

JEFFREY KOPERSKI

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy, B315
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Education

- Ph.D. Ohio State University (Philosophy), 1997
- M.A. Ohio State University (Philosophy), 1994
- B.E.E. University of Dayton (Electrical Engineering, magna cum laude), 1987

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Religion

Areas of Competence

Metaphysics, Ethics

Academic Positions

- Professor of Philosophy, Saginaw Valley State University 2007-present
- Associate Professor of Philosophy, SVSU 2002-2007
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy, SVSU 1997-2002

Books

- The Physics of Theism: God, Physics, and the Philosophy of Science*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.
- Divine Action, Determinism, and the Laws of Nature*. Routledge, 2020.
- Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence*, edited with Kelly James Clark. Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

Articles and Book Chapters

- "Design and the Laws of Nature," in *The Metaphysics and History of Design Discourse: Abrahamic Perspectives*, Kojonen and Malik, eds. (Routledge, forthcoming).
- "God, the Laws of Nature, and Occasionalism," *Religious Studies* (forthcoming).
- "When Dialogue was the Norm: Theology and the Rise of Modern Science," *Philosophy, Theology and the Sciences* 10, no. 1 (2023): 105-111.
- "Decretalism is (still) not Occasionalism: Reply to Larmer," *Philosophia Christi* 25, no. 1 (2023): 117-125.
- "Teleological Arguments for God's Existence," with Del Ratzsch, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Edward N. Zalta, ed. (2023, 2019).
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/teleological-arguments/>
- "Does Physics Forbid Libertarian Freedom?" *Filozoficzne Aspekty Genezy* 19, no. 1 (2022).

- “The Many Faces of Randomness,” in *Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence*, Clark and Koperski, eds. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022).
- “Randomness and Providence: Is God a Bowler or a Curler?” with Kelly James Clark in *Abrahamic Reflections on Randomness and Providence*, Clark and Koperski, eds. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022).
- “How the Laws of Nature were Naturalized,” *Science & Christian Belief* 33, no. 2 (2021): 63-82.
- “Divine Action and the Laws of Nature: A Reply to Łukasiewicz,” *Roczniki Filozoficzne (Annals of Philosophy)* 68, no. 3 (2020): 127-136. doi: 10.18290/rf20683-6
- “Theism, Naturalism, and Scientific Realism,” *Эпистемология и Философия Науки (Epistemology and Philosophy of Science)* 53, no. 3 (2017): 152-166. doi: 10.5840/eps201753354
- “Breaking Laws of Nature,” *Philosophia Christi* 19, no. 1 (2017): 83-101.
- “Divine Action and the Quantum Amplification Problem,” *Theology and Science* 13, no. 4 (2015): 379–94. doi:10.1080/14746700.2015.1082872.
- “Motives Still Don’t Matter: Reply to Pynes,” with Andrés Ruiz, *Zygon* 47, no. 4 (2012): 662-665.
- “Metatheoretic Shaping Principles: Where Science Meets Theology,” in *God in an Open Universe*, William Hasker, Thomas Jay Oord, & Dean Zimmerman, eds. (Pickwick Press, 2011).
- “Two Bad Ways to Attack Intelligent Design and Two Good Ones,” *Zygon* 43, no. 2 (2008): 433-449.
- “Models,” *The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, <http://www.iep.utm.edu/> (2006).
- “Creationism,” in *Science, Religion, and Society: An Encyclopedia of History, Culture, and Controversy*, Gary Laderman and Arri Eisen, eds. (Sharpe Reference, 2006).
- “Should We Care about Fine-Tuning?” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 56 (2005): 303-319.
- “Intelligent Design and the End of Science,” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 77:4 (2003): 567-588.
- “Has Chaos Been Explained?” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 52 (2001): 683-700.
- “God, Chaos, and the Quantum Dice,” *Zygon* 35, no. 3 (2000): 545-559.
- “Models, Confirmation, and Chaos,” *Philosophy of Science* 65 (1998): 624-648.

Dictionary Entries and Short Articles

- “Lawbreaker?” *Sapientia* (July, 2021).
- “Thomas Aquinas and His Many Causes,” *Sapientia* (January, 2020).
- “Physics and the Laws of Nature,” *Sapientia* (December, 2019).
- “Physics and SDA,” *The Special Divine Action Project*, Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion (2018) <https://sda.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/sda/#!/themes/article/92>
- “Divine Action,” *Dictionary of Christianity and Science*, Paul Copan, Tremper Longman, Chris Reese, and Mike Strauss, eds. (2017).

“Del Ratzsch,” *Dictionary of Christianity and Science*, Paul Copan, Tremper Longman, Chris Reese, and Mike Strauss, eds. (2017).

Book Reviews

Emergence in Context: A Treatise in Twenty-First Century Natural Philosophy by Robert C. Bishop, Michael Silberstein, and Mark Pexton, *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* (forthcoming).

Signposts to God by Peter Bussey, *Science & Christian Belief* 29:2 (2017).

The Empirical Stance by Bas C. Van Fraassen, *Faith and Philosophy* 21:2 (2004).

The Design Revolution by William A. Dembski, *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 78:4 (2004).

Hume’s Abject Failure by John Earman, *Philosophia Christi* 4:2 (2002).

Presentations

“Plantinga Without the Occasionalism,” National meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, 2023.

“Design and the Laws of Nature,” The Metaphysics and History of Design Discourse, University of Helsinki, 2023.*

“What is a Law of Nature?” American Scientific Affiliation of West Michigan, 2023.*

“God and the Laws of Nature,” Institute of Discourse Perspectives, Lahore, Pakistan, 2023.*

“Physics and Divine Action,” Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran, 2021.*

“What is a Law of Nature?” Debates in Contemporary Kalam, Istanbul, Turkey, 2021.*

“How the Laws of Nature were Naturalized” PhD and Faculty Colloquium, L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture, 2021.*

“Science, Philosophy, and Theology: Who Owes What to Whom?” L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture, 2021.*

“Divine Action and the Laws of Nature,” Central Division APA meeting, Society of Christian Philosophers session, 2020.*

“Engineering Ethics: One Fundamental Conflict,” American Institute of Chemical Engineers (Mid-Michigan), 2019.*

“The Nature of the Laws of Nature,” Henry Center for Theological Understanding, Trinity International University, 2019.*

“The Problem of Evil in the Many-Worlds of Quantum Mechanics,” (with Enis Doko) Amman, Jordan, 2019.*

“Science, Philosophy, and Theology: Who Owes What to Whom?” St. Michael’s College, 2019.*

“Physics and Fine-Tuning,” Physics Colloquium, Valparaiso University, 2018.*

“Can a Naturalist Be a Scientific Realist?” Philosophy Colloquium, Valparaiso University, 2018.*

“Mysterious Ways: Does God Govern through Quantum Mechanics?” Christian Scientific Society, University of Pittsburgh, 2018.*

- “Mythbusting: What They Didn’t Teach You about Science and Religion,” *The Grand Dialogue*, Grand Valley State University, 2017.*
- “Breaking Laws of Nature,” *Special Divine Action, AAR Pre-Conference Symposium*, Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion, San Antonio, 2016.
- “Breaking Laws of Nature” *Theology and the Philosophy of Science: Analytic, Scholastic, and Historical Perspectives*, Concordia University of Edmonton, 2016.*
- “Theism, Naturalism, and Scientific Realism,” *Science, Philosophy, and Religious Commitment: Catholic engagement in philosophy of science*, University of St. Thomas, 2016.*
- “Does God need Quantum Mechanics?” *Christian Perspectives in Science*, Calvin College, 2015.*
- “What is Determinism that We Should Be Mindful of It?” *Randomness and Divine Providence*, Fuller Seminary, 2015.
- “The New Design Argument: A Universe Fit for Life,” with Enis Doko, *The Grand Dialogue*, Grand Valley State University, 2015.*
- “A Very Brief History of Science and Theism,” *Creativity and Research Symposia*, SVSU, 2015.*
- “Emergent Protectorates and the Effacement of the Small: Why the Quantum Amplification Problem Cannot be Solved,” *Randomness & Foreknowledge Conference*, Dallas, 2014.
- “Divine Intervention and the Laws of Nature: Does God need Quantum Mechanics?” *McIntyre Lecture*, Wheaton College, 2013.*
- “Divine Action, Intervention, and the Laws of Nature,” EPS national meeting, 2012.
- “A Very Brief History of Science and Theism,” *Global Theology*, Moody Institute, 2012.
- “The Philosophy of Science and Religion,” one-week seminar at Wuhan University, China, 2010.
- “Relativity, Space-time, and Free Will,” EPS national meeting, 2009.
- “Science, Religion, and Shaping Principles,” *Science, Philosophy and Belief*, Peking University, China, 2009.*
- “Science, Design, and the Intelligent Design Movement,” *John Wesley Lectures*, Northwest Nazarene University, 2008.*
- “Metatheoretic Shaping Principles and Open Theism,” *Open Theology and Science*, Azusa Pacific University, 2008.
- “Causal Drainage and the Special Sciences: Some Lessons from Continuum Mechanics,” Pacific Division meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, 2007.
- “Two Bad Ways to Attack Intelligent Design and Two Good Ones,” 3rd Annual Contemporary Philosophy Research Conference, University of Toledo, 2006.*
- “Who Cares about Fine-Tuning?” Eastern Division meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, 2003.
- “Special Problems in Professional and Research Ethics,” Dow Chemical Company, Toxicology, Environmental Research, and Consulting Group, 2003.*

- “An Overview of Philosophical Ethics,” Dow Chemical Company, Toxicology, Environmental Research, and Consulting Group, 2003.*
- “Scoring the Intelligent Design Debate,” Eastern Division meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, 2002.
- “Has Peter Smith Explained Chaos?” annual meeting of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, 2000.
- “What’s a Scholar Like You Doing in a Place Like This?” Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, & Letters, 2000.
- “God, Chaos, and the Quantum Dice,” *Religion and Science: Tension, Accommodation and Engagement*, Ohio State University, 1999.
- “God, Chaos, and the Quantum Dice,” *Theology and the New Physics*, Calvin, 1999.
- “Is NOA Compatible with Constructive Empiricism?” Graduate Student Colloquium, Ohio State University, 1993.

* designates invited presentations

Grants

- Laws, Determinism, and Divine Action*, John Templeton Foundation 2019-2021
- Randomness and Providence*, Kaufman Interfaith Institute, Grand Valley State University, 2017-2019
- Randomness and Divine Providence*, Calvin College 2013-2015
- The Emergence of Biological Complexity*, Cambridge-Templeton Consortium 2006
- Confirming Chaos*, National Science Foundation 2003. Grant was approved but did not receive funding.
- SVSU Research Grant 2016, 2012, 2008, 2007, 2001, 1999
- SVSU Sabbatical 2018, 2010, 2003

Workshops and Symposia

- “Science-Engaged Theology,” American Academy of Religion, 2022*
- “Free Will,” Helsinki Analytic Theology Workshop, 2021
- “The Replication Crisis,” SVSU Forum, 2019*
- “Joint Muslim-Christian Dialogue on Science and Religion,” Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul, 2014; Grand Valley State University, 2015*
- “Open Theology and Science,” Eastern Nazarene College, 2007*
- “The Mathematics and Philosophy of Cosmic Fine-tuning,” Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 2003*
- “Theology and the New Physics,” Faculty Summer Seminar in Christian Scholarship, Calvin College, 1998
- “Creation, Evolution or Both? A Multiple Model Approach,” National Science Foundation Chataqua Course, 1998

Other Professional Activities

- Editorial Board Member, *Philosophy Compass* 2005-present
- Editorial Board Member, *Philosophical Meditations* 2023-present

Advisory Board Member, *Filozoficzne Aspekty Genezy* (Poland) 2015-present

Referee:

- *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Erkenntnis, European Journal for Philosophy of Religion, Faith and Philosophy, Filozoficzne Aspekty Genezy, Foundations of Science, Michigan Academician, Mind, Mind and Matter, Philosophia Christi, Philosophy Compass, Philosophy of Science, Religious Studies, Science and Christian Belief, Sophia, Spontaneous Generations, Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics, Synthese, TheoLogica, Theological Studies, Theology and Science, Zygon*
- Broadview Press, Cambridge University Press, Longman Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Springer, University of Notre Dame Press

Dissertation Examiner for Alin Cucu, *Interacting Minds in the Physical World*, University of Lausanne, 2022

Podcast Interviews: London Lyceum 2020 and 2023, L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture 2021, The Reluctant Theologian 2021, Elmo's World 2021, Adherent Apologetics 2021, Trinities 2016

Television Interview, "Junia Doan's The Spark!," 2019

Proposal evaluator for the John Templeton Foundation, 2017

Dissertation Examiner for Rope Kojonen, *Intelligent Design: A Theological and Philosophical Analysis*, University of Helsinki, 2014

Executive Committee, *Christian Scholarship: Tensions and Contributions*, Ohio State University 1999

Awards and Honors

BookAuthority named *Divine Action, Determinism, and the Laws of Nature* one of the best books of the year on determinism <https://tinyurl.com/zfdp4245> and one of the best ebooks of the year in metaphysics <https://tinyurl.com/23px5ne5>.

Innovative Use of Technology in Teaching Award (honorable mention), SVSU, 2000

Phi Kappa Phi, Ohio State University, 1993

Tau Beta Pi (engineering), University of Dayton, 1987

Eta Kappa Nu (electrical engineering), University of Dayton, 1986

Courses Taught

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Religion, Engineering and Computer Ethics (classroom and online versions), Science and Religion, Introduction to Logic, Introduction to Philosophy, Philosophical Themes in Literature

Service

Society of Christian Philosophers APA Central Division Committee, 2021-2023

Faculty Advisor, CRU at SVSU 2006-present

Chair, Faculty Evaluation Team 2005, 2006, 2011, 2012, 2014

Faculty Evaluation Team 2001, 2015

Adjunct Faculty Mentor, LEAD Experience Program 2014-2015

Faculty Search Committee 2004, 2008, 2012, 2014

Honors Program Advisory Committee 2009-2011

Coordinator, *Edwards Lecture in Philosophy and Religion* 1998-2010
Faculty Advisor, ConnectingPoints at SVSU 2008-2010
Dow Visiting Scholars & Artists Advisory Committee 2007-2009
Chair, Internal Review Team for the Department of Biology 2002
Honors Thesis Advisor 1998, 2008
Honors Thesis Committee 1998
General Education Assessment Committee 1998
Student Coordinator of the Logic, Language, and Science Colloquium Series 1994-1995,
Ohio State University
Graduate Student Ombudsman 1992-1994, Ohio State University

Professional Affiliations

Society of Christian Philosophers

References

Hans Halvorson
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