

Jacob Stegenga

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Education

Ph.D. Philosophy & Science Studies, expected Spring 2010

Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Medicine

Areas of Competence: Epistemology, Philosophy of Social Sciences, Biomedical Ethics, Nietzsche

Chair: Nancy Cartwright

Committee: William Bechtel, Craig Callender, Jerry Doppelt, Naomi Oreskes, Robert Westman

Dissertation: "Multimodal Evidence"

Multimodal evidence – evidence of different kinds for a given hypothesis – is practically important because it can be a powerful and ubiquitous basis of both belief and uncertainty. It is philosophically important because concordant multimodal evidence has been celebrated as a tonic for the fallibility of any single kind of evidence, as a counter to skeptical arguments, and so is said to provide grounds for objectivity. In my dissertation I introduce empirical, methodological, and logical arguments, and use examples from biomedical research, to conclude that appeals to multimodal evidence fail to provide a sufficient basis for objectivity.

Visiting Scholar London School of Economics, Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Sciences, 2008

M.A. University of Toronto, Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, 2005

Thesis: "The Chemical Characterization of the Gene"

M.Sc. University of Toronto, Physiology, 2003

B.A. University of Victoria, Biology and Philosophy, 1999

Epidemiology Employment

Epidemiologist, Public Health Agency of Canada, 2005 - 2008

Scientific Consultant, Health Canada, 2003 - 2005

Research Assistant, Toronto Hospital for Sick Children, 1999 - 2001

Publications

"A Theory of Evidence for Evidence-Based Policy" Forthcoming in *Evidence, Inference and Enquiry* (ed. P. Dawid, W. Twining, and M. Vasilaki), British Academy Publications (with Nancy Cartwright)

"Robustness, Discordance, and Relevance" Forthcoming in *Philosophy of Science* 2009 76(5)

"Rerum Concordia Discors: Robustness and Discordant Multimodal Evidence" Forthcoming in *The Robustness of Science after the Practical Turn in Philosophy of Science* (ed. Léna Soler)

"Point Prevalence Survey for Healthcare-Associated Infections Within Canadian Adult Acute-Care Hospitals" *Journal of Hospital Infection* 2007 66: 243-248 (with others)

"Infection Control and Antimicrobial Restriction Practices for Antimicrobial Resistant Organisms (AROs) in Canadian Tertiary Care Hospitals" *American Journal of Infection Control* 2007 35 (9):563-8 (with others)

"The Role of Understaffing in Nosocomial Viral Gastrointestinal Infections on a General Paediatrics Ward" *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* 2002 23: 133-136 (with others)

Book Reviews

Francesca Bordogna, *William James at the Boundaries: Philosophy, Science, and the Geography of Knowledge* (2008). Forthcoming in *British Journal for the History of Science*

Homer Neal, Tobin Smith, and Jennifer McCormick, *Beyond Sputnik: US Science Policy in the 21st Century* (2008). Forthcoming in *Science and Public Policy*

Aristotle, *On the Life-Bearing Spirit*. Translation and commentary by A.P. Bos and R. Ferwerda. Forthcoming in *Ancient Philosophy*

Science Without Laws: Model Systems, Cases, Exemplary Narratives, Angela N. H. Creager, Elizabeth Lunbeck and M. Norton Wise, eds. (2007). Forthcoming in *British Journal for the History of Science*

Genesis Redux: Essays In The History And Philosophy Of Artificial Life, Jessica Riskin, ed. (2007). *British Journal for the History of Science* (2009) 42(3): 437-438

Marcel Weber, *The Philosophy of Experimental Biology* (2005). *Erkenntnis* (2009) 71(3): 431-436

Presentations

“The New-New Problem of Induction”

- Harvard-MIT Graduate Philosophy Conference 2009
- Rocky Mountain Graduate Philosophy Conference 2009
- British Society for Philosophy of Science* 2009

“Multimodal Evidence: Paradoxes of Amalgamation”

- Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science 2009
- UC Davis Workshop on Philosophy of Biology 2009

“Amalgamating Evidence with Consensus Conferences and Meta-Analysis”

- UCSD Science Studies Colloquium 2009
- University of Toronto Graduate HPS Conference ‘Evidence in Context’ 2009

“Shadows of Sensation and Sensations of Chaos”

- International Conference of the Friedrich Nietzsche Society* 2009

“Generative Entrenchment: (Semi-)(Un-)Layered (Inter-)(In-)Dependencies”

- International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology 2009

“Normative Criteria for Translating Uncertainty into Policy”

- American Association for the Advancement of Science: Science and Technology in Society 2009
- Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice* 2009

“A Theory of Evidence for Evidence-Based Policy” (with Nancy Cartwright)

- NRC Committee on Evidence for Social Policy/OECD Committee on Social Indices 2009
- London School of Economics Popper Seminar 2008

“Nietzsche’s Lovely Paths of Truth”

- Nietzsche Colloquium, Technische Universitaet, Berlin 2008
- American Philosophical Association, Society for Student Philosophers 2008

“Robustness, Discordance, and Relevance”

- Philosophy of Science Association 2008
- Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science 2008

“Multimodal Evidence”

- London School of Economics Graduate Philosophy Colloquium 2008

“Genes as DNA: Analysis of Scientific Reception”

- Sixth Joint Meeting of the BSHS, CSHPS, and HSS (“Three Societies”) 2008

“Translating Uncertainty into Policy: Influenza Transmission and Mask Choice”

- Canadian Society for the History of Medicine 2008
- American Association for the Advancement of Science: Science and Technology in Society 2008

“National Surveillance and Case-Control Study of Catheter Associated Bloodstream Infections”

- Invited Lecture, British Columbia Children’s Hospital 2007

* Did not attend due to financial constraints or conflicts with other presentations

Commentaries

Joshua Rust's "Informative Rejection of Why Questions"	
• American Philosophical Association	2009
Ingo Brigandt's "An Epistemology of Explanatory Integration"	
• Canadian Philosophical Association	2008
Jessica Riskin's "Mechanical Christs, Hydraulic Brutes and the Invention of Consciousness"	
• Technology and Formations of Power Workshop, UCSD	2008
Joshua Stuchlik's "The Historical and Theoretical Background to Neurath's Normative Philosophy"	
• University of Toronto Graduate Philosophy Conference	2005

Major Awards

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship	2008 - 2011
Science Studies Dissertation Fellowship, UCSD	2009
National Sciences Foundation Block Grant Fellowship, UCSD	2005 - 2007
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined, to study internationally)	2005 - 2006
Graduate Fellowship, IHPST, University of Toronto	2004 - 2005
Department of Physiology Graduate Scholarship, University of Toronto	2001 - 2003
Connaught Graduate Entrance Scholarship, University of Toronto	2001 - 2002

Minor Awards

Numerous Travel Grants (UCSD, CSHPS, PSA, ISHPSSB, AAAS, SPS, HSS)	2005 - 2009
UCSD Academic Senate Summer Research Grant (with Nancy Cartwright)	2008
P.M.H. Mazumdar Essay Prize in the History of Medicine	2005
Brench Actus Prize: Best Graduate Essay of the Year, IHPST, University of Toronto	2005

Teaching**Instructor**

Logic and Decision Making	2009
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Assistant

Introduction to Ethics	2009
Introduction to Logic	2009
Philosophy of Social Sciences (organization & guest lectures for Nancy Cartwright)	2009
Humanities II: Rome, Christianity, and The Middle Ages	2008
Humanities I: Ancient Greece and Israel	2008
Twentieth Century United States History	2007
Philosophy of Science	2005

Service**Reviewer**

Canadian Philosophical Association
Spontaneous Generations
Science, Technology, and Human Values
 APA Society for Student Philosophers

Editorial Board

Spontaneous Generations 2008 - 2011

Organizer

UCSD Philosophy of Science Reading Group 2009 - 2010

Joint UCSD-UCD Philosophy of Biology Workshop (with Paul Teller) 2009

Ian Hacking Colloquium, Reading Group, and Workshop 2008 - 2009

UCSD Philosophy of Science Retreat (with Craig Callender) 2008 - 2009

Research Assistant

Jonathan Cohen: Index to *Metaphysics of Color* 2009

Nancy Cartwright: A Theory of Evidence for Evidence-Based Policy 2008

President

Graduate Association of Students in Physiology, University of Toronto 2001 - 2002

Treasurer

North American Students of Co-operation, Ann Arbor, MI 2001 - 2002

President

Campus Co-op Residences Inc., Toronto 1999 - 2000

Member

American Philosophical Association

Philosophy of Science Association

Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science

Canadian Philosophical Association

International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology

References

Nancy Cartwright
CPNSS, London School of Economics
N.L.Cartwright@lse.ac.uk

Craig Callender
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ccallender@ucsd.edu

William Bechtel
Philosophy, UC San Diego
bill@mechanism.ucsd.edu

Robert Westman
History, UC San Diego
rwestman@ucsd.edu

Paul Teller
Philosophy, UC Davis
prteller@ucdavis.edu