

Curriculum Vitae

Michael Losonsky

Address

Department of Philosophy
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1781

Home

Greyhorse Vineyard
4451 NW Hill Rd
McMinnville, OR 97128

Internet

Michael.Losonsky@Colostate.edu
losonsky@festivalic.com

Personal Data

Born February 21, 1953 in Salzburg, Austria
U.S. citizen, married, two children

Education

BA with College and Departmental Honors (Philosophy), Earlham College, 1975
MA (Philosophy), University of Rochester, 1978
PhD (Philosophy), University of Rochester, 1982

Dissertation

A Defense of an Idealist Theory of Reference for Proper Names
Advisors: Richard Feldman and Henry Kyburg, Jr.

Positions

Professor emeritus, Colorado State University, 2015-
Professor, Colorado State University, 2001-2015
Associate Professor, Colorado State University, 1991-2001
Assistant Professor, Colorado State University, 1989-1991;
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota, Duluth, 1987-89;
Lecturer, Raymond Walters College, University of Cincinnati, 1985-87;
Lecturer, Xavier University, Cincinnati, 1985-87;
Visiting Assistant Professor, State University College at Fredonia, New York, 1982-84;
Visiting Assistant Professor, Elmira College, Spring 1982.
Instructor, University of Rochester, Summer 1980.

Areas of Specialization

History of Early Modern Philosophy, History of the Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics.

Books

- Readings in Language and Mind*, co-edited with Heimir Geirsson. Blackwell, 1996.
- Beginning Metaphysics: Introductory Text with Readings*, co-authored and co-edited with Heimir Geirsson. Blackwell, 1998.
- Editor and Introduction to Wilhelm von Humboldt, *On Language: On the Diversity of Human Language Construction and its Influence on the Mental Development of the Human Species*, trans. P. Heath, in *Cambridge Texts in the History of Philosophy*. Cambridge University Press, 1999.
- Enlightenment and Action from Descartes to Kant: Passionate Thought*. Cambridge University Press, 2001
- Linguistic Turns in Modern Philosophy*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Articles

- "God, Property and Morality," *International Journal for the Philosophy of Religion* 10 (1979), 131-9.
- "How We Can Believe that the Meter Might Not Have Been a Meter Long," ed. W. Leinfellner, *Language and Ontology: Proceedings of the 6th International Wittgenstein Conference* (Vienna, 1982), 300-2.
- "Idealism, Cataclysms and the Facts of Reference," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 61 (1983), 68-77.
- "Reference and Rorty's Veil," *Philosophical Studies* 47 (1985), 291-4.
- "No Problem for Actualism," *Philosophical Review* 95 (1986), 95-7.
- "Individuation and the Bundle Theory," *Philosophical Studies* 52 (1987), 191-8.
- "Individual Essences," *The American Philosophical Quarterly* 24 (1987), 253-60.
- "An Ontological Argument for Modal Realism," *Grazer Philosophische Studien* 31 (1988), 165-77.
- "Locke on the Making of Complex Ideas," *Locke Newsletter* 20 (1989), 35-46.
- "The Nature of Artifacts," *Philosophy* 65 (1990), 81-8.
- "Environmental Philosophy in Czechoslovakia," *Environmental Ethics* 13 (1991), 87-93.
- "Leibniz's Adamic Language of Thought," *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 30 (1992), 523-543.
- "Abstraction, Covariance and Representation," *Philosophical Studies* 70 (1993), 225-31.
- "Passionate Thought: Computation, Thought, and Action in Hobbes," *Pragmatics and Cognition* 1 (1993), 245-66.
- "The Cognitive Unity of External and Internal States," ed. R. Casati and G. White, *Philosophy and the Cognitive Sciences: Papers of the 16th International Wittgenstein Symposium* (Kirchberg, Austria: Ludwig Wittgenstein Society, 1993), 313-18.
- "Representationalism and Adamicism in Leibniz," ed. M. Dascal and E. Yakira, *Leibniz and Adam* (Tel Aviv: University Publishing Projects, 1993).
- "Meaning and Signification in Locke's *Essay*," ed. G. A. J. Rogers, *Locke's Philosophy: Content and Context*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994).
- "Beyond Methodological Solipsism?" Peer Commentary, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 17(1994), 723-4.
- "Locke on the Limits of Human Reason, Liberty and Happiness," Critical Notice of Peter Schouls, *Reasoned Freedom: John Locke and the Enlightenment in Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 25 (1995), 293-314.

- "Individualism vs Embedded Systems," *Minds and Machines* 5 (1995), 357-71.
- "John Locke on Passion, Will and Belief," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 4 (1996), 267-83.
- "Self-Deceivers' Intentions and Possessions," Peer Commentary, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 20(1997), 121-2.
- "On Wanting to Believe," in P. Engel, ed., *Essays on Belief and Acceptance*, Philosophical Studies Library, Kluwer Press, 2000, 101-131.
- "Frege's *Bedeutung* and Mill's Denotation," *Southwestern Journal of Philosophy*, 20 (2004), 139-145.
- "What God Could Have Made," with H. Geirsson, *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 43 (2005), 355-376.
- "Logic and Language in Early Modern Philosophy," in D. Rutherford, ed., *Cambridge Companion to Early Modern Philosophy*. Cambridge University Press, 2006, 170-197.
- "Language, Meaning and Mind in Locke's *Essay*," in L. Newman, ed., *Cambridge Companion to Locke's Essay Concerning Human Understanding*. Cambridge University Press, 2007, 286-312.
- "Filozofie a Náladový Stav Lidí [Philosophy and the Whimsical Condition of Mankind]," in *Sborník Prací Filozofické Fakulty Masarykovy Univerzity* B55 2008, 14-19.
- "Locke and Leibniz on Religious Faith," *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 20(2012), 703 - 721.
- "Modern Philosophy of Language," in G. Russell and D. G. Graff, eds, *Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Language*, Routledge, 2012, 841-51.
- "Lenz on Locke on Language," *Historiographia Linguistica* 2013(40), 477-87.
- "The Preoccupation and Crisis of Analytic Philosophy", *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy* 10 (2014), 5-19.
- "Hume's Skepticism and the Whimsical Condition", *Hume Studies* 2017(43), 29-59.
- "The Concept of Linguistic Reference Before Frege," in S. Briggs and H. Geirsson, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of Linguistic Reference*, Routledge, 2021, 17-29.
- "The History of the Philosophy of Language before Frege," in P. Stalmaszczyk, ed., *The Cambridge Handbook for the Philosophy of Language*, Cambridge University Press, 2022, 51-70.

Other Publications

- Klaus Reich, *The Completeness of Kant's Table of Judgments*, translated with J. E. Kneller. Stanford University Press, 1992.
- Ethics and the Registered Representative*, Continuing Education Series, co-authored with Jane Kneller and Tom Tomko. Securities Training Corporation, 1996.
- "Wilhelm von Humboldt 1767-1835," in L. J. Troudeau, ed., *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, vol. 256. Gale Cengage Learning, 2012. 119-192

Book reviews for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Canadian Philosophical Reviews*, *Choice*, *Idealistic Studies*, *International Studies in Philosophy*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Locke Newsletter*, *Minds and Machines*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, *Pragmatics and Cognition*, and *Philosophical Review*

Presented Papers

- "Beliefs and Representations," Creighton Club (New York State Philosophical Association), Spring 1979.
- "Actualism and Realism," American Philosophical Association (APA), Central Division Meeting 1985; and Creighton Club, Spring 1985.
- "On Abilities to Designate," APA, Central Division Meeting, 1986.
- "The Nature of Artifacts," Minnesota Philosophical Society, Mankato State University, 1987.
- "Locke and Leibniz on Meaning," Symposium on the Origins and Nature of Language, Rochester Institute of Technology, January 1990.
- "Locke on Meaning and Signification," Clarendon Locke Conference, Christ Church, Oxford, September 1990.
- "Reasoning and Computation in Hobbes," University of Wyoming, November 1991.
- "Leibniz's Adamic Language of Thought," Leibniz Conference, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, January 1992.
- "Abstraction, Covariance, and Representation," Society for Exact Philosophy, University of Southwestern Louisiana, May 1992.
- "Together Again: The Cognitive Unity of Behavior and Internal States," Philosophy and Cognitive Science, University of Dayton, March 26-27, 1993.
- "Mind, Behavior and Environment," 16th International Wittgenstein Symposium, August 15-22, 1993, Kirchberg, Austria and Iowa Philosophical Society, Wartburg College, November 6, 1993.
- "On Wanting to Believe," Conference on Belief and Acceptance, Caen, France, April 1995; Colloquium, Department of Philosophy, University of Wyoming; Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Nashville, TN, April 4-6, 1996.
- "Metaphysics and Practice," with Heimir Geirsson, *Metaphysics in the 3rd Millennium*, Rome, September 5, 2000.
- "Frege Embodied," Colloquium, Department of Philosophy, University of Colorado, Denver, October 2002
- "God's Creation Limits and the Problem of Evil," co-authored with Heimir Geirsson, APA Pacific Division Meeting, San Francisco, April 2003.
- "What God Could Have Made," co-authored with Heimir Geirsson, Colloquium, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, February 2003 and Department of Philosophy, University of Wyoming, April 11, 2003.
- "Of Angels and Human Beings: Leibniz and Condillac Respond to Locke," South Central Seminar in the History of Early Modern Philosophy, Saint Louis University, September 27, 2003.
- "Frege's *Bedeutung* and Mill's Denotation," Southwestern Philosophical Society Meetings, Memphis, TN, November 2003.
- "The Whimsical Condition of Mankind," Invited Lecture in Czech in honor of World Philosophy Day, November 2007, Masaryk University. Brno, Czech Republic.
- "Philosophy and Practice," Roundtable discussion, Tomáš Bata University, Zlín, Czech Republic, November 2007.
- "What Can We Learn from Bad Arguments?" Symposium on the History of the Philosophy of Language, Canadian Philosophical Association Meeting, Carleton University, May 20, 2009.
- "Necessity and the Edges of Nominalism in Locke and Leibniz," Symposium on

Nominalist Strategies in the History of the Philosophy of Language, University of Quebec, Montreal, May 2011.
"The Preoccupation of Analytic Philosophy," First Annual Conference of the Society for the History of Analytical Philosophy, McMaster University, May 24-26, 2012.
"Leibniz's Theory of Representation," 65th Annual Northwest Philosophy Conference, Pacific Univerisity, Forest Grove, Oregon, Oct. 5, 2013.
"Locke and Hume on Freedom and the Whimsical Condition," University of Padova, Italy, March 27, 2015.
"Correctness, Conscience, and Following a Rule," Conference: Contemporary Language, Logic, and Metaphysics: African and Western Approaches, Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg, South Africa, August 15, 2017.

Grants and Awards

Rush Rhees Fellowship, University of Rochester, 1975-78.
Lewis White Beck Dissertation Fellowship, University of Rochester, 1980.
NEH Summer Seminar, "Reflections on Language and the Nature of Man: The 17th Century Through Romanticism," Hans Aarsleff, Princeton University, 1988.
NEH Summer Stipend, "Platonic Enthusiasm in Leibniz's Philosophy of Mind and Language," 1990 (FT-34272).
NEH Summer Seminar, "Mental Representations," Robert Cummins, University of Arizona, 1991.
Summer Grants from the Endowment for Applied Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, 1992, 2001, and 2006, Colorado State University.
Grant from Academic Enrichment Program, College of Liberal Arts, Colorado State University, Summer 2006.
Fulbright Award, Fall 2007, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic.

Service

Editorial Board, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*.
Manuscript referee for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Environmental Ethics*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Information and Computation*, *Minds and Machines*, *New Ideas in Psychology*, *Synthese*, Blackwell, Cambridge University Press, Kluwer Publishers, Oxford University Press, and Prentice Hall.
Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, External Assessment of Confidential Grant Application, 2007.
Reviewer for the Regional Scholar Exchange Program, American Councils for International Education, 1999 and 2000.
Member of Discipline Review Committee for Fulbright Awards Commission, 2010 - 2012.
Member of the 1993, 1994 and 1998 Summer Stipends Panel for Philosophy, National Endowment for the Humanities.
Member and Local Arrangements Chair of Executive Committee of the Mountain-Plains Philosophy Conference (1989-1991).
Program Chair, Mountain Plains Philosophy Conference, 1993.
Session Chair at Division Meetings of American Philosophical Association.
Instructional Development Committee, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Colorado

State University, 1990.
Chair of Colloquium Committee, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, 1989-92.
Graduate Committee, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, 1989-1990, 1992-3, 1994-5, 2000-present.
Chair of Advisory Committee, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, 1991-2.
Departmental Representative to Faculty Council, Colorado State University, 1991-4.
Grievance Committee, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, 1992-3.
Faculty Evaluation Procedures Committee, Department of Philosophy, Colorado State University, 1995.
Chair of Department of Philosophy, July 1995-2000.
Interim Chair of Department of Philosophy, Fall 2010
Created Department webpage and “webmaster,” 1995-2004
External Reviewer of Department of Philosophy, University of Idaho, Spring 2004.
External Reviewer of Department of Philosophy, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Spring 2005.
Committee on University Programs, member 2002-2005
Faculty Council Representative, 2003-2006
Representative to the College Curriculum Committee, 2006 – 2007
Chair of Grievance Committee, Department of History, 2008.
Chair of Search Committee, 2012-1013
Graduate Studies Director, 2001-2007, 2008-2010, Spring 2011, 2012-13.

MA Committee Chair

Greg Wheeler (1995)
Yuri Brylov (1998)
Danielle Hampton (1999)
Jason Chester (2004)
Erina Waring (2004)
Brian Depew (2005)
Christopher Ricciardi (2005)
David Ehrensperger (2006, Plan B)
James David Sampey (2006)
Joshua Haddock (2007)
Radu Motoarca (2007)
Gunner Deery (2009, Plan B)
Alexander Hallam (2009)
Benjamin Keil (2009)
Alexander Perry (2010)
Ceth Lightfield (2011)
Jesse Thompson (2011)
Derek Gumm (2012)
Jon Keyzer (2012)