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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2016–*present* Assistant Professor, School of Philosophy
The Catholic University of America
- 2016 Adjunct Professor, Department of Philosophy
St. Vincent College (Latrobe, PA)
- 2010–2016 Teaching Fellow, Department of Philosophy
University of Pittsburgh

EDUCATION

- 2009–2016 PhD: Philosophy (Joint Program in Classics, Philosophy, and Ancient Science)
University of Pittsburgh
- 2011–2014 MA: Classics (Ancient Greek)
University of Pittsburgh
- 2005–2009 BA: Honors Philosophy, Classics (Latin), Philosophy and Literature *summa cum laude*
University of Notre Dame

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Ancient Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Epistemology, Philosophy of Nature, Philosophy of Human Nature, Aquinas

OTHER RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Philosophy and Literature, Philosophy of Religion, Ancient Greek Language and Literature

DISSERTATION

- Title: *Thinking Forms in Images: Aristotle on Intellectual Capacities, Activities, and Virtues*
- Advisors: James Lennox, John McDowell (co-chairs), Kristen Inglis,
James Allen (Toronto), Sean Kelsey (Notre Dame)

Aristotle's active intellect has been a subject of much interpretive controversy over the centuries. Some have said it is the divine mind, others a god-like power of the human soul. Most begin by asking what the active intellect *is*; instead, I first ask what it *does*. I argue that the active intellect plays a distinctive role in learning and discovery by making intelligible objects available for thought. To understand this role more precisely, I consider Aristotle's idea that we learn by doing: not only do we become builders by building and brave by doing brave things, but we also get knowledge of triangles by thinking about triangles. In my investigation into his account of learning I draw on the *Posterior Analytics* and *Metaphysics*. I conclude that Aristotle distinguishes two sorts of intellectual activity when students are learning about triangles: they think about specific proofs to gradually grasp them, but they can also manipulate diagrams to discover proofs not yet considered, perhaps by drawing parallel lines or bisecting angles. This latter activity, by which students search for and uncover intelligible content in perceptual particulars, is the distinctive function of the active intellect.

AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Achievement in Pedagogy Badge, Center for Instructional Development, University of Pittsburgh (2016)
 World Congress Student Grant, Aristotle 2400 Years, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (2016)
 Salmon Fund Travel Grant, Dept. of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh (2016)
 Mellon Fund Research Grant, Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh (2016, 2014)
 Michael R. Bennett Essay Prize, Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh (2015)
 Elizabeth Baranger Teaching Award, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh (2015)
 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh (2009–14)
 Lilly Graduate Fellowship in the Arts and Humanities (2009–13)
 Arthur R. Anderson Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh (2012)
 Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, University of Notre Dame (2009)
 John Oesterle Award for Excellence in Philosophy, University of Notre Dame (2009)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Intended and Unintended Consequences: A Natural Distinction?” in *G.E.M. Anscombe and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition*, eds. John Mizzoni, Philip Pegan, and Geoffrey Karabin (2016)
 “Aristotle’s Intellects Now and Then,” *Aristotle Now and Then, Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association*, ed. R. Edward Houser, vol. 87 (2014).

UNDER CONTRACT

“Aristotle’s *Physics*,” extended encyclopedic analysis for Macat, Ltd. (*held up in wider project revision*)

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

“Cognitive Capacities and States in *Posterior Analytics* B.19”
 “Dialectic and Analytics,” Conference in the Aristotelian Tradition, Providence College (Oct 2017)
 “Aristotle 2400 Years,” World Congress, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (May 2016)
 “Aristotle Birthday Party,” 39th Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop, Rice University (Feb 2016)
 “Aristotle’s *Metaphysics* Θ.9: Scientific Discovery and Spontaneous Generation as Problem Cases”
 11th Annual London Ancient Science Conference, University College London (Feb 2017)
 “Cave-Dwellers and Underground Men: Freedom and Bondage in Dostoevsky and Plato”
 “Freedom Set Free,” 16th Conf., Center for Ethics and Culture, Univ. of Notre Dame (Nov. 2015)
 “Not Neglecting the Work at Hand’: A Note on Socrates’ Debt to Asclepius”
 33rd Annual Meeting, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University (Oct. 2015)
 “‘Like Light’: Understanding Aristotle’s Active Intellect” (*accepted but did not give paper*)
 “Metaphors in Use,” 3rd Annual Philosophy Conference, Lehigh University (Oct. 2015)
 “Contemplating in Order to Learn: Some Proposals for Prior Intellectual Activity”
 “Aristotle on Teleology,” Annual Baker Colloquium, University of Dayton (Apr. 2015)
 “Aristotle on *Dunamis*, *Hexis*, *Energeia*: Rethinking the Triple Scheme”
 32nd Annual Meeting, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University (Oct. 2014)
 “Is Aristotle *Actually* a Color Realist? Some Remarks on *de Anima* III.2”
 Annual Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Workshop, Washington and Jefferson College (Sept. 2014)

- “Thinking Forms in Images: An Aristotelian Insight on the Socratic Method”
American Association of Philosophy Teachers Biennial Conference, St. John’s Univ. (Aug. 2014)
- “Aristotle’s Conflicted Mind: The Mimetic and Poetic in Tension”
“Impression and Object,” Conference on Critical Theory, CUNY Graduate Center (Mar. 2013)
- “What Does Active *Nous* Activate?”
Lexington Workshop in Ancient Philosophy, Univ. of Kentucky, Transylvania Univ. (Mar. 2013)
Pennsylvania Circle of Ancient Philosophy, 2nd Annual Conference, Villanova Univ. (Mar. 2013)
- “Intended and Unintended Consequences: A Natural Distinction?”
“Anscombe and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition,” Conference at Neumann Univ. (Mar. 2013)
- “Aristotle’s Intellects Now and Then”
“Aristotle Now and Then,” American Catholic Philosophical Assoc. Annual Conf. (Nov. 2013)
- “Theism as Morality’s Foundation or Framework? A Plea for Distinctions”
“Must Morality Be Grounded in God?” 13th Annual Phil. Conf, Franciscan Univ. (Apr. 2013)
- “Thomistic Virtues and Vices: Avoiding Excess and Defect in Reading Aquinas”
“Radical Emancipation,” 12th Conf, Ctr. for Ethics and Culture, Univ. of Notre Dame (Nov 2011)
- “In Him We Live, and Move, and Have Our Being”
“Younger than Sin,” 11th Conf., Center for Ethics and Culture, Univ. of Notre Dame (Nov 2010)
- “Aquinas, Kant, and the Cosmological Argument” (*based on my senior thesis*)
Annual Undergraduate Scholars Conference, University of Notre Dame (May 2009)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

- “Of Deities or Mortals, or of Both’: Aristotle on (Theoretical Intellect): De Anima III.3-8”
Aristotle’s *de Anima* Philosophy Seminar, University of Pittsburgh (Apr. 2017)
- “Growing Up but not Forgetting: On Achieving and Maintaining the Heart of a Freshman”
First Year Experience Speaker Series, The Catholic University of America (Feb. 2017)
- “Cognitive Capacities and States in *Posterior Analytics* B.19”
Department of Philosophy, Assumption College (Feb. 2016)
- “Active Thinking, Active Mind: Discovering Parallels with Aristotle’s *de Anima* III.5”
Department of Philosophy, University of Chicago (Jan. 2016)
School of Philosophy, The Catholic University of America (Jan. 2016)
Aristotle’s *de Anima* Greek Seminar, Pacific Lutheran University (Nov. 2015) (*remotely over Skype*)
Aristotle’s *de Anima* Philosophy Seminar, University of Notre Dame (Nov. 2015)
Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of Pittsburgh (Nov. 2015)
- “Aristotelian Inquiry, Universal to Particular”
“Aristotle on Intellectual Virtue,” Ancient Philosophy Workshop, Univ. of Pittsburgh (Apr. 2015)
- “How Not to Think about Double Effect”
“Aquinas on Freedom and Virtue,” 3rd Thomistic Workshop, Mount Saint Mary (NY) (June 2013)

COMMENTS AND OTHER ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- “Aristotle and Aquinas on Intellectual Capacities, Activities, and Virtues” (Dec. 2015)
- “Aristotle and Aquinas on the Incorruptibility of the Soul” (Oct. 2015)
- “Aristotle’s *de Anima* and Aquinas’ *Treatise on Human Nature*: An Introduction” (Sept. 2015)
Undergrad Epistemology Reading Group, Newman Student Center, Pittsburgh PA
- “Developing Reading, Writing, and Speaking Skills *Together*”
Guest Lecture for Teaching Philosophy Seminar, University of Pittsburgh (Oct. 2015)
- “Plato on Virtue, Civic and Psychic”
Guest Lecture for History of Ancient Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh (Oct. 2015)
- “Ontology versus Ousiology: A Comment on Humphreys”
Pennsylvania Circle of Ancient Philosophy 3rd Annual Conf., Pennsylvania State Univ. (Apr. 2015)
- “(Dis)Analogies between Perception and *Nous*: A Comment on Vasilou”
“Aristotle’s *de Anima*,” Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Pittsburgh (Apr. 2013)
- “McDowell and the Myth of the Given: A Reappraisal”
Guest Lecture Series, Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of Pittsburgh (Nov. 2012)
- “Contemplating in Order to Learn: Some Proposals Regarding Prior Intellectual Activity” (Apr. 2015)
- “Intellectual Dynamis, Hexis, and Energeia: Rethinking Aristotle’s ‘Triple Scheme’” (Oct. 2014)
- “Intellectual Identity, Actual and Potential: A Reply to Burnyeat’s ‘Proof Text’” (Jan. 2014)
Dissertation Seminar Series, Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh
- “Thinking Forms in Images: Approaches to Socratic Teaching”
Guest Lecture for Teaching Philosophy Seminar, University of Pittsburgh (Sept. 2014)
- “If We Were on the Moon: Aristotle on Perceiving the Cause” (Apr. 2014)
- “Probability and Necessity in Aristotle’s Poetics, Revisited” (Dec. 2013)
- “Aristotle’s Three Intellects” (Oct. 2012)
- “Three Rival Versions of Moral Defect” (Feb. 2011)
Works in Progress Series, Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh
- “Aquinas on Love”
Guest Lecture for Philosophy of Love and Friendship, University of Pittsburgh (Feb. 2014)
- “Aquinas’ Five Ways”
Guest Lecture for Philosophy of Religion, University of Pittsburgh (May 2010)

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS (AS PARTICIPANT ONLY)

- Allan Gotthelf Memorial Workshop on Aristotle, University of Pittsburgh (Oct. 2015)
- Ancient Philosophy Workshop, University of Notre Dame (May 2015)
- “Aquinas and Mind/Body Problem,” 2nd Thomistic Workshop, Mount Saint Mary College (June 2012)
- “Aristotle on Discovery and Justification,” Pitt/UNC Philosophy Workshop, Pittsburgh (Mar. 2012)
- “Aquinas and Geach,” 6th Thomistic Seminar, Witherspoon Institute, Princeton Univ. (Aug. 2011)
- “Aquinas and Contemporary Philosophy,” 1st Thomistic Workshop, Mount Saint Mary C. (June 2011)
- Anscombe Workshop, Philosophy Department, University of Chicago (Apr. 2011)
- Arts and Humanities Seminar Summer, Erasmus Institute, University of Notre Dame (June 2009)

NON-ACADEMIC AWARDS

Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America, Raleigh NC (2003)

NON-ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Freedom and Human Action: Philosophical Background of the Christian Moral Life” (Jan. 2016)

“The Existence of God and the Philosophical Foundations of Christianity” (Sept. 2015)

RCIA Presentation, St Thomas More Roman Catholic Church, Pittsburgh PA

“Two Kinds of Life Activities: Aryeh Kosman versus Stephen Covey on ‘Sharpening the Saw’”

Young Professionals Mentoring Program, National Eagle Scout Asc., Pittsburgh PA (May 2015)

“Learning to Lead by Leading: An Aristotelian View of How Youth Leaders Develop”

College of Commissioner Science, Boy Scouts of America, Farmington PA (Nov. 2012)

“Twilight” Sycamore Trust Panel, 2009 Alumni Weekend, University of Notre Dame (June 2009)

“Socrates and the Examined Life”

Graduation Speech, Pleasant Union Elementary School, Raleigh NC (June 2008)

“Who Moves the World?”

Valediction at Commencement, Leesville Road High School, Raleigh NC (May 2005)

COURSES TAUGHT

Primary Instructor, The Catholic University of America

PHIL 329: Philosophy of Science (Sp. 2017, Sp. 2018)

PHIL 352: Introduction to Symbolic Logic (F 2017, Sp. 2017, F 2016)

PHIL 212: The Modern Mind (Honors) (Sp. 2018, Sp. 2017)

PHIL 211: The Classical Mind (Honors) (F 2017, F 2016)

PHIL 202: The Modern Mind (Su. 2017)

Primary Instructor, St. Vincent College

First Philosophy (Sp. 2016)

Primary Instructor, University of Pittsburgh

Concepts of Human Nature (Su. 2016, Sp. 2016, Sp. 2015)

History of Ancient Philosophy (Su. 2015)

TA and Recitation Instructor, University of Pittsburgh

Introduction to Logic (F 2015)

History of Ancient Philosophy, Writing Intensive (F 2014)

History of Ancient Philosophy (Sp. 2013)

Minds and Machines (Sp. 2011)

Concepts of Human Nature (F 2010)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

School of Philosophy Foreign Language Committee (Greek) (2016-present)

School of Philosophy Library Committee (2016-present)

Referee for *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, *Res Philosophica*

Co-Founder, Undergraduate Mentoring Program, Philosophy Dept., University of Pittsburgh (2016)

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

American Catholic Philosophical Association
American Association of Philosophy Teachers
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy
Society of Christian Philosophers

LANGUAGES

Ancient Greek (reading)
Latin (reading)
Spanish (reading, some speaking)
German (reading)
French (reading)

REFERENCES

For letters only, please contact our placement admin Connie Hrabovsky at connieh@pitt.edu.

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James Allen

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Kristen Inglis (*also a teaching reference*)

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