

Don Loeb

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Education

University of Michigan

Ph.D., Philosophy, 1991

M.A., Philosophy, 1986

J.D. (*Cum Laude*), 1982

Brandeis University

B.A., Philosophy (*Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa*), 1978

Area of Specialization

Metaethics

Areas of Competence

Normative Ethics, Applied Ethics, Philosophy of Law, Political Philosophy

Dissertation

Generality and Moral Reflection

Chair: Allan Gibbard (Philosophy)

Honors

- 2018 Named Cat-A-Mentor (UVM advising recognition)
- 2018 Invited to (and did) teach a graduate course on disagreement (especially moral disagreement) at the University of Uppsala, Sweden, and to remain (at least partly at their expense)
- 2018 Invited to be (and was) a guest researcher at IFFS, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2015 Invited to (and did) teach a graduate course on moral disagreement and moral objectivity at the University of Uppsala, Sweden, and to remain on for about a month as scholar in residence (at their expense)
- 2015 Invited to judge a PHD viva in Geneva, CH (flown out at their expense)
- 2013, 2015 Coor Travel grant for travel to deliver papers in Europe
- 2013 Keynote speaker for a graduate student philosophy conference at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada
- 2006 Paper, "Why Should I Care What I Value?" selected for presentation at Metaethics Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison (annual competition)

Honors (continued)

- 2004 Invited Fellow, Dartmouth College Institute on the Psychology and Biology of Morality
- 2002 “Good Citizen” Award, UVM Police Department
- 1994 UCRS Summer Grant: “The Argument from Moral Phenomenology”
- 1992 UCRS Summer Grant: “Full-Information Accounts of Rationality and Morality”
- 1992 Paper, “Consequentialism, Generality, and Moral Justification” only non-invited paper selected for University of Rochester Conference on Consequentialism
- 1988-89 Charlotte Newcombe Foundation Fellowship (supplemented by University Fellowship)
- 1986-87 University Fellowship
- 1986 Rackham Teaching Award
- 1980 Certificate of Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in First Amendment Class
- 1978 Cohen Prize for Outstanding Senior, Pre-law

Teaching

The University of Vermont

Associate Professor, 1997-present

With Alan Wertheimer, I developed a proposal for a yearlong first-year class to be taken by all incoming honors students from across the university. The proposal was accepted over several competitors. We developed a syllabus, and the course was run for four years. We also created and ran UVM’s first Faculty Summer Institute, a three-day seminar on ethics, giving selected faculty from around the university a sample of the course material.

Thesis advisor to Coco Rooney, Patrick Gooley, Anne Arcoleo, Brittany Palmero, Conner Burns, Jesse Duarte, Eric Rowe, Max DeLeon, Kari Dalane

Assistant Professor, 1991-1997

The University of Uppsala (Sweden)

Graduate Seminar on the epistemology of disagreement (co-taught with Folke Tersman), September, 2018

Graduate Seminar on Moral disagreement (co-taught with Folke Tersman), May-June, 2016

Oakland University

Lecturer, 1990

University of Michigan, 1980-1990 intermittent

Teaching Assistant, Substitute Lecturer, Adjunct Lecturer, Instructor

Administration

Chair, Philosophy Department, UVM, summer, 2010- summer, 2012

Director, John Dewey Honors Program, UVM College of Arts and Sciences, 2003-08 (excluding sabbatical year)

Other

Visiting Researcher, Institute For Futures Studies, Stockholm, Sweden, October, 2018

Publications (peer reviewed, uninvited unless noted)

“Standards of proof as competence norms,” with Sebastian Reyes Molina, forthcoming in *Jurisprudence* (Taylor and Francis).

“Experimental Moral Philosophy,” with Mark Alfano, an article commissioned and refereed by the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, March, 2014.

Invited submission(s) to an on line colloquium on Brian Leiter’s, “Moral Skepticism and Moral Disagreement: Developing an Argument from Nietzsche,” sponsored by the National Humanities Center, <http://onthehuman.org/2010/03/moral-skepticism-and-moral-disagreement-developing-an-argument-from-nietzsche/>, April, 2010.

“Reply to Gill and Sayre McCord,” Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, ed., *Moral Psychology*, Vol.2, *The Cognitive Science of Morality: Intuition and Diversity*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008 (appeared in '07), pp. 413-22 (invited).

“Moral Incoherentism: How to Pull a Metaphysical Rabbit out of a Semantic Hat.” Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, ed., *Moral Psychology*, Vol.2, *The Cognitive Science of Morality: Intuition and Diversity*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008 (appeared in '07), pp. 355-86 (invited).

“Moral Heuristics and Consequentialism,” Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, ed., *Moral Psychology*, Vol.2, *The Cognitive Science of Morality: Intuition and Diversity*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008 (appeared in '07), pp. 31-40. (Coauthored with Julia Driver, who wrote the initial draft, although our contributions were roughly equal.)

“The Argument from Moral Experience,” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, Vol. 10, No. 5, November, 2007, pp. 469-484 (invited, refereed), reprinted in, Joyce and Kirchin, eds., *A World Without Values: Essays on John Mackie's Moral Error Theory*, (Dordrecht: Springer, 2010).

Publications (continued)

“Moral Explanations of Moral Beliefs,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Vol. LXX, No. 1, January, 2005, pp. 193-208.

“Gastronomic Realism,” *The Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology*, Vol. 23, No. 1, spring, 2003, pp. 30-49 (invited, refereed).

“Moral Realism and the Argument from Disagreement,” *Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 90, No. 3, June, 1998, pp. 282-303.

“Must a Moral Irrealist be a Pragmatist?” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, Vol. 33, No. 2, April, 1996, pp. 225-34.

“Generality and Moral Justification,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Vol. LVI, No. 1, March, 1996, pp. 79-96.

“Full-Information Theories of Individual Good,” *Social Theory and Practice*, Vol. 21, No. 1, spring, 1995, pp. 1-30; reprinted in George Sher, ed. *Moral Philosophy: Selected Readings*, 2d. ed.

Appellate Brief

Vacco v. Quill (assisted suicide), U.S. Supreme Court, November, 1996.

Book Reviews (all refereed)

The Myth of the Intuitive, by Max Deutsch. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, August, 2016

Ethical Norms, Particular Cases, by James Wallace. *The Philosophical Review*, Vol. 111, No. 1, January, 2002, pp. 127-29.

The Tanner Lectures in Human Values 17, Graethe Peterson, ed., *Ethics*, Vol. 112, No. 1, October, 2001, pp. 172-75.

Common Values, by Sisella Bok, *Ethics*, Vol. 107, No. 4, July, 1997, pp. 762-63.

Works in Progress

“Conciliationism and Moral Skepticism”

With Folke Tersman, in draft and under revision. (Presented to UVM Ethics group in 2017, Higher Seminar at Stockholm University.)

Works in Progress (continued)

“What’s Next for the What’s Next Problem?”	with Justin Horn
“Moral Incoherentism: Evaluating the Empirical Data”	with Lance Bush
“Conciliationism and Moral Skepticism”	with Folke Tersman
“Has Moral Expressivism Taken a Wrong Turn?”	In draft, versions delivered at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, Oxford University, Carleton University (Ottawa), Humboldt University (Berlin), and UVM (reading group).

Grant

Invited (with Terence Cuneo) to participate in a John Templeton Foundation Grant, *The Science of Ethics*, with two PIs, one at The University of Michigan and one at The Ohio State University. My role was three-fold: co-organizing and running a one-week conference on empirical aspects of metaethics at The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in the summer of 2013; attempting to co-edit a volume based on the proceedings (project now abandoned); and in the summer of 2014 spending a week in residence, providing commentary to the PI’s on their book manuscript concerning the moral sentiments.

Academic Presentations

“Conciliationism and Moral Skepticism,” Higher Seminar in Practical Philosophy, Stockholm University, October, 2018.

“Conciliationism and Moral Skepticism,” (current title) UVM Ethics Group, 2017.

“Moral Incoherentism,” colloquium, University of Geneva, 2016

“Has Moral Expressivism Taken a Wrong Turn?” Conference on “Deep Disagreement,” Berlin. Germany, June, 2015

“Comment on Ira K. Lindsay’s, ‘Humean Property Theory: A Defense,’” (UVM-Dartmouth Conference), November 15, 2014

Academic Presentations (continued)

“Has Moral Expressivism Taken a Wrong Turn?” Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada (keynote speaker at a graduate student philosophy conference), 2013.

“Has Moral Expressivism Taken a Wrong Turn?” Oxford University, England, January, 2013

“Has Moral Expressivism Taken a Wrong Turn?” University of Fribourg, Switzerland, December, 2012

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” University of Geneva, Switzerland, December, 2012

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” Colgate University, November, 2011

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” Moral Disagreement Conference, University of Chicago Law School, November, 2011

“Comment on Scott Schaefer’s, *Legality*,” APA Central Division meetings, Author meet critic session, March, 2011

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” Law and Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago Law School, November, 2010, 2012 (different versions)

“Reply to Lawrence Crocker,” Dartmouth College, October, 2010

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” Franklin and Marshall College, spring, 2010

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” National University of Singapore, August, 2009

“Moral Disagreement Revisited,” University of Sydney, August, 2009

“Why Should I Care What I Value?” The University of Connecticut, September, 2008

“Why Should I Care What I Value?” Metaethics Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, September, 2006

“Reply to Tamler Sommers,” Philosophy and Psychology Conference, June, 2006

“What Possible use could a Moral Irrealist Have for Moral Reasoning?” Conference on Moral Reasons, National University of Ireland, Galway, February, 2005 (keynote lecture)

Academic Presentations (continued)

“Can Science Support a Moral Error Theory? How to Pull a Metaphysical Rabbit out of a Semantic Hat,” Dartmouth College, summer, 2002

“Comment on Elizabeth Shortsleeve,” APA Pacific Division Meeting, April, 2004
“Comment on Sinnott-Armstrong,” Dartmouth College, summer, 2002

“Driver on Moral and Aesthetic Expertise,” Dartmouth College, summer, 2002

“Reply to Adina Roskies,” APA Pacific Division Meeting, March, 2002

“Reply to David Merli,” APA Pacific Division Meeting, April, 2000

“Reply to Richard Miller,” APA Central Division Meetings, April, 2000

“The Argument from Moral Phenomenology,” Brandeis University, Oct., 1997

“Moral Realism and the Semantics of Moral Disagreement,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meetings, March, 1997

“Railton’s Full-Information Account of Individual Good,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meetings, March, 1995

“Generality and Moral Justification,” Dartmouth University, July, 1992

“Consequentialism, Generality, and Moral Justification,” University of Rochester Conference on Consequentialism, May, 1992

“Generality and Moral Justification” Oakland University, fall, 1990

Service

-Public lectures, etc.

Podcast on Moral Antirealism, YouTube, January, 2020

Lectures (two) for Pillsbury Manor (retirement community—different locations), 2017

Interview, “Moral Irrealism” for Blog: Common Sense Atheism,
<http://commonsenseatheism.com/?p=4274>, October, 2009

Panel Discussion (moderator/panelist), “JB and the Book of Job,” Waterfront Theater, Burlington, VT, summer, 2009

-Public lectures, etc. (continued)

Lecture, "God and Morality," Congregational Church, Burlington, VT, summer, 2009

Debate/discussion (with Professor Peter Railton, Michigan, Philosophy), "Moral Realism, For and Against," Bloggingheads TV, <http://bloggingheads.tv/diavlogs/13443> , July, 2008

Lecture, "Abortion," Elder Education Enrichment, Burlington, VT, spring, 2007

Panel Discussion (on atheism), Phi Beta Kappa, UVM, spring, 2007

Lecture, "Socrates," CAS "Brain Trust" Weekend, 2006

Lecture, "Socrates," Shelburne Bay Retirement Community, fall, 2005

Lecture, "Moral Disagreement and Moral Relativism," Shelburne Bay Retirement Community, spring, 2005

Lecture, "Psychological Egoism," UVM Reunion Speaker, fall, 2004

Lecture, "Religion and Morality," Shelburne Bay Retirement Community, summer, 2004

Faculty Summer Institute, "Ethics," (with Allan Wertheimer), a three-day seminar, August, 2004

Lecture, "Ethics," Teachers as Scholars Seminar, UVM, spring, 2000

Debate, "Theism vs. Atheism," Philosophy Club, UVM, April, 1998

Lecture, "Genetics and Ethics," *Hadassah* Annual Meeting, Burlington, VT, fall, 1998

Debate, "Hate Speech Laws: UVM's Own Crossfire," October, 1996

Guest Lecturer/Plenary Lecturer, ENVS, Honors College, etc. (numerous)

-University

Delegate, United Academics Delegates Assembly

Co-chair, Integrity (etc.) Subcommittee, UVM Reaccreditation Committee, summer and fall, 2017. (I withdrew owing to serious illness, late in the fall term,)

Advisor, Mock Trial Club, fall, 2006-2020 (approx.)

-University service (continued)

Member, Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee, 2014-2016

Member, Janus Forum organizing committee, 2013—present (suspended while on sick leave)

Member, University Grievance Committee, 1997-2003 (sabbatical excluded);
Chair, fall 2000-fall 2003.

Pre-Law Advisor, 1995-present

Judge, Lawrence Debate Union, spring, 2009; fall, 2010

Advisor, AEI fraternity, 2000-2004, fall, 2009

Panelist, University Ad Hoc Grievance Committee, summer, 2007; Chair,
summer, 2009

Member, Honors College Council, fall 2003-summer, 2008 (excluding sabbatical)

Member, Honors College Admissions Subcommittee, fall 2003-summer, 2008
(excluding sabbatical)

Member, UVM Self Study Committee (Integrity Standard), fall, 2007

Chair, Selection Committee for Honors College Associate Dean, 2005

Member, United Academics Intellectual Property Negotiating Team, 2005

Member, Police Advisory Board, 2003-2005

Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate, spring, 2000-fall, 2001

Member, Faculty Senate Intellectual Property Committee, 2000-2001

Advisor, Campus Democrats, 1993-1997

Department Representative, Faculty Senate, 1993-1997

Contributor, *Vermont Catalyst*, spring 1995

Facilitator, Pre-law Panel Discussion, March, 1995

Member, University Judicial Council, 1993-1994

-University service (continued)

Recruiter, High School for Environmental Studies, Green and Gold Scholars, etc.
(various years, events)

-College of Arts and Sciences

Member, CAS First Year Experience Committee, 2015-2017

Member, Committee on Academic Standing, 1995-2002; 2003-2005; 2006-2009

Presenter, Admitted Student Visitation Days, 1997, 1998, 2002-2013, 2015, 2016,
2017, 2018

Member, numerous thesis committees (Honors, Masters) 1992-2011

Chair, Selection Committee for College of Arts & Sciences Assistant Dean, 2004

Author, report on changes in Faculty Senate Bylaws, fall 2001

Parliamentarian, College of Arts & Science, 1997-2001 (excluding sabbatical)

Panelist, English Tutors Seminar, spring, 1995

Member, English Chair Search Committee, spring, 1994

Participant, scholarship interviews, recruiting activities, Parent's Weekend
activities, orientation, 1992-2017 (numerous)

Commencement Marshall, (and other commencement activities) most years

-Department

Guest teacher for Andrea Wilson's sexual Ethics class (twice, January, 2020)

Teaching Mentor for Kate Nolfi (2014-16, approx.)

Member, Departmental Hiring Committee, 1992, 1993, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2003,
2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011-12, 2013-4

United Way Representative, 1993-2000

Advisor, Philosophy Club, 1998-1999

Member, Philosophy Department Chair Search Committee, spring, 1997

-Department

Coordinator, Philosophy Teaching Program, South Burlington High School, 1995-1996

Union Representative, 2020- present

-Profession

Tenure Referee, 2008, 2017

Evaluator (by letter) for Thomas Polzer (for Max Kade Institute and also for a postdoc at the College of Charleston), 2017

Evaluator (by letter) for François Jaquet (for a Swiss postdoc. program), 2016

Conference Referee, Wisconsin Metaethics Conference, spring, 2007

Manuscript Referee, Cambridge University Press, 2003, 2004

Manuscript Referee, Oxford University Press, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002

Reviewer, *Philosophical Ethics*, by Stephen Darwall, spring, 1998

Reviewer, *Moral Philosophy* by George Sher, September, 1993

Session Chair: Moral Epistemology Conference, Dartmouth College, October, 1994; APA Central Division, May, 1994; Metaethics Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, fall, 2004; *Spindel Conference*, University of Memphis, fall, 2002; APA Pacific Division, spring, 2001; APA Central Division, 2021

Article Referee, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Canadian Philosophical Association*, *Erkenntnis*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Ethics*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Mind*, *Nous*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Social Theory and Practice*, others (1992-present, numerous)