

Stephen J. Wykstra

Office Address: Philosophy Department, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Home Address: 1149 Legion Park Dr., Holland, MI 49423

Telephone: Office (616) 526-6410 Home (616) 392-7258

Education: B.A. Physics, Philosophy, Hope College, 1972
Ph.D. History and Philosophy of Science
University of Pittsburgh, 1978

Dissertation: The Interdependence of History of Science and Philosophy of Science: Toward a Meta-theory of Scientific Rationality

Ph. D Committee/References: Larry Laudan, Wilfrid Sellars, Adolf Grunbaum, J.E. McGuire

Recent References: Del Ratzsch, David Hoekema, Michael Beatty, Trent Dougherty, Alvin Plantinga

Teaching Experience: 1972-1974: Teaching Fellow, University of Pittsburgh
1978-1984: University of Tulsa
1985- : Calvin College

Courses Taught: Problems of Philosophy, Symbolic Logic, Modern Philosophy, Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Religion, History of Science, Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Topics in Modern Philosophy; Critical Reasoning; Faith and Reason; Modal Logic and Its Applications; Evidentialism and Reformed Epistemology

Languages: Reading knowledge of French and German

Professional Activities:

1. National Science Foundation Fellow (1979): Workshop on Ethical Issues in Engineering
2. Visiting Research Fellow (1979): Center for Philosophy of Science, Pittsburgh
3. National Endowment for Humanities Fellow (1982): Summer Seminar on Philosophy of Religion (William Rowe)
4. Oxford University (1982): SCR Fellow (Oriell College)
5. National Endowment for Humanities (1983): Summer Research Fellowship
6. Paid Consultant, Center for Science Studies (1984-85) Virginia Polytechnic Institute
7. National Endowment for Humanities (1987): Summer Institute in Philosophy of Religion
8. American Philosophical Association (1988): Planning Committee (Central Division)
9. American Philosophical Association (1989-92) Professional Rights Committee
10. Referee for *Philosophy of Science*, *Nous*, *Faith and Philosophy*, *National Science Foundation*, *Philosophical Studies*.

11. Editorial Board, *Faith and Philosophy*
 12. Senior Fellow, Center for Philosophy and Religion, University of Notre Dame (1990-91)
 13. Research Fellow, Pascal Centre, Redeemer College (1991-92)
 14. Faculty Research Grant for working on book *Should Worldviews Shape Science?* Calvin College (Summer 1995)
- And (here skipping a few years):
- 2004 Three Lectures on Epistemology and Religious Belief. Peking University. June 2004.
 - 2005 NEH *Summer* Seminar. Interactions of Science, Theology, and Philosophy in the Seventeenth Century. University of Wisconsin-Madison. July-August 2004.
 - 2005 "God, Worldviews, and Simplicity in Ancient Astronomy: The Case of Ptolemy." Visiting Speaker. Biola University. October 2004.
 - 2006 Visiting Scholar, Philosophy Department, UCLA, Jan-June 2005

Presented Papers and Professional Participation:

- (1980) "Toward a Historical Meta-method for Assessing Normative Methodologies," Biennial Meeting of Philosophy of Science Association, October 17, 1980.
- (1981) "Evaluations of Rationality in the Historiography of Science: External Explanation, Internal Explanation, and the Strata of Scientific Change," invited precirculated paper at Workshop on Scientific Change, Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, May 1981.
- (1982a) "Curried Lakatos: or, How Not to Spice Up the Norm-Ladenness Thesis," Biennial Meeting of Philosophy of Science Association, October 20, 1982.
- (1982b) "Plantinga on Proper Basicity,," presented at Oxford University, Basil Mitchell's graduate seminar, October 1982.
- (1982c) "Values and Rationality in Science and Religion," presented at Oxford University, Basil Mitchell's graduate seminar, November 1982.
- (1982d) "Reconstructing Lakatos on Rational Reconstruction," presented at graduate seminar at London School of Economics, December 1982,
- (1982e) "Exhuming the Arguments of Some Historical Apologists, or, how not to refute Hume on historical method," Southeastern Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, April 2, 1982.
- (1983a) "Laudan on Explanations in the History of Science," Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Society (Eastern Division), December 1983.
- (1983b) "Plantinga Versus the Evidentialists: Relocating the Issue," Society of Christian Philosophers, University of Notre Dame.
- (1984a) "Difficulties in Rowe's Case for Atheism (and in one of Plantinga's fustigations

- against it)." Presented at annual meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division), March 1984.
- (1984b) "On Behalf of the Evidentialist (or, Summa Contra Konyndyk)." Conference in Philosophy of Religion, University of Nebraska, April 1984.
- (1985a) "Evidentialism and Belief in God," Fourth Annual Colloquium: Current Issues in the Philosophy of Religion, Purdue University, April 1985.
- (1985b) "Comments on Sayre," presented at annual meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Western Division), St. Louis.
- (1986a) "Until Calvin and Evidentialism Embrace," read at Wheaton College annual philosophy conference, October 1986.
- (1986b) "Comments on Del Lewis on Rowe," presented at annual meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division), December 1986.
- (1987a) "Evans on Plantinga and Kierkegaard," Colloquium for Kierkegaard Society, Annual Meeting on the American Philosophical Association (Central Division), Chicago, April 1987.
- (1987b) "Calvinians versus Evidentialism" presented at Institute in the Philosophy of Religion, Bellingham, WA, August 1987.
- (1987c) "Swinburne on Scope," presented at University of Notre Dame for semi-annual Calvin/Notre Dame philosophy bash, May 1987.
- (1988a) "Faith and Reason," presented at conference sponsored by the Graduate Student Fellowship at University of Michigan, February 1988.
- (1988b) "Experimental Faith," presented to faculty and graduate students in philosophy at Wayne State University, December 5, 1988.
- (1989) "Why Morality Needs God," presented at conference sponsored by the Graduate Student Fellowship at University of Michigan, February 1989.
- (1991a) "Does Christian Belief Need Evidence?," presented to philosophy faculty and students at Valparaiso University, March 1991.
- (1991b) "Evidentialism Revisited," presented to faculty and graduate students of University of Mississippi, April 1991.
- (1991c) "Swinburne on Scope," Society of Christian Philosophers, Memphis, TN, April 1991.
- (1991d) "Inferentiality and Externalist Epistemologies," Philosophy Colloquium, University of Notre Dame, May 1991.
- (1991e) "Comments on Garcia on Divine Immutability," American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 1991..
- (1995) "Does the Internalist-Externalist Debate in Epistemology Rest on a Verbal Dispute?" Wheaton College Annual Philosophy Meeting, 1995(?)
- 1997 "Faraday, Polanyi, and the Passional Dimension of Science", read at Wheaton

College Annual Philosophy Meeting, October 1997.

- 1998 "Religious Beliefs, Metaphysical Beliefs, and the Historiography of Science," keynote paper at international conference on Science in Theistic Contexts, sponsored by the Pascal Centre, Redeemer College, Ancaster Ontario.
- 1999 "Intelligibility, Quantum Mechanics, and Bell's Theorem," Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship Conference. 1998.
- 2001 "Tooley's End-Run." Colloquium. American Philosophical Association. Pacific Division. March 2001.
- 2002 "Comments on Geivett" Symposium, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division. March 2002.
- 2003 "In Defense of CORNEA: A Reply to Basham" Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division. Dec 2003.
- 2004 "Reforming Reformed Epistemology"; plenary paper, Society of Christian Philosophers (Pacific Division). Feb 2004.
- 2004 "Skeptical Gambits and the Two Roads to Atheism: Swinburne vs CORNEA." Symposium. American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division. March 2004.
- 2004 "Stone-Ground CORNEA." Colloquium. American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting. April 2004.
- 2004 Three Lectures on Epistemology and Religious Belief. Peking University. June 2004.
- 2005 NEH Summer Seminar. Interactions of Science, Theology, and Philosophy in the Seventeenth Century. University of Wisconsin-Madison. July-August 2004.
- 2005 "God, Worldviews, and Simplicity in Ancient Astronomy." Visiting Speaker. Biola University. October 2004.
- 2006 Visiting Scholar, Philosophy Department, UCLA, Jan-June 2005
- 2007 "The Illusion of Transmission: Where Wright Goes Wrong," Annual Meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division), March 2007.
- 2008 "Cornea, Closure, and Contextualism: Of Flat Planets, Painted Donkeys, and the By/On Distinction." Annual Meeting of the (Pacific Division), March 2008.
- 2009 "Sensitivity, Subjunctives, and CORNEA". Fourth Annual Conference in Philosophy of Religion, Baylor University, February 2009.
- 2010 Co-authored and co-presented with Timothy Perrine. "Nozickean Sensitivity, Inductive Evidence, and CORNEA." Symposium (Two hour session with two commentators: Paul Draper and Glen Ross). Annual Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, March 2010.
- 2012 "The End of Skeptical Theism: Reply to Michael Bergman" Alvin Plantinga Retirement Conference. University of Notre Dame. May 20, 2010.

- 20101: “Facing MECCA: Ultimism, Religious Skepticism, and Schellenberg’s “*Meta-Evidential Condition Constraining Assent*.” Presented in all-day Symposium on Schellenberg’s Trilogy. Canadian Philosophical Association. Montreal, Quebec. May 30, 2010.
- 2011 with Tim Perrine: “Foundations of Skeptical Theism: On the Importance of Being Sensitive.” Baylor Annual Philosophy of Religion Research Conference.
- 2011 with Tim Perrine: Purdue University. Graduate Philosophy Speaker. “Foundations of Skeptical Theism: On the Importance of Being Sensitive.”
- 2012 “Does Theism Make Sense (of Anything)?” Presented at Montcalm County Community College April 2012.
- 2013 “Fine-tuning Paneth” Eidos Conference on Substance, Change, and Philosophy of Chemistry. University of Geneva, Geneva Switzerland. June 2013
- 2013 “Resurrecting Faith: Facts, Feelings, and Finding Our Religious Way.” 12th Annual Alvin Plantinga Fellow Lecture. University of Notre Dame. Oct 15, 2013.
- 2013 “Beyond the Impasse: Current Moral Theory and the Crisis of Skeptical Theism.” Main speaker (with Marilyn Adams and Linda Zabzebski) at Contemporary Moral Theory and the Problem of Evil. Nov 15-16. University of Notre Dame
- 2013 Presentation and Discussion of Wykstra 2013 [“Beyond the Impasse: Current Moral Theory and the Crisis of Skeptical Theism” at Marilyn and Bob Adams’ Philosophy of Religion Graduate Seminar at Rutgers University. Dec 12 2013..
- 2013 Presentation and Discussion of Wykstra 2014 [“Seeing through MIST: Abductive Atheology, Theory Versioning, and Moderate Interactive Skeptical Theism” at Dean Zimmerman’s Reading Group at Rutgers University. Dec 12, 2013.

Publications:

- (1976) “On Einstein’s Second Postulate,” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 27, pages 259-261.
- (1978a) *The Interdependence of History and Philosophy of Science: Toward a Meta-theory of Scientific Rationality*. Ph.D. Dissertation for the University of Pittsburgh. (Ann Arbor: University Micro-films).
- (1978b) “The Problem of Miracle in the Apologetic from History,” *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation*, December, 1978, pages 154-163.
- (1980) “Toward a Historical Meta-Method for Assessing Normative Methodologies: Rationability, Serendipity, and the Robinson Crusoe Fallacy” in Peter Asquith and Ronald Giere (eds.) *PSA 1980* (Proceedings of the 1980 Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association), Volume 1, pages 211-222.
- (1981) Review of *Progress and Rationality in Science*, ed. G. Anderson and G. Radnitzky, in *ISIS* (Journal of the History of Science Society), 72, June 1981, pages 291-292.

- (1982) “Curried Lakatos: How Not to Spice Up the Norm-Ladenness Thesis,” in Peter Asquith and Thomas Nickles (eds.) *PSA 1982* (Proceedings of the 1980 Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association), Volume 1, pages 29-39.
- (1984) “The Humean Obstacle to Evidential Arguments from Suffering: On Avoiding the Evils of ‘Appearance’” in *International Journal for the Philosophy of Religion*, Volume 16, pages 73-93.
- (1986) Co-authored with Larry Laudan, et. al. “Scientific Change: Philosophical Models and Historical Research,” *Synthese*, Volume 69, No. 2, pages 141-223.
- (1986) Review discussion of Plantinga and Wolterstoff (eds.), *Reason and Belief in God*, in *Faith and Philosophy*, Vol. 3, No. 2, pages 206-213.
- (1988) Co-authored with Bruce Russell. “The Inductive Argument from Evil: A Dialogue,” *Philosophical Topics*, Volume XVI, No. 2, December 1988, pages 133-160.
- (1989) “Toward a Sensible Evidentialism: On the Notion of ‘Needing Evidence’”, in William Rowe and William Wainwright (eds.), *Philosophy of Religion: Selected Readings; 2nd Edition*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, pages 426-437.
- (1990) “Reasons, Redemption, and Realism: The Axiological Roots of Rationality in Science and Religion,” M. Beattie (ed.), *Christian Theism and the Problems of Philosophy*, University of Notre Dame Press, 1990, pages 118-161.
- (1991) “The Humean Obstacle to Evidential Arguments from Suffering,” (reprint of 1984) in Robert and Marilyn Adams, eds., *The Problem of Evil*, Oxford University Press, 1991, pages 138-160.
- (1995) “Externalism, Proper Inferentiality, and Sensible Evidentialism,” in *Topoi* 14, 1995, pages 107-121.
- (1996) “Rowe’s Noseeum Argument from Evil”, in D. Howard-Snyder (ed.), *The Evidential Argument from Evil*, University of Indiana Press, 1996.
- (1996) “Have Worldviews Shaped Science? A Response to Brooke,” in J. van der Meer (ed.), *Facets of Faith and Science*, vol. 1, University Press of America.
- (1996) “Should Worldviews Shape Science? Toward an Integrationist Account of Scientific Theorizing,” in J. van der Meer, *Facets of Faith and Science*, vol. 2, University Press of American, 1996. Pp. 124-171.
- (2001) “Religious Beliefs, Metaphysical Beliefs, and Historiography of Science,” in *Science in Theistic Contexts: Cognitive Dimensions*, *Osiris*, vol. 16, pp. 29-46.
- (2001) “On Behalf of the Evidentialist” in D.Z. Phillips and Timothy Tessin (eds), *Philosophy of Religion in the 21st Century* : Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, pp. 64-84.
- (2002) “Not Done in a Corner: How to be a Sensible Evidentialist about Jesus” [critique of Plantinga’s *Warranted Christian Belief*, with reply by Plantinga], in *Philosophical Books*, vol 43 (Oxford: Blackwell), pp. 92-116.
- (2007) “CORNEA, Carnap, and Current Closure Befuddlement,” *Faith and Philosophy* 24.1

(January 2007): 87-98.

- (2008) “Suffering, Evidence, and Analogy: Noseum Arguments Versus Skeptical Gambits,” in *Philosophy Through Science Fiction*, ed. Ryan Nichols, Fred Miller and Nicholas Smith (New York and London: Routledge), in press (June 2008).
- (2008) Co-authored with Tim Perrine. Review Essay on John Schellenberg, *The Wisdom to Doubt: A Justification of Religious Skepticism* (Cornell University Press, 2008) in *Notre Dame Review of Books in Philosophy*
- (2010) “Facing MECCA: Ultimism, Religious Skepticism, and Schellenberg’s “Meta-Evidential Condition Constraining Assent.” ,” *Philo* 14.1 (Spring/Summer, 2011).
- (2012) “The End of Skeptical Theism: Reply to Michael Bergman” in Michel Rae and Kelly James Clark (eds.) *Reason, Metaphysics, and Mind: New Essays on the Philosophy of Alvin Plantinga*. Oxford University Press.
- (2012) “Facing MECCA: Ultimism, Religious Skepticism, and Schellenberg’s “Meta-Evidential Condition Constraining Assent.” *PHILO* 14.1 (Spring/Summer, 2011).
- (2013) Co-authored with Tim Perrine. “Foundations of Skeptical Theism: CORNEA, Counterfactuals, and Conditional Probabilities”, *Faith and Philosophy*, 29.4: 375-399
- (2014) Co-authored with Tim Perrine. “Seeing through MIST: Abductive Atheology, Theory Versioning, and Moderate Interactive Skeptical Theism. Forthcoming in Trent Dougherty and Justin McBrayer (eds.): *Skeptical Theism: New Essays*. Oxford University: forthcoming.