

# Aaron Simmons

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## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethical Theory, Applied Ethics (especially Biomedical Ethics and Environmental Ethics)

## EDUCATION

Bowling Green State University (1999-2006)

Ph.D. in Philosophy, May 2006

Dissertation: "In Defense of an Animal's Right to Life"

Committee: R.G. Frey (Chair), Tom Regan, David Sobel, Juan Bouzat

M.A. in Philosophy, 2001

Oberlin College (1994-98)

B.A. in Philosophy and Environmental Studies (double major), 1998

High Honors in Philosophy

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Academic Positions

Associate Professor of Philosophy, Marywood University	2018-present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Marywood University	2013-2018
Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Grand Valley State University	2010-13
Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, Wayne State University	2009-10
Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy, University of Detroit Mercy	2009-10
Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	2008-9
Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Ohio Northern University	2006-8
Adjunct Lecturer in Philosophy, Ohio Northern University	2005-6
Graduate Student Instructor of Philosophy, Bowling Green State University	1999-2005

### Courses Taught

Animal Ethics	Environmental Ethics	Logic
Biomedical Ethics	Ethics	Philosophy & Democracy
Business Ethics	Ethics of Human Reproduction	Philosophy of Law
Critical Thinking	Ethics, Science, and Biotechnology	Professional Ethics
Death and Dying	Healthcare and Social Justice	
Deciding for Others in Healthcare	Intro to Philosophy	

My teaching portfolio provides greater details regarding my teaching experience, my teaching goals, and both student and faculty evaluations of my courses.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

“In Defense of the Moral Significance of Empathy,” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 17 (1) (February 2014)

“Do Embryos Have Interests? Why Embryos Are Identical to Future Persons But Not Harmed by Death,” *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry* 9 (1) (March 2012)

“Two Arguments against Biological Interests,” *Environmental Ethics* 32 (Fall 2010)

“Do Animals Have an Interest in Continued Life? In Defense of a Desire-Based Approach” *Environmental Ethics* 31 (Winter 2009)

“Animals, Predators, the Right to Life, and the Duty to Save Lives,” *Ethics and the Environment* 14 (Spring 2009)

“A Critique of Mary Anne Warren’s Weak Animal Rights View,” *Environmental Ethics* 29 (Fall 2007)

## CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

“Animals, Freedom, and the Ethics of Veganism” in *Animal Ethics in the Age of Humans*, eds. Bernice Bovenkerk and Jozef Keulartz (New York: Springer, 2016)

“Do All Subjects-of-a-Life Have an Equal Right to Life? The Challenge of the Comparative Value of Life” in *The Moral Rights of Animals*, eds. Mylan Engel and Gary Comstock (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2016)

## BOOK REVIEWS

Gary Steiner, “Animals and the Moral Community,” *Environmental Ethics* 32 (Spring 2010)

## PRESENTATIONS

“On the Moral Standing of Enhanced Humans: What Is the Relevance of Intellectual Capacity to a Being’s Moral Standing?”

- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (Reston, VA), February 20, 2016

“Animals, Freedom, and the Ethics of Veganism”

- Animal Ethics in the Age of Humans: Blurring Boundaries of Human-Animal Relationships, (Wageningen University, Netherlands), November 26-27, 2015 (invited participant)
- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (Costa Mesa, CA), February 19, 2015
- Second Annual Workshop on Food Justice (Michigan State University), May 23-25, 2014

“Trading Lives: The Ethics of Killing Animals for Medical Research”

- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting (Jacksonville, FL), March 1, 2014 (winner of Best Formal Paper by Early Career Scholar Award)

“Teaching Applied Ethics: The Challenge of Empathetic Bias”

- International Conference on Ethics Across the Curriculum (Grand Rapids, MI), October 6, 2012

“Do All Subjects-of-a-Life Have an Equal Right to Life?”

- Tom Regan: A Celebration (NCSU, Raleigh, NC), April 15, 2011 (invited speaker)

“Do Embryos Have Interests? Why Embryos Have Future Adult Lives but Are Not Harmed from Death”

- Marywood University Philosophy Paper Series, March 5, 2015
- GVSU Philosophy Colloquium (Allendale, MI), October 1, 2010

“A Critique of Warren’s Weak Animal Rights View”

- Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Meeting (NY, NY), December 28, 2005

“Do Animals Have Rights?”

- BGSU Philosophy Great Debate Series (Bowling Green, OH), February 25, 2002

#### **AWARDS**

- Best Formal Paper by Early Career Scholar, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting (Jacksonville, FL), February 27 – March 2, 2014
- Louis I. Katzner Award for Graduate Teaching Excellence, 2004-5 (awarded by BGSU Philosophy Department)
- Jonathan Heskett Memorial Award in Environmental Philosophy, 2001 (BGSU)

#### **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

- Reviewer for *Ethics, Policy & Environment*, May 2016
- Judge at the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl (Reston, VA), February 18-21, 2016
- Chair of speaker session at 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (Reston, VA), February 18-21, 2016
- Paper commenter at Animal Ethics in the Age of Humans workshop, Wageningen University, Netherlands, November 26-27, 2015 (invited participant)
- Judge at the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl (Costa Mesa, CA), February 19-22, 2015
- Chair of speaker session at 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (Costa Mesa, CA), February 19-22, 2015
- Commenter and discussion facilitator for Social Justice in the Information Society, a speaker series funded by the Marywood-University of Scranton cooperative grant; speaker: Dr. Johannes Britz, provost and vice chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, “The Ethics of Information Access,” November 4, 2014
- Reviewer for *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, September 2014
- Chair of speaker session at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (Jacksonville, FL), February 27 – March 2, 2014
- Reviewer for *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part C*, 2012
- Reviewer for *Ethics and the Environment*, 2012
- Commenter on Matt Drabek, “Answering the Distributive Question about Conscious Pain Experience,” Ohio Philosophical Association, Annual Meeting, Denison University, April 12, 2008

### **SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY**

- Member of Sub-Committee on Linked Courses for New Core Curriculum, 2018 (Marywood)
- Member of Screening Committee for Assistant Provost Position, 2018 (Marywood)
- Chair of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2017-present (Marywood)
- Member of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2015-present (Marywood)
- Member of Student Life Committee, 2015-2017 (Marywood)
- Advisor for Delta Epsilon Sigma (National Scholastic Honor Society for Catholic Colleges and Universities), Marywood Chapter, 2014-2018
- Member of Health and Safety Committee, 2013-2016 (Marywood)
- Dissertation Reader for Christina Bracey's doctoral dissertation, "How Practicing Teachers Identify and Address Ethical Dilemmas," Thursday, May 14, 2015 (Marywood, doctoral program in Human Development)
- Judge for Women's Studies Writing and Creative Work Award (Spring 2014, Spring 2015) (Marywood)

### **SERVICE TO DEPARTMENT**

- Creator and Director of Bioethics Certificate Program (2017-present) (Marywood)
- Member of Search Committee for New Tenure-Track Faculty Member in Religious Studies (Summer 2017) (Marywood)
- Honor's Thesis Director for undergraduate philosophy major Joe Duda (2016) (Marywood)
- Faculty Advisor for philosophy majors (Marywood)
- Chair of the Mary Pace Medal for Excellence in Philosophy Committee (2013-present) (Marywood)
- Teaching independent studies for students interested in specialized study in Bioethics (Fall 2015, Spring 2017) (Marywood)
- Organizer of Marywood Philosophy Department bulletin board (2013-present)
- Organizer of biannual Philosophy Department faculty speaker series for undergraduate students (2013-present) (Marywood)