

# ZOË A. JOHNSON KING

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SPECIALIZATIONS        Ethics, Metaethics, Epistemology

COMPETENCIES           Philosophy of Law, Decision Theory

EMPLOYMENT             Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University  
July 2022 to present

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Southern California  
August 2020 to June 2022

Bersoff Faculty Fellow, Department of Philosophy, New York University  
September 2018 to August 2020

EDUCATION                University of Michigan, Ann Arbor:  
                                  PhD in Philosophy, 2018  
                                  Dissertation: *Trying to Act Rightly*  
                                  Committee: Brian Weatherson (Chair), Sarah Buss, Maria Lasonen-Aarnio,  
                                  Allan Gibbard, Scott Hershovitz

Canterbury Christ Church University:  
                                  Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Teach First), 2012  
                                  Passed as Outstanding

University of Cambridge:  
                                  M.Phil in Philosophy, 2011  
                                  Passed with Merit  
                                  Thesis: *Genealogical Debunking Arguments in Metaethics*  
                                  B.A. in Philosophy, 2010  
                                  Double First, highest marks in the year  
                                  Thesis: *The Nature and Ethics of Trust*

PUBLICATIONS            On Snobbery  
                                  Forthcoming in *The British Journal of Aesthetics*

Radical Internalism  
                                  Forthcoming in *Philosophical Issues: A Supplement to Noûs*

PUBLICATIONS  
(continued)

“Grasping” Morality

Forthcoming in a special issue of *Philosophical Studies* on Elinor Mason’s  
*Ways to be Blameworthy: Rightness, Wrongness, and Responsibility*

Moral Motivation

Forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook of Metaethics* (OUP), eds. Connie Rosati  
and David Copp

Neither Sensitivity Nor Safety

Forthcoming in *Synthese*

Varieties of Moral Mistake

Forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*

Praise and Positive Behavior management

Forthcoming in *Pedagogies of Punishment* (Bloomsbury), eds. Winston C.  
Thompson and John Tillson

What Are We Praiseworthy For?

Forthcoming in *New Conversations in Philosophy, Law, and Politics* (OUP), eds.  
Ruth Chang and Amia Srinivasan

Deliberation and Moral Motivation

In *Oxford Studies in Metaethics*, ed. Russ Shafer-Landau, vol. 17, pp.254-281,  
July 2022

Who’s Afraid of Normative Externalism?

In *Meaning, Decision, and Norms: Themes from the Work of Allan Gibbard*  
(Maize Books), eds. Billy Dunaway and David Plunkett, pp.57-74, July 2022

The Trouble with Standards of Proof

*Synthese* early view, DOI 10.1007/s11229-020-02639-7

Moral Obligation and Epistemic Risk (with Boris Babic)

*Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics*, ed. Mark Timmons, vol. 10, pp. 81-105,  
October 2020

Praiseworthy Motivations

*Noûs* 54(2): 408-430, June 2020

Don’t Know, Don’t Care?

*Philosophical Studies* 177(2): 413-331, February 2020

Accidentally Doing the Right Thing

*Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 100(1): 186-206, January 2020

PUBLICATIONS  
(continued)

We Can Have Our Buck and Pass It, Too  
In *Oxford Studies in Metaethics*, ed. Russ Shafer-Landau, vol. 14, pp.167-189,  
August 2019

Review of Neil Sinhababu's *Humean Nature*  
*Ethics* 128(4): 836-840, July 2018

HONORS &  
AWARDS

ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Awards 2018 – Honorable Mention

Rackham Predoctoral Fellow, University of Michigan, 2017-18  
\$32,000 award for “unusually creative, ambitious, and impactful” work

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Prize, University of Michigan, Fall 2017  
Inaugural prize, awarded in recognition of “outstanding work to enhance  
diversity, equity, and inclusiveness on campus and beyond”

Charles L. Stevenson Prize, University of Michigan, 2017  
\$3,000 prize for most promising dissertation prospectus of the year

John Dewey Prize, University of Michigan, 2015  
\$1,000 prize for excellence in undergraduate teaching

Arts of Citizenship Grant in Public Scholarship, 2014-15  
\$8,000 grant awarded to expand outreach program into schools in Detroit  
and rural Michigan, and to add two new annual events

Arts and Humanities Research Council, Research Preparation Masters Award (in  
partnership with the University of Cambridge), 2010-11  
£9,490 stipendiary award plus full funding for M.Phil

Scholar of the Year, Fitzwilliam College (University of Cambridge), 2010  
Annual award issued to the most promising graduating student of the  
College in receipt of funding scholarships

Craig Taylor Prize, University of Cambridge, 2009 and 2010  
Awards for attaining highest marks in the year in Part I and Part II

Class of 1912 scholarship 2009-10

Mary Lucking prize 2009-10

Sir John Stratton scholarship 2007-08

Burton prize 2007-08

Irene Hill scholarship 2008-09

A. J. Watson prize 2008-09

Funding for Cambridge BA from Fitzwilliam College's alumni donations,  
all awarded for academic merit

TALKS

“The Slow Clap Phenomenon”

York University, TBD in AY 2023-24

Stanford University, April 2023

Notre Dame – ACU International Ethics Conference, April 2022

“Working on Yourself”

Austin Graduate Ethics and Normativity Talks (AGENT) (Keynote),  
November 2022

Virtual Metaethics Colloquium, June 2022

Princeton University, April 2022

Harvard University, January 2022

Symposium session, APA Eastern Division meeting, January 2021

Junior Epistemology Workshop, October 2020

“Justification and Excuse Revisited”

The Arché Institute and the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs  
(CEPPA), St Andrews, November 2022

17<sup>th</sup> *Episteme* Conference in Negril, Jamaica, August 2022

“Moral Motivation in the Real World: Some Things I’ve Tried” (Keynote)

Metaethics in Society conference at the University of Nottingham, March  
2022

“Varieties of Moral Mistake”

Symposium session, APA Eastern Division meeting, January 2022

Workshop on Blame and Responsibility, University of Texas at Austin / St.  
Andrew’s, April 2021

London School of Economics (LSE) Choice Group, March 2021

Workshop on Mistakes, Ignorance, and Blameworthiness, King’s College  
London (KCL), September 2020

“Reluctant Heroes”

University of Helsinki, September 2021

University of British Columbia (UBC), March 2021

The Implementation Challenge in Conceptual Engineering (ICCE), the  
Arché Institute at St. Andrew’s, December 2020

“Algorithmic Fairness and Resentment” (with Boris Babic)

King’s College London (KCL), August 2021

“Neither Sensitivity Nor Safety”

Barcelona Workshop in Law and Philosophy, April 2021

New Directions in Philosophy of Law, University of Surrey, July 2019

Dartmouth College, August 2019

TALKS

*(continued)*

“Deliberation and Moral Motivation”

Colloquium session, APA Central Division meeting, February 2021  
Wisconsin Metaethics Workshop (MadMeta), September 2020  
Virtual Metaethics Workshop, June 2020  
Princeton University, May 2019  
NYU Abu Dhabi Workshop on Normativity and Reasoning, January 2019  
UNC Chapel Hill, November 2018  
Junior Metaethics Workshop, November 2018

“What are We Praiseworthy For?”

The Future of Jurisprudence, Oxford University, June 2020 (cancelled)  
Junior Metaethics Workshop, June 2020

“Radical Internalism”

Oxford Epistemology Group, November 2020  
New York University (NYU) Epistemology Workshop, March 2020  
Ranch Metaphysics Workshop, January 2020  
City University of New York (CUNY), October 2019  
University of Southampton, September 2019  
Junior Metaethics Workshop, July 2019

“Don’t Know, Don’t Care?”

Symposium session, APA Pacific Division meeting, April 2019  
Syracuse University, March 2019  
Northeast Normativity Workshop, March 2019  
Boston University, October 2018  
New York University, October 2018  
Workshop on Virtue and Moral Reasoning Under Oppressive Social  
Conditions, Concordia University in Montreal, February 2018  
Women in Philosophy in the Chicago Area workshop, June 2017  
Mount St. Mary’s University, February 2017

“Moral Obligation and Epistemic Risk” (with Boris Babic)

Arizona Workshop in Normative Ethics, January 2019

“The Trouble With Standards of Proof”

Stanford Legal Philosophy workshop, December 2018  
Harvard Graduate Legal Philosophy Symposium, March 2016

“We Can Have Our Buck and Pass It, Too”

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) graduate conference,  
March 2018  
Symposium session, APA Central Division meeting, February 2018  
Wisconsin Metaethics Workshop (MadMeta), September 2017  
Princeton-Michigan Workshop on Metanormativity, August 2017  
Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference (VSPC), July 2017

TALKS  
(continued)

- “Accidentally Doing the Right Thing”  
University of California at Santa Barbara, March 2018  
University of Chicago, February 2018  
University of Miami, February 2018  
McGill University, February 2018  
Florida State University, February 2018  
Simon Fraser University, January 2018  
University of Notre Dame, January 2018  
University of Southern California, January 2018  
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME), August 2017  
USC-UCLA Graduate Conference, March 2017  
Great Plains Philosophy Symposium, October 2016  
Princeton-Michigan Workshop on Metanormativity, September 2016
- “Interactive Formative Assessment”  
APA/AAPT Teaching Hub, APA Eastern Division meeting, January 2018
- “Backwards Planning and Differentiated Course Design”  
APA/AAPT Teaching Hub, APA Eastern Division meeting, January 2018
- “Standing Up for Blame: What the Nature of Standing Tells Us About the Nature of Blame” (with Mariam Kazanjian)  
Midwest Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP), November 2017
- “Higher-Order Uncertainty”  
Reading Ethics and Political Philosophy (REAPP) workshop on Moral and Rational Uncertainty, University of Reading, October 2017  
Formal Ethics, University of York, June 2017  
Decisions, Games and Logic (DGL), July 2016
- “Assessment for Learning”  
AAPT group session, APA Central Division meeting, March 2017
- “Trying is Good”  
Brown University, May 2017  
University of Southern California, February 2017  
Northwestern University Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics (NUSTEP) Conference, May 2016  
Pittsburgh-CMU Graduate Conference, March 2016  
Princeton-Michigan Workshop on Metanormativity, September 2015
- OTHER  
CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPATION
- Session Chair, APA Pacific Division meeting 2023  
Commentator-at-large, Chapel Hill Metaethics Workshop, November 2022

OTHER  
CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPATION  
(continued)

Critic, Author-meets-critics session on Elinor Mason's *Ways to be Blameworthy: Rightness, Wrongness, and Responsibility*, APA Pacific Division meeting, April 2022

Facilitator, New York University Epistemology Workshop, March 2020

Commentator-at-large, Chapel Hill Metaethics Workshop, November 2019

Commentator-at-large, Fifth Penn Reasons and Foundations of Epistemology Conference (PeRFECt5), University of Pennsylvania, November 2019

Comments on Julia Markovits' "Moral Worth and the (Partial) Relativism of Praise and Blame", Chapel Hill Metanormativity Workshop, March 2019

Session Chair, Ranch Metaphysics Workshop, Tucson, January 2019

Comments on Ron Aboodi's "Without a Thought Too Many: Virtuous De Dicto Moral Motivation via Policies", APA Eastern Division meeting, January 2019

Panel on Inclusive Pedagogy and Teaching Outside the Academy, New York Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Conference: Oppression and Resistance, New York University, October 2018

Comments on Jonathan Matheson's "Applying Moral Caution", Moral Disagreements: Philosophical and Practical Implications, ACU, September 2018

Comments on Patrick Tomlin's "Accidentally Killing on Purpose", New Directions in Philosophy of Law, All Soul's College, Oxford, July 2018

Facilitator, AAPT workshop on pedagogy, Loyola University Chicago, May 2018

Commentator-at-large, Second Septennial Brown-Princeton Workshop in Moral Epistemology, May 2018

Comments on Nicholas Sars' "Non-Identity and Reactive Attitudes", APA Eastern Division meeting, January 2018

Session Chair, Arizona Workshop in Normative Ethics (WiNE), January 2018

Comments on Rachel Johnson's "Practical Reasoning and Background Conditions on Normative Reasons for Action", St. Louis Annual Conference on Reasons and Rationality (SLACRR), May 2017

Comments on Holly Smith and David Black's "Asymmetrical Assignments of Value to Fulfilling and Violating Duties", Inaugural Michigan Philosophy Alumni Conference, May 2017

OTHER  
CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPATION  
(continued)

Organizer, The Inaugural Michigan Philosophy Alumni Conference, May 2017

Comments on Robin Dembroff's "Oppressive Truths", Michigan Philosophy Spring Colloquium: Theory, Practice, and the Contemporary Experience of Gender, March 2017

Organizer, Michigan Philosophy Spring Colloquium: Theory, Practice, and the Contemporary Experience of Gender, March 2017

Commentator-at-large, Second Penn Reasons and Foundations of Epistemology Conference (PeRFECT2), November 2016

Session chair, Chapel Hill Metaethics Workshop (CHillMeta), September 2016

Session chair, "Athena in Action" Networking and Mentoring Workshop for Graduate Student Women in Philosophy, Princeton University, August 2016

TEACHING

Inclusive Pedagogy workshop facilitator:

Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Stanford, March 2021  
New York University, Fall 2018 and Fall 2019  
Rutgers University, Fall 2018

Graduate courses:

Seminar on Moral Motivation, Harvard University, Fall 2022  
Moral & Political Workshop, Harvard University, Fall 2022  
Seminar in Ethics: Blame – A Beginner's Guide, USC, Spring 2021  
Seminar in Recent Philosophy: Moral Motivation (online), USC, Spring 2021  
Dissertation Seminar (online), USC, Academic Year 2020-21  
Seminar in Ethics: Moral Motivation, NYU, Fall 2019

Undergraduate courses:

Deciding What (And Who) To Believe, Harvard University, Spring 2023  
Current Moral and Social Issues, USC, Fall 2021  
Current Moral and Social Issues (online), USC, Fall 2020  
Advanced Seminar, NYU, Fall 2018 and Spring 2020  
The Nature of Values, NYU, Spring 2019  
Is Morality Objective?, University of Michigan, Summer 2016

Teaching Assistantships:

Philosophical Problems (for Brian Weatherson), University of Michigan, Winter 2016  
Intermediate Logic (for Eric Swanson), University of Michigan, Fall 2015  
Introductory Logic (for David Manley), University of Michigan, Winter 2015  
Ethics (for Peter Railton), University of Michigan, Fall 2014



TEACHING  
(continued)

Teacher of Citizenship and Religious Studies at The Quest Academy, Croydon, September 2011 to August 2013:

Full-time teacher of 25 classes, approx. 500 students total, ages 11-18  
Pastoral tutor for 15 students, ages 11-13  
Teach First programme – passed as “Outstanding”, final observation rated Outstanding in every category  
72% of my students attained A\*-C grades at GCSE; school average 46%

Supervisor and Grader:

Part IA Logic, University of Cambridge, September 2010 to May 2011

ADVISING

Irene Bosco (USC): Area exam committee Chair, 2021-  
Laura Nicoara (USC): Qualifying committee, 2021-, and Area exam committee, 2020-21  
Shane Ward (USC): Dissertation committee, 2021-  
Brian Haas (USC): Qualifying committee, 2021-  
Michael Fiorica (USC): Area exam committee, 2020-21  
Steph Van Fossen (USC): Teaching mentor, 2021-  
Charlotte Figueroa (USC): Teaching mentor, 2021-  
Rebecca Carlson (USC): Teaching mentor, 2021-  
Justin Zacek (NYU): Independent study, Spring 2020  
Nick Küspert (Humboldt/NYU): Independent study, Spring 2020  
Ella Zhang (NYU): Independent study, Fall 2019

SERVICE

Regular referee for *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Episteme*, *Erkenntnis*, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Studies*, and *Synthese*

Area Editor for *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, 2021-22

Referee (of 10 papers) for *Oxford Studies in Metaethics* vol. 19

Reader for David Plunkett and Tristram MacPherson’s manuscript review at Dartmouth, May 2022

Referee (of abstracts) for the Chapel Hill Normativity Workshop 2022

USC Climate Committee, 2021-22

USC Colloquium Committee, 2020-22

External Examiner for Winnie Ma’s PhD Viva, King’s College London, 2021

USC Graduate Committee, 2020-21

USC Dornsife Writing Group organizer, 2020-21

SERVICE  
(continued)

Training workshop for program volunteers, Corrupt the Youth New York City (CTYNYC), Spring 2020

Appointed to assist WNET, New York's flagship PBS radio station, with a project working with 20 New York public high schools on confronting bias

Qualitative Measures Advisor, APA-APDA Diversity Survey, 2017-19

Assisted the APA Data Task Force and Academic Placement Data Analysis Project in designing and implementing an international survey of Philosophy graduate students on diversity, equity, and inclusion issues

Chair of the APA Graduate Student Council, 2017-18; Councilmember, 2017-19; GSC Liaison to the APA Committee on Academic Career Opportunities, 2018-19

Elected Chair of inaugural Council; devised initial policies and procedures for the body and reported to the APA's Board of Directors on matters of interest and concern to graduate students

Outreach Coordinator, University of Michigan, 2013-2018

Co-founder of the Michigan High School Ethics Bowl, in partnership with a local community group and 18 local schools; organized school coaching by graduate students throughout the year, a two-day annual competition, and an annual conference; I also delivered coaching in 7 schools over 5 years

Mentor, Michigan Minorities and Philosophy ("MAP") COMPASS workshop for undergraduates from underrepresented backgrounds, September 2017

Organizer, The Inaugural Michigan Philosophy Alumni Conference, May 2017

Organizer, Michigan Philosophy Spring Colloquium: Theory, Practice, and the Contemporary Experience of Gender, March 2017

Rackham Dissertation Writing Group Leader, University of Michigan, Fall 2016

Graduate Assistant, Philosophy in an Inclusive Key ("PIKSI") Summer Institute, Pennsylvania State University Rock Ethics Institute, Summer 2016

Mentor and section leader for 4 students, and instructor for 16 students, all members of historically-underrepresented groups in Philosophy

Co-Editor, *The Philosophers' Annual*, 2015

Admissions Committee, University of Michigan, 2014-15

Chair of Staff-Student Committee, University of Cambridge, 2009-10

Undergraduate Representative to the Philosophy Faculty Board, University of Cambridge, 2008-10