadership program attended by 37 Houston-area leaders.
- Met over two weekends to learn, discuss, and engage with area experts in some of the region’s key issues.

Participant, Institute for Writing & Thinking, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, July 2013
- Attended professional development event designed to reflect on the craft of teaching and writing.
- Met in 15 1 ½ or 2-hour sessions that focused on invention strategies, coaching the writing process, and revision.
- Wrote in small groups, exchanged ideas, and responded to other participants’ works.

Conference Participant, The Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education
- Participated in two four-day long conferences (Summer 2009 and 2010) exploring methods and content ideas for teaching world religions.
- Participated in two two-day long conferences (Winter 2011 and 2012) about the role of spirituality and secondary education.
- Participated in day-long workshop in character development (April 2013).
- Interacted with religion teachers from across the country, exchanging and refining ideas.

Participant, The Center of Theological Inquiry Pastor-Theologian Program, October 2004-June 2007
- Selected to be part of a highly competitive national program, ecumenical in nature, funded by a 1-million dollar Lilly Foundation Grant.
- Met four times a year: three times with a regional group of fifteen pastors from the western United States, and once with pastors and consulting theologians from all five regions.
- Developed skills as a pastor/theologian as part of a program designed to produce high-level theological work that combined the work of the academy and the congregation.
- Wrote a 20-page paper each year based upon the study and reflection on three aspects of the nature of salvation.

Five (5) units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE).
- Residency (4 units) St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital, Houston, TX, September 1999-August 2000
- Summer Program (1 unit) at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center, Brighton, MA, Summer 1997

MEMBERSHIPS:

American Academy of Religion, 2007-present

National Council for Teachers of English, 2008-present

Minister Member, Presbytery of New Covenant (regional ecclesiastical governing body), March 2000-Present
- Elected to three-year term (served January 2007-December 2008) on General Council, the presbytery’s leadership and vision-setting committee.
- Elected Alternate Commissioner to 2008 General Assembly and Commissioner to 2010 General Assembly, the national administrative gathering of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- Adult Co-Moderator (August 2003-June 2005) of the Youth Connection Council, the presbytery’s youth-led organization for fellowship and formation activities.

ORDINATION:

Ordained Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament), Presbyterian Church (USA), 03/19/2000
Curriculum Vitae

Donald Ray Morrison

Philosophy Dept. MS-14
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, TX 77251-1892

(713) 348-2714
Email: donaldm@rice.edu

Education:

Princeton University 1977-1983 Ph.D. (Program in Classical Philosophy)
Carleton College 1972-1977 B.A. (summa cum laude)

Academic Appointments:

Rice University:
Director, Boniuk Institute for the Study and Advancement of Religious Tolerance, 2013-15
Professor of Classical Studies, 2003-2015
Professor of Philosophy, 2001-present
Associate Professor of Philosophy, 1993-2001
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1988-93.

University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1987-88.
Harvard University, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and the Classics, 1983-1986.

Recent Administrative Service

Chair, Department of Philosophy, July 2016-2016: Engineering Dean Review Committee
2013-16: Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee to the Office of Faculty Development.
2014-15: BioScience Research Collaborative Faculty Advisory Committee
2011-2014: Rice University, Faculty Advisor to the President
2011-12: Senate Working Group on Research and Scholarship
2011: Operating Committee, Rice University Shell Center for Sustainability
20010-11: Senate Working Group on Appeals and Grievances
Summer and Fall 2009: Chair, Faculty Rice-Baylor Merger Review Committee
Fellowships & Visiting positions:

Center for Cultural Studies Fellowship (Rice University) Spring 2000
University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, Rockefeller Fellow 1996-97.
Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, University of Konstanz, 1994.
  Sponsor: Peter Stemmer.
NEH Summer Seminar on Toqueville and Mill, 1996, Alan Ryan, Director.
Seminar on Method in 16th Century Aristotle Commentaries; Wolfenbüttel, Germany;
  Eckhardt Kessler, Director, 1992.
NEH Summer Seminar on Socrates, 1990; Gregory Vlastos, Director.
NEH Summer Institute on Early Modern Philosophy, 1988; Daniel Garber, Director.
  Sponsors: Ernst Tugendhat, Philosophy; Dieter Harlfinger, Classics.

A Current Major Research Project:

(1) “Self and Others” in Classical Greek Philosophy”. For more than a century, a
commonplace of scholarship has been that ancient Greek ethics was egoistic. That is,
all or almost all ancient Greek moral philosophers held that the actions of any agent
(or: any fully rational agent) have as their ultimate aim that agent’s own welfare or
eudaimonia. I am working on a comprehensive study of this issue in Socrates, Plato,
and Aristotle. My thesis is that this commonplace is false: despite the appearances
given by certain texts, the moral psychology of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle is not
egoistic.

Book Publications:

(1) Bibliography of Editions, Translations, and Scholarly Commentary on
Xenophon's Socratic Writings, 1600-present. Pittsburgh: Mathesis Publications,

(2) Editor, Cambridge Companion to Socrates. Cambridge University Press, 2010
ADAM J. VALENSTEIN

EDUCATION:


EXPERIENCE:

High School Faculty, Advisor, and 9th Grade English Team Leader, Independent Study Coordinator
The John Cooper School, The Woodlands, Texas (2010-present)

Instruction and Advising

+ Design and instruct first-year Literary Genres, junior year American Literature, and senior year World Literature courses
+ Sponsor, instruct, and mentor the high school’s philosophy club and high school/middle school ethics bowl teams
+ Designed the guidelines and application for a pilot Independent Study Program; liaise between students, faculty sponsors, and the Division Head to ensure student success
+ Faculty Chair of the Student Honor Council

Special Projects and Assignments

+ Review curriculum maps for all departments, Grades 5-12
+ Co-Chair, Faculty Workgroup on Scheduling
+ Chair, Faculty Workgroup on Intellectual Risk-Taking (IRT)
+ Conduct Admission interviews for high school applicants (Spring 2016)
+ Edited the Parent-Student Handbook for all three divisions (June/July 2014, 2015)
+ Conduct summer workshops for rising seniors on writing the personal statement for college admissions (2013-present)

Project Co-Director/Program Coordinator
Department of Philosophy, Rice University, Houston Texas

The Houston High School Ethics Bowl (January 2013-present)

+ Successfully recruited eleven schools to compete at yearly event (2014, 2015, 2016)
+ Organize logistics—facilities, transportation, schedule, format, ceremonies, and awards—for over 100 students, coaches, and staff
+ Strategize and market the event for future growth through promotional literature, school visits, the development of professional relationships, and outreach into local middle schools

Ethics and Society at Rice University (April 2015-present)
+ Co-Designed a three-week summer enrichment program for rising juniors and seniors who qualify for free or reduced-price meals in Houston public and charter schools
+ Established partnerships with Baylor College of Medicine’s Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston’s Refugee Services, and Anadarko Petroleum
+ Co-wrote $30,000 budget; securing funds from Humanities Texas (Major Grant) and the Doerr Institute for New Leaders (Curriculum Development Grant)
+ Coordinate with school counselors and administrators to ensure smooth admission process
+ Work closely with the offices of Advancement, Food Services, Foundation Relations, Public Affairs, Risk Management, and Transportation at Rice University

High School Faculty, Advisor, and 9th Grade Team Leader
The Village School, Houston, Texas (2009-2010)

Middle School Faculty, Advisor, and Homeroom Coordinator

Intermediate School Faculty and Summer Writing Instructor
The School at Columbia University, New York, NY (2007, leave replacement)

Middle School Faculty, St. Luke’s School, New York, NY (2005-2006, leave replacement)

Second Grade Associate, The School at Columbia University, New York, NY (2004-2005)

Lower School Assistant Teacher, Grace Church School, New York, NY (2002-2004)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (recent):
Atlas Rubicon: Get to Know Atlas; Navigating Atlas; Reports in Atlas, webinars (June 2016)
Foundation for Critical Thinking, Houston, TX (March 2016)
NAIS: School Leadership Institute, Alexandria, VA (July 2015)
Mindful Schools: Mindfulness Essentials, online platform (April/May 2015)
Authentic Education: Understanding by Design: 101; Essential Questions; Design, Rubrics, and Criteria, online platform (Summer 2013)

PRESENTATION:
“Notes from a First-Time Philosophy Teacher: Aims, Method, and Assessment” at The Nineteenth International Workshop-Conference on Teaching Philosophy, St. Edward’s University, Austin, July 2012.
BRANDON M. WILLIAMS
6245 Renwick Dr. APT 4714
Houston, TX 77081
Cell: (708)205-4337
williams.brandon.m@gmail.com

Work Experience
8/2014 – 6/2015 Lonestar College
- Adjunct Instructor: Philosophy

8/2013 – 10/2015 Spidersmart
- English tutor for middle school and high school students

8/2010 – 8/2011 Little City Foundation
- Personal Care Provider
  - Provide therapy and care of children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders

- Behavioral Assistant
  - Facilitate the care and behavior therapy of adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders

3/2009 - 7/2009 International Aid Services Khartoum, Sudan – daniel.zetterlund@ias.nu
  (Country Director)
- Interim Country Director
  - Manage the daily activities of the organization in the absence of the permanent Country Director
  - Sit on Steering Committee of International NGO's working in Sudan

11/2008 - 12/2009 International Aid Services Khartoum, Sudan daniel.zetterlund@ias.nu
  (Country Director)
- Human Resource Manager / Program Support Manager
  - Manage all issues of staff for Humanitarian Organization in Sudan (150 staff members)
  - Help Administer organizational programming throughout Sudan

- Country Director – Sudan
  - Manage all operations of organization in Northern Sudan, Facilitate the closure of organizational operations in Northern Sudan

- World Missionary
  - Serve as missionary in Sudan, Attend Arabic language school, work for two INGO's (listed above)

Education
Rice University     Houston, TX
Ph.D.: Philosophy
2017 graduation
Northern Illinois University   DeKalb, IL
M.A.: Philosophy
Graduated: 05/2012

Areas of Interest:

- Metaethics
- Normative Ethics
- Applied Ethics
- Political Philosophy
- Philosophy of Language

Publications:

"From Internalism to Instrumentalism," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 30 (1) 2014.

Papers and Commentary (recent):
Presenter: University of Texas, Austin Graduate Philosophy Conference (April 2016)
  - "Against External Reasons: What Williams Should Have Said"

Presenter: Midsouth Philosophy Conference (Feb. 2016)
  - "The Failure of Desire Satisfactionism"

Presenter: Midsouth Philosophy Conference (Feb. 2015)
  - "The Possibility of Carnapian Error Theory"

Commentator: Midsouth Philosophy Conference (Feb. 2015)
  - "Causal Explanation in Social Neuroscience: Two Analyses" - Aaron Kostko & John Bickle

Presenter: Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (Aug. 2014)
  - "Choose Either Error Theory or Objective Realism" (poster)

Commentator: Rock Mountain Ethics Congress (Aug. 2014)
  - "Fit, Fitness, Fittingness" - Arthur Ward

Teaching
- Intro. to Philosophy of Science - Rice University
- Contemporary Moral Issues - Rice University
- History of Modern Philosophy - TA for Mark Kulstad
- Intro. to Philosophy - Lonestar College, Kingwood

Service
- Co-organizer of the Houston area Graduate Talks in Philosophy
- Moderator for the Houston Ethics Bowl (2014 & 2015)
- Rice Philosophy Department representative to the Humanities Graduate Student Association
- Rice Philosophy Department Speaker Committee member
- Rice Philosophy Department Admissions Committee member
Vida Yao
Curriculum Vitae

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Rice University
Houston, Texas
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(415)-695-4985
http://vidayao.wix.com/vidayao

EMPLOYMENT
Rice University
Assistant Professor of Philosophy (as of July, 2016)

EDUCATION
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Ph.D., Philosophy 2016
Thesis: Loving the Bad & Not Giving a Damn: A Defense of Psychic Disharmony
Committee: Susan Wolf (chair), Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, and Ryan Preston-Roedder

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
M.A., Philosophy 2012
Thesis: “Owning up to Moral Luck”
Committee: Susan Wolf (chair), Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, and Robert Adams

University of British Columbia
B.A., Philosophy 2009

University of California – Berkeley
Visiting Student (Killam Fellow) 2008-09

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION
Practical and normative ethics, moral psychology, moral theory, philosophy of action

AREAS OF COMPETENCE
meta-ethics, feminist philosophy, history of ethics

PUBLICATIONS


HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS
Florence Bullock Ragan Summer Research Fellowship 2015
UNC Graduate School Travel Grant 2015
Bertha Colton Williams Fellowship 2014-15
Mary Williams Fellowship 2009-10
Fulbright Canada Killam Fellow (held at UC-Berkeley) 2008-09

PRESENTATIONS
“The Refutation of Meaning”
at Cambridge, Conference on Williams & The Ancients (upcoming) 10/16
“Unpromotable Goods” at the 2016 Pacific APA Meeting 04/16
“Grace & Graciousness” at the University of Chicago 02/16
“Grace & Graciousness” at New York University 02/16
“The Undesirable and the Adesirable” at Rice University 02/16
“The Undesirable and the Adesirable” at the College of William and Mary 02/16
“The Undesirable and the Adesirable” at Miami University of Ohio 02/16
“Grace & Graciousness” at The University of Toronto 01/16
“Strong-Willed Akrasia” at the New Orleans Workshop on Agency & Responsibility 11/15
“Grace: Goodness in Loving the Bad”
in Auckland, Conference on Neglected Virtues in Honour of Rosalind Hursthouse 08/15
“Goodness in Loving the Bad” in Albuquerque, SWPCA Conference 02/15
“Boredom and the Divided Mind” in London, KCL-UNC Philosophy Conference 05/14
“Another Moral of Moral Luck” in Chapel Hill, North Carolina Philosophical Association 02/14
“Bernard Williams on the Tedium of Immortality”, in Chapel Hill, UNC Philosophy Club 11/14
“Reasons and Resentment” in Chapel Hill, UNC-KCL Philosophy Conference 05/14

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES
Member, American Philosophical Association
Member, Canadian Philosophical Association
Invited Panelist, Teaching Workshop on Lecturing v. Active Learning 2016
Maynard Adams Symposium Committee, Graduate Student Representative 2015-16
Invited Panelist, Teaching Workshop on Teaching Sensitive Issues 2015
Pacific APA Session Chair 2015
Invited Panelist, Teaching Workshop on Fostering Discussion 2014
Hiring Committee, Graduate Student Representative 2014-15
Philosophy Graduate Student Grievance Chair 2014-15
UNC/KCL Annual Philosophy Conference, Co-organizer 2013
Graduate & Professional Student Federation, Senator for Philosophy 2012-13
UNC Chapel Hill Philosophy Colloquium, Committee Member 2012-13
UNC Prospective Student Committee, Organizer 2011

VOLUNTEER SERVICE
National and Regional High School Ethics Bowl Judge 2014-16
NCSSM Ethics and Leadership Conference Ethics Bowl Judge 2014
Philosophy Outreach at Carol Woods Retirement Community 2013
Philosophy Outreach at Durham Academy 2012-2015
High school Ethics Bowl co-coach 2011-12
NCSSM Ethics and Leadership Conference Session Leader 2011
Education

Rice University, Ph.D. in Philosophy in progress.

Rice University, M.A. in Philosophy, 2014.

Pepperdine University, B.A. in Philosophy, summa cum laude, 2012.

Service

Co-Organizer, 1st & 2nd (with Prof. Richard Grandy) and 3rd (with Dave Erdel) Annual Houston High School Ethics Bowls, Rice University, February 2014, 2015, and 2016.

Graduate Representative, Department of Philosophy, Rice University, Fall 2013-Present.

Community Board Member, Institutional Review Board #4, Baylor College of Medicine, Fall 2013-Fall 2014.

Peer-Reviewed Publications


Peer-Reviewed Presentations

“Mill’s Metaethical Non-Cognitivism”


Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado-Boulder, August 2014.

APA Central Division, Chicago, February 2014.

“Proportionality and the Value of Freedom: A Puzzle”


“Rethinking Spinoza’s Moral Philosophy”

APA Pacific Division, San Diego, April 2014.

“Scalar Consequentialism and Pessimism About Moral Responsibility”

Graduate Student Conference on Free Will and Moral Responsibility, Florida State University, October 2013.

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado-Boulder, August 2013.

“The Softer Side of Hard Determinism”

Graduate Student Conference on Free Will and Moral Responsibility, Florida State University, September 2012.
Other Presentations

“Well-Being and Phenomenal Consciousness”
  *Departmental Works in Progress Series*, Rice University, October 2015.
  *CEU Summer School on Moral Phenomenology*, Central European University, July 2015.

“Four-Dimensionalism, Desire Fulfillment, and the Phenomenal Fallacy”
  *Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress*, Poster Session, University of Colorado-Boulder, August 2015.
  *Mellon Seminar on Time Workshop*, Rice University, April 2015.
  *Living in Time International Postgraduate Conference*, University College-Dublin, April 2015.

“Spinozistic Constructivism in Metaethics”
  *Joint Rice-UH-UST Works in Progress Series*, University of St. Thomas, Houston, April 2014.

“Hard Determinism, Pathology, and Practice in the Psy-Disciplines”
  *Philosophy and Psychiatry: The Next Hundred Years*, St. Catherine’s College, Oxford University, July 2013.
  *Annual Conference of the Association for Legal and Social Philosophy*, University of Stirling, June 2013.

Peer Review

