

NEIL FEIT
Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy
The State University of New York at Fredonia
Fredonia, NY 14063

Office: (716) 673-4733
Home: (716) 672-5155
Email: Neil.Feit@fredonia.edu

Education

- Ph.D. (Philosophy), University of Massachusetts, 1996
- B.A. (Philosophy, *magna cum laude*), Columbia University, 1988

Areas of Specialization

- Ethics/Value Theory, Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology

Areas of Competence

- Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics, Logic, History of Philosophy

Positions Held

- Distinguished Teaching Professor, The State University of New York at Fredonia, 2016-present
- Professor of Philosophy, Fredonia, 2009-2016
- Chair, Fredonia Department of Philosophy, 2007-2013
- Associate Professor of Philosophy, Fredonia, 2004-2009
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Fredonia, 1999-2004
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Western Washington University, 1997-1999
- Visiting Lecturer, Western Washington University, Spring 1995, Spring 1997
- Adjunct Lecturer, Smith College, Logic Program, Fall 1995, Fall 1996
- Visiting Lecturer, North Adams State College (Massachusetts), Fall 1994
- Instructor, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1993-1994
- Teaching Assistant, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1990-1993

Books

[2] *Attitudes De Se: Linguistics, Epistemology, Metaphysics*, with Alessandro Capone (Stanford: CSLI Publications, 2013).

[1] *Belief about the Self: A Defense of the Property Theory of Content* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008).

Articles

- [24] “Death is Bad for Us When We’re Dead,” forthcoming in M. Cholbi and T. Timmerman (eds.) *Exploring the Philosophy of Death and Dying: Classic and Contemporary Perspectives* (New York: Routledge).
- [23] “Propositions and Attitudes *De Se*,” forthcoming in C. Tillman (ed.) *The Routledge Handbook of Propositions* (New York: Routledge).
- [22] “Harming by Failing to Benefit,” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* (forthcoming, published online September 2017, DOI 10.1007/s10677-017-9838-6).
- [21] “Harm and the Concept of Medical Disorder,” *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* **38:5** (2017) 367-385.
- [20] “Comparative Harm, Creation and Death,” *Utilitas* **28:2** (2016) 136-163.
- [19] “Plural Harm,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* **90:2** (2015) 361-388.
- [18] “The Problem of *De Se* Attitudes: An Introduction to the Issues and the Essays,” (with Alessandro Capone) in N. Feit and A. Capone (eds.) *Attitudes De Se: Linguistics, Epistemology, Metaphysics* (Stanford: CSLI Publications, 2013) 1-25.
- [17] “Belief Reports and the Property Theory of Content,” in N. Feit and A. Capone (eds.) *Attitudes De Se: Linguistics, Epistemology, Metaphysics* (Stanford: CSLI Publications, 2013) 105-131.
- [16] “Self-Ascription and Self-Awareness,” in S. Miguens and G. Preyer (eds.) *Consciousness and Subjectivity* (Frankfurt: Ontos Verlag, 2012) 213-230.
- [15] “When Does Falsehood Preclude Knowledge?” (with Andrew Cullison) *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* **92:3** (2011) 283-304.
- [14] “Selfless Desires and the Property Theory of Content,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* **88:3** (2010) 489-503.
- [13] “Naming and Nonexistence,” *Southern Journal of Philosophy* **47:3** (2009) 239-262.
- [12] “The Doctrine of Propositions, Internalism, and Global Supervenience,” *Philosophical Studies* **131:2** (2006) 447-457.
- [11] “Explaining the Geometry of Desert,” (with Stephen Kershner) *Public Affairs Quarterly* **18:4** (2004) 273-298.
- [10] “Does Superstition Help Performance? NO,” in E. Bronson ed., *Baseball and Philosophy: Thinking Outside the Batter’s Box* (Chicago: Open Court, 2004) 308-310.

- [9] “Russellianism and Referential Uses of Descriptions,” *Philosophical Studies* **115:2** (2003) 99-122.
- [8] “Infallibilism and Gettier’s Legacy,” (with Daniel and Frances Howard-Snyder) *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* **66:2** (2003) 304-327.
- [7] “The Time of Death’s Misfortune,” *Nous* **36:3** (2002) 359-383.
- [6] “The Most Valuable Player” (with Stephen Kershner), *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport* **28:2** (2001) 193-206.
- [5] “Rationality and Puzzling Beliefs,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* **63:1** (2001) 29-55.
- [4] “The Structure of Higher Goods,” *Southern Journal of Philosophy* **39:1** (2001) 47-57.
Reprinted in *Recent Work on Intrinsic Value*, Michael Zimmerman and Toni Ronnow-Rasmussen, eds., (Springer Verlag, 2005).
- [3] “Self-Ascription and Belief *De Re*,” *Philosophical Studies* **98:1** (2000) 37-51.
- [2] “More on Brute Facts,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* **76:4** (1998) 625-630.
- [1] “On a Famous Counterexample to Leibniz’s Law,” *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society* **96:3** (1996) 381-386.

Selected Work in Progress

- “The Normative Role of Harming” (draft paper, early stages).
- *A Defense of the Comparative Account of Harm* (monograph in preparation).

Selected Conference Presentations and Activity

- Commentator on “The Metaphysical Structure of the *De Se*: Constructing a Functional Account of Self,” by Joanna Lawson, American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Annual Meeting, New York, NY, January 7, 2019.
- “A Defense of Harmless Disorders” Romanell Conference on Philosophy of Medicine and Bioethics, University at Buffalo, July 28, 2018.
- “Well-Being without Being?” Romanell Conference on Personal Identity and Origins, University at Buffalo, July 28, 2017.
- “Harming by Failing to Benefit,” Uppsala University (Sweden) conference, Harm: The Concept and Its Relevance, August 23-24, 2016.

- “Harming by Failing to Benefit,” PANTC Conference on Bioethics and Philosophy of Medicine, University at Buffalo, July 29, 2016
- Commentator on “The Comparative/Non-comparative Dispute about the Account of Harm and the Badness of Death,” by Fumitake Yoshizawa, International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying 2016 Conference, Syracuse University, May 18-20, 2016.
- “The Harm in Harmful Dysfunction,” PANTC Conference on Bioethics and Philosophy of Medicine, University at Buffalo, August 2015.
- “Harm and Omission,” University at Buffalo, Department of Philosophy Lunchtime Talk / Regents Lecture Series, October 10, 2014.
- “The Welfare of the Living, Dead, and Nonexistent: How To Compare Apples and Oranges,” PANTC Conference on Bioethics and the Philosophy of Medicine, University at Buffalo, August 1, 2014.
- “Consequences of Narrow Mindedness,” University at Buffalo, Department of Philosophy Lunchtime Talk / Regents Lecture Series, September 6, 2013.
- “Counterfactual Harm and Omission,” PANTC Conference on Bioethics and the Philosophy of Medicine, University at Buffalo, August 3, 2013.
- “Plural Harm,” Plato’s Academy North Tonawanda Campus (PANTC) Bioethics Reading Group, August 9, 2012.
- Invited Participant, Oberlin Philosophy Colloquium, Philosophy of Mind, May 2012.
- “Selfless Desires and the Property Theory of the Attitudes,” The Creighton Club (New York State Philosophical Association) Fall 2006 Meeting, November 4, 2006.
- “Individualism, Physicalism, and Belief about the Self,” University at Buffalo, Center for Cognitive Science, October 4, 2006.
- Invited Participant, Syracuse Philosophy Annual Workshop and Network (SPAWN 2006: Value), July 16-18, 2006.
- Invited Participant, Syracuse Workshop on the *A Priori*, Syracuse University, August 20-22, 2004.
- Colloquium Chair, Metaphysics Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, April 2003.
- “The Structure of Higher Goods,” The Creighton Club, November 4, 2000.
- “Comments on ‘Justice with Compassion: An Argument against Capital Punishment’” (by Bradley Wilson), Tri-State Philosophical Association, Fall 1999.

- “Comments on ‘Time and Temporal Parts’” (by Theodore Sider), Fifth Biennial UMass Philosophy Homecoming, 1999.
- “Rationality and Puzzling Beliefs,” Western Washington University, 1999.
- “Self-Ascription and Belief *De Re*,” Northwest Conference on Philosophy, 1997.
- “On a Famous Counterexample to Leibniz’s Law,” Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, 1995.

Local Presentations for Students or General Audiences

- “Virtual Reality and the Experience Machine,” Fredonia Brown Bag Lecture, March 2017.
- “Two Theories of Time and Three of Reality,” Fredonia Brown Bag Lecture, October 2015.
- “Exploiting the Limits of Literal Language,” Fredonia Brown Bag Lecture, May 2015.
- “What Can Philosophy Do for You?” presentation for a Fredonia Philosophical Society special event, October 2014.
- “Some Questions on the Value of Diversity in Academia,” Fredonia Convocation Panel Event: The Value of Diversity, October 2013.
- “The Expected Value of Gambling,” Fredonia American Play Ethic Symposium, March 2012.
- “Consequences of Narrowmindedness,” 35th Annual Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture, The State University of New York at Fredonia, October 18, 2011.
- “Representing the World: The Nature of Mental Content,” Fredonia Brown Bag Lecture, April 2010.
- “Mental Representation and the Self,” William T. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Lecture, Fredonia, October 29, 2009.
- “Does Time Flow, and Are the Past and Future Real?” November 2005, a debate on the philosophy of time with Dale Tuggy, Fredonia Philosophical Society.
- “Dualism, Materialism, and Surviving Death,” a presentation to the Fredonia Philosophical Society, February 2005.
- “Some Questions about the Harm of Death,” Fredonia Philosophical Society, September 2004.
- “When is death bad for the one who dies?” Fredonia Philosophical Society, February 2004.

- “Death, Evil, and Time,” a presentation to the Fredonia Fall 2003 Arts & Humanities Symposium, November 2003.
- “The Raven Paradox: A Paradox of Confirmation,” Fredonia Philosophical Society, February 2003.
- “Fictional Characters and Real Characters,” Fredonia Philosophical Society, November 2002.
- “The Geometry of Desert,” Fredonia Philosophical Society, April 2002.
- “Overpopulation and Intrinsic Value,” Fredonia Philosophical Society, October 2001.

Awards

- Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture Award (given each year to a faculty member for excellence in research), The State University of New York at Fredonia, 2011
- William T. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award (given each year to a faculty member below the rank of Professor for excellence in research), Fredonia, 2009
- Honorary Member, Golden Key International Honour Society, Fredonia Golden Key chapter, Fall 2005
- SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2005
- Release Time Award, Fredonia, Fall 2002
- Puryear Fellow, Department of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, 1989-1993
- Phi Beta Kappa, Columbia College Chapter, 1988
- Philip A. Yacos Scholar, Columbia University, 1986-1988

Service to the Profession

Referee or advisory work for the following:

- American Philosophical Association (program committee, Eastern Division)
- Oxford University Press
- Springer, Perspectives in Pragmatics, Philosophy & Psychology (editorial board)
- The Swiss National Science Foundation (grant proposal reviewer)
- Young Philosophers Lecture Series
- *American Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Analytic Philosophy*
- *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
- *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*
- *Dialectica*

- *Erkenntnis*
- *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*
- *Ethics*
- *Inquiry*
- *Journal of Moral Philosophy*
- *Journal of Philosophical Research*
- *Mind*
- *Noûs*
- *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Philosophia*
- *Philosophical Papers*
- *Philosophical Quarterly*
- *Philosophical Studies*
- *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*
- *Ratio*
- *Synthese*
- *Theoria*
- *Utilitas*

University Service

Current Service Activity:

- University Senate
- Kasling Memorial Lecture Committee
- Faculty Advisor, The Philosophical Society, Student Association club
- Chair, Fredonia Department of Philosophy Assessment Committee
- Fredonia Department of Philosophy Student Recognition Coordinator
- Fredonia Department of Philosophy Open House Representative

Past Service to the University:

- Chair, Department of Philosophy (2007-2013)
- Faculty Advisor, Chess Club, Student Association club (2010-2013)
- Faculty Advisor, Club Ultimate Frisbee, SA club (2006-2014)
- Faculty Advisor, the Guerillas (a cappella group), SA club (2005-2008)
- Faculty Development Committee (2001-2009)
- University Senate (2002-2008)
- Chair, CCC Subcommittee for Critical Thinking Assessment (2002-2007)
- Assessment Committee (2000-2005)
- Steering Committee for Middle States Periodic Review Report (2004-2005)
- Ad Hoc Committee for Student Evaluation of Faculty Teaching (1999-2000)

Past Service to the Department of Philosophy:

- Department Chair (2007-2013)
- Young Philosophers Lecture Series Selection Committee (2008-2013)

- Advisor or Co-Advisor, Philosophical Society (2000-2008)
- Departmental Assessment Committee (2001-2007)
- Departmental Open House Representative (ongoing)
- Hiring Committee for Mindy Burnside (2007)
- Hiring Committee for Andrew Cullison (2006-2007)

Courses Taught

Lower Level Undergraduate:

- Introductory Philosophy
- Introductory Ethics
- Introductory Logic
- Critical Thinking
- Life and Death
- The Mind-Body Problem (Honors Seminar)
- Free Will and Personal Identity (Honors Seminar)

Upper Level Undergraduate:

- Intermediate Logic
- Philosophy of Science
- Metaphysics
- Theory of Knowledge
- Philosophy of Mind
- Philosophy of Language
- Age of Analysis (20th Century Analytic Philosophy)
- Capstone (Senior) Seminar, various topics