

CURRICULUM VITAE
Dr. William S. Wilkerson

Department of Philosophy
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University of Alabama in Huntsville
Huntsville, AL 35899

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EDUCATION:

1992-1997 Ph.D., August 1997, Purdue University.
1986-1990 B.A., Willamette University, *Magna cum Laude*.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

20th Century Continental Philosophy and Political Philosophy
Feminist Philosophy and Gay/Lesbian Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE:

History of Modern Philosophy
Philosophy of Mind
Critical Social Theory

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS:

Liberal Arts Outstanding Faculty Member, 2009-2010.
Liberal Arts Research Incentive Grant, 2006
UAH Foundation Distinguished Teaching Award, 2003.
Student Government Assoc. Outstanding Liberal Arts Faculty Award, 1999-2000.
NEH Summer Seminar Participant, St. Louis, Summer 1999. Seminar topic: Folk Psychology and Simulation. Director: Robert Gordon.
UAH Mini-Grant for Research, Summer 1998. Topic: Developing a Concept of Mind from a Concept of Intention.
Andrews Fellowship, Purdue University, 1992-94

APPOINTMENTS:

2011 - present Chair, Philosophy Department, University of Alabama in Huntsville
2010 - present Professor of Philosophy, University of Alabama in Huntsville
2003 - 2010 Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Alabama in Huntsville
2001 - 2005 Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Medicine, Huntsville Campus.
1997 - 2003 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Alabama in Huntsville
1997 (summer) Adjunct Faculty, University of Indiana at Kokomo
1995-97 Teaching Assistant, Purdue University

Courses Taught:

Ethics; Engineering Ethics; Biomedical Ethics; Introduction to Philosophy; Contemporary philosophy: Consciousness, Embodiment, World; Contemporary Philosophy: Modernism and Postmodernism; Contemporary Philosophy: Temporality, Subjectivity and Freedom in the Existentialist Tradition; Junior Research Seminar; Feminist Philosophy; Advanced Moral Philosophy: Marxism, Anarchy, Utopia; Honors Seminar: Biology and Culture: Shaping Persons and Personality (with Dr. William Garstka, Biology Dept.), Ancient Philosophy, Modern Philosophy, Contemporary Political Philosophy, Metaphysics of Time and Freedom

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY:**Dissertation:**

Committee: Calvin O. Schrag (chair), Lilly-Marlene Russow, Dorothy Leland, Rod Bertolet

Title: *The Ends of Behavior: Contemporary Cognitive Science, Merleau-Ponty, and the Interpretation of Behavior.*

Publications:

Books: *Simone de Beauvoir Engages the Philosophers: Essays on Beauvoir's Engagement with Western Thought.* Co-editor with Shannon Mussett. SUNY Press. Forthcoming.

Ambiguity and Sexuality: A Theory of Sexual Identity. Palgrave-Macmillan, May 2007. Paper edition, March 2010.

New Critical Theory: Essays on Liberation, co-editor with Jeffrey Paris, September 2001. Rowman and Littlefield Publishers.

Articles:

"Defining Sexual Orientation" for *The Philosophy of Sex: Contemporary Readings, 6th Edition*, Raja Halwani and Nicholas Power, eds. Rowman and Littlefield, forthcoming.

"Introduction to Beauvoir's 'Merleau-Ponty and Pseudo-Sartreanism'" for *Simone de Beauvoir: Political Writings*" edited by Margaret A. Simons and Marybeth Timmerman, forthcoming from University of Illinois Press.

"A Different Kind of Universality: Beauvoir and Kant on Ethical Universals" in *Simone de Beauvoir Engages the Philosophers: Essays on Beauvoir's Engagement with Western Thought*, forthcoming.

"Is it a Choice? Sexual Orientation as Interpretation" forthcoming in *Queer Philosophy: Proceedings of the Society for Lesbian and Gay Philosophy 1998-2008*, Raja Halwani, Carole Quinn and Andy Wible, editors. Rudopi Press. This paper is an abridged version of the paper of the same title that appears in *Journal of Social Philosophy*.

"The Paradox of Time and the Will in Kant, Existentialism and Derrida" in 2009 SPEP Proceedings, *Philosophy Today*, Fall 2010.

"Neo-Liberalism, Bio-Discipline and Cultural Critique, Commentary on Ladelle McWhorter's Feminism, Reprogenetics, and Foucault's Analysis of Neoliberalism" for 2009 Spindel Conference Proceedings in *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*.

"Time and Ambiguity: Reassessing Merleau-Ponty's Criticism of Sartrean Freedom" forthcoming in *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, April 2010.

"In the World but not of the World: The Relation of Freedom to Time in Kant and Sartre," *Epoché*, Fall 2009.

"Religious Identity in the Realist Classroom" *Identity in Education*, edited by Susan Sanchez-Cassal and Amie McDonald, Palgrave-Macmillan, May 2009.

"Is it a Choice? Sexual Orientation as Interpretation" *Journal of Social Philosophy*, December 2008.

"What Is Gay and Lesbian Philosophy?" by Gary Jaeger, James Stramel, Richard Nunan, William S. Wilkerson, and Timothy Murphy, with a brief introduction by Raja Halwani. *Metaphilosophy*, vol. 39, nos. 4-5, October 2008. Sole author of section, "Social Constructionism and Essentialism."

"Inhabiting Hope: Contributions to a New Materialist Phenomenology" in *New Critical Theory: Essays on Liberation*, September 2001.

"Introduction: Why a New Critical Theory?" with Jeffrey Paris in *New Critical Theory: Essays on Liberation*, September 2001.

“Simulation, Theory, and the Frame Problem: The Interpretive Moment.” *Philosophical Psychology*, June 2001.

“Is There Something You Need to Tell Me? Coming Out and the Ambiguity of Experience” in *Reclaiming Identity: Realist Theory and the Predicament of Postmodernism*, Paula Moya and Michael Hames-Garcia, eds. University of California Press, 2000.

“Knowledge of Self, Knowledge of Others, Error, and the Place of Consciousness.” *Continental Philosophy Review*, January 2000.

“From Bodily Motions to Bodily Intentions: The Perception of Bodily Activity” *Philosophical Psychology*, March 1999.

“Real Patterns and Real Problems: Making Dennett Respectable on Patterns and Beliefs” *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, December 1997.

Web-Based Symposia:

Gender, Race and Philosophy: The Blog. Contributed Commentary for Spring 2010 Symposium on Ladelle McWhorter's *Racism and Sexual Oppression in Anglo-America*. Stable URL: <http://sgrp.typepad.com/sgrp/spring-2010-symposium-mcwhorter.html>

Reviews:

"Michelle Darnell's *The Self in the Theoretical Writings of Kant and Sartre*" forthcoming in *Sartre Studies*.

"The Quest for Objectivity in Husserl," review of Jan Potacka's *An Introduction to Husserl's Phenomenology*, *Human Studies*, 23, March 2000.

Jan Potacka's *Body, Community, Language, World*, booknote for [Ethics](#).

Jan Potacka's *Heretical Essays in the History of Philosophy*, booknote for [Ethics](#).

"Communism and Homosexuality," literature review for the *Reader's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Studies*, Fitzroy Dearborn Press.

Papers Presented:

Invited:

"Commentary: Darwin's Invisible Hand: Feminism, Reproductive Genetics, and Foucault's Analysis of Neoliberalism," Ladelle McWhorter for 2009 Spindel Conference, Memphis

Ambiguity and Sexuality: A symposium in the philosophy of Sexual Identity. Two-day symposium presenting a critical response to my book, *Ambiguity and Sexuality*. University of San Francisco, February 2008. Two presentations: "A Defense of Ambiguity" and "Why do They Hate Us So Much? Towards a Genealogy of Religious Homophobia"

"Choosing desire, choosing identity: Freedom, Determinism and Sexual Orientation," Invited Symposia on Queer Issues and Philosophy. Pacific Division APA, March 2007

"Kant and Sartre," book session on Michelle Darnell's *Self in the Theoretical Writings of Sartre and Kant: A Revisionist Study*, North American Sartre Society, October 2006.

"What Will Ethics Teach Me," University of Alabama in Birmingham, School of Optometry, November 2004

"Between Two Columns: Erotic Freedom and Truth in *The Motion of Light in Water*," Future of Minority Studies Conference, Cornell University, June 2004

Reviewed:

“Beauvoir’s Different Kind of Universality: Beauvoir and Kant on Universal Ethics.” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Montreal, November 2010.

"The Paradox of Time and the Will in Kant, Existentialism and Derrida." Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, November 2009.

"Time and Ambiguity: Reassessing Merleau-Ponty on Sartrean Freedom." Eastern Division APA, December 2008.

“Choosing Desire, Choosing Identity” Eastern Division APA, December 2005

“Locating Sexual Liberation,” Radical Philosophy Association North American Conference, Howard University, November 2004.

“Beauvoir’s Sexual Attitudes,” North American Sartre Society Conference, Purdue, Indiana, September 2003.

Commentary, Pacific Division APA, San Francisco, March 2003.

Panelist: “New Critical Theory,” Pacific Division APA, March 2002.

Respondent, Society for Lesbian and Gay Philosophy meeting, Eastern Division APA, December 2001.

“Coming Out and the Ambiguity of Experience.” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Conference, Eugene, October 1999.

“Knowledge of Self, Knowledge of Others, Error, and the Place of Consciousness.” Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Memphis, March 1999.

Respondent, “The Tension Between Self-Identity, Renewal and Critique in Husserl’s Phenomenology,” Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Memphis, March 1999.

“Self-knowledge, Other-Knowledge, Error, and the Place of Consciousness.” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Denver, October 1998.

“How Do We Know What We Know? Coming Out and Problems of Self-Knowledge and Knowledge of Others.” SLGP Group Session, Central APA, May 1998.

“Functionalist Consciousness From the First Person Point of View” at “Toward a Science of Consciousness (Tucson III),” Tucson, April 1998.

“From Bodily Motions to Intentions,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, April 1998.

“From Bodily Motions to Intentions,” Alabama Philosophical Society, Auburn University, November 1997.

“A Phenomenology of Another’s Intentions,” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Conference, October 1997.

“A Phenomenology of Another’s Intentions,” Mid-South Philosophy Conference, University of Memphis, March 1997.

Respondent, “Minds, Machines, and Gödel” by Randall Ridenour, Mid-South Philosophy Conference, University of Memphis, March 1997.

“Bodily Socialization and the Limits of Habermasian Theory,” Radical Philosophers Association International Conference, Purdue, November 1996.

“The Limits of the Theory-Theory,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Conference, Nashville, April 1996.

“How to Generate a Pattern: Dennett on Patterns and Beliefs,” Society for Philosophy and Psychology, SUNY Stony Brook, June 1995.

“Habermas and Feminism,” Purdue Women’s Studies Symposium, April 1995.

“Why Be Moral? Kant on the Fact of Reason,” Graduate Student Colloquium, Purdue, February 1995.

“Levinas’s Phenomenology of Eros,” Sixth Annual North American Gay and Lesbian Studies Conference, University of Iowa, November 1994.

“Real Patterns and Real Problems: Dennett on Beliefs,” Indiana Philosophical Association, Butler University, October 1994.

“Can Dasein Watch TV? Heidegger and Television,” Purdue University Cultural Studies Collective, March 1993.

Work in progress:

Simone de Beauvoir Engages the Philosophers: Essays on Beauvoir’s Engagement with Western Thought. Co-editor with Shannon Mussett. SUNY Press. Manuscript in final preparation.

"Merleau-Ponty's Theory of Freedom" Essay manuscript in preparation

“The Body Between Genealogy and Phenomenology” Essay manuscript in preparation

“Experience and Identity: Coming out and Samuel R. Delany’s *The Motion of Light in Water*” – requested contribution to volume on experience and identity, Satya Mohanty, editor. Manuscript in preparation

"Why do They Hate Us So Much? Towards a Genealogy of Religious Homophobia" Essay manuscript in preparation.

SERVICE:

University:

Chair, Curriculum Committee, Fall 2010-Fall 2001

Faculty Advisor, Student GLTB Group, Fall 2009-Spring 2010.

Chair, Hearing Committee of Faculty Appeals Committee, November 2007-May 2008

Search Committee, Department of Music, Piano Instructor, Fall 2007

Search Committee, Department of Music, Choral Conductor, Fall 2007

RELACS, Spring 2007

Foundation Teaching Awards Distinguished Teaching Lecture, Fall 2006

Foundation Teaching Awards Committee, 2006, 2007

Faculty Appeals Committee, 2006-2007. Chaired Hearing Committee in Fall 2007-Spring 2008.

Promotion and Tenure Advisory Committee for Liberal Arts, Fall 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010

Liberal Arts Graduation Auditor, Fall 2004.

Chair, University Internal Review Board for Ethical Treatment of Human Subjects, Fall 2003-present.

Faculty Advisor, UAH PRISM (Student GLB Group), Spring 2004-Spring 2005.

Coordinator, Visiting Eminent Professor Program, Spring 2004. (Visiting Scholar: Charles Mills)

Humanities Center Steering Committee Member, Fall 2003-present.

University Ombudsperson, Fall 2003 – Spring 2004.

Faculty Senate, Fall 1999 – 2001, Fall 2002-present.

Governance and Operations Committee, Fall 1999 – 2001, Fall 2002-Spring 2003.

Day of Discovery Sample College Course, November 2000, April 2001

Women's Studies Program Advisory Committee, Spring 1999 – Spring 2001.

Coordinator, Philosophy Forum, Fall 2001.

Honors Program Council, Fall 1998-Spring 2002.

Faculty Advisor, UAH-HOPE (Student Lesbian and Gay group), Fall 1998-Fall 2000.

“Feminist Epistemology” guest lecture for WS 200 (repeated occasions).

“What is Ethics?” Lecture for Nur. 500, Issues In Organ Transplantation, June, 1998.

Member, Cultural Events Committee, Spring 1998-Spring 2000.

Faculty Representative, SGA Elections Board, Spring 1998-Spring 1999.

“What Makes Feminist Philosophy Feminist and Philosophy?” Talk for UAH Women's Studies Colloquium, March 1998.

“Consciousness From the Inside-Out and Outside-In” RELACS Presentation for UAH, March 1998.

Co-coordinator (with Dr. Hanks) of the Philosophy Forum for Fall 1998.

Hiring Committee, Philosophy Department, Fall 1997.

Director of Library Acquisitions for Philosophy Department at UAH, Fall 1997-Spring 2001.

Professional:

Member, Sub-Committee for Sexual Diversity, Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP), Fall 2010-present.

Editor, APA Newsletter for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Philosophy, Spring 2011 - present

Treasurer, Co-Creator, and Webmaster for the *Pluralists' Guide to Philosophy*. www.pluralistsguide.org, 2009- present

Reviewer, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*

Reviewer, *Journal of Moral Philosophy*

Reviewer, *Radical Philosophy Review*

Reviewer, *PhiloSOPHIA*

Reviewer, *Philosophical Psychology*

Reviewer, *Social Theory and Practice*

Chair, SLGP Group session at Pacific Division APA, Portland, 2006

Judge, Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry Student Award in Clinical Ethics (a national essay contest for optometry students) Spring 2005

Program Committee, Radical Philosophy Association, Fall 2002-present.

Panel Moderator for "Critical Theory and Technology," Third Radical Philosophy Conference, Loyola University, November 2000.

"I'm Gay and I Got a Job" published in the Society for Lesbian and Gay Philosophy Newsletter, Fall 1997.

Panel Moderator for "Understanding Latina Identity," conference on U.S. Latina Feminism, Cornell University, October 1995. Panel Participants: Paula L. Moya, Linda Martin-Alcoff.

Community:

"Ethics for Lawyers," talk for Alabama Bar Association: Consumer Law and Insolvency Issues Seminar, December 2006

President of the Board of Directors of the Aids Action Coalition, Huntsville, AL, 2001-2003. Board Member from 2000.-2005.

Ethics Consultant, Ethics Committee of the Columbia Medical Center of Huntsville, 1997-2003.