David Builes

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Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics · Epistemology · Philosophy of Science · Philosophy of Mind

Areas of Competence

Logic and Philosophy of Mathematics • Philosophy of Physics

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Princeton University

2021 - present

Bersoff Faculty Fellow, New York University

2020 - 2021

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2016 - 2020

Minor: Mathematical Logic

Dissertation: The Empirical Relevance of Metaphysics

Committee: Brad Skow (Chair), Roger White, Miriam Schoenfield, Jack Spencer

B.A. in Philosophy & B.S. in Mathematics, Duke University

2012 - 2016

Summa Cum Laude

Thesis: Large Cardinals and Mathematical Truth

PUBLICATIONS

- 22. 'Eight Arguments for First-Person Realism' (Forthcoming). Philosophy Compass.
- 21. 'Center Indifference and Skepticism' (Forthcoming). Noûs.
- 20. 'How to Ground Powers' (Forthcoming). Analysis.
- 19. 'Modal Idealism' (Forthcoming). Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Mind.
- 18. 'Experience and Time: A Metaphysical Approach' (Forthcoming). *Analytic Philosophy* (with Michele Odisseas Impagnatiello). (Winner of the Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Mind)

- 17. 'An Empirical Argument for Presentism' (Forthcoming). Oxford Studies in Metaphysics (with Michele Odisseas Impagnatiello). (Winner of the Sanders Prize in Metaphysics)
- 16. 'Why Aren't I Part of a Whale?' (2023). Analysis 83: 227–234 (with Caspar Hare).
- 15. 'A Humean Non-Humeanism' (2023). Philosophical Studies 180: 1031–1048.
- 14. 'Lawful Persistence' (2022). Philosophical Perspectives 36: 5–30 (with Trevor Teitel).
- 13. 'In Defense of Countabilism' (2022). *Philosophical Studies* 179 (7): 2199–2236 (with Jessica Wilson).
- 12. 'Ontology and Arbitrariness' (2022). The Australasian Journal of Philosophy 100 (3): 485-495.
- 11. 'Look at the Time!' (2022). Analysis 82 (1): 15–23.
- 10. 'The Ineffability of Induction' (2022). Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 104 (1): 129–149.
- 9. 'Dilating and Contracting Arbitrarily' (2022). *Noûs* 56 (1): 3–20 (with Sophie Horowitz and Miriam Schoenfield).
- 8. 'Why Can't There Be Numbers?' (2022). The Philosophical Quarterly 72 (1): 65–76.
- 7. 'The World Just Is The Way It Is' (2021). The Monist 104 (1): 1–27.
- 6. 'Derivatives and Consciousness' (2020). Journal of Consciousness Studies 27 (9-10): 87–103.
- 5. 'A Puzzle About Rates of Change' (2020). *Philosophical Studies* 177 (10): 3155–3169. (with Trevor Teitel).
- 4. 'Time-Slice Rationality and Self-Locating Belief' (2020). *Philosophical Studies* 177 (10): 3033–3049.
- 3. 'A Paradox of Evidential Equivalence' (2020). Mind 129 (513): 113–127.
- 2. 'Pluralism and the Problem of Purity' (2019). Analysis 79 (3): 394–402.
- 1. 'Self-Locating Evidence and the Metaphysics of Time' (2019). *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 99 (2): 478–490.

AWARDS

The Marc Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Mind, 2022.

The Marc Sanders Prize in Metaphysics, 2022.

MIT Graduate Student Council Travel Grant, 2018.

MIT Presidential Fellowship, 2016.

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, 2014-2016.

Angier B. Duke Memorial Scholarship, 2012-2016.

(Full Merit Scholarship to attend Duke University)

Refereed/Invited Presentations

Nature Never Makes Leaps

Pacific APA (Symposium), Portland, March 2024.

Humean Rationalism

Eastern APA (Symposium), New York, January 2024.

From Non-Naturalism to Experientialist Welfarism

The Ethics of Consciousness Summer School, Paris, June 2023.

Non-Humeanism and Determinism

Society for the Metaphysics of Science Conference, Halifax, August 2023.

Space, Time, and Location Conference, Adelaide, July 2023.

Invited Talk at Humboldt University, Berlin, June 2023.

The Special Explanation Question

New England Metaphysics Workshop, Providence, October 2023.

Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference, Melbourne, July 2023.

A Philosophical Conference in Honor of Peter van Inwagen's 80th Birthday, October 2022.

An Empirical Argument for Presentism (with Michele Odisseas Impagnatiello)

Eastern APA (Symposium), Montreal, January 2023.

Invited Talk at the National University of Singapore, September 2022.

Society for the Metaphysics of Science Conference, Bristol, September 2022.

The International Association for the Philosophy of Time, Barcelona, July 2022.

Sixth Italian Conference in Analytic Metaphysics and Ontology, June 2022.

Lawful Persistence (with Trevor Teitel)

Koç University Philosophy Colloquium, March 2022.

Modal Idealism

The Science of Consciousness Conference, Taormina, May 2023.

Rice Workshop in Philosophy of Mind, March 2022.

In Defense of Countabilism (with Jessica Wilson)

Countabilism Workshop, University of Oslo, November 2021.

World-Bound Rationality

University of Texas at Austin Seminar Visitor, December 2022.

Rutgers Foundations of Probability Seminar, April 2021.

Why the Present Glows

USC Philosophy Colloquium, September 2020.

Derivatives and Consciousness

The Philosophy of Time Society at the Eastern APA, Philadelphia, January 2020.

Time-Slice Rationality and Self-Locating Belief

Probability in Philosophy Workshop, The Australian Catholic University, November 2019.

Dilating and Contracting Arbitrarily (with Miriam Schoenfield and Sophie Horowitz)

Formal Epistemology Workshop, May 2020.

Bounded Rationality Workshop, Harvard University, October 2019.

How (Not) to Justify Chance-Credence Norms (with Jack Spencer)

History and Philosophy of Science Conference, University of Colorado, October 2018.

A Non-Humean Approach to Grounding

Eastern APA (Symposium), New York, January 2019.

A Humean Non-Humeanism

Society for the Metaphysics of Science at the Pacific APA, Vancouver, April 2019.

The Metaphysical Consequences of Indefinite Extensibility

The Australasian Association of Philosophy, Wellington, July 2018.

Pluralism and the Problem of Purity

Syracuse Philosophy Graduate Conference, April 2018.

UT Austin Philosophy Graduate Conference, March 2018.

COMMENTS

Eddy Chen. 'The Simplicity of Physical Laws', Pacific APA, San Francisco April 2023.

Meg Wallace. 'Transworld Persons', Metaphysics on the Mountain, Sunvalley, March 2023.

Uriah Kriegel. 'Physicalism and Nominalism', New England Metaphysics Workshop, Providence, November 2022.

James Shaw. 'Rigidification, Chance, and Credence', Eastern APA (online), January 2021.

TEACHING

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Metaphysics of Time (Junior Seminar), Fall 2023.

Philosophy of Science, Fall 2023.

Intermediate Logic, Spring 2022.

Metaphysics of Time (Graduate Seminar), Fall 2021.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Metaphysics, Spring 2021.

Introduction to Epistemology, Fall 2020.

SERVICE

Organizer of The Princeton Metaphysics Workshop, Spring 2024 and Spring 2023.

Co-organizer of the MIT Colloquium Series, Fall 2019 – Spring 2020, Fall 2017 – Spring 2018.

Co-organizer of the MIT Graduate Workshop, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019.

Co-organizer of the MIT Metaphysics & Mind Reading Group, Fall 2017 – Spring 2019.

Co-organizer of The Harvard/MIT Graduate Conference, Spring 2017.

Journal Referee: Analysis (2), Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Episteme, Ergo (3), Inquiry, Mind (3), Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies (7), Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Res Philosophica.

Book Referee: Oxford University Press.

LANGUAGES

English (native) · Spanish (native)