Dana Matthiessen

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Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science 746 Heller Hall 271 19th Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55455

Areas of Specialization: General Philosophy of Science; History and Philosophy of Biology; Philosophy of Technology

Areas of Concentration: Bioethics; Philosophy of Race; Early Modern Philosophy/Science

EDUCATION

2022	University of Pittsburgh, PhD in History and Philosophy of Science Chair: Sandra Mitchell
2015	Georgetown University, M.A. in Philosophy
2009	Wesleyan University, B.A. in Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

2023-present	Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science, Postdoctoral Associate
2022-23	University of Pittsburgh, Visiting Lecturer, History and Philosophy of Science
2021-22	Pittsburgh Center for Philosophy of Science, Program Assistant

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed

2023	Observations, Experiments, and Arguments for Epistemic Superiority in Scientific Methodology (w/ Nora Boyd), <i>Philosophy of Science</i> 91: 111-131
2022	Empirical Techniques and the Accuracy of Scientific Representations, Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science, Part A, 94: 143-157

2019	The Rise of Cryptographic Metaphors in Boyle and Their Use for the Mechanical Philosophy, Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science, Part A, 73: 8-21
2017	Mechanistic Explanation in Systems Biology: Cellular Networks, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, 68(1): 1-25
2017	Causal Concepts Guiding Model Specification in Systems Biology, Disputatio, Special Issue on Causality and Modeling in the Sciences, 9(47): 499-527

Currently Under Review

Crystallizing Techniques: Sample Preparations, Technical Knowledge, and the Characterization of Blood Crystals, 1840-1909

Representational Content and the Informativeness of Scientific Models

Review Articles

forthcoming	History	and	Philosophy	of	Structural	Biology	Symposium	Summary,
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Proceedings of the Seventeenth International Congress on Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology (co-authors: Agnes

Bolinska and Jacob Neal)

2016 Review of P. Huneman (ed.), Functions: Selection and Mechanisms, in History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences 38(1): 161-164

In Preparation

"Pragmatic Representational Content in Scientific Models"

"Fine-Graining Accounts of Exploratory Experimentation: Data-Intensive Methods in Particle Physics and Molecular Biology"

"Theoretical vs. Empirical Models: A Distinction in Function, not Kind"

"Scaffolding and Generative Entrenchment in the Historical Development of Empirical Practices"

CONFERENCES AND TALKS

Conferences/Symposia Organized

Co-Organizer, Pragmatism and Scientific Measurement, University of 2025 (accepted) Pittsburgh Center for Philosophy of Science 2024 (accepted) Co-Organizer, Measurement Across the Life Sciences: Conceptual Issues, Philosophy of Science Association 2024 Conference Co-Organizer, Measurement Across the Life Sciences: Conceptual Issues, Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice 2024 Conference 2022 Committee Member, Institutions and the Scientific Research Agenda, University of Pittsburgh Center for Philosophy of Science Invited Talks 2024 Explanation and Gravitation: Boyle, Newton, and Early Modern Science in Dialogue, Panelist, Traveling Early Modern Philosophy Organization 2023 What Makes Scientific Models Informative?, UMN History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Colloquium Series Reciprocal Influence of Modeling and Experiment in the Large-Scale History 2023 of Protein Structure, International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST) Symposium Series, 17th International Congress on Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology (CLMPST) Refereed Presentations Measurement in High-Throughput Biology: Beyond the "Objective" and 2024 (accepted) "Data-Driven" Ideals, Philosophy of Science Association 2024 Conference Measurement in High-Throughput Biology, Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice 2024 (SPSP) Conference Understanding Through Coordinated Practices: Uses of Deep Learning Algorithms in Structural Biology, Machine Learning, Explain Yourself! Conference 2023 Observations, Experiments, and Arguments for Epistemic Superiority in Scientific Methodology, Philosophy of Experiment Workshop at Stockholm University

Pragmatic Representational Content, Fifth Annual Scientific Understanding

and Representation Conference

2022 **Technical** Understanding and Representational Content: How Experimentation Informs the Interpretation of Models, Fourth Annual Scientific Understanding and Representation Conference Empirical Techniques and the Accuracy of Scientific Representations, American Philosophical Association Pacific Division 2022 Meeting 2021 Choosing Empirical Methods: Challenging the Superiority of Manipulation-**Based Inquiry**, Philosophy of Science Association Poster Session (co-presenter: Nora Boyd) Dynamics of Modeling and Empirical Techniques in Protein Crystallography, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB) 2018 Decoding the Secrets of Nature: Robert Boyle and Cryptographic Metaphors in Seventeenth Century Science, History of Science Society Two Dogmas of Representationalism, Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice (SPSP) Shaping Patterns into Structures: Protein Science and the Mobility of Data, American Philosophical Association Pacific Division 2016 Reconsidering Scientific Representation, Philosophy of Science Association Poster Session Cartesian Cryptography and Norms of Scientific Explanation, History of Philosophy of Science Conference Einstein and the Foundations of Geometry: A Deflationary Approach, Irvine-Pittsburgh-Princeton Conference on the Conceptual and Mathematical Foundations of Physics 2015 Mechanistic Explanation in Systems Biology: Cellular Networks, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology (IHPSSB) Causality and Underdetermination in Models of Biological Networks, Causality and Modeling in the Sciences Conference Predictive Brains and Mental State Representations, Social Minds Graduate Conference

Analogy, Abstraction, and Symbolism in Early Rationalist Epistemology,

British Society for the History of Philosophy Conference

Invited Discussant

2021	Perspectivism in the Philosophy of Science, Campus BioMedico, Rome IT (changed to online)
2015	New Directions in Foundations of Physics, Washington DC
2014	New Directions in Foundations of Physics, Washington DC

ACADEMICTEACHING

Independent Instructor

2023	Morality and Medicine; University of Pittsburgh (3 sections)
2022	Mind and Medicine: Understanding New Technologies; University of Pittsburgh (3 sections)
2021	Morality and Medicine; University of Pittsburgh (1 section)
	Race—History, Biology, Psychology, Philosophy; University of Pittsburgh (1 section)
2020	Morality and Medicine; University of Pittsburgh (1 section)
2019	Morality and Medicine; University of Pittsburgh (1 section)
2018	Magic, Medicine, and Science; University of Pittsburgh (1 section)
2015	Philosophy of Music; Georgetown University (co-taught with Mark Lance)

Teaching Assistant, Discussion Leader, and Tutoring

2017	Mind and Medicine TA/DL, University of Pittsburgh
2016	Nature of Emotions TA/DL, University of Pittsburgh
2014	Intro to Logic TA, Georgetown University
	Intro to Ethics TA/DL, Georgetown University
2013	Intro to Philosophy TA/DL, Georgetown University
	Intro to Philosophy TA, Georgetown University

2012 Intro to Ethics TA, Georgetown University

COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND AWARDS

2024	Grant to Organize Workshop on Pragmatism and Measurement (\$10,000) Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh
2022	Wesley C. Salmon Graduate Research Award (\$500)
2021	University of Pittsburgh International Studies Fund (\$1,000)
2021	Wesley C. Salmon Graduate Research Award (\$1,000)
2018	Wesley C. Salmon Graduate Research Award (\$1,000)
2015	Georgetown Graduate School Travel Grant (\$500)

SERVICE/PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Reviewing and referee work

Ongoing	Reviewer for •Philosophy of Science, •British Journal for Philosophy of Science, •Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, •Synthese, •History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences, •Theoria, •European Journal for Philosophy of Science, •Journal for General Philosophy of Science
2023	Teaching peer reviewer for Prof. Mark Borrello, University of Minnesota
2014	External referee for PA. Braillard and C. Malaterre (eds.), <i>Explanation in Biology</i> (Springer, 2015)

Committee and organizational work

2024	Search Committee Member, Minnesota Center for Philosophy of Science 2024 postdoctoral appointment
2022	Co-Organizer, Pittsburgh Summer Program (PSP6) for underrepresented students in philosophy of science
2020	Volunteer, Pittsburgh Summer Program (PSP4) for underrepresented students in philosophy of science

2018-2019	Co-Organizer, Pop-up Idea Kitchen, event series aimed at fostering conversations between graduate students in sciences and humanities
2015-2022	Member, University of Pittsburgh Graduate MAP Chapter
2014-2015	Member, Georgetown University Graduate MAP Chapter
Mentorship	
2023-2024	Academic Mentor for University of Minnesota graduate students working in philosophy of science
2020-2021	Teaching Mentor for University of Pittsburgh HPS graduate students
2014	Logic Tutor for Georgetown University graduate students

SUMMER SCHOOLS AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

2024	Epistemological Issues of Machine Learning in Science, Dortmund University
2021	Data Science Workshop, Center for Research Computing, University of Pittsburgh (nine 3-hour sessions)
2017	American Association of Philosophy Teachers Inclusive Pedagogy Workshop, University of Pittsburgh
	Georgetown Summer School on the Philosophy and Science of Active Materials, Georgetown University
2014	North American Summer School in Language, Logic, and Information, University of Maryland

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association
Philosophy of Science Association
Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice
International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology
Society for the History of Philosophy of Science

RELEVANT NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2015-2023	Event Organizer, Pittsburgh, PA: Contact presenters, coordinate staffing, maintain organizing schedule, manage finances, promote, and run events.
2007-2012	Private Tutoring, Middletown, CT and New York City, NY. Tutor for high-school students in Math, Physics, Test Prep.
2009-2012	Central Park Tutors, Empire Edge Academic Advising, and Mosaic Tutoring, New York City and Long Island, NY. Tutor in Math, Physics, Test Prep.

REFERENCES

Please note: all confidential letters can be requested through the HPS department assistant Delaney Szekeley: drs190@pitt.edu

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Teaching: Jonathan Fuller

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