Ross Paul Cameron Curriculum Vitae

Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics Philosophy of Logic

Areas of Competence

Formal Logic
Philosophy of Mathematics
Epistemology

Education

Ph.D. Jan 2006, University of St Andrews. Supervised by Prof. Crispin Wright MPhil, University of Glasgow, 2002 (Distinction) MA, University of Glasgow, 2001 (First class honours)

Employment

August 2017 - present: Professor in Philosophy, University of Virginia
August 2014 - Aug 2017: Associate Professor in Philosophy, University of Virginia
August 2009 - August 2014: Associate Professor in Philosophy, University of Leeds
September 2006 - August 2009: Lecturer in Philosophy, University of Leeds
August 2005 - September 2006: Research Fellow in Metaphysics, University of Leeds

Honorary Positions

December 2009 - Nov 2014: Associate Fellow, Northern Institute of Philosophy, University of Aberdeen March 2006 – Feb 2011: Associate Fellow, Arché, University of St Andrews and Honorary Research Fellow, University of St Andrews

Publications

Books

Chains of Being: Infinite Regress, Circularity, and Metaphysical Explanation, Oxford University Press, (2022)

The Moving Spotlight: An Essay on Time & Ontology, Oxford University Press, (2015)

The Routledge Companion to Metaphysics, edited with Robin Le Poidevin, Peter Simons and Andrew McGonigal, Routledge, (2009)

Papers

'Explanation and Plenitude in Non-Well-Founded Set Theories', forthcoming in *Philosophia Mathematica*

'The Moving Spotlight', forthcoming in *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Time*, edited by Nina Emery, (with Daniel Deasy)

'Modal Conventionalism', in *The Routledge Handbook of Modality,* edited by Otavio Bueno and Scott Shalkowski, *Routledge*, p136-145, (2021)

'Truthmaking and Metametaphysics', in *The Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics*, edited by Ricki Bliss and James Miler, *Routledge*, p233-244, (2021)

'Easy Ontology, Two-Dimensionalism, and Truthmaking', in *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics* Vol. 12, edited by Karen Bennett and Dean Zimmerman, p35-57, (2020)

'Truthmaking, Second-Order Quantification, and Ontological Commitment', *Analytic Philosophy*, Vol. 60, No. 4, p336-360, (2019)

'Comments on Karen Bennett's Making Things Up', *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* Vol. 98, Issue 2, p482-488, (2019)

'Critical Study of Kris McDaniel's *The Fragmentation of Being*', *Res Philosophica* Vol. 95, No. 4, p785-795, (2018)

'Infinite Regress Arguments', *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, (2018). (Revised in 2022.)

'Truthmakers', *The Oxford Handbook of Truth*, edited by Michael Glanzberg, Oxford University Press, p333-354, (2018)

'Skow, Objective Becoming, and the Moving Spotlight', *Analysis* Vol. 78, No. 1, p97-108, (2018)

'Summary of The Moving Spotlight' and 'Reply to Miller, Sider and Skow', *Analysis*, Vol. 77, No. 4, p775–777 & 810-824, (2017)

'Are There Indeterminate States of Affairs? No', in *Current Controversies in Metaphysics*, edited by Elizabeth Barnes, Routledge, p120-131, (2017), (with Elizabeth Barnes)

'On Characterizing the Presentism/Eternalism and Actualism/Possibilism Debates', *Analytic Philosophy*, Vol. 57, No. 2, p110-140, (2016)

'Do We Need Grounding?', *Inquiry*, Vol. 59, No. 4, p382-397, (2016)

'Improve your thought experiments overnight with Speculative Fiction!', *Midwest Studies in Philosophy, Vol.* 39, special issue on Science Fiction and Philosophy, p29-45, (2015)

'Parts Generate The Whole, But They Are Not Identical To It', in *Composition as Identity*, edited by Donald Baxter and Aaron Cotnoir, Oxford University Press, p90-107, (2014)

'On the lack of direction in Rayo's *The Construction of Logical Space'*, *Inquiry* Vol. 57, Issue 4, p427-441, (2014). (Special issue devoted to Agustin Rayo's book *The Construction of Logical Space*)

'Changing Truthmakers: Reply to Tallant and Ingram', *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, Vol. 8, edited by Karen Bennett and Dean Zimmerman, Oxford University Press, p362-373, (2013)

'Composition as Identity Doesn't Settle the Special Composition Question', *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Vol. 84, No. 3, p531-554, (2012)

'Why Lewis's Analysis of Modality Succeeds in its Reductive Ambitions', *Philosophers' Imprint*, Vol. 12, No. 8, p1-21, (2012)

'How to be a nominalist and a fictional realist', in *Art and Abstract Objects*, edited by Christy Mag Uidhir, Oxford University Press, p179-196, (2012)

'Back to the Open Future', *Philosophical Perspectives* Vol. 25, *Metaphysics*, p1-26, (2011), (with Elizabeth Barnes)

'Truthmaking for Presentists', *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, Vol.6, edited by Karen Bennett and Dean Zimmerman, Oxford University Press, p55-100, (2011)

'From Humean Truthmaker Theory to Priority Monism', *Nous*, Vol. 44, No. 1, p178-198, (2010)

'How to have a radically minimal ontology', *Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 151, No. 2, p249-264, (2010)

'Necessity and Triviality', *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 88, No. 3, p401-415, (2010)

'Quantification, Naturalness and Ontology', in *New Waves in Metaphysics*, Allan Hazlett (ed), New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, p8-26, (2010)

'On the Source of Necessity', in *Modality: Metaphysics, Logic and Epistemology*, edited by Bob Hale and Aviv Hoffman, Oxford: Oxford University Press, p137-152, (2010)

'Response to Dominic Gregory's 'Conceivability and Apparent Possibility', in *Modality: Metaphysics, Logic and Epistemology*, edited by Bob Hale and Aviv Hoffman, Oxford: Oxford University Press, p342-346, (2010)

'Vagueness and Naturalness', *Erkenntnis*, Vol. 72, No. 2, p281-293, (2010)

'A Critical Notice of *Worlds and Individuals, Possible and Otherwise* by Takashi Yagisawa', *Analysis Reviews* Vol. 70, No. 4, p783-792, (2010)

'The Grounds of Necessity', *Philosophy Compass*, Vol. 4, No. 4, p348-358, (2010)

'The Open Future: Bivalence, Determinism and Ontology', *Philosophical Studies*, Vol.146, No.2, p291-309, (2009). (With Elizabeth Barnes)

'What's Metaphysical about Metaphysical Necessity?', *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* Vol. 79, No. 1, p1-16, (2009)

'God exists at every (modal realist) world: response to Sheehy', *Religious Studies* Vol. 45, No. 1, p95-100, (2009)

'Intrinsic and Extrinsic Properties', in *The Routledge Companion to Metaphysics*, edited by Robin LePoidevin, Peter Simons, Andrew McGonigal and Ross Cameron, London and New York: Routledge, (2009), p265-275

'How to be a truthmaker maximalist', Nous, Vol. 42, No. 3, p410-421, (2008)

'Turtles all the way down: Regress, Priority and Fundamentality', *The Philosophical Quarterly* Vol.58, No.230, p1-14, (2008)

'Truthmakers and Ontological commitment: or, how to deal with complex objects and mathematical ontology without getting into trouble', *Philosophical Studies* Vol. 140, No. 1, (Special issue for selected papers from the 2008 Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference), p1-18, (2008)

'Truthmakers, Realism and Ontology', in *Being: Contemporary Developments in Metaphysics*, Robin LePoidevin (ed), Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement, 83, p107-128, (2008)

'There are no things that are musical works', *The British Journal of Aesthetics*, Vol.48, p295-314, (2008)

'Truthmakers and Modality', Synthese, Vol. 164, No. 2, p261-280, (2008)

'Recombination and Intrinsicality', *Ratio* XXI(1), p1-12, (2008)

'Truthmakers and Necessary Connections', Synthese, 161.1, p. 27-45, (2008)

'Comments on Trenton Merricks' *Truth and Ontology*', *Philosophical Books* Vol.49, No.4, p292-301, (2008)

'Critical Study of John Heil's *From an Ontological Point of View*', *SWIF Philosophy of Mind Review*, Vol.6 No.2, p22-30, (2008). (With Elizabeth Barnes)

'The Contingency of Composition', *Philosophical Studies* Vol.136, No.1, (Special issue for selected papers from the 2006 Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference), p99-121, (2007)

'Subtractability and Concreteness', *The Philosophical Quarterly* Vol.57, No.227, p273-279, (2007)

'Lewisian Realism: Methodology, Epistemology and Circularity', *Synthese*, 156.1, p.143-159, (2007)

'Much Ado About Nothing: A Study of Metaphysical Nihilism', *Erkenntnis* 64.2, pp.193-222, (2006)

'Tropes, Necessary Connections, and Non-Transferability', *Dialectica* 60.2, p99-113, (2006)

'Rohrbaugh and deRosset on the Necessity of Origin', *Mind* Vol.115 No.458, p361-366, (2006). (With Sonia Roca)

'Truthmaker Necessitarianism and Maximalism', *Logique et Analyse* 48.189-192, p43-56, (2005)

'A Note on Kripke's Footnote 56 Argument for the Essentiality of Origin', *Ratio* XVIII(3), p262-275, (2005)

Reviews/Miscellaneous

'Reality Has No Fundamental Level', iai news, aimed at a popular audience: https://iai.tv/articles/reality-has-no-fundamental-level-auid-2715?_auid=2020

Review of *Philosophy Through Science Fiction: Exploring the Boundaries of the Possible*, edited by Helen De Cruz, Johan De Smedt and Eric Schwitzgebel, *Religious Studies*, Vol. 59, p371-382, (2023)

Review of *Metametaphysics*, edited by Chalmers, Manley and Wasserman' *Mind*, Vol. 119, No. 474, p459-462, (2010)

Review of *Truth and Ontology* by Trenton Merricks, *The Philosophical Quarterly*, Vol. 58, No. 232, p544-546, (2008)

Editorial Work

- From Sep 2018 Mar 2019 member of editorial board of *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*
- From July 2009 July 2014 I was the metaphysics section editor for *Philosophy Compass*.
- From Oct 2011 March 2014 I was the metaphysics sub-editor for *Thought*.

Teaching

At the graduate level I have taught courses on: metaphysics of time; ontology; modality; metaphysical issues in the philosophy of religion; history of analytic philosophy

At the undergraduate level I have taught courses on: introductory logic; non-classical logic; advanced logic; philosophy of logic and mathematics; metaphysics of time; metaphysics of modality; Introduction to philosophy; ontology; science fiction and philosophy; philosophy of economics; virtual reality and philosophy; aesthetics; Leibniz and Hume

Major administrative positions, University of Virginia

- Director of Undergraduate Program in Philosophy, 2014-present
- Member of Promotion and Tenure Committee for College of Arts of Sciences, 2019-21
- Member of Provost Promotion and Tenure Committee for UVA, 2022-24
- Faculty mentor, 2023-24
- Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Dept of Philosophy, 2021-22

Workshop & Conference Organisation

- Workshop on circularity and infinite regress, University of Virginia, 23-24 Sep, 2022
- Workshop on metaphysical indeterminacy, University of Leeds, 21-22 Jan, 2011
- With with Robbie Williams and Elizabeth Barnes, workshop on metaphysical indeterminacy, May 9th 09, University of Leeds, for which we received £3650 in funding from the British Academy
- With Elizabeth Barnes, a major international metaphysics conference, 'Perspectives on Ontology', University of Leeds, Sep 5-7, 2008, for which we received £2785 in funding
- Workshop 'Structure in Metaphysics', University of Leeds, 10th March 2007

Selected Presentations

- 30 May, 2024, 'Explanation and Plenitude in Non-Well-Founded Set Theories', Workshop on Metaphysical Explanation, University of St Andrews
- 23 Feb, 2023, Author Meets Critics session on my book *Chains of Being* (with critics LA Paul and Graham Priest), Central APA, Denver
- 27 Jan, 2023, 'Infinite Regress, Explanation, and Plenitude', Virginia Tech
- 23 Sep, 2022, 'Infinite Regress, Explanation, and Plenitude', University of Virginia
- 28 April, 2022, 'Non-well-founded Set Theory and Ontological Dependence', University of Virginia mathematics department colloquium

- 7 April, 2021, 'Response to Mallory Webber, 'Essence, Contingentism, and Actualism', Pacific APA
- 14 Nov, 2019, 'Infinite Regress and Metaphysical Explanation', Texas A&M
- 8 Nov, 2019, 'Infinite Regress and Metaphysical Explanation', Virginia Commonwealth University
- 7 Nov, 2019, 'Is time like a film or a sculpture?', Virginia Commonwealth University
- 30 Jan 2 Feb, 2019, 'Metaphysical Explanation for Ontological Coherentists and Infinitsts', Arizona Ontology Conference
- 30 March, 2018, 'Ontological Commitment and Second-Order Logic', Virginia Tech
- 28 June, 2017, 'Passage in the Moving Spotlight', workshop on the Moving Spotlight, University of Milan (via Skype)
- 24 Feb, 2017, 'Why I cannot travel in time and meet my younger self', College of William and Mary
- 4-7 Jan, 2017, Author meets critics session on my book *The Moving Spotlight* (with critics Ted Sider and Meghan Sullivan), Eastern APA, Baltimore
- 22 Sep, 2016, 'Why I cannot travel in time and meet my younger self', University of Richmond
- 8-12 Aug, 2016, 'Logic, Truthmaking and Ontology', Metaphysical Mayhem, Rutgers University
- 22-23 April, 2016, 'Truthmaking, Second-Order Quantification, and Ontological Commitment', Workshop on Fundamental Truthmakers, University of Miami
- 5-8 June, 2015, 'How to know you're present', Workshop on Temporal and Transformative Experience, University of Sydney (via Skype)
- 27 Feb, 2015, 'The History of Unsettledness and the Unsettledness of History', University of Colorado at Boulder
- 18 Sep, 2013, 'How Can You Know You're Present?', University of Edinburgh
- 1 May, 2013, 'How Can You Know You're Present?', Workshop on the metaphysics of time, University of Birmingham
- 27-31 March, 2013, 'The Moving Spotlight View Isn't As Bad As You Think', Invited Symposium on Metaphysics, Pacific APA, San Francisco
- 25-28 June, 2012, 'Comments on Raul Saucedo's 'Collective Allism", Carolina Metaphysics Workshop
- 28-30 June, 2011, 'Back to the Open Future', Carolina Metaphysics Workshop
- November, 2010, 'Why Lewis's Modal Realism Succeeds in its Reductive Ambitions', University of Nottingham
- 13 October, 2010, 'Why Lewis's Modal Realism Succeeds in its Reductive Ambitions', University of Manchester
- 30 August 1 September, 2010, 'Grounding and Truthmaking', Workshop on explanation, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 29 October, 2009, 'CAI doesn't settle SCQ', University of Durham
- 16 October, 2009, 'Truthmaking for Presentists', Oxford University
- 2-6 August, 2009, 'Truthmaking for Presentists', Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University
- 25-26 June, 2009, 'Truth-Making and Determinacy-Making', Barcelona Vagueness and Metaphysics workshop

- 4th June, 2009, 'Why a table exists in a different sense than its parts', University of Birmingham
- 14th April, 2009, 'Truthmaking for Presentists', University of Toronto
- April 2009, 'Quantification, Naturalness and Ontology', session on New Waves in Metaphysics, Pacific APA, Vancouver.
- April 2009, 'Composition and Necessity', Symposium on Mereology and Ontology, Pacific APA, Vancouver.
- 24th March, 2009, 'Necessity and Triviality', University of Glasgow
- 7-10 Jan, 2009, 'Response to Peter van Inwagen's 'The New Anti-Metaphysicians', Arizona Ontology Conference.
- 8th Dec, 2008, 'Necessary truth, truthmaking and triviality', University of Liverpool.
- 11 November, 2008, 'Truthmaking for Presentists', London Logic and Metaphysics Forum.
- 7th March, 2008, 'Truthmaking for Presentists', University of Colorado, Boulder
- 16th-17th February, 2008, 'Truthmaking for Presentists', Workshop on Themes in the Metaphysics of David Armstrong, University of Nottingham
- 1st Nov 2007, 'Truthmakers and Ontological Commitment', University of York
- 17th May 2007, 'Truth Without Ontology' (with Robbie Williams), Metaphysics Workshop, University of St Andrews
- 3rd-8th April 2007, 'Comment on Jonathan Schaffer's 'The Most Promiscuous and Least Discerning Truthmaker'', Pacific APA, San Francisco.
- 1st-3rd Sep 2006, `Response to Helen Beebee's "Truthmakers: who needs 'em?", Being: Developments in Contemporary Metaphysics, Royal Institute of Philosophy annual conference, University of Leeds
- 30th July Aug 3rd 2006, 'The Contingency of Composition', Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University
- 7th-9th June 2006, `Response to Dominic Gregory on Necessity and A Priority', Arché Conference on the Metaphysics and Epistemology of Modality, University of St Andrews
- 6th March 2006, 'Contingent Composition', University of Birmingham
- 22 Feb 2006, 'Truthmakers and Necessary Connections', University of Nottingham
- 26 Jan 2006, 'Contingent Composition', University of Leeds
- 2nd-3rd Dec 2005, 'Contingent Composition', Arché Modality Workshop, University of St Andrews
- Nov 2005, `Response to Efird and Stoneham on the Subtraction Argument', workshop on Modality and Nothingness, University of Leeds