

# JOHN P. WRIGHT

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Address:

1025 Stoney Creek Lane  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Mobile tel.: (989) 817-2523  
Home tel: (989) 779-2053

### Education:

Ph.D.: York University (Toronto), 1975, Philosophy

M.A.: University of Toronto, 1967, Philosophy

B.A.: University of Toronto, 1964, Philosophy

### University Teaching Positions:

2015- Emeritus Professor, Department of Philosophy & Religion, Central Michigan University

1998-2015 Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Central Michigan University

1990-98 Professor, Philosophy, University of Windsor

1987-90 Associate Professor, Philosophy, University of Windsor

1983-87 Assistant Professor, Philosophy, University of Windsor

1970-83 With time off for research positions (see below), I taught full-time as assistant professor for seven of these years at the Universities of Saskatchewan, Toronto, Western Ontario, and Simon Fraser University.

### Visiting Professorships:

2005-2007: Visiting Professor, Philosophy Department, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

1997-98 Visiting Professor, Central Michigan University

1994 (Spring) Visiting Professor, University of Bologna, Italy

### Research Awards (see also “Visiting Professorships” & Grant Funding for the last ten years”):

- 1997-1998 Visiting Research Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, May 1-July 1, 1997, August, 1998 (Non-stipendiary)
- 1994:(Spring) Visiting Professor, Dipartimento di Filosofia, Università di Bologna, Italy (CNR Italian Government grant)
- 1992-93:Hannah Visiting Professor, Department of History of Medicine, University of Western Ontario (Full Replacement Salary for 9 months)
- 1991:(Winter) Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship, Institute for Medical Humanities, University of Texas
- 1986-87: Visiting Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey (IAS Grant-in-Aid)
- 1978-80: Hannah Post-Doctoral Fellowship in History of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Western Ontario
- 1976-78: Canada Council Killam Post Doctoral Fellowship (held at the University of Paris-Sorbonne & the University of Oxford)
- 1974-75 British Council Research Award (held at the University of Edinburgh)

## Publications and Research

### **Books:**

- Hume's 'Treatise of Human Nature': An Introduction. Cambridge Introductions to Key Philosophical Texts Series (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009)
- David Hume, A Treatise of Human Nature, abridged and edited with an introduction by John P. Wright with Robert Stecker and Gary Fuller (London: Everyman, 2003)
- John Locke's An Essay Concerning Human Understanding In Focus, co-edited, including an introduction with Gary Fuller and Robert Stecker (London: Routledge Press, 2000)
- Psyche and Soma: Physicians and Metaphysicians on the Mind-Body Problem from Antiquity to Enlightenment, co-edited, including an introduction, with Paul Potter, Hannah Chair for the History of Medicine and Professor of Classics, University of Western Ontario, (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2000); reprinted and issued in paperback in 2002.
- Hume and Hume's Connexions, co-edited, including an Introduction, with M.A. Stewart, Professor of Philosophy, University of Lancaster (Edinburgh University Press and Pennsylvania State University Press, 1994).
- The Sceptical Realism of David Hume, Manchester University Press and University of Minnesota Press, 1983. This book was named an Outstanding Academic Book for 1983-84 by Choice, the journal of the American Library Association.

### **Refereed Articles and Chapters (see the end of the list for the most recent):**

- 'Hysteria and Mechanical Man', Journal of the History of Ideas, 41 (1980), pp. 233-47.
- 'Matter, Mind and Active Principles in 18th-century British Physiology', Man and Nature, IV (1985), pp. 17-27.
- 'Hume's Academic Scepticism: A Reappraisal of his Philosophy of Human Understanding', Canadian Journal of Philosophy, 16 (1986), pp. 407-36.
- 'Hume vs. Reid on Ideas: The Significance of the New Hume Letter', Mind, 96 (1987), pp. 392-98.
- 'Association, Madness and the Measures of Probability in Locke and Hume', in ed. Christopher Fox, Psychology and Literature in the Eighteenth Century (New York: AMS Press, 1987), pp. 103-28.
- 'Ignorance and Evidence in Current Hume Scholarship', Dialogue 26 (1987), pp. 731-33.
- 'Metaphysics and Physiology: Mind, Body and the Animal Economy in 18th-Century Scotland', Studies in the Philosophy of the Scottish Enlightenment, ed. M.A. Stewart (Oxford: O.U.P. 1990), pp. 251-301.
- 'Boerhaave on Minds, Human Beings and Mental Disease', Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture, Vol. 20 (1990), pp. 289-302.
- 'Hysteria and Mechanical Man', reprinted in Philosophy, Religion and Science in the 17th and 18th Centuries, ed. John Yolton, University of Rochester Press, 1990, pp.459-73.
- 'Hume's Rejection of the Theory of Ideas', History of Philosophy Quarterly 8 (1991), pp. 149-62.
- 'Hume's Criticism of Malebranche's Theory of Causation: a lesson in the historiography of philosophy', ed. Stuart Brown, Malebranche and his Critics (Assen/Maastricht: Van Gorcum, 1991), pp. 116-130.
- 'Locke, Willis and the Seventeenth-Century Epicurean Soul', ed. Margaret Osler, Atoms, Pneuma, and Tranquillity: Epicurean and Stoic Themes in European Thought (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991), pp. 239-258.
- 'The Embodied Soul in Late Seventeenth-Century French Physiology', Canadian Bulletin

for the History of Medicine, 8 (1991), pp. 21-42.

- Articles on ‘Free Will’, ‘Belief’, ‘Imagination’, ‘Natural Religion’, ‘Necessity’, ‘Science of Man’ for The Blackwell Companion to the Enlightenment, ed. John Yolton and others (Basil Blackwell, 1991).
- Articles on Cartesianism, Determinism, Dualism, Hume, Hutcheson, Leibniz, Locke, Malebranche, Mind-Body Relationship, Rationalism, Reason, Scepticism for A Dictionary of Eighteenth-Century World History, ed. Jeremy Black and Roy Porter (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1994).
- ‘Butler and Hume on Habit and Moral Character’, in Hume and Hume's Connexions, ed. M.A. Stewart and John Wright (Edinburgh University Press and Pennsylvania State University Press, 1994), pp. 105-118.
- ‘Lo schiavo delle passioni: morale e religione in Hume’, Revista di Filosofia, vol. LXXXVI, no. 1, April 1995, pp. 81-106.
- ‘Hume's Academic Scepticism: A Reappraisal of his Philosophy of Human Understanding’, reprinted in David Hume: Critical Assessments, ed. Stanley Tweyman, Vol. 2 (London: Routledge, 1995)
- ‘Hume, Descartes and the Materiality of the Soul’, The Philosophical Canon in the 17th and 18th Centuries, ed. G.A.J. Rogers, and Sylvana Tomaselli (Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 1996), pp. 175-90.
- ‘Materialismo e anima vitale alle meta' del XVIII secolo. Il pensiero medico’, ed. Antonio Santucci, L'eta' dei Lumi: Saggi sulla cultura settecentesca (Bologna: Mulino, 1998), pp. 143-57.
- Articles on ‘George Cheyne’, ‘William Cullen’, ‘Browne Langrish’, ‘Richard Mead’, ‘William Porterfield’, ‘Nicholas Robinson’, and ‘Robert Whytt’ for Dictionary of Eighteenth-Century British Philosophers, eds. J.V. Price and J.W. Yolton (Bristol: Thommes, 1999).
- ‘Substance vs. Function Dualism: the Role of Medical Theorists in an Eighteenth-century Philosophical Debate’, in John P. Wright and Paul Potter eds, Psyche and Soma: Physicians and Metaphysicians in the History of Thought (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp.237-54.
- ‘Perrault's criticisms of the Cartesian Theory of the Soul’, in Descartes' Philosophy of Science, eds. Stephen Gaukroger, John Schuster and John Sutton (London: Routledge Press, 2000) pp. 680-96)
- ‘Materialism and the Life Soul in Eighteenth-Century Scotland’, The Scottish Enlightenment: Essays in Re-interpretation, ed. Paul Wood (Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2000), pp. 177-99.
- ‘Hume's Causal Realism: Recovering a traditional Interpretation’, in Rupert Read and Ken Richman eds., The New Hume: Interpretations for and Against Realist Readings of Hume on Causation (London: Routledge, 2000), pp. 88-99.
- ‘Due culture mediche dell'Illuminismo: epicurei pagani e stoici cristiani’, Filosofia e Cultura nel Settecento Britannico, ed. Antonio Santucci (Bologna: Mulino, 2001), pp. 11-35
- ‘David Hume (1711-76)’, International Encyclopaedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences (Oxford: Pergamon Press, 2001), pp. 7071-7074
- ‘Life Sciences’, Encyclopaedia of the Enlightenment, ed. Alan Kors (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), vol. 2, pp. 405-7
- ‘Medicine and Physiology’, Encyclopaedia of the Enlightenment, ed. Alan Kors (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003), vol. 3, pp. 48-50.

- ‘Dr. George Cheyne, Chevalier Ramsay, and Hume’s Letter to a Physician’, Hume Studies, vol. 29, no. 1, April 2003, pp. 125-41.
- ‘Andrew Wilson’, article for the New Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford University Press, 2004)
- "Die Debatte über die Seele" ["Debates about the Soul"], Viertes Kapitel, Grundriss der Geschichte der Philosophie: 18. Jahrhundert Grossbritannien/Nordamerika/Niederlande, eds. Helmut Holzhey mit Vilem Mudroch (Basel: Schwabe & Co. AG, 2004), pp. 249-69.
- "The Scientific Reception of Hume's Theory of Causality: Establishing the Positivist Interpretation in Early Nineteenth-Century Scotland", in The Reception of David Hume in Europe, ed. Peter Jones (Bristol: Thommes-Continuum, 2005), pp. 327-47, 396-98
- "The Treatise: Composition, Reception and Response", in ed. Saul Traiger, The Blackwell Guide to Hume's Treatise of Human Nature (Oxford: Blackwell, 2005), pp. 5-25
- “Reid's answer to Hume's scepticism: turning science into common sense”, in eds. Emilio Mazza and Emanuele Ronchetti, Instruction and amusement: le ragioni dell'Illuminismo britannico (Padova: Il Poligrafo, 2005), pp. 143-163.
- “Kemp Smith and the Two Kinds of Naturalism in Hume’s Philosophy”, in eds. Emanuele Ronchetti and Emilio Mazza, New Essays on David Hume, special issue of Rivista di Storia della Filosofia (Milan: Franco Angeli, 2007), pp. 17-35
- ‘Hume's Causal Realism: Recovering a traditional Interpretation’, in Rupert Read and Ken Richman eds., The New Hume Debate, Revised Edition (London and New York: Routledge, 2007), pp. 88-99.
- “Association of Ideas”, in ed. Paul Schuurman, Encyclopedia of Locke and his Times (London: Continuum Press, 2010), pp. 127-9.
- “Ideas of Habit and Custom in the Early Modern Philosophy”, Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology, Vol. 42, No. 1, January 2011, pp. 18-32.
- “The Understanding in Eighteenth-Century Britain”, The Oxford Handbook in Eighteenth Century Philosophy, edited by James Harris (Oxford: Oxford University Press, )
- “Hume on the origin of ‘modern Honour’: a study in Hume’s philosophical development”, in Religion and Philosophy in Enlightenment Britain, edited by Ruth Savage (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), pp. 187-209
- “Scepticism, Causal Powers, and the Old Hume”, Journal of Scottish Philosophy 10.2 (2012): 123-42
- “The Understanding in Eighteenth-Century Britain”, The Oxford Handbook of British Philosophy in the Eighteenth Century, edited by James Harris (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 149-70
- “David Hume (1711-76)”, Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Kidlington, Oxford: Elsevier Ltd., 2015).
- “Hume’s Sceptical Realism”, The Oxford Handbook of David Hume, edited by Paul Russell (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016)
- “Custom and Habit in Physiology and the Science of Human Nature in the British Enlightenment,” Early Science and Medicine, 2017 (22), pp.183-207

- “Skepticism and Incomprehensibility in Bayle and Hume,” in *The Skeptical Enlightenment: Doubt and Certainty in the Age of Reason*, eds. Jeffrey Burson and Anton Matyson (Oxford: Voltaire Society, in press for Spring 2019), pp. 129-60
- With Catherine Tabb (Columbia University), “Habit and the Association of Ideas in the Scottish Enlightenment, in in *Scottish Philosophy in the Eighteenth Century, Volume 2*, edited by Aaron Garrett & James A. Harris (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming)

### **Book Reviews (see the end of the list for the most recent):**

- Review of Lester King's The Philosophy of Medicine, the Early Eighteenth Century, Dialogue, Vol 21, no. 1, 1982.
- Review of E.J. Kearns, Ideas in Seventeenth-Century France, Philosophical Books, Vol. 22, no. 2, April 1981.
- Review of F.K. Taylor's The Concept of Illness, Disease, and Morbus, Philosophical Books, Vol. 22, no. 2, April 1981.
- Review of G.A. Lindeboom's Descartes and Medicine, Bulletin of the History of Medicine, Vol. 55, 1981.
- Review of Kathleen Squadrito's John Locke, Philosophical Review, Vol. 91, no. 2, April 1982.
- Review of McGill Hume Studies, eds. D.F. Norton et. al., Philosophical Books, Vol. 24, no. 1, January, 1983.
- Review of Ezra Talmor's Descartes and Hume, Philosophical Books, Vol. 24, no. 2., April 1983.
- Review of Jonathan Harrison's Hume's Theory of Justice, Philosophical Books, Vol. 24, no. 4, October 1983.
- Review of Elizabeth Labrousse's Bayle, Teaching Philosophy, Vol. 8, no. 3, 1985.
- Andrew Cunningham and Roger French, eds., The Medical Enlightenment of the Eighteenth Century, Eighteenth-Century Scotland, no. 5, 1991.
- Review of Annette Baier, A Progress of Sentiments: Reflections on Hume's Treatise and Gilles Deleuze, Empiricism and Subjectivity: An Essay on Hume's Theory of Human Nature, in The Times Literary Supplement, (January, 1992).
- Critical Review of Wayne Waxman's Hume's Theory of Consciousness (Cambridge, 1994), Hume Studies, Vol. XXI, no. 2, November 1995, pp. 344-350.
- Review of David Norton ed., The Cambridge Companion to Hume, for Eighteenth-Century Scotland, no. 9 (Spring, 1995), pp. 22-23.
- Review of Roger Woolhouse, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz: the concept of substance in seventeenth century metaphysics, Canadian Philosophical Reviews, vol. xv, no. 6 (December, 1995), pp. 432-34.
- Review of Susan James, Passion and Action: The emotions in seventeenth-century philosophy, Times Literary Supplement, no. 5000, January 29, 1999.
- Critical Notice of Manfred Kuehn, Scottish Common Sense In Germany, 1768-1800: A Contribution to the history of the Critical Philosophy, Reid Studies, Vol. 2, no. 1, Autumn 1998, pp. 49-55.
- Review of Donald Livingston, Philosophical Melancholy and Delirium: Hume's Pathology of Philosophy, Philosophical Books, vol. 41, no. 2, April 2000, pp. 108-11

- Review of Stephen Nadler, Spinoza: a life, Philosophy in Review, vol. 19, no. 6, December 1999., pp.436-8.
- Review of Anita Guerrini, Obesity and Depression in the Enlightenment: The Life and Times of George Cheyne, in Eighteenth-Century Scotland, no. 14, Spring, 2000, pp. 19-20
- Review of Stephen Buckle, Hume's Enlightenment Tract, in Australasian Journal of Philosophy, vol. 8, no.6, September 2003, pp. 434-6.
- Review of Louis Loeb, Stability and Justification in Hume's Treatise, in Journal of the History of Philosophy, vol. 41, no. 4, October 2003, pp. 562-4.
- Review of Peter Millican ed., Reading Hume on Human Understanding: Essays on the First Enquiry, in Eighteenth-Century Scotland, no. 18, Spring 2004
- Review of W. J. Mander, The Philosophy of John Norris, Times Literary Supplement, no. 5564 (September 11, 2009), p. 28.
- Review of David Hume. *A Treatise of Human Nature: A Critical Edition*. eds. David Fate Norton and Mary J. Norton, in Hume Studies, Vol. 34, no. 2, November 2008, pp. 300-304.
- Review of Ann Thomson, Bodies of Thought: Science, Religion, and the Soul Early Enlightenment, for *Reviews in History* (online journal of the Institute of Historical Research, University of London), #896, May 2010 <http://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/review/896>
- Review of Annette Baier's *The cautious jealous virtue: Hume on Justice*, in *Teacher's College Record* (Columbia University), September 27, 2010
- Review of Jacqueline A. Taylor, *Reflecting Subjects: Passion, Sympathy, & Society in Hume's Philosophy*, in Eighteenth-Century Scotland, no. 30. Spring 2016, pp. 19-20
- Review of Tamas Demeter, *David Hume and the Culture of Scottish Newtonianism: Methodology and Ideology in Enlightenment Inquiry*, in Eighteenth-Century Scotland, no. 32, Spring 2018, pp. 12-13.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Will and Habit in Early Modern Philosophy,” British Society for the History of Philosophy. Durham, England, April 2018

“Will and Habit in Early Modern Philosophy,” Pacific Meetings of the American Philosophical Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, April, 2019