Christian Coons

Department of Philosophy

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**Education**

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of California, Davis, (Awarded Spring 2007).

Senior Year Abroad, Glasgow University, (1996-1997).

B.A., Philosophy and Political Science, conferred with honors, University of California, Davis (1997).

**Academic Positions**

Bowling Green State University, Associate Professor, Spring 2013-present

Faculty Research Fellow, Tulane University, Murphy Institute/Center for Ethics and Public Affairs, Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Bowling Green State University, Assistant Professor, Fall 2007-Spring 2103

University of California, Davis, Lecturer, 2006-7

**Research Interests**

**Areas of Specialization**

Ethics: (Value Theory/Axiology, Meta-Ethics, Normative Ethics, Political Philosophy, Practical Reasoning and Applied Ethics)

**Areas of Competence**

Epistemology

Philosophy of Law

Philosophy of the Social Sciences

**Publications**

**Books**

*Self Defense,* editor (with Michael Weber), Oxford University Press, 2016

*Manipulation: Theory and Practice*, editor (with Michael Weber), Oxford University Press, 2015.

*Paternalism: Theory and Practice*, editor (with Michael Weber), Cambridge University Press, 2013.

**Articles and Book Chapters**

“Ought to Is: The Puzzle of Moral Science” (with John Basl), forthcoming in *Oxford Studies in Metaethics*, 2017.

“Self-Defense: the Terms of the Debate” (with Michael Weber), forthcoming from Oxford University Press, 2016.

“Manipulation and its Moral Status” in *Manipulation: Theory and Practice*, with Michael Weber, Oxford University Press, 2015.

“Hope For Fools”, Four Proposals for Meeting Temkin’s Challenge” *Analysis,* (2014) 74 (2): 292-306.(Part of a symposium on Temkin’s *Rethinking the Good: Moral Ideals and the Nature of Practical Reasoning*).

“Paternalism: Issues and Trends*”* in *Paternalism: Theory and Practice*, editor (with Michael Weber), Cambridge University Press, 2013.

“The Best Expression of Welfarism”, in *Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics*, Ed. Timmons, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2013.

“How to Prove That Some Acts Are Wrong (Without Using Substantive Moral Premises)”, *Philosophical Studies*, 2011, Volume 155, Number 1, Pages 83-98.

"First-Personal Authority and the Normativity of Rationality," (with David Faraci) *Philosophia*, Volume 38, Issue 4 (2010), Page 733.

“The Dead Donor Rule, Active Euthanasia, and Capital Punishment,” (with Noah Levin) *Bioethics*, Volume 25, Issue 5, (June 2011).

“Wellman’s ‘Reductive’ Justifications for Redistributive Policies that Favor Compatriots,” *Ethics* 111 (2001).

Invited book review of Toni Rønnow*-*Rasmussen’s Personal Value, Ethics, October 2013

**Invited and Refereed Presentations**

“If the Shoe Fits, Do I have Any Reason to Wear it?” *NOISE*, Tulane University, March 2016.

“Ought to Is: The Puzzle of Moral Science” *Chillmeta Workshop in Metaethics*, Chapel Hill, Oct. 2015.

“What *isn’t* wrong with Brainwashing?!” *NOISE*, Tulane University, March 2015

“Ought to Is: The Puzzle of Moral Science” University of Colorado at Boulder, *Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference*, Aug. 2014.

Author Meets Critic: Larry Temkin’s “Re-Thinking the Good”, Pacific APA, 2014

“Well-being and Care” Tulane University, Murphy Center Seminar, Oct. 2013

“If the Shoe Fits, Do I have Any Reason to Wear it?” University of Colorado at Boulder, *Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference*, Aug. 2012.

“On Performing your Best Option” (Commentary) *Reasons and Rationality,* Washington University, St. Louis,May, 2012

“The Best Expression of Welfarism” University of Arizona, *Arizona Normative Ethics Workshop*, Jan 2011.

“The Best Expression of Welfarism” University of Colorado at Boulder, *Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference*, Aug. 2010.

“How to *Prove* that some acts are Wrong”, University of Colorado at Boulder, *Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference*, Aug. 2009.

“Consequentialism in Transition”, University of California at Berkeley, The Tenth Conference of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies, 11-14 September 2008.

“The Serpent Windings of Normative Taxonomy”, Northwestern University, *The Society for Ethical Theory and Political Philosophy*, May 2008.

“When and Why is there Reason to Promote Human Well-being? Bowling Green State University, February 27, 2007.

“A Defense of the Dependence Thesis” Iowa State University, February 15, 2007.

“A Defense of the Dependence Thesis” Washington State University, January 30, 2007.

“Some Puzzles about Well-being and how to Address Them” Augustana College, January 23, 2007.

“A Defense of the Dependence Thesis” University of Arizona, November 3, 2006.

“What Makes a State of Affairs Good?” Berkeley-Stanford-Davis Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy, Stanford University, April 8, 2006.

“The Sovereignty of the State and Family: Historical and Analytical Parallels,” Conference entitled “Intervening to Prevent Citizen and Domestic Abuse: Assaults on the Sovereignty of the State and Family,” University of California, Davis, Spring 2001.

**Research and Project Grants**

*Murphy Institute, Tulane University, Center for Ethics and Public Affairs,* Faculty Fellow (20013-14).

*Woodrow Wilson Foundation*, Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship, (2004-2005).

*Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation*, full-funding for a conference entitled: “Intervening to Prevent Citizen and Domestic Abuse: Assaults on the Sovereignty of the State and Family,” University of California, Davis (2001).

**Teaching Experience**

**A. Undergraduate Courses**

*Contemporary Moral Problems*

*Introduction to Ethics*

*Death and Dying*

*Critical Reasoning*

*Ethical Theory*

*Theory of Knowledge*

**B. Graduate Courses**

*Animal Welfare*

*The Challenge of Normative Skepticism*

*Surveying Metaethics*

*Legal and Interpersonal Paternalism*

*On What Matters*

*Animal Welfare*

*Rethinking the Good*

*Pro-Seminar*

*Moral Epistemology*

*Personal Good*

**C. Directed Readings** **w/ 3 or more Students**

*Reasons and Value*

*Parfit’s Metaethics*

**D. Chair/Membership on Dissertation Committees**

**Total**: 26 (Chair of 8)

**Active**: 18 (Chair of 5.)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Sara Gaffari (Fall 2014-present)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, John Luchon (Fall 2014-present)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Tim Walsh (Fall 2013-present)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Jessica Mefford Katz (Fall 2012-present)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Jacob Sparks (Fall 2011-present)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Cinzia Smothers (Fall 2012- Spring 2015)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Logan Buck (Fall 2013- Spring 2015)

Chair, Ph.D. committee, Bradley Gabbard (Spring 2008 – 2013).

Member, Ph.D. committee, Ryan Fischbeck (Fall 2015-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Andrew Erickson (Fall 2014-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Scott Simmons (Fall 2013-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Kari Dyer (Spring 2012-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, David Schwann (Spring 2013-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Nakasha Ahmad (Fall 2011-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Zeth Campe (Fall 2011-present)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Kevin Fitzpatrick (Spring 2011 – present).

Member, Ph.D. committee, Adam White (Fall 2007 – present).

Member, Ph.D. committee, Corwin Carr (Fall 2008 – present).

Member, Ph.D. committee, Mark Wells (Spring 2011-Spring 2014)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Eli Weber, (Spring 2011-Spring 2015)

Member, Ph.D. committee, Nicole Smith (Fall 2007 – Spring 2013).

Member, Ph.D. committee, David Faraci (Fall 2007 – 2012).

Member, Ph.D. committee, Arthur Ward (Spring 2008 – 2012).

Member, Ph.D. committee, Brooke Roberts, *UC Davis*, (Fall 2007 – Fall 2008).

External Member, Ph.D. committee, Stephanie Salerno (Fall 2014 – Fall 2016).

External Member, Ph.D. committee, Suzan Aiken (Spring 2009 – Fall 2011).

**Service**

**Department Committees**

Chair, *Search Committee* (5 times)

Chair, *Colloquium and Activities Committee*, (6 years)

Chair, *Graduate Admissions* (3 years)

Co-Chair, *Department Workshop Committee* (6 years)

Co-Chair, *Workshop Selection Committee* (6 years).

Director, *Graduate Placement* (2 years).

Chair, *Special Committee to Attract Majors* (1 year).

Member, *Undergraduate Education Committee* (8 years).

Member, *Graduate Education Committee* (8 years).

Member, *Graduate Admissions Committee* (5 years).

Member, *Search Committee* (6 times).

Member, *Examination Committee* (Masters Exams) (8 years).

Member, *Tenure and Promotion Committee* (2 years).

Member, Ad hoc committee, *Enriching the Undergraduate Experience* (2 years).

Member, Ad hoc committee, *Developing a Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law program* (4 years).

***University Service***

Coach, *BGSU Ethics Bowl Team*, (2014-present)

Faculty Senate, (2014-present)

Faculty Advisor, *Giving What We Can: Bowling Green*, (2014-15)

Awards Committee: *Shanklin Award* for graduate research, (2016)

Awards Committee: *Katzner University Bookstore endowment* (2010-13)

Practice Judge and Adviser, *BGSU Ethics Bowl Team*, (2010-2013)

Research Fellow*, Social Philosophy and Policy Center,* (2009-13)

Departmental Representative, *Family Campaign*, (2008-11)

Faculty leader, “BGSU *Orientation & Registration* (2009)

Committee Member, *Outstanding Masters Thesis Award*, (2008)

**University and Community Service-Relevant Presentations**

Physician Assisted Suicide (Debater), Maumee County Day School, January 2017

“Police Shootings: the proof is in the Proportions” presentation to the *Undergraduate Philosophy Club*, Oct 27,2015

“Does Ethics have a Universal Source?” Presentation for *Veritas,* as a member of an invited panel, February 21, 2010.

“The Repugnant Conclusion”: presentation to the *Undergraduate Philosophy Club*, January 27,2010

“A Simple Strategy to Increase Student Participation and Decrease Your Workload”, *Bowling Green State University Teaching and Learning Fair*. March 2008.

**Professional Service**

**Refereeing**

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| Journals | Presses | | Conferences | |
| *Nous* | *OUP* | | *Arizona Normative Ethics Workshop* | | |
| *Ethics* | *Westview* | | *Society for Philosophy and Psychology* | | |
| *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*  *Philosophical* | |  | *BGSU Workshop in Applied Ethics* | | |
| *Philosophical Studies* | |  | |  | | |
| *Journal of Value Inquiry* | |  | |  | | |
| *Philosophical Research* | |  | |  | | |
| *Reason Papers* | |  | |  | | |
| *Philosophia* | |  | |  | | |

**Honors and Awards**

Multiple Nominee, Finalist, and Special Commendation, BGSU’s *Outstanding Contributor to Graduate Education*, (2012)

*Michael V. Wedin Teaching Award*, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Davis (2003).

Finalist, *Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award*, University of California, Davis (2003).

Departmental Citation (i.e. outstanding graduating senior), Political Science, University of California, Davis; 1997

Departmental Citation (i.e. outstanding graduating senior), Philosophy, University of California, Davis; 1997.

**References**

**David Copp**, University of California, Davis, (dcopp@ucdavis.edu)

**Gerald Dworkin**, University of California Davis (Emeritus), (gdworkin@ucdavis.edu)

**Dan Jacobson**, University of Michigan, (danjac@umich.edu)

**Peter Railton**, University of Michigan, (prailton@umich.edu)

**Connie Rosati**, University of Arizona (csrosati@email.arizona.edu)

**Russ Shafer-Landau**, University of Wisconsin (shaferlandau@wisc.edu)

**L.W. Sumner**, University of Toronto (sumner@chass.utoronto.ca)

**Pekka Väyrynen**, University of Leeds (p.vayrynen@leeds.ac.uk)