

## **Dr. Kirsten Egerstrom**

Philosophy

Department: Social Sciences

Whatcom Community College

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### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Assistant Professor (tenured), Whatcom Community College (September 2018-present)

Research Associate, The University of Johannesburg (November 2018-2021)

Lecturer, Southern Methodist University (August 2015-June 2018)

Research Associate, Syracuse University (2014-2015)

Teaching Associate, Syracuse University (2009-2014)

### **EDUCATION**

Syracuse University

PhD in Philosophy, August 2015

Northern Illinois University MA

in Philosophy, 2008

Cornell College

BA in Philosophy and Sociology, 2005

### **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Value theory and the philosophy of death and dying

### **PUBLICATIONS**

“Making Death Not Quite as Bad for the One Who Dies” (2021), *Exploring the Philosophy of Death and Dying: Classical and Contemporary Perspectives*, eds. Michael Cholbi and Travis Timmerman, Routledge Press: 93-100.

“Pandemic Postcards” (2020), *The Philosophers’ Magazine*, 91: 7.

“Meaning without Fulfillment” (2018), *South African Journal of Philosophy*, 37(2): 193-206.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Iddo Landau's *Finding Meaning in an Imperfect World* in *The Philosopher's Magazine* (2018)

Review of Tim Mulgan's *Purpose in the Universe: The Moral and Metaphysical Case for Ananthropocentric Purposivism* in *Utilitas* (2017)

Review of David Benatar's *The Human Predicament: A Candid Guide to Life's Biggest Questions* in *The Philosopher's Magazine* (2017)

Review of William Irwin's *The Free Market Existentialist: Existentialism without Consumerism* in *The Philosopher's Magazine* (2016)

## PRESENTATIONS

"Can a Life be Negatively Meaningful?" Western Washington University Colloquium (invited), November 2022.

"Good Grief? 'Grief Work' During a Pandemic." International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying Group Session, Pacific APA, April 2022.

Comments on Daniel Pallies's symposium paper, "Optimism and Pessimism about Well-being." Pacific APA, April 2022.

"Against the Failed Agent Model of Meaninglessness." 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Philosophy and Meaning in Life (hosted by the University of Pretoria, South Africa), January 2022.

Comments on Christopher Frugé's "Value After Death." International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying Symposium (hosted by Deakin University, Australia), July 2021.

"Benefiting the Dead." International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying Group Session, Pacific APA, April 2020. [Conference cancelled due to pandemic.]

"Making Death Not Quite as Bad for the One Who Dies." Death Workshop (invited), Texas Christian University, February 2019

“Meaning in Life and Happiness: Two Dimensions of Selfhood.” Well-being and Happiness Conference, Mississippi Philosophical Association, February 2018

“Two Models of Meaningless Lives: Against the ‘Failed Agent’ Model of Meaninglessness.” Dallas Philosophers Forum Lecture (invited), October 2017

“Meaning in Life and Happiness: Two Dimensions of Selfhood.” William P. Alston Lecture Series at Syracuse University (invited), September 2017

“The Meaning of the Afterlife.” Stockholm Workshop on Happiness, Virtue, and the Meaning of Life, May 2017

“Meaning without Fulfillment.” Southern Methodist University Colloquium (invited), December 2015

“The Meaning of the Afterlife.” The Immortality Project's Younger Scholars Workshop at UC Riverside, 2015

“Immortality and Meaninglessness.” The Immortality Project Capstone Conference at UC Riverside, 2015.

“Immortality and Meaninglessness.” Felician Conference on Ethics and Public Affairs, 2015.

“Meaningless Lives.” Pacific APA Meeting (Main Program), 2015

“Meaning without Fulfillment.” Central APA Meeting (Main Program), 2015

“Meaning without Fulfillment.” Creighton Club: New York Philosophical Association, 2014

“Meaning without Fulfillment.” Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference (Main Program), 2014

“An Internalist Commitment to Morality.” Iowa Philosophical Society Conference, 2008

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

SMU Honoring Our Professors' Excellence (HOPE) Award (2017-2018)

Immortality Project Grant: \$93,849 grant (external grant received with co-investigator Dr. Travis Timmerman and principal investigator Dr. Ben Bradley) from the Immortality Project at UC Riverside, funded by the John Templeton Foundation; project title: *Death, Rational Emotion, and Meaningfulness* 2014-15

American Philosophical Association Graduate Student Travel Stipend for Central APA Meeting, 2015

American Philosophical Association Graduate Student Travel Stipend for Pacific APA Meeting, 2015

Graduate Student Presentation Paper Award, Creighton Club: New York Philosophical Association, 2014

Syracuse University Departmental Summer Research Fellowship, 2012

Syracuse University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, 2012

Syracuse University Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant, 2012

Cornell College Philosophy Department Senior Book Prize, 2005

## REFEREE WORK

### *Scholarly Press:*

Cambridge University Press (1 book proposal)

### *Journals:*

*The Philosophical Forum*

*Thought: A Journal of Philosophy*

*Synthese*

*Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*

*Journal of Value Inquiry*

*De Ethica: A Journal of Philosophical, Theological and Applied Ethics*

*Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*  
*Journal of Applied Philosophy*  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*  
*Australian Journal of Philosophy*

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY AND COLLEGE SERVICE**

### ***WCC Departmental/Divisional Service***

Philosophy Discipline Lead (Fall 2018-present)  
Guided Pathways Map Designer for Philosophy (Winter 2021)  
Divisional Canvas and Online Course Support Lead (Spring 2020)

### ***Committee Work***

WCCFT Vice President for Full-time Faculty Affairs (2022-2023)  
Contract Administration Committee (Fall 2021-present)  
Adjunct Affairs Advisory Committee, Fall 2019-Spring 2021

### ***Professional Chairing:***

Book Symposium Chair for Kelly McCormick's *The Problem of Blame: Making Sense of Moral Anger*, 2023 Pacific APA Meeting  
Chair for Jeremy Davis's "Grief and Acceptance," 2019 Pacific APA Meeting  
Book Symposium Chair for Gwen Bradford's *Achievement*, 2016 Pacific APA Meeting (invited)  
Chair for Christopher M. Rice's "Defending Objective List Theories of Well-Being," 2012 Central APA Meeting

### ***Conference Organizer:***

Graduate student organizer for 2012 SPAWN (Syracuse Philosophy Annual Workshop & Network), "Normative Realism."

### ***Other:***

2013 Teaching Mentor Selection Committee, Syracuse University  
2011 Teaching Mentor, Syracuse University Graduate School  
2010 President, Philosophy Department Graduate Students  
Co-founder (with Kelly McCormick & Sarah Morales) and member of Syracuse Philosophy Department's Women's Group (2010-2015)