

MICHAEL J. DUNCAN

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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THESIS: 'NEW ARGUMENTS FOR COMPOSITION AS IDENTITY'

Composition as identity is the view that a composite object is identical to its proper parts (taken together). I argue that it is true. Composition as identity provides the best explanation of the available empirical evidence, and—unlike the alternative—allows us to plausibly maintain that composition is restricted, explains the necessary connections between parts and wholes, and allows us to make good sense of the properties of composite objects.

(Primary supervisor: Kristie Miller)

AREA OF SPECIALISATION

Metaphysics (especially Composition)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Probability, Philosophy of Mathematics

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Sydney 2016 Postdoctoral Research Fellow

EDUCATION

University of Sydney 2011-2015 Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy
2008-2009 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Philosophy
2007-2008 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology
2002-2007 Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science

PUBLICATIONS

- ◇ Goodsell, Z., Duncan, M., & Miller K. (forthcoming) 'What is an Extended Simple Region?' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.
- ◇ Miller, K., Duncan, M., & Norton, J. (forthcoming) 'Ontology without Hierarchy.' In Javier Cumpa (ed.) *The Question of Ontology: The Contemporary Debate*, Oxford University Press.
- ◇ Duncan, M., Miller, K., & Norton, J. (forthcoming) 'Ditching Determination and Dependence: Or, How to Wear the Crazy Trousers.' *Synthese*.
- ◇ Duncan, M., Miller, K., & Norton, J. (2017) 'Is Grounding a Hyperintensional Phenomenon?' *Analytic Philosophy*, 58(4) pp. 297–329.
- ◇ Miller, K., & Duncan, M. (2015) 'Modal Persistence and Modal Travel.' *Ratio*, 28(3) pp. 241–255.
- ◇ Duncan, M., Bourrat, P., DeBerardinis, J., & O'Malley, M. (2013) 'Small Things, Big Consequences: Microbiological Perspectives on Biology.' In Kostas Kampourakis (Eds.), *The Philosophy of Biology: A Companion for Educators*, Dordrecht: Springer, pp. 373–394.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 'How to Wear the Crazy Trousers: Defending Flatland.' (with Kristie Miller) *Australian Metaphysics Conference*.
- 2016 'Composite Objects, Extended Simples, and Heterogeneous Properties.' *Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP) Conference*.
- 2014 'Composition as Identity.' *Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP) Conference*.
- 2013 'What's So Bad About the Classical Theory of Probability?' *Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP) Conference*.

TEACHING

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| <i>Honours/
Postgraduate Level</i> | 2016 · 'Supersubstantialism' (Coordinator, with Kristie Miller) |
| | 2015 · 'Time, Agency, and Causation' (Guest Lecturer) |
| <i>Undergraduate
Level</i> | 2019 · 'Practical Ethics' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2018 · 'Philosophy of Mind' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2018 · 'Time and Space' (Lecturer and Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2018 · 'Philosophy of Science' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2018 · 'Reality, Ethics, and Beauty' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2017 · 'Time and Space' (Lecturer and Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2015 · 'Practical Ethics' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2015 · 'Reality, Ethics, and Beauty' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2014 · 'Metaphysics' (Teaching Assistant) |
| | 2014 · 'Reality, Ethics, and Beauty' (Teaching Assistant) |

PRIZES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2015 FASS Student Commendation for Teaching
- 2012, 2014 Lucy Firth Publication Prize
- 2012 Andrew Donald Campbell Memorial Prize (for best essay in metaphysics or epistemology)
- 2011-2014 Australian Postgraduate Award (Scholarship)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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| <i>Refereeing</i> | <i>Biology and Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Philosophical Quarterly</i> |
| <i>Volunteering</i> | Ethics Teacher for <i>Primary Ethics</i> (2012-2014) |
| <i>Supervising</i> | Research Supervisor (University of Sydney, 2016) |
| <i>Panel Member</i> | Postgraduate Progress Reviews (University of Sydney, 2016) |

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Kristie Miller
(*Supervisor*)

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Nikk Effingham
(*Thesis Examiner*)

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