

Rose Novick

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

Areas of specialization

Philosophy of biology, philosophy of science

Areas of competence

Ancient philosophy, classical Chinese philosophy, history of biology

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Washington - Assistant Professor	September 2020 – present
Purdue University - Assistant Professor	August 2019 – May 2020
Dalhousie University - Postdoctoral fellow	September 2018 – July 2019

EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh Ph.D. in History and Philosophy of Science	August 2012 – September 2018
The College of Wooster B.A. in Philosophy and Biology	August 2008 – May 2012

PUBLICATIONS

- 1) Novick, Rose. 2023. *Structure and Function*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009028745>
- 2) Novick, Rose. 2023. "The Neutral Theory of Conceptual Complexity." *Philosophy of Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/psa.2023.25>
- 3) Novick, Rose and Philipp Haueis. 2023. "Patchworks and Operations." *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 13:15. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-023-00515-y>
- 4) Novick, Aaron and W. Ford Doolittle. 2021. "'Species' without Species." *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science Part A* 87:72-80. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2021.03.006>
- 5) Novick, Aaron, Adrian M. Currie, Eden W. McQueen, and Nathan L. Brouwer. 2020. "Kon-Tiki Experiments." *Philosophy of Science* 87(2). <https://doi.org/10.1086/707553>
- 6) Novick, Aaron and Raphael Scholl. 2020. "Presume it Not: True Causes in the Search for the Basis of Heredity." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 71(1):59-86. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axy001> [received **Editors' Choice** designation]

- 7) Novick, Aaron and W. Ford Doolittle. 2020. "Horizontal Persistence and the Complexity Hypothesis." *Biology & Philosophy* 35:2. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-019-9727-6>
- 8) Wideman, Jeremy, Aaron Novick, Sergio A. Muñoz-Gómez, and W. Ford Doolittle. 2019. "Neutral Evolution of Cellular Phenotypes." *Current Opinion in Genetics and Development* 59:87-94. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gde.2019.09.004>
- 9) Novick, Aaron. 2019. "Cuvierian Functionalism." *Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology*. 11:5. <https://doi.org/10.3998/ptpbio.16039257.0011.005>
- 10) Novick, Aaron. 2019. "A Reappraisal of Charles Darwin's Engagement with the Work of William Sharp Macleay." *Journal of the History of Biology* 52(2):245-270. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10739-018-9541-z>
- 11) Novick, Aaron. 2018. "The Fine Structure of 'Homology'." *Biology and Philosophy* 33:6. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-018-9617-3>
- 12) Novick, Aaron. 2017. "Metaphysics and the *Vera Causa* Ideal: The Nun's Priest's Tale." *Erkenntnis* 82(5):1161-1176. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-016-9863-1>
- 13) Novick, Aaron. 2016. "On the Origins of the Quinarian System of Classification." *Journal of the History of Biology* 49(1):95-133. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10739-015-9419-2>
- 14) Lehtinen, Richard M., Travis L. Calkins, Aaron M. Novick, and Jessica L. McQuigg. 2016. "Re-assessing the Conservation Status of an Island Endemic Frog." *Journal of Herpetology* 50(2):249-255. <https://doi.org/10.1670/14-161>

BOOK REVIEWS & EDITORIALS

- 1) Novick, Rose. *forthcoming*. Review of *Styles of Reasoning in the British Life Sciences: Shared Assumptions, 1820–1858*, by James Elwick. *Journal of the History of Biology*.
- 2) Novick, Aaron. 2021. Review of *Philosophy of Science for Biologists*. Edited by Kostas Kampourakis and Tobias Uller. *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 96 (3):207-08. <https://doi.org/10.1086/716111>
- 3) Novick, Aaron. 2020. Review of *Cuvier's History of the Natural Sciences: Twenty Lessons from the First Half of the Eighteenth Century*. *Collection Archives*. Edited and annotated by Theodore W. Pietsch; Foreword by Pietro Corsi; translated by Fanja Andriamialisoa. *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 95 (2):131. <https://doi.org/10.1086/709095>
- 4) Novick, Aaron and W. Ford Doolittle. 2019. "How Microbes 'Jeopardize' the Modern Synthesis." *PLoS Genetics* 15(5):e1008166. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1008166>

PRESENTATIONS

Conference presentations

- 1) "Zhuang Zhou among the biologists." *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology*, Toronto, July 10, 2023.
- 2) "The Neutral Theory of Conceptual Complexity." *Philosophy of Science Association*, Pittsburgh, PA, November 10, 2022.
- 3) "'Species' without Species." *Philosophy of Science Association*, Baltimore, MD, November 11, 2021.
- 4) [with Philipp Haueis] "Patchwork Concepts and Operationalism." *European Philosophy of Science Association*, Turin, Italy, September 17, 2021.

- 5) "Reference and Ignorance." *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology*, Cold Spring Harbor, July 20, 2021.
- 6) "'Sequence Homology': A Case of Conceptual Deviance." *Ancestry: Evidence, Inference, and Identity*, Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, January 23, 2021.
- 7) "Reference and Ignorance." *Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice*. [TALK ACCEPTED; CONFERENCE CANCELED; scheduled for June 2020]
- 8) "'Sequence Homology': A Case of Conceptual Deviance." *Ancestry: Evidence, Inference, and Identity*. University of Pittsburgh, January 23, 2021.
- 9) "'Species' without Species." *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology*, Oslo, Norway, July 11, 2019.
- 10) "Cuvierian Functionalism." *Philosophy of Science Association*. Seattle, WA, November, 2018.
- 11) "The Prodigal Genetics Returns." *Society for the Philosophy of Science and Practice*, Ghent, Belgium, June 2018.
- 12) "The Geometry of Life." *Models and Simulations 8*, Columbia, SC, March 16, 2018.
- 13) "A Reappraisal of Charles Darwin's Engagement with the Work of William Sharp Macleay." *History of Science Society*, Atlanta, GA, November 06, 2016.
- 14) "Presume it Not: True Causes and Unconceived Alternatives in the Search for the Basis of Heredity." *Society for the Philosophy of Science and Practice*, Glassboro, NJ, June 19, 2016.
- 15) "Metaphysics and the *Vera Causa* Ideal: The Nun's Priest's Tale." *North Carolina Philosophical Society*, Boone, NC, February 27, 2016.
- 16) [Co-author] "Presume it Not: True Causes and Unconceived Alternatives in the Search for the Basis of Heredity." *The History of Science and Contemporary Scientific Realism*, Indianapolis, IA, February 21, 2016.
- 17) "On the Origins of the Quinarian System of Classification." *International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology*, Montréal, Canada, July 07, 2015.

Invited presentations

- 1) "Speaking Is Not Puffing". ConceptLab Hong Kong. Virtual, March 01, 2023.
- 2) "Structure and Function". Conference Organized by W. Ford Doolittle. Halifax, August 12, 2022.
- 3) "Managing Conceptual Deviance". Workshop on Scientific Concepts. Bielefeld, February 8, 2022.
- 4) "Structure and Function". University of Idaho philosophy department colloquium series, September 10, 2021.
- 5) "How Biologists Argue." Annual Philosophy Honor Society Lecture, The College of Wooster, February 28, 2020.
- 6) "Horizontal Persistence and the Complexity Hypothesis." History of Human Sciences Workshop, University of Chicago, February 20, 2020.
- 7) "Cuvierian Functionalism." University of Washington, February 14, 2020.
- 8) "Theory change in biology during the long 20th century." *Science and Technology in the Long 20th century*, West Lafayette, IN, November 16, 2019.
- 9) "Horizontal Persistence and the Complexity Hypothesis." Dalhousie University, May 17, 2019.

- 10) "Ontologically Cumulative Kuhnian Revolutions." Dalhousie University, March 29, 2019.
- 11) "Cuvierian Functionalism." Purdue University, January 16, 2019.
- 12) "Cuvierian Functionalism." Dalhousie University, November 23, 2018.
- 13) "The Fine Structure of 'Homology'." Dalhousie University, July 16, 2018.
- 14) Commentary on Bloch-Mullins, "Soups, sparks, and contrast classes: Stability and dynamism in the concept 'synapse'." *Investigating Life: A Celebration of the Career of James G. Lennox*, Pittsburgh, PA, April 21, 2018.
- 15) "Structuralism and Functionalism in Evolutionary Theory." The College of Wooster, September 07, 2017.
- 16) "Structuralism and Functionalism in Evolutionary Theory." University of Pittsburgh Biological Sciences Department, September 06, 2017.
- 17) "How Not (and How) to Construct an Argument for Scientific Realism." The College of Wooster, October 03, 2013.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 1) Placement committee, University of Washington, AY 21-23
- 2) Graduate Admissions Committee, University of Washington, AY 20-21, 22-23
- 3) Unofficial advisor for an undergraduate honors thesis on a topic in philosophy of biology, University of Pittsburgh, AY 17-18
- 4) Graduate student representative to the faculty, HPS department, University of Pittsburgh, 2016
- 5) Committee to select speakers for the HPS annual lecture series, AY 15-16
- 6) Organizer of graduate student work-in-progress talks, HPS department, University of Pittsburgh, 2015

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- 1) (Summer 2023) semi-public *Zhuangzi* reading group
- 2) (09/2020) Invited participant on [Ask a Philosopher](#) twitch stream
- 3) (09/2020) "Free and Easy Conversing." Animated video ([link 1](#); [link 2](#))
- 4) (04/2020) "Free and Easy Conversing." Co-authored with Liam Bright ([link](#))
- 5) (11/2019) Guest on the *Embrace the Void* podcast ([link](#))
- 6) (01/2018) "Zhengming." Co-authored with Liam Bright ([link](#))

REVIEWING & PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Conference organizer. Epistemology of Science (2019, 23-24)

Journal referee. *Philosophy of Science* (x4); *British Journal for Philosophy of Science* (x3); *Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology* (x3); *Journal of Morphology* (x3); *Biology & Philosophy* (x3); *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* (x2); *Philosopher's Imprint* (x2); *Synthese* (x2);

Erkenntnis (x1); *Philosophical Studies* (x1); *BioScience* (x1); *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (x1); *Foundations of Science* (x1); *Interface Focus* (x1); *Theoria* (x1)

Program committee. British Society for Philosophy of Science (2022, 2023). APA Pacific (2024-26).