

JOSHUA W. SEACHRIS

CURRICULUM VITAE

Center for Philosophy of Religion
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University of Notre Dame
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Granger, IN 46530
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Assistant Teaching Professor of Philosophy, July 2020-
Program Director/Grant Manager, Center for Philosophy of Religion, August
2012-
Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, August 2013-June 2020

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Consultant, Developing Character Project, March 2014 – August 2015
Grant Manager, The Character Project, September 2010 – March 2014
Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, September 2010 – August 2012

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Grant Administrator, The Templeton Research Fellows Program at
Oxford University, May 2009 – August 2010
Philosophy Instructor, August 2007 – May 2009

HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Philosophy Instructor, August 2003 – December 2003

GRANT & PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Pre- and post-award management for over \$20 million in grants
**Completed Notre Dame Research Administration Training Program (Dec. 2017)*

NARRATIVE CONCEPTIONS OF THE SELF PLANNING GRANT (pre- and post-award)
(\$324K) August 2017 – August 2018 (*University of Notre Dame*)

ALVIN PLANTINGA ANIMATED EXPLAINER VIDEOS (pre- and post-award) (\$270K)
August 2017 – April 2018 (*University of Notre Dame*)

THE EXPERIENCE PROJECT (pre- and post-award) (\$5.2 million)
June 2014 – June 2017 (*University of Notre Dame*)

HOPE AND OPTIMISM PROJECT (pre- and post-award) (\$5.1 million)
June 2014 – June 2017 (*University of Notre Dame*)

THE ANALYTIC THEOLOGY PROJECT (post-award) (**\$2.5 million**)
August 2012 – September 2014 (*University of Notre Dame*)

THE THEODICY PROJECT (post-award) (**\$2.5 million**)
August 2012 – January 2014 (*University of Notre Dame*)

HOPE & OPTIMISM PLANNING GRANT (post-award) (**\$260K**)
September 2012 – September 2013 (*University of Notre Dame*)

THE CHARACTER PROJECT (post-award) (**\$5.3 million**)
September 2010 – March 2014 (*Wake Forest University*)

TEMPLETON RESEARCH FELLOWS PROGRAM (post-award) (**\$967K**)
May 2009 – August 2010 (*University of Oklahoma*)

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
Ph.D. in philosophy, December 2010
M.A. in philosophy, May 2006

SOUTHERN EVANGELICAL SEMINARY
M.A. in philosophy/theology, May 2002

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
B.S. in psychology, May 1998

HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Associate in Arts, May 1996

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Meaning of Life, Philosophy of Religion, Value Theory

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Early Modern Philosophy, Critical Thinking, Theology

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS (AUTHORED)

What Makes Life Meaningful? A Debate (co-authored with Thaddeus Metz) (London: Routledge, Forthcoming 2023).

What is This Thing Called The Meaning of Life? (co-authored with Stewart Goetz).
London: Routledge, 2020.

BOOKS (EDITED)

God and Meaning: New Essays (co-edited with Stewart Goetz). New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016.

Exploring the Meaning of Life: An Anthology and Guide. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

“From the Meaning Triad to Meaning Holism: Unifying Life’s Meaning” *Human Affairs* special issue on the Meaning of Life 29:4 (October 2019): 363-78.

“The *Sub Specie Aeternitatis* Perspective and Normative Evaluations of Life’s Meaningfulness: A Closer Look.” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 16:3 (June 2013): 605-20.

“Death, Futility, and the Proleptic Power of Narrative Ending.” *Religious Studies* 47:2 (June 2011): 141-63.

“The Meaning of Life as Narrative: A New Proposal for Interpreting Philosophy’s ‘Primary’ Question.” *Philo* 12 (Spring-Summer 2009): 5-23.

“Yan Hui’s Death as a Threat to Confucius’ Expression of Virtue: A Further Look at the Master’s Grief.” *Asian Philosophy* 18:2 (July 2008): 105-22.

“Weighing Evils: The C. S. Lewis Approach.” (co-authored with Linda Trinkaus Zagzebski). *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 62:2 (October 2007): 81-88.

*Reprinted in Linda Trinkaus Zagzebski, *God, Knowledge, and the Good: Collected Papers in the Philosophy of Religion*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Confucius and the Meaning of Life.” (co-authored with Richard Kim) *The Meaning of Life and the Great Philosophers*. Stephen Leach and James Tartaglia, eds. London: Routledge, 2018.

“The Meaning of Life and Scripture’s Redemptive-Historical Narrative: Illuminating Convergences.” *God and Meaning: New Essays*. Joshua Seachris and Stewart Goetz, eds. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016.

“Introduction.” (co-authored with Stewart Goetz) *God and Meaning: New Essays*. Joshua Seachris and Stewart Goetz, eds. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016.

“General Introduction.” *Exploring the Meaning of Life: An Anthology and Guide*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

ENCYCLOPEDIA & DICTIONARY ENTRIES

“Narrative, Theology, and Philosophy of Religion.” (co-authored with Kate Finley) *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*. Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro, eds. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2021.

“Meaning of Life.” *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*. Charles Taliaferro and Elsa Marty, eds. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2018.

“Life, Meaning of.” *New Catholic Encyclopedia Supplement 2012-13: Ethics and Philosophy*. Eds. Robert Fastiggi and Joseph Koterski. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale – Cengage Learning and Catholic University of America Press, (June 2013): 902-904.

“Meaning of Life: Contemporary Analytic Perspectives.” *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. ISSN 2161-0002, (<http://www.iep.utm.edu/mean-ana/>), August 15, 2011 (revised June 2019).

REVIEWS

Review of Tim Mulgan, *Purpose in the Universe: The Moral and Metaphysical Case for Ananthropocentric Purposivism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (July 24, 2016) (<https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/purpose-in-the-universe-the-moral-and-metaphysical-case-for-ananthropocentric-purposivism/>).

Review of Stewart Goetz, *The Purpose of Life: A Theistic Perspective*. London: Continuum, 2012. *Faith and Philosophy* 31 (April 2014): 232-236.

Review of Keith Mascord, *Alvin Plantinga and Christian Apologetics* (Paternoster Theological Monographs). Milton Keynes, UK: Paternoster, 2006. *Scottish Bulletin of Evangelical Theology* 27 (Spring 2009): 110-12.

POPULAR WRITING

“Is Everything Sad Going to Come Untrue? The Virtue of Hope.” *The Bibliotheca* (Blog of the Eighth Day Institute) (June 2015).

“Meaning and Endings: Death, Post-Mortem Survival and Meaningful Life.” [Translated in Polish] in *Filozofij*. Ed. Artur Szutta and Natasza Szutta. Academicon Publishing House (April 2015).

Slightly revised version, “Meaning and Endings: Death, New Creation and Meaningful Life.” reprinted on *The Bibliotheca* (Blog of the Eighth Day Institute) (May 2015).

“A Sanctuary of Cloth and Paper Treasures.” in *Timely . . . Timeless: 25 Years at Eighth Day Books*, Ed. Victoria Foth Sherry. Eighth Day Press, 2013, 47-49.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Meaning of Life Holism” at the Meaning of Life Interdisciplinary Conference, Harvard University, April 19-20, 2019.

“Optimism in Sociological Research and Analysis: Theories and Trajectories,” presented at the “Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Optimism and Hope” workshop in Cape Coral, FL, January 2013.

“Death, Futility, and the Proleptic Power of Narrative Ending,” presented at the North Texas Philosophical Association, University of North Texas, April 2010.

“Narrative and the Meaning of Life: An Interpretive Proposal on Philosophy’s ‘Big’ Question,” presented at the Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Oklahoma Baptist University, April 2009.

“In Search of the Universe’s Narrative: Scientific Naturalism, Christian Theism, and the Meaning of Life,” presented at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, Criswell College, March 2009.

“Weighing Evils: The C. S. Lewis Approach,” (with Linda Zagzebski), presented at the Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, University of Dubuque, March 2007.

Comments on “Ancient-Future Hermeneutics: Postmodernism, Inerrancy, and the Rule of Faith,” by Mark J. Boone at the Donald G. Wester Conference, Oklahoma Baptist University, March 2007.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Meaning (life’s) (book manuscript near completion)

DISSERTATION

Theism, Naturalism, and Narrative: A Linguistic and Metaphysical Proposal on the Meaning of Life (Awarded the 2011 Provost’s Dissertation Award in the Humanities and Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma)

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

The Meaning of Life

Introduction to Philosophy

University Seminar in Philosophy: Unique & Difficult Questions that Matter

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Basic Problems of Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Critical Thinking

Introduction to Philosophy

Modern Philosophy (teaching assistant)

Language, Communication and Knowledge (teaching assistant)

Philosophy Writing Workshop (teaching assistant)

HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Introduction to Philosophy

AWARDS

Winner of the 2011 Provost's Dissertation Award in the Humanities and Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma.

Nominated for the 2011 Council of Graduate Schools Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities/Fine Arts.

SERVICE TO ACADEMIC JOURNALS AND PRESSES

MANAGING EDITOR

Journal of Analytic Theology

JOURNAL REFEREE

American Philosophical Quarterly, Australasian Journal of Philosophy (x2), De Ethica, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Human Affairs, Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy, International Journal of Philosophical Studies, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, The Journal of Philosophy, The Journal of Value Inquiry, Philosopher's Imprint, Philosophical Papers (x3), Philosophical Psychology (x2), Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy Compass, Sophia, The Southern Journal of Philosophy, Synthese, TheoLogica: An International Journal for Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology.

PRESS REFEREE

Cambridge University Press (x3), Routledge (x3), Oxford University Press (x2)

DEPARTMENTAL & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

William Louis Poteat Scholarship interviewer, Spring 2012 (Wake Forest Univ.)

Undergraduate academic advisor (Univ. of Notre Dame)

Managing Editor for the *Journal of Analytic Theology* (Univ. of Notre Dame)

Graduate student pedagogy workshop instructor (Univ. of Notre Dame)

Graduate student pedagogy training program instructor (Univ. of Notre Dame)

Graduate student teaching mentor (Univ. of Notre Dame)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association
Society of Christian Philosophers

REFERENCES

JOHN MARTIN FISCHER, Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Philosophy, University of California, Riverside, Department of Philosophy, HMNSS Building, Room 1604, 900 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92521 (951) 827-5208

STEWART GOETZ, Professor of Philosophy, Ursinus College, F.W. Olin Hall 215, Collegeville, PA 19426 (610) 409-3322

THADDEUS METZ, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg, B Ring 706, +27 (0) 11 559 3997

CHRISTIAN MILLER, A. C. Reid Professor of Philosophy, Wake Forest University, P. O. Box 7332, Winston-Salem, NC 27109 (336) 758-3564

SAMUEL NEWLANDS, William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Collegiate Professor in Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 100 Malloy Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556 (574) 631-2866

MICHAEL REA, Rev. John A O'Brien Professor of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 100 Malloy Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556 (574) 631-5568

LINDA ZAGZEBSKI, Kingfisher College Chair of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics, University of Oklahoma, 455 W. Lindsey, Room 605, Norman, OK 73019-2006 (405) 325-6324