

David W. Harker

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Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Science, Applied Epistemology

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Biology, Metaphysics, Logic

Employment

- 2022- Chair, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, East Tennessee State University
- 2006- Professor, Department of Philosophy and Humanities, East Tennessee State University

Other Academic Positions

- 2015 Visiting Fellow, University of Leeds, Centre for the History and Philosophy of Science, January to June
- 2003 Visiting Scholar, London School of Economics, Centre for the Philosophy of Natural and Social Sciences, September to December

Education

- 2000- 2006 University of Illinois at Chicago, Ph.D. in Philosophy
 - 1995-1999 University of Sheffield, M.A. in Philosophy, B.A. in Pure Mathematics and Philosophy
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Publications

- [10] *Creating Scientific Controversies: Uncertainty and Bias in Science and Society*, 2015, Cambridge University Press

Articles

- [9] 'Scientific Progress and Scientific Realism', *forthcoming*, to appear in *New Philosophical Perspectives on Scientific Progress*, New York and London: Routledge.
- [8] 'Demarcation and the Created Controversy', *Philosophia*, 2017, 45, 247-56.
- [7] 'Discussion note: McCain on Weak Predictivism and External World Scepticism', *Philosophia*, 2013, 41, 195-202.
- [6] 'How to Split a Theory: Scientific Realism and a Defence of Convergence without Proximity', *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 2012, 64, 79-106.
- [5] 'A Surprise for Horwich (and some advocates of the fine-tuning argument (which does not include Horwich (as far as I know))),' *Philosophical Studies*, 2012, 161, 247-61.
- [4] 'A Likely Explanation: IBE as a Guide to Better (but not more probable) Hypotheses,' *South African Journal of Philosophy*, 2011, 30, 16-28.
- [3] 'Two Arguments for Realism Unified,' *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*, 2010, 41, 192-202.
- [2] 'On the Predilections for Predictions,' *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 2008, 59, 429-53.
- [1] 'Accommodation and Prediction: The Case of the Persistent Head,' *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 2006, 57, 309-21.

Works in progress

How to disagree – a book manuscript that explores epistemic disagreement and its significance for understanding the persistence of misinformation.

Book Reviews

- Review of Dean Rickles' *What is Philosophy of Science*, in *Metascience* 17, 2021.
Review of (ed.) Gregory Morgan's *Philosophy of Science Matters: The Philosophy of Peter Achinstein*, *Isis*, 103, 2012.
Review of Eric Barnes' *The Paradox of Predictivism*, in *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 62, 2011.
Review of Kyle Stanford's *Exceeding Our Grasp*, in *Philosophy of Science*, 75, 2008.
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Awards

- ETSU Distinguished Faculty Research Award 2017
College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Research Award 2017
College of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Fellowship 2014

Presentations

- January 2020 'On Two Distinct Belief-Like Attitudes'
Philosophers Take on Post-Truth, held at KU Leuven
- March 2018 Response to J. L. A. Donohue's paper "When Is It Unreasonable to Be Unsurprised?"
Pacific American Philosophical Association, San Diego.
- August 2017 'Science isn't a democracy, but consensus is (higher order) evidence nonetheless'
Trust, Expert Opinion and Policy: A conference investigating questions of trust and expert opinion, held at University College Dublin.
- September 2015 'Does Realism Become More Reasonable as Theories Become More Successful?'
European Philosophy of Science Conference, Dusseldorf, Germany.
- May 2015 'Majority opinions, individual responsibility, and a place for epistemic taste within social epistemology'
University of Durham (invited), for workshop on climate science, values and politics
- February 2015 'Resolving anomalies as a kind of progress, and the implications for realism'
University of Leeds (invited), for workshop on scientific progress and realism.
- January 2015 'Creating Scientific Controversies'
University of Durham (invited). Also presented to University of Leeds (1/2015, invited) and University of Bristol (2/2015, invited)
- August 2014 'Historiographical Bias or the Benefit of Hindsight?'
Conference on Scientific Realism, Cape Town, South Africa
- January 2012 'IBE and the Importance of Peculiarly Explanatory Virtues,'
Department of Philosophy, University of Denver (invited). Also presented to Department of Philosophy, University of Minnesota, Duluth (4/2012, invited), and at Philosophy of Science Association, San Diego (11/2012), and Central American Philosophical Association, New Orleans (3/2013)
- February 2011 'Scientific Realism and a Different Kind of Novel Prediction,'
Conference on 'Novel Predictions' held at Heinrich-Heine Universitaet, Duesseldorf.
- February 2010 'A Likely Explanation: IBE as a Guide to Better (but not more probable) Explanations,'
Central American Philosophical Association, Chicago. Also presented to Philosophy Society of Southern Africa, Durban, South Africa (1/2011)
- November 2009 'A Surprise for Horwich,'
Tennessee Philosophical Association, Nashville.
- March 2009 'Resisting Underdetermination: Caught between the Data and the Deep Blue Sea,'
invited as part of a workshop organized by the Centre for the Philosophy of Science, Pittsburgh, on underdetermination.
- November 2008 'Explaining Past Successes in Virtue and Despite of Particular Theoretical Commitments,'
Philosophy of Science Association, Pittsburgh.
- November 2008 'On the Confirmatory Value of Precision: Making a Case for Inference to Best Explanation,'
Tennessee Philosophical Association, Nashville.

February 2008	'Explaining Past Scientific Successes Realistically (and without being Whiggish),' Central American Philosophical Association, Chicago.
April 2007	Response to Brad Wray's paper 'The Real Value of Prediction,' Pacific American Philosophical Association, San Francisco.
February 2007	Response to Tim Lyons' paper 'Non-Competitor Conditions and Truth Candidacy in the Scientific Realism Debate,' Midsouth Philosophy Conferences, Memphis.
February 2006	'The Gene and the Phlogiston: A tale of two unobservable Entities,' East Tennessee State University.
October 2005	'Progress and Preservation: how the history of science should be brought to bear on the scientific realism debate,' Arkansas State University, Jonesboro.
March 2005	'What's all the Fuss about Novel Phenomena?' University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate Philosophy Conference.

Teaching Experience

East Tennessee State University

Science and the Modern World

Philosophy as Conversation

Great Ideas in Science: I & II (for ETSU Honors College)

Symbolic Logic

Senior Seminar

Truth in a Post-Truth Era

Metaphysics

Philosophy of Biology

Philosophy of Science

Non-classical Logic

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Independent studies and senior thesis supervision: The Species Problem; Units of Selection; The Gene Concept; Feminist Philosophies of Science; Simplicity as a Scientific Virtue; Philosophy of Probability; Philosophy of Mathematics; Philosophy of Economics; Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence; Perdurantism and Endurance; Reformed Epistemology; Epistemic Disagreement; Ethics of genetic modification; Minds and thought.

University of Illinois at Chicago (as primary instructor): Introduction to Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Metaphysics, Introduction to Logic

Professional Service

Referee for *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science: Part A*, *Philosophical Studies*, *The Journal of Philosophical Research*, *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, *Dialectica*, *Mind*, *Philosophical quarterly*, *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, *Acta Analytica*, *Kairos*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Erkenntnis*, *Foundations of Science*, *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Social Epistemology*, *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*, *Dialogue*, *Synthese*, *Media and Communication*, *Broadview Press*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Oxford University Press*.

University and College Service

CAS Search committee Associate Dean for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, 2021-22

University General Education Advisory Council, 2018-20

University Research Advisory Council, 2017-20

CAS Advisory Committee on Faculty Awards, 2017-19

CAS Strategic Planning for Research Committee, 2018-20

CAS Tenure and Promotion Committee: 2014-16

ETSU Faculty Senate: 2009-12

CAS Educational Affairs Committee: 2007-9

Department Service

Philosophy Major Advisor: 2011-

Program review committee: 2018-9

VAP search committee: 2019

Lecturer search committee: 2008, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2016

Department Colloquium Committee: 2006-15

Department website manager: 2006-10, 2013-15

ETSU Philosophy film club faculty advisor: 2014

Tenure line search committee co-chair: 2013/14, 2019/20

ETSU Philosophy club faculty advisor: 2009-13

Tenure line search committee chair: 2009/10

Graduate Representative to UIC Philosophy Department: 2001-02, 2004-05

References

Nick Huggett

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University of Notre Dame

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Dave Hilbert

University of Illinois at Chicago

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