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# Lane DesAutels

*Curriculum Vitae*

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<http://lanedesautels.com/>

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## Areas of Specialization

- Philosophy of Science
- Philosophy of Biology
- Ethics

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## Areas of Competence

- Metaphysics
- Philosophy of Environment
- Logic

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## Academic Employment

- Assistant Professor (tenure-track)
  - Department of Philosophy & Religion, Missouri Western State University (August, 2016 – Present)
- Postdoctoral Fellow
  - Program for History and Philosophy of Science, University of Notre Dame (August, 2014 – May, 2016)

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## Education

- Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, MD (2014)
  - Dissertation: *Mechanism and Chance: Toward an Account of Stochastic Mechanism for the Life Sciences*
  - Dissertation Committee: Lindley Darden (director), Aidan Lyon, Mathias Frisch, Peter Carruthers, Jessica Pfeifer
- M.A. Philosophy, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI (2008)
- B.A. Philosophy, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA (2004)

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### Peer Reviewed Publications

- “Noise Inference Methods” with Nevin Climenhaga and Grant Ramsey (Revise and Resubmit, May 2018) *Philosophy of Science*
- “Natural Selection and Mechanistic Regularity” (2016) *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*, 57: 13-23.
- “Toward a Propensity Interpretation of Stochastic Mechanism for the Life Sciences” (2015) *Synthese*. 192: 2921-2953.
- “Against Regular and Irregular Characterizations of Mechanisms” (2011) *Philosophy of Science* 78 (5): 914-925.
- “Sober and Elgin on Laws of Biology: A Critique” (2010) *Biology and Philosophy* 25:249-256.

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### Invited Book Chapters

- “Mechanisms in Evolutionary Biology” (2018) *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Mechanisms*, Eds. Stuart Glenman and Phyllis Illari. 296-307.

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### Articles in Preparation

- “Paper on Modal Explanations” (with Grant Ramsey)
- “Paper on Biological Individuality” (with Caleb Hazelwood)
- “The Ethics of Data Tagging for Big Data Science: A Case-Study on Racial Identifiers”

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### Selected Presentations

- “Extended Evolutionary Individuality: an Appeal to Multi-dimensional Heredity” *Generalized Theory of Evolution Conference*, University of Düsseldorf, Germany (Feb 2018)
- “Extending Biological Individuality” *Invited Lecture*, Park University, Parkville, MO (Nov 2017)
- “The Problem of Biological Individuality: Lessons from the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis” *Invited | Lewis Gordon Lecture*, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville (Oct 2017)
- “Noise Inference Methods” *Perspectives on Scientific Error*, Tilburg Center for Logic, Ethics, and Philosophy of Science, Tilburg, Netherlands (June 2017)
- “Ethics of Data Tagging for Big Data Science: A Case-Study on Racial Identifiers” *SciDataCon*, Denver, CO (September 2016)
- “Natural Selection as a Mechanism: Process vs Product Regularity” *American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting*, Chicago (March 2016)
- “Causal-Possibility Explanations” (with Grant Ramsey) *European Philosophy of Science Association Meeting*, Düsseldorf, Germany (September 2015)

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- “On the Role of Unactualized Possibilities in Biological Explanation” *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Meeting*, Montreal, Canada (July 2015)
- “Toward a Propensity Interpretation of Stochastic Mechanism for the Life Sciences” *European Philosophy of Science Association Meeting*, Helsinki, Finland (August 2013)
- “Grounding Probabilistic Generalizations in the Life Sciences” *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Meeting*, Montpellier, France (July 2013)
- “Mechanism and Chance” *University of Pittsburg/Carnegie Mellon University Graduate Student Conference* (April 2013)
- “Mechanism and Chance: Toward a Working Account of Stochastic Mechanism”, *DC History and Philosophy of Biology Meeting*, (June 2012)
- “Mechanisms, Regularity, and Stochasticity”, Invited Distinguished Alumni Speaker, *Western Michigan University Graduate Conference*, (Winter 2011)
- “Relocating Objectivity in Environment Ethics”, *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Meeting*, Salt Lake City, Utah (Summer 2011)
- “Against Regular and Irregular Characterizations of Mechanisms”; *Philosophy of Science Association Meeting*, Montreal, Canada (Fall 2010)

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## Teaching Experience

- Missouri Western State University
  - History and Philosophy of the Natural Sciences
  - Advanced topics in Philosophy of Evolutionary Biology
  - Introduction to Philosophy
  - Honors Colloquium on Free Will and Determinism
  - Ethics
  - Advanced topics in Ethical Theory: Metaethics
- University of Notre Dame
  - Philosophy of Biology
  - Philosophy of Science
  - Philosophy of Science Graduate Survey Course
  - Mechanisms Graduate Seminar
- University of Maryland, College Park
  - Metaphysics
  - Philosophy of the Environment
  - Philosophy of the Environment (Online Course)
- Western Michigan University
  - Introduction to Ethics
  - Critical Reasoning

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## Honors and Awards

- LAS Faculty Development Award, Missouri Western State University (2016, 2018)
- Distinguished Graduate Student Teacher Award, University of Maryland, College Park (2014)
- Brian Hull Award for the Best First Year Graduate Student (Co-recipient), University of Maryland, College Park (2011)
- Moreland Perkins Graduate Fellowship, University of Maryland, College Park (2013)
- Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, University of Maryland, College Park (2013)
- History of Science Society Travel Grant for PSA Montreal (2010)
- Full-time Graduate Assistantship and Tuition Remission, University of Maryland, College Park (2009 - 2014)
- Full-time Graduate Assistantship and Tuition Remission, Western Michigan University (2006-2008).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Western Michigan University's Annual Philosophy Essay Contest: "Defending Motivational Humeanism" (2008)
- D. H. Harder Humanities Scholarship, University of Puget Sound (2000).
- Dean's Scholarship for Academic Merit, University of Puget Sound (2000).

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## Service

- Missouri Western General Studies Committee Secretary (2017-2018)
- Missouri Western Peer Review/Syllabi Committee Member (2016)
- Missouri Western Online Teaching Committee Member (2016)
- Notre Dame HPS Dissertation Workshop Organizer (2016)
- Notre Dame HPS Qualifying Paper Oral Examiner (2015)
- Philosophy Graduate Representative on the Advisory Panel for Arts and Humanities Undergraduates Interested in Pursuing Graduate School (2012, 2013)
- Graduate Student Representative on the Program Review Committee for the Department of Philosophy at the University of Maryland, College Park (2013)
- Representative to the Dean's Graduate Advisory Board (2011 - 2013)
- Committee Member, Referee, and Principal Organizer of the *First Annual Western Michigan Graduate Student Philosophy Conference* (2007).

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## Journal Refereeing

*Biology and Philosophy*

*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*

*Journal Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*

*Journal for General Philosophy of Science*

*Philosophy Compass*

*Philosophical Psychology*

*Philosophy of Science*

*Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*

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## References

Lindley Darden  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Maryland, College Park  
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Grant Ramsey  
Research Professor of Philosophy  
KU Leuven  
[grant@theramseylab.org](mailto:grant@theramseylab.org)

James Okapal  
Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of History, Geography, Philosophy, and Religion  
Missouri Western State University  
[jokapal@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:jokapal@missouriwestern.edu)