

Employment and education

Lecturer/Teaching Fellow, Department of Philosophy, University of Otago 2017

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Otago 2017

Advisors: Alex Miller, Charles Pigden

Master of Arts in Philosophy, Colorado State University 2013

Advisors: Michael Losonsky, Jeff Kasser

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, California State University, Chico 2010

Areas

Specialisation: Ethics, Philosophy of Language

Competence: History of Analytic Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology

Publications

Hare, Disagreement, and Meaning Normativism, under review 2017

Presentations

Hare, Disagreement, and Meaning Normativism:

Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference, Monash University 2016

New Zealand Association of Philosophers Conference, Waikato University 2016

Philosophy Department Seminar, University of Otago 2017

Meaning Twin Earth:

Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference, Australian National University 2014

37th International Wittgenstein Symposium 2014

University of Otago Ph.D. Confirmation Presentation 2014

University of Otago Postgraduate Seminar 2014

Bilgrami's Skepticism about Meaning:

Australasian Association of Philosophy NZ Conference, University of Auckland 2013

University of Otago Postgraduate Seminar 2013

Semantics and Obligations:

10th Intermountain West Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Utah 2013

Colorado State University Department Seminar 2013

Ph.D. research statement

Twin Earth and the Normativity of Meaning:

My PhD thesis advances a new argument for the normativity of meaning by drawing on the Moral Twin Earth argument devised by Terry Horgan and Mark Timmons. According to Horgan and Timmons, our linguistic intuitions about a Moral Twin Earth scenario suggest that we should reject modern naturalist accounts of moral semantics. The best explanation of this result, Horgan and Timmons claim, is that moral predicates like 'good' are essentially normative (i.e. action-guiding). I develop an analogue of this argument via a Meaning Twin Earth scenario and claim that this scenario is best explained by viewing meaning-ascribing predicates (such as 'means' in 'Frank *means* bellbird by 'bellbird') as essentially normative. This argument poses a genuine threat to both anti-normativism about meaning and modern naturalist views of meaning, e.g. dispositionalism, which may be unable to explain our intuitions about the Meaning Twin Earth scenario.

Works in progress

The Limits of Metalinguistic Negotiation (draft article, 2017)

Merli and Shared Meaning on Moral Twin Earth (draft article, 2017)

Teaching

University of Otago

2017:	Lecturer, Contemporary Metaethics	(PHIL 234)
	Lecturer, Mind and Reality	(PHIL 101)
	Teaching Assistant, Critical Thinking	(PHIL 105)
2016:	Guest Lecturer, Logic	(PHIL 105)
	Teaching Assistant, Critical Thinking	(PHIL 105)
2015:	Guest Lecturer, Quasi-Realism	(PHIL 103)
	Teaching Assistant, Ethical Issues	(PHIL 103)
	Teaching Assistant, Mind and Reality	(PHIL 101)
2014:	Teaching Assistant, Mind and Reality	(PHIL 101)

Colorado State University

2013:	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Philosophy	(PHIL 100)
	Guest Lecturer, Hume on Causation	(PHIL 100)
2012:	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Philosophy	(PHIL 100)
	Guest Lecturer, Kant's Metaphysics	(PHIL 100)
2011:	Teaching Assistant, Philosophy of East and West	(PHIL 103)

Honours, fellowships, and awards

Postgraduate Conference Bursary:

Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2014, Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2016, New Zealand Association of Philosophy Conference 2016

Humanities Conference Grant:

University of Otago, International Wittgenstein Symposium and Summer School 2014

Doctoral Scholarship:

University of Otago 2013-2016

Regional Conference Grant:

Colorado State University, Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference 2013

International Conference Grant:

Colorado State University, International Wittgenstein Symposium and Summer School 2012

Teaching Assistantship:

Colorado State University 2011-2013

Phi Sigma Tau International Honor Society in Philosophy:

California State University, Chico 2007-2017

References

Alex Miller, University of Otago

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Michael Rubin, University of Western Australia

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Neil Sinhababu, Singapore National University

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Michael Losonsky, Colorado State University

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