

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Sandy C. Boucher

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Education:

Ph.D. University of Melbourne 2012

M.A. Monash University 2002

B.A. (Hons) Monash University 1999

Areas of specialisation:

Philosophy of Evolutionary Biology, Philosophy of Science, Epistemology,
Metaphilosophy

Areas of competence:

Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics, Logic, Ethics, Metaethics,
Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Social Science

Publications:

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- “Conceptual Engineering and Conceptual Extension in Science”, forthcoming in *Inquiry*
- “Cladism, Monophyly and Natural Kinds”, in *Croatian Journal of Philosophy* XXII, No. 64: 39-68, 2022
- “Biological Teleology, Reductionism, and Verbal Disputes”, in *Foundations of Science* 26 (4): 859-880, 2021
- “Evolutionary debunking arguments, commonsense and scepticism”, in *Synthese* 198 (12): 11217-11239, 2021

- “Methodological naturalism in the sciences”, in *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 88 (1): 57-80, 2020
- “Pluralism, realism and the units of selection”, in *South African Journal of Philosophy*, 39 (1): 47-62, 2020
- “An empiricist conception of the relation between metaphysics and science,” in *Philosophia*, 47 (5): 1355-1378, 2019
- “What is the relation between a philosophical stance and its associated beliefs?” in *dialectica*, 72 (4): 509–524, 2018
- “Stances and epistemology: values, pragmatics and rationality,” in *Metaphilosophy*, 49 (4): 521-547, 2018
- “Gould on species, metaphysics, and macroevolution: a critical appraisal,” in *Studies in the History and Philosophy of the Biological and Biomedical Sciences*, 62: 25–34, 2017
- “Functionalism and structuralism as philosophical stances: van Fraassen meets the philosophy of biology,” in *Biology and Philosophy*, 30 (3): 383-403, 2015
- “What is a philosophical stance? Paradigms, policies and perspectives,” in *Synthese*, 191(10): 2315-2332, 2014
- “A computational approach to linguistic knowledge,” with Ian Gold, in *Language and Communication*, vol. 22: 211-229, 2002

Book chapters

- “Scientific imperialism, pluralism, and folk morality,” with Adrian Walsh, in A. Walsh, U. Maki and M. F. Pinto (eds.), *Scientific Imperialism*, Routledge 2017

Journal editing

- Co-editor of special issue of the journal *Research in Ethical Issues in Organisations*, on ‘Surveillance, big data and applied ethics in the digital age’, 2022

Full-time academic positions:

- October 2017-present: Lecturer in the Philosophy of Science (Level B), Discipline of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of New England (permanent position)
- May 2016-May 2017; July 2014-November 2015: Lecturer (Level B), Discipline of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of New England (contract position)

Units taught, UNE (Unit coordinator, lecturer):

- Sex and Death: Issues in the Philosophy of Biology
- Metaphysics, Knowledge and the Search for Reality
- Critical Thinking
- Philosophy of Social Science
- Reason and Choice: Individual, Social, Political
- Social Philosophy: Issues in Applied Ethics
- Bioethics
- Philosophy of Science
- Elementary Logic
- Epistemology: The Enlightenment and Beyond

Service roles, UNE:

- 2022 onwards: HASS Research Seminar Series Coordinator
- 2022 January, March: acting Head of Department, Dept. of Social and Philosophical Inquiry
- 2020-present: Member of Research Committee, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
- 2018-present: Member of Teaching and Learning Advisory Group (TLAG), School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
- 2017-present: Discipline convenor, Philosophy and Religious Studies

Other roles, UNE:

- 2020: Member of advisory panel for appointment of new Head of School, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
- Co-organiser, Australian Association of Professional and Applied Ethics conference, 2020

- 2018-present: Convenor, cluster/department of Social and Philosophical Inquiry reading group
- 2018-present: Convenor, Philosophy and Religious Studies Work in Progress seminar
- 2015-present: Convenor, Philosophy reading group
- July 2012-March 2013: Researcher, IARPA (Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity) Critical Thinking Project, University of Melbourne.

Summary of project:

The aim of the project was to develop and test a new approach to teaching critical thinking, making use of cutting-edge teaching methods such as Argument Mapping software, Peer Instruction, and Personalised System of Instruction, also known as ‘Mastery Learning’. A course was developed the aim of which was, in part, to train intelligence analysts in critical thinking and reasoning. The project was funded by IARPA (Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity) in the USA, and was an international collaboration involving researchers in Australia, the USA, the UK and Canada.

Project duties:

- Editor and co-author of textbook *Improving Your Reasoning* (2013) produced for Argument Mapping course. Available on-line to students taking course, at www.course.improvingreasoning.com.
- Co-author of Argument Mapping questions, practice activities and on-line tests for use in the course.
- Liaising with fellow researchers in the US, Canada and the UK.
- Regular contributor to project blog. Blog was used for debate and discussion among project researchers about theoretical issues.
- Co-organiser of IARPA Critical Thinking Conference at UC Berkeley USA, 2013. Conference was for discussing practical and theoretical issues of relevance to the project, as well as general philosophical and pedagogical issues connected with the teaching of critical thinking.
- Co-teacher of course *Improving Your Reasoning*, offered at the University of Melbourne to test the materials and techniques developed by the project.
- Co-author of project final report.

Teaching awards:

- University of New England School of Humanities *Unit Commendations* 2015 for Elementary Logic, and Social Philosophy: Issues in Applied Ethics. Awarded for achieving an outstanding result in terms of high overall student satisfaction

Presentations:

- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2021 (“Naturalism, Empiricism and the Metaphysics of Biology”)
- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2021 (“The Pragmatic Turn in the Scientific Realism Debate”)
- University of Tasmania Philosophy Seminar 2020 (“The Pragmatic Turn in the Scientific Realism Debate”)
- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2019 (“Methodological Naturalism in the Sciences”)
- UNE Humanities Seminar Series 2019 (“There is no Problem of Biological Teleology”)
- UNE Humanities Seminar Series 2017 (“Conceptual Broadening, Meaning Change and Conventionalism”)
- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2016 (“Conceptual Broadening and Pragmatic Stances”)
- Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science Conference 2015 (“Scientific Imperialism”, “Realism and Instrumentalism in the Metaphysics of Biology”)
- IARPA Critical Thinking Conference, Berkeley 2012 (“The Evolution of Reasoning”)
- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2010 (“Model Pluralism About the Units of Selection: A van Fraassen Interpretation”)
- Australasian Philosophy of Biology Postgraduate Conference 2007 (“Pluralism, Realism and Multilevel Selection Theory”)
- Australasian Philosophy of Biology Postgraduate Conference 2006 (“Once Again on the Ontology of Species”)
- Conference on Metaphysical Anti-Realism, Sydney 2006 (“Realism and Reductionism”)
- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2006 (“Species, Metaphysics and Macroevolution”)
- Australasian Philosophy of Biology Postgraduate Conference 2005 (“Pragmatism and Anti-Realism about the Units of Selection”)
- Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2005 (“Conventionalism About Species”)
- Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference 2005 (“Indispensability Arguments”)
- Australasian Postgraduate Philosophy Conference 2004 (“Conventionalism About Species”)

Dissertations:

- Doctoral thesis: “Empiricism, Metaphysical Stances and the Philosophy of Biology” – Philosophy Department, University of Melbourne
- Masters thesis (100 per cent research): “Realism Defined and Defended” – Philosophy Department, Monash University (H1)
- Honours thesis: “Reductive Functionalism and the Kripkean Challenge” – Philosophy Department, Monash University

Professional associations:

- Member, Australasian Association of Philosophy
- Member, Philosophy of Science Association
- Member, International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology
- Member, Australasian Association for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science

Service to the broader Philosophy discipline:

- UNE representative, Australasian Association of Philosophy annual department heads meeting 2018, 2019, 2020
- PhD dissertation examiner: University of Melbourne, 2018
- Member of judging committee, Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2021 and 2022 award for best Postgraduate paper
- Category Editor (‘The Empirical Stance’) for *PhilPapers*, on-line Philosophy database
- Referee for philosophy journals:
 - *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*
 - *Synthese*
 - *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*
 - *Biology and Philosophy*
 - *Journal of Religious Studies*
 - *Philosophical Psychology*
 - *Principia*
 - *Croatian Journal of Philosophy*

- *Inquiry*
- *Theology and Science*
- *Foundations of Science*
- *Cambridge Elements book series*
- *Journal of Applied Philosophy*

Public outreach:

- Judge, 2019 New England Philosothon

Referees:

Adrian Walsh

Professor of Philosophy, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

University of New England

Email: awalsh@une.edu.au

Howard Sankey

Associate Professor of Philosophy, School of Historical and Philosophical Studies

University of Melbourne

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Greg Restall

Professor of Philosophy, School of Historical and Philosophical Studies

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