

## Ethan Mills

Department of Philosophy and Religion  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga  
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<http://www.utc.edu/philosophy-religion/profiles/faculty/ctm565.php>

### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Buddhist Philosophy  
Indian Philosophy  
Ancient and Modern Skepticism

### AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Ancient Greek and Hellenistic Philosophy  
Early Modern European Philosophy  
Chinese Philosophy  
Philosophy of Religion  
Ethics  
Contemporary Epistemology  
Philosophy and Science Fiction  
Philosophy and Horror

### EDUCATION

PhD, Philosophy, University of New Mexico (2013)

Dissertation: *The Dependent Origination of Skepticism in Classical India: An Experiment in Cross-Cultural Philosophy*

Committee: John Taber (chair), Richard Hayes, Mary Domski, Kelly Becker, and Arindam Chakrabarti

MA, Philosophy, University of Hawaii at Mānoa (2003)

BA, Philosophy (Minor in Religion), Hamline University (1999)

Honors Thesis: *Buddhism and Science: A Comparison of Methods*

Student, Antioch College Buddhist Studies Program, Bodh Gaya, India (Fall 1997)

### CURRENT APPOINTMENT

*Associate Professor (tenured)*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Aug. 2020 – present)

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Monograph

*Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāsi, and Śrī Harṣa*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books (2018), pp. xxxvi + 217. (Paperback edition published Aug. 2020)

Reviews:

Keating, Malcolm. "Review of Mills, Ethan: *Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāsi, and Śrī Harṣa*." *Journal of Dharma Studies* (online August 2019)

Balcerowicz, Piotr. "*Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāsi, and Śrī Harṣa* (Review)." *Philosophy East and West* 71 (1): 1-9 (January 2021)

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles Published

"Three Scepticisms in Cārvāka Epistemology: The Problem of Induction, Purandara's Fallibilism,

- and Jayarāṣi's Skepticism about Philosophy." Special issue: *Skepticism in India*, edited by Matthew Dasti and Ethan Mills, *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 12 (2022): 46-71.
- "Ursula K. Le Guin's Science Fictional Feminist Daoism," *Journal of Science Fiction and Philosophy* 3 (2020): 1-21  
( <https://jsfphil.org/vol-3/le-guins-science-fictional-feminist-daoism/> )
- "Overview: Constructive-Engagement Dialogue on *Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāṣi, and Śrī Harṣa*." *Comparative Philosophy* 10:2 (2019): 84-87.
- "Replies to Laura Guerrero, Rachana Kamtekar, and Jennifer Nagel: Constructive-Engagement Dialogue on *Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāṣi, and Śrī Harṣa*." *Comparative Philosophy* 10:2 (2019): 118-126.
- "Non-Prophet Management and Therapy for Anti-Skeptics: Cross-Cultural Thoughts on Booth's *Islamic Philosophy and the Ethics of Belief*." *Syndicate Philosophy* (4.11.2018): [syndicate.network/symposia/philosophy/islamic-philosophy-and-the-ethics-of-belief/](http://syndicate.network/symposia/philosophy/islamic-philosophy-and-the-ethics-of-belief/)
- "External-World Skepticism in Classical India: The Case of Vasubandhu." *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 6:4 (December 2016): 1-26.
- "Nāgārjuna's Pañcakoti, Agrippa's Trilemma, and the Uses of Skepticism." *Comparative Philosophy* 7:2 (2016): 44-66.
- "On the Coherence of Dignāga's Epistemology: Evaluating the Critiques of Candrakīrti and Jayarāṣi." *Asian Philosophy* 25:4 (November 2015): 339-357.
- "Jayarāṣi's Delightful Destruction of Epistemology." *Philosophy East and West* 65:2 (April 2015): 498-541.
- "Epistemological Pacifism and Skepticism." *The Hamline Review* (Special Issue in Honor of Duane Cady) 31 (2012): 87-109.
- "Cultivation of Moral Concern in Theravāda Buddhism: Toward a Theory of the Relation Between Tranquility and Insight." *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 11 (2004): 20-45.

#### Chapters Published in Edited Volumes

- "Perennialism Naturalized: Three Friendly Objections," in "Book Symposium on Ayon Maharaj's *Infinite Paths to Infinite Reality: Sri Ramakrishna and Cross-Cultural Philosophy of Religion*" *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 25 (2021): 113-118.
- "Nāgārjuna's Scepticism about Philosophy," *Buddhism and Scepticism: Historical, Philosophical, and Comparative Perspectives (Hamburg Buddhist Studies Vol. 13)*, edited by Oren Hanner. Projekt Verlag; Freiburg (2020): 55-81.
- "Mystical Experience as a Skeptical Scenario: Śrīharṣa's Skeptical Advaita in the *Khaṇḍanakhaṇḍakhādyā*." *The Bloomsbury Research Handbook of Vedānta*, edited by Ayon Maharaj. London: Bloomsbury (2020): 423-444.
- With Wes Smith. "A Little Shop of Horror: Creating Horror Films." *Makerspaces for Adults: Best Practices and Great Projects*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield (2020): 71-78.
- "Skepticism and Religious Practice in Sextus and Nāgārjuna." *Ethics Without Self, Dharma Without Atman: Western and Buddhist Philosophical Traditions in Dialogue*. Ed. Gordon Davis. Springer Publishing (2018): 91-106.
- "Hollywood Doesn't Know Dick." *Philip K. Dick and Philosophy: Do Androids Have Kindred Spirits?* Ed. D. E. Wittkower. Chicago: Open Court, 2011.
- "From Comparative to Cross-Cultural Philosophy." *Comparative Philosophy Today and Tomorrow: Proceedings from the 2007 Uehiro CrossCurrents Philosophy Conference*. Eds. Sarah Mattice, Geoff Ashton, and Joshua Kimber. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press (2009): 120-128.
- "Truthiness of the Appearances." *Stephen Colbert and Philosophy: I Am Philosophy*

(*And So Can You!*). Ed. Aaron Allen Schiller. Chicago: Open Court, 2009.

#### Other Articles Published

- “Jayarāsi,” *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*, edited by Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2021.
- “Report on an APA Panel: Diversity in Philosophy,” *APA Newsletter on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies* 18:1 (Fall 2018): 41-42.
- “Whither the Matilal Strategy?” *APA Newsletter on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies* 17:1 (Fall 2017): 18-21.

#### Articles Forthcoming

- “The Golden Path and the Multicultural Meanings of Life for Humanity,” *Dune and Philosophy: Minds, Monads, and Muad’Dib*, edited by Kevin S. Decker, Blackwell Publishing (Forthcoming 2022)
- “Scepticism and the *Prasaṅga* Method in Classical Indian Thought,” *Key Concepts in World Philosophies: Everything You Need to Know about Doing Cross-Cultural Philosophy*, edited by Chiara Rabbiano and Sarah Flavel. London: Bloomsbury (Forthcoming 2022)
- “Science Fiction In/As Philosophy: Ursula K. Le Guin,” *Key Concepts in World Philosophies: Everything You Need to Know about Doing Cross-Cultural Philosophy*, edited by Chiara Rabbiano and Sarah Flavel. London: Bloomsbury (Forthcoming 2022)
- “*Prapañca* in Nāgārjuna and Gauḍapāda” *A Road Less Travelled: Contributions to the Study of Indian Philosophy in Honour of John Taber*, edited by Birgit Kellner, Vincent Eltschinger, and Ethan Mills (Forthcoming 2022)
- “Engaged Buddhist Metaphysics: Buddhādāsa on Dependent Origination.” *Indian Ethics: Classical Traditions and Contemporary Challenges: Volume II*. Eds. Purushottama Bilimoria and Joseph Prabhu. Springer Publishing (Forthcoming).

#### Book Reviews

- “Book Review of *The Golden Age of Indian Buddhist Philosophy* by Jan Westerhoff.” *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2019.09.01: <https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/the-golden-age-of-indian-buddhist-philosophy/>)
- “Book Review of *Can Different Cultures Think the Same Thoughts?: A Comparative Study in Metaphysics and Ethics* By Kenneth Dorter.” *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2019.04.14: <https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/can-different-cultures-think-the-same-thoughts-a-comparative-study-in-metaphysics-and-ethics/>)
- “Book Review of *Cārvāka/Lokāyata: A Philosophical Inquiry* by Pradeep P. Gokhale.” *Philosophy East and West* 68:2 (2018): 645-648.
- “Book Review of *The Philosophy of Lokāyata: A Review and Reconstruction* by Bijayananda Kar.” *Philosophy East and West* 66 (2016): 1366-1368.
- “Book Review of *Brahman and Dao: Comparative Studies of Indian and Chinese Philosophy and Religion*, edited by Ithamar Theodor and Zhihua Yao.” *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* 10: 3 (2015): 525-527.
- “Book Review of *Warriors of the Cloisters: The Central Asian Origins of Science in the Medieval World* by Christopher I. Beckwith.” *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of the Philosophy of Science* 5 (2015): 201-204.
- “Book Review of *Ancient Scepticism* by Harald Thorsrud.” *Ancient Philosophy* 31 (2011): 446-450.
- “Book Review of *Pyrrhonism: How the Ancient Greeks Reinvented Buddhism* by Adrian Kuzminski.” *Ancient Philosophy* 31 (2011): 222-228.
- “Book Review of *Buddhism, Knowledge and Liberation: A Philosophical Study* by David

Burton.” *Philosophy East and West* 57 (2007): 593-595.  
“Book Review of *Being Benevolence: The Social Ethics of Engaged Buddhism* by Sallie B. King.” *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 13 (2006).

#### Online Resources

With Wes Smith. “Horror Thoughts: Incorporating Student Film-Making in a Course on Horror and Philosophy,” *The Blog of the APA*, May 2, 2019.

(<https://blog.apaonline.org/2019/05/02/incorporating-student-film-making-in-a-course-on-horror-and-philosophy/> )

“Interview on *Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāsi, and Śrī Harṣa*,” *New Books Network: Books in Philosophy* (podcast), Feb. 20, 2019

(<https://newbooksnetwork.com/ethan-mills-three-pillars-of-skepticism-in-classical-india-nagarjuna-jayarasi-and-sri-harsa-lexington-books-2018> )

“Provincializing Europe in a World Philosophy Course,” *The Blog of the APA*, March 26, 2018

(<https://blog.apaonline.org/2018/03/26/provincializing-europe-in-a-world-philosophy-course/>)

“Theism and Atheism in Classical India,” *The Deviant Philosopher*

(<http://www.thedeviantphilosopher.org/Units/TheismAndAtheismInClassicalIndianPhilosophy>)

“Cārvāka Critique of Inference,” *Global Philosophy*

(<https://globalphilosophyresources.com/2017/12/01/carvaka-critique-of-inference/>)

Contributor, *Indian Philosophy Blog* ([www.indianphilosophyblog.org](http://www.indianphilosophyblog.org)) (2015-present)

Personal blog, *Examined Worlds: Philosophy and Science Fiction*

([www.examinedworlds.blogspot.com](http://www.examinedworlds.blogspot.com) ) (2014-present)

#### **WORK UNDER REVIEW AND IN PROGRESS**

“Vasubandhu, Descartes, and the Structures of Skepticism” for a volume on Buddhist philosophy edited by Gordon Davis, to be translated into French (Under review)

Edited volume: *A Road Less Travelled: Contributions to the Study of Indian Philosophy in Honour of John Taber*, co-edited with Birgit Kellner, Vincent Eltschinger, and Isabelle Ratié (Forthcoming 2022)

Book proposal on skeptical moments in the epistemology of Vasubandhu, Cārvāka philosophers, and Ratnakīrti (In progress)

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

“Nāgārjuna: From Emptiness to Skepticism about Philosophy,” Online guest lecture (via Zoom) for Dr. Oren Hanner’s Buddhist Philosophy course, University of California, Berkeley (April 10, 2020)

“Reclamation of Women Philosophers in Ancient India: How and Why,” Philosophy Students’ Association Symposium, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA (April 10, 2020: Canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic; may be rescheduled)

“*Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāsi, and Śrī Harṣa*: Overview and Response to Comments,” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (January 8-11, 2020)

“Skepticism About Philosophy in Late Classical India,” Remote Discussion (via Skype) with Yale-NUS Philosophy Society and Bras Basah Open School of Theory, Singapore (March 7, 2019)

“Why Do Horror Fans Like to be Scared?: On the Philosophy of Horror,” Invited lecture for Nerd Night Chattanooga (a community discussion group), Chattanooga, TN (Oct. 25, 2018)

“Classical Indian Skepticism and the Limits of Philosophy,” Invited lecture for the Vanderbilt Ancient Epistemology Workshop, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (April 14, 2018)

“To Boldly Think!: Explorations in Philosophy and Science Fiction,” Invited lecture for the Chattanooga Institute of Noetic Sciences Study Group, Chattanooga, TN (Feb. 10, 2018)

- “Nāgārjuna’s Skepticism about Philosophy,” Invited lecture for workshop, *Buddhism and Scepticism: Historical, Philosophical, and Comparative Perspectives*, University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany (Nov. 14-16, 2017)
- “Introduction to Epistemology in Classical India,” Guest lecture for Dr. Stephen Kellert’s Philosophy 5550: Theory of Knowledge, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN (Oct. 17, 2017)
- “Hume, Buddhism, and Cārvāka on Self and Causation,” Guest lecture for Dr. Stephen Kellert’s Philosophy 1980: World Philosophies, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN (Oct. 16, 2017)
- “Buddhist Philosophy and *Ghost in the Shell*,” Guest lecture for Honors 3590: Non-Western Cultures: Zen, Film, and Anime, Instructors: Dr. Talia Welsh and Bo Baker, MLIS, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Feb. 23, 2017)
- “Jayarāśi and His Place in Classical Indian Philosophy,” Invited online presentation for the Takshashila Institution (public policy think tank located in Bangalore, India) (May 3, 2016)
- “Nāgārjuna’s Skepticism about Philosophy,” Invited lecture at Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC (Oct. 20, 2015)
- “Nāgārjuna’s Pañcakoti and Agrippa’s Trilemma,” Invited guest lecture for Prof. Anand Vaidya’s Comparative Philosophy Seminar, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA (Oct. 1, 2015)
- “Can Sceptics be Religious?: Two Ancient Sceptics on Spiritual Practice,” Invited lecture for the Chattanooga Institute of Noetic Sciences Study Group, Chattanooga, TN (Aug. 8, 2015)
- “Only a Buddha Knows: Vasubandhu and External-World Skepticism,” Invited lecture for the Mike Ryan Lecture Series, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA (Oct. 22, 2014)

#### **OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

- “Skeptical Destruction of Walls Between Minds in Indian Yogācāra Buddhist Philosophy,” The Twelfth East-West Philosophers’ Conference, Honolulu, HI (May 2024; rescheduled from 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- “Cārvāka Skepticism about Inference: Historical and Contemporary Examples,” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Chicago, IL (Feb. 22-27, 2022) (Presented remotely due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- Panelist: “Philosophers and Pulp Fiction,” CogWeirdo: A Special Two-Day CogTweeto Event (via Zoom) (Oct. 30-31, 2021)
- “A Fleeting and Incomplete Tour of Impermanence, Non-Self, and Momentariness in Indian Buddhist Philosophy,” History of Philosophy Society Conference (via Zoom) (May 1-2, 2021; rescheduled from April 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- “Think for yourself, Forget your Self: Ancient Buddhist advice for modern uncertainties,” Living Philosophically: Philosophy and Religion Department Lecture Series (via Zoom), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (April 8, 2021)
- With Wes Smith. “Horror, Philosophy, and Student Film,” Instructional Excellence Virtual Conference (via Zoom), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (May 5-6, 2020)
- “Skepticism About Other Minds in Classical Indian Buddhist Philosophy,” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (January 8-11, 2020)
- “Comments on ‘Constructing Cosmopolis: Stoic Cosmopolitanism and the Imperialist Duty’ by Emerson Bodde,” Tennessee Philosophical Association Annual Conference, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (Nov. 8-9, 2019)
- “Jayarāśi’s Skepticism as an Irreligious Way of Life,” Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle Annual Meeting, Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands (May 23-25, 2019)
- “Responses to Comments on *Three Pillars of Skepticism in Classical India: Nāgārjuna, Jayarāśi,*

- and Śrī Harṣa*,” Book Symposium with Comments from Rachana Kamtekar, Jennifer Nagel, and Laura Guerrero, American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (April 17-19, 2019).
- With Wes Smith. “Incorporating Student Film-Making in a Course on Horror and Philosophy,” Research Dialogues: Interdisciplinary Conference at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN (April 9-10, 2019)
- “Gandhi, India, and WWI,” Panel on WWI and Philosophy as part of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga’s commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War I, Chattanooga, TN (Oct. 4, 2018)
- “Le Guin’s Daoism,” Academic Track at Worldcon 76, San Jose, CA (August 16-20, 2018)
- “Śrī Harṣa and the Limits of Philosophy,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Krakow, Poland (June 8-11, 2018)
- “The Truth Shall Set You Free?: Naiyāyikas, Stoics, and Sceptics on Philosophy and the Good Life,” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Savannah, GA (Jan. 3-6, 2018)
- “Skepticism in Early Indian Philosophy,” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Kansas City, MO (March 1-4, 2017)
- “Popularizing Asian Philosophy: Why and How,” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Kansas City, MO (March 1-4, 2017)
- “The Place of Classical Indian Logic: Reflections on the Ethics of Debate,” Tennessee Philosophical Association Annual Conference, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (Nov. 4-5, 2016)
- “The Meaning of Life Among the Stars: Nolan’s *Interstellar*, Robinson’s *Aurora*, and Butler’s *Earthseed*,” Academic Track at MidAmericaCon II (The 74<sup>th</sup> WorldCon), Kansas City, MO (Aug. 17-21, 2016)
- “*Prapañca* and *Vikalpa* and *Māyā*, Oh My!: The Dangers of Imagination in Nāgārjuna, Dignāga, and Gauḍapāda,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI (June 2-5, 2016)
- “The Place of Logic in Classical Indian Philosophy,” The Eleventh East West Philosophers’ Conference, Honolulu, HI (May 24-31, 2016)
- “Pain, Suffering, and Happiness in Buddhist Philosophy,” Interdisciplinary Humanities Colloquium on Pain, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN (Feb. 18, 2016)
- “*Pramāṇavāda*: One Tradition, Many Schools,” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Washington, DC (Jan. 6-9, 2016)
- “Whither the Matilal Strategy?: On Indian/Analytic Comparisons,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Monterey, CA (Oct. 1-4, 2015)
- “*Interstellar* and the Meaning of Human Life,” Public Lecture to Promote the Department of Philosophy and Religion, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN (April 9, 2015)
- “Comments on ‘Do Teleological Arguments have Existential or Expressive Conclusions?: A Note on Hume’s *Dialogues*’ by Scott Aikin and Michael Hodges,” Tennessee Philosophical Association Annual Conference, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (Oct. 25, 2014)
- “Vasubandhu and the Nature of the Skeptical Problem,” University of Arizona Philosophy Department Colloquium, Tucson, AZ (Jan. 17, 2014)
- “Skepticism and Religious Practice in Sextus and Nāgārjuna,” Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress, Victoria, BC, Canada (June 2-5, 2013)
- “Vasubandhuan Phenomenalism as a Buddhist Ethical Practice,” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, New Orleans, LA (Feb. 20-23, 2013)
- “Rejecting Epistemology: Nāgārjuna’s *Pañcakoti* and Agrippa’s Trilemma,” Society for Asian

- and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Carbondale, IL (October 11-14, 2012)
- “Religiosity Without Belief: Nāgārjuna’s Buddhist Skepticism,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI (May 26-28, 2011)
- “The Ethics of Skepticism: What We Can Learn from Nāgārjuna, Sextus, and Jayarāsi,” The Tenth East-West Philosophers’ Conference, Honolulu, HI (May 16-24, 2011)
- “Is Skepticism Inevitable?” American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting, Main Program, Minneapolis, MN (March 30- April 3, 2011)
- “Jayarāsi’s Skepticism: How to Stop Worrying and Love a Life without Philosophy,” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Boston, MA (December 27-30, 2010)
- “Materialism, Skepticism, and the Alleged Spirituality of Indian Philosophy,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Asilomar, CA (June 14-17, 2009)
- “The Ontology of Traditions,” Thinking about Traditions: The Seventh Annual Philosophy Student Conference at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM (April 25, 2009)
- “Nāgārjuna, Jayarāsi, and the Distinctive Character of Indian Skepticism,” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Group Program, Vancouver, BC, Canada (April 8-12, 2009)
- “Stephen Colbert’s Truthiness and Political Skepticism,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM (February 25-28, 2009)
- “Engaged Buddhist Metaphysics: Buddhadāsa on Dependent Origination,” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Asilomar, CA (June 8-11, 2008)
- “Is Epistemology Possible?: Jayarāsi and the Buddhist Logicians on the Very Idea of a Pramāṇa,” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Pasadena, CA (March 19-23, 2008)
- “From Comparative to Cross-Cultural Philosophy,” Uehiro Cross-Currents Philosophy Conference, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI (March 22-23, 2007)
- “Of Nerds and Cyborgs: Science Fiction/Fantasy, Analytic/Continental,” *Philosophy and (Popular) Culture: Fifth Annual Philosophy Student Conference*, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM. February 17, 2007.
- “Engaged Buddhist Metaphysics: Buddhadāsa on Dependent Origination,” Buddhist Studies Graduate Student Conference, University of the West, Los Angeles, CA (October 13-15, 2006)
- “A Vindication of Cross-Cultural Philosophy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” The End of Philosophy?, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM (April 8, 2006)
- “Guessing Ananda and Psychic Norman: Truth and Justification in Dharmakīrti’s *Pramāṇa* Theory and Alvin Goldman’s Virtue Reliabilism,” Cross-Currents: Navigating a Pluralistic World, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI (March 16, 2006)
- “Can Wittgenstein Take a Joke?: Jokes and Their Relation to the Language-Game,” University of Hawaii Philosophy Students’ Association Student Colloquium, Honolulu, HI (May 1, 2003)
- “Buddhism and Science: A Comparison of Methods,” National Conference on Undergraduate Research, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY (April 1999)
- “No-Self Doctrines in Hume and Buddhism,” Minnesota Philosophy Association’s Student Conference, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN (April 1998)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Associate Professor (tenured)**, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (August 2020 – present)  
 Philosophy/Religion 2120: Introduction to Asian Philosophy (Spring 2022, Fall 2022)  
 Philosophy/Religion 2350: Popular Culture, Religion, and Philosophy (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)



Philosophy 3510: Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy (Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022)

Philosophy 3430: Philosophies of India (Spring 2021)

Philosophy 4910: Africana Philosophy (Spring 2021)

Philosophy 4920: Mesoamerican Philosophy (Spring 2022)

**Assistant Professor (tenure track)**, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (August 2014 – July 2020)

Philosophy/Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies/Classics 4910: Ancient Women Philosophers in India and Greece (Spring 2020)

Honors 3590: Personal Identity in Buddhist, Western, and African Philosophy (Spring 2019)

Philosophy/Religion 2350: Popular Culture, Religion, and Philosophy (Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019)

Philosophy 1200: World Philosophy (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2020)

Philosophy 3510: Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy (Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019)

Philosophy/Religion 3430: Philosophies of India (Spring 2017)

Philosophy 3530: History of Modern Philosophy (Spring 2017)

Philosophy 4910: Skepticism East and West (Spring 2016)

Philosophy/Religion 2120: Introduction to Asian Philosophy (Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2019)

Philosophy/Religion 4910: Philosophies of India: Knowledge, Reality, Self (Spring 2015)

Philosophy 3510: History of Ancient Philosophy (Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016)

Philosophy 1130: Western Humanities I (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Summer 2015)

**Lecturer**, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (Fall 2013-Summer 2014)

Philosophy 220: Philosophy of Happiness (*Online* Summer 2014)

Philosophy 112: Introduction to Philosophy Through Film (Spring 2014)

Philosophy 160D2: Mind, Matter, and God (Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

Philosophy/Religious Studies 233: Philosophy of Religion (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, *Online* Summer 2014)

Philosophy/Classics 260: Ancient Philosophy (Fall 2013)

**Adjunct Lecturer**, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (Spring 2012-Spring 2013)

Instructor: Philosophy/Religious Studies 233: Philosophy of Religion (Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013)

Instructor: Philosophy 430B: Ethical Theory (Spring 2013)

Assistant Instructor: Professor J. Christopher Maloney's Philosophy 160D2: Mind, Matter, and God (Fall 2012, Spring 2013)

Discussion Section Leader: Professor Jonathan Weinberg's Philosophy 110: Logic and Critical Thinking (Fall 2012)

Discussion Section Leader: Professor Thomas Christiano's Philosophy 150C1: Philosophical Perspectives on Society (Spring 2012)

**Instructor**, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM (2006-2013)

Online version of Philosophy 156: Reasoning and Critical Thinking (Spring 2012, Summer 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Summer 2013)

Philosophy 201: Greek Thought (Summer 2011)

Philosophy 333/Religious Studies 334: Buddhist Philosophy (Spring 2011)

Philosophy 202: Descartes to Kant (Spring 2011)



Philosophy 101: Introduction to Philosophy (Summer 2009, Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Summer 2010, Fall 2010)

Philosophy 156: Reasoning and Critical Thinking (Spring 2006, Summer 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Summer 2007, Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Summer 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2009)

**Teaching Assistant**, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM (2005)  
Teaching Assistant for Professor Brent Kalar's Philosophy 101: Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2005)

**Instructor**, College of Santa Fe, Albuquerque, NM (Spring 2008-Spring 2009)  
Philosophy 203: Thinking About the Universe (Fall 2008)  
Philosophy 202: Science and Sense (Spring 2008, Spring 2009)  
Philosophy 301: Ethics (Spring 2008, Spring 2009)

## LANGUAGES

Reading proficiency in Sanskrit and French; very basic reading ability in German and Pali.

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

*Professional Development Leave (Competitive Sabbatical)*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring 2023)

*Faculty Grant*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring 2020)

*Nominee for the UT President's Award*, University of Tennessee System (2019-2020)

*Classroom Mini-Grant* to provide honoraria for jurors for *Horrific Thoughts: Halloween Philosophical Horror Film Festival*, an event showcasing student films from a course, Popular Culture, Religion, and Philosophy, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (October 2019)

*University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Outstanding Faculty Research and Creative Activity Award*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2018-2019)

*College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Faculty Research and Creative Activity Award*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2018-2019)

*Nominee for Outstanding Teaching in General Education*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2018-2019)

*Faculty Achievement Award*, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring 2019)

*The Heinlein Society Prize for Best Academic Paper Presented at the World Science Fiction Convention in 2018* for the paper "Le Guin's Daoism" (awarded March 2019)

*High Impact Practices Development Grant* supporting an event *Horrific Thoughts: Halloween Philosophical Horror Film Festival* showcasing films made by students in a course, Popular Culture, Religion, and Philosophy, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (October 2018)

*Faculty Travel Grant*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring 2016; Spring 2017)

*Faculty Summer Fellowship*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2016)

*Barrett Dissertation Fellowship*, Department of Philosophy, University of New Mexico (2011)

*Office of Graduate Studies Dissertation Scholarship*, University of New Mexico (2010-2011)

*Office of Graduate Studies Teaching Scholarship*, University of New Mexico (2009-2010, 2010-2011)

*Career Services Student Conference Award Program Travel Grant*, University of New Mexico (Fall 2010, Fall 2012)

*Regents' Fellowship*, University of New Mexico (2009)

*Nominated by the Department of Philosophy for the College of Arts and Sciences Award for*

*Teaching Excellence*, University of New Mexico (Spring 2009)  
*Graduate and Professional Student Association Student Research Allocation Committee Grant*, University of New Mexico (2009, 2011)  
*First Prize, Student Essay Contest*, Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference, Asilomar, CA (June 2008)  
*Department of Philosophy Student Travel Grant*, University of New Mexico (2007, 2009)  
*Office of Graduate Studies Research Project Travel Grant*, University of New Mexico (2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012)  
*Bush Grant for Undergraduate Research*, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN (Summer 1998)  
*Award for Excellence in Writing*, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN (May 1998)

## **SERVICE AND OTHER EXPERIENCE**

### *Service to the Profession*

#### *Reviewing for Publication*

*Book Manuscript Reviewer*, Oxford University Press (Jan. 2021)  
*Book Manuscript Reviewer*, Springer Publishing (April 2020-July 2020)  
*Book Proposal Reviewer*, Bloomsbury Publishing (October 2019)  
*Reviewer*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (October 2021-present)  
*Reviewer*, *Journal of Science Fiction and Philosophy* (July 2021-present)  
*Reviewer*, *International Journal of Hindu Studies* (Jan. 2021-present)  
*Reviewer*, *Journal of Hindu Studies* (July 2019-present)  
*Reviewer*, *Asian Philosophical Texts* (December 2018-present)  
*Reviewer*, *Journal of World Philosophies* (January 2018-present)  
*Reviewer*, *Social Epistemology* (August 2017)  
*Reviewer*, *Comparative Philosophy* (November 2016-present)  
*Reviewer*, *Philosophy East and West* (May 2016- present)  
*Reviewer*, *ASIANetwork Exchange: A Journal for Asian Studies in the Liberal Arts* (June 2015)

#### *External Review for Tenure Cases, Dissertations, Programs, etc.*

*External Reviewer for an Application for Tenure*, University of North Florida (2020)  
*External Reviewer for an Application for Tenure*, University of New Mexico-Gallup (2020)  
*External committee member for PhD dissertation*, University of Notre Dame (2020-2021)  
*External committee member for PhD dissertation*, University of Connecticut (2020-2022)  
*External Reviewer*, Philosophy Program, Kennesaw State University (summer 2021)

#### *Editing*

*Editorial Board Member*, *Asian Philosophical Texts* (book series with Mimesis International) (2019-present)  
*Co-editor*, Special issue: *Skepticism in India*, co-edited with Matthew Dasti, *International Journal for the Study of Skepticism* 12: 2022.  
*Co-editor*, *A Road Less Travelled: Contributions to the Study of Indian Philosophy in Honour of John Taber*, co-edited with Birgit Kellner, Vincent Eltschinger, and Isabelle Ratié (Forthcoming 2022)  
*Guest editor*, *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies* (Fall 2017)  
*Book Review Editor*, *The Indian Philosophy Blog* (<http://indianphilosophyblog.org>) (Jan. 2015-present)

#### *Committees and Leadership Positions*

*President*, Tennessee Philosophical Association (Nov. 2019-Nov. 2020, extended to Fall 2021)  
*Member*, American Philosophical Association Committee on Asian and Asian-American

## Philosophers and Philosophies (Feb. 2016-July 2018)

### *Conference Panels*

- Panel organizer*, “Integrating Asian and Asian American Philosophy Into Pedagogy and Public Philosophy.” Panel for the American Philosophical Association Committee on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies, American Philosophical Association Central Division Conference. Kansas City, MO. (March 1-4, 2017)
- Panel chair and organizer*, “The Promise and Perils of Imagination.” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference. Honolulu, HI. (June 2-5, 2016)
- Panel chair and organizer*, “The Future of the Study of Indian Philosophy.” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy Annual Conference. Monterey, CA. (Oct. 1-4, 2015)
- Respondent and panel chair*, “Self, Mind, and Agency in Indian Traditions,” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (April 1-5, 2015)
- Panel chair*, “Life and Death,” New Directions in Critical Theory: Uncovering the Sublime, University of Arizona (April 5-6, 2013)
- Panel chair and organizer*, “Intersections of Ethics and Epistemology in Classical Indian Philosophy.” American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Boston, MA (December 27-30, 2010)
- Panel chair*, “Ethics and Epistemology in Indian Buddhism.” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada (April 8-12, 2009)
- Panel discussant and moderator*, “Meeting on the Seas of Language: Interpretation Across Boundaries,” Cross-Currents Conference, University of Hawaii (March 6-7, 2003)

### University Service

#### *Committees and Leadership Positions*

- Senator*, Faculty Senate, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2020-2022)
- Member*, Independent Tenure Review Committee, Library, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2020-2021)
- Member*, Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, Philosophy and Religion Department, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2020-present)
- Think Achieve Freshman Orientation Leader*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Summer 2019)
- Organizer*, Philosophy and Religion Department Fall Semester Welcome Reception, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2018, 2019)
- Member*, Search Committee for Position in Religious Studies, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2018)
- Committee member*, Philosophy and Religion Department Social Media Committee, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2017-present)
- Chair*, Organizational Committee for Interdisciplinary Colloquia Series, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2016-2017)
- Comprehensive Exam Committee Member*, Eric Watts’s English MA Comprehensive Exam, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring – Summer 2016)
- Organizer*, Philosophy and Religion Department Spring Gathering, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2016)
- Committee member*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Curriculum Committee (2015-2016)
- Board member*, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Student Media Board (2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2019-2020)
- Officer*, Philosophy Graduate Students’ Association, University of New Mexico (2006 – 2011)
- Co-planner*, University of New Mexico Student Conferences (February 2007 and April 2009)

*Planning committee member*, Cross Currents Conference, University of Hawaii (Spring 2003)  
*Vice President*, Philosophy Students' Association, University of Hawaii (2002 – 2003)

*Advising and Supervision*

*Faculty advisor*, Philosophy Club, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2015-present)

*Faculty advisor*, Horror Fanatics Club, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2018-present)

*Supervisor* of undergraduate senior theses in philosophy, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2020)

*Committee member* for undergraduate senior theses, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020)

*Instructor and faculty advisor*, Philosophy for Children Sessions for the Outreach College, University of Arizona (Spring 2014, Summer 2014)

*Faculty advisor*, The Hill Society (an informal philosophy and religion discussion group), University of Arizona (2013-2014)

*Supervisor* of graduate student graders for Philosophy 160D2: Mind, Matter, and God and Philosophy/Classics 260: Ancient Philosophy, University of Arizona (Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

*Supervisor* of undergraduate preceptors for Philosophy/Religious Studies 233: Philosophy of Religion, University of Arizona (Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

*Reviewing for Grants, Contests, etc.*

*Judge*, Women's Leadership Award, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2019)

*Judge*, North Callahan Student Essay Contest, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (2016, 2017, 2019)

*Grant reader*, Graduate and Professional Student Association, University of New Mexico (2009-2010)

*Public Philosophy, Community Service, and Other Experience*

*Public Philosophy*

*Panel organizer and panelist*, "Dune the Right Thing: Dune and Philosophy" and "A Look at Science-Fiction Perennials" Panels at Chattacon: A Speculative Fiction Fan Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Jan. 14-16, 2022)

*Panel organizer and panelist*, "The Stand and Plague Stories During Plague Times" and "Holiday Horror" Panels at Chattacon: A Speculative Fiction Fan Convention. Chattanooga, TN (online: Jan. 22-24, 2021)

*Special Guest*, *Worlds of Speculative Fiction* Discussion on Ursula K. Le Guin," Online discussion (via Zoom) for Dr. Greg Sadler's *Worlds of Speculative Fiction Series*, Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, WI (Dec. 19, 2020)

"Famous as the Moon" (Science fiction short story focusing on Buddhist philosophy). *Big Echo: Critical SF* 11 (2019): <http://www.bigecho.org/famous-as-the-moon>

*Panel organizer and panelist*, Panels on horror and politics, the Hugo Awards, and science fiction and climate change. ConNooga: Multi-Fandom Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Feb. 21-23, 2020)

*Panel organizer and panelist*, "Does Time Travel Make Any Sense?" and "What do Creators and Fans Owe Each Other?" Panels at Chattacon: A Speculative Fiction Fan Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Jan. 24-27, 2020)

*Panel organizer and panelist*, Panels on Stephen King, Ursula K. Le Guin, and race and gender in science fiction fandom. ConNooga: Multi-Fandom Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Feb. 22-24, 2019)

*Panel organizer and panelist*, “What in Hell Do We Want from Horror?” and “What do Utopia and Dystopia Do For Us?” Panels at Chattacon: A Speculative Fiction Fan Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Jan. 25-27, 2019)

*Panelist*, Panels on Stephen King and feminist science fiction. ConNooga: Multi-Fandom Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Feb. 23-25, 2018)

*Panel organizer and panelist*, “Philosophy, Science Fiction, and Fantasy.” Panel at Chattacon: A Speculative Fiction Fan Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Jan. 19-21, 2018)

*Panelist*, Panel on Golden Age science fiction. ConNooga: Multi-Fandom Convention. Chattanooga, TN (Feb. 24-26, 2017)

*Panel organizer and panelist*, “Descartes Dreaming of *The Matrix*.” Panel at CONvergence: Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention. Bloomington, MN (July 2003)

#### *Community Service and Other Experience*

*Member*, United Campus Workers (2017-present; UTC Caucus Chair, 2019-2020; Member, Policy and Campaign Committee, 2021-2022)

*Member*, Community Control Now Coalition (to create a community oversight board for the Chattanooga Police Department) (June 2019-present)

*Volunteer*, Chattanooga Public Library: Dungeons and Dragons for Kids (2018–2020)

*Volunteer*, Chattanooga United Way (Summer 2016)

*Library Circulation Coordinator*, Augsburg College Library, Minneapolis, MN (2003 – 2005)

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Philosophical Association

Phi Sigma Tau

Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy

Tennessee Philosophical Association

Alpha Society