

KERRY MCKENZIE

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, UC San Diego.

www.kerrymckenzie.org · kmckenzie@ucsd.edu

COMPETENCES

Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Physics.

Areas of Competence: Metaphysics and Epistemology.

EDUCATION

PhD Philosophy, University of Leeds, UK. *August 2012*

Dissertation: *Physics Without Fundamentality: An Investigation into Anti-Fundamentalism about Particles and Laws in High-Energy Physics*, supervised by Prof. Steven French.

MA History and Philosophy of Science, University of Leeds, UK *September 2008*

BA (Hons.) Philosophy and Physics, University of Oxford, UK *June 2004*

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California at San Diego (July 2014 to present).

Postdoctoral Fellow in Philosophy and Science, University of Western Ontario, Canada (Sept. 2013 to July 2014).

Postdoctoral Fellow in Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of Calgary, Canada (Jan. to Aug. 2013).

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Book Chapters

15. 'Against Brute Fundamentalism', forthcoming in *dialectica*.
14. 'Structuralism in the Idiom of Determination', forthcoming in the *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.
13. 'Fundamentality', forthcoming in the *Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Emergence*.
12. 'Ontic Structural Realism', *Philosophy Compass*, April 2017 (doi: 10.1111/phc3.12399).
11. 'Bound States and the Special Composition Question' (co-written with F.A. Muller), forthcoming in *Proceedings of the EPSA Conference 2015*.
10. 'Looking forward, not back: supporting structuralism in the present', in *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science (Part A)*, July 2016 doi:10.1016/j.shpsa.2016.06.005.
9. 'Relativities of Fundamentality', in *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, published online September 2015, doi:10.1016/j.shpsb.2015.08.001.
8. 'Rethinking Outside the Toolbox' (co-written with Steven French), in *Metaphysics in Contemporary Physics (Poznan Studies in Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities, vol. 104)*, eds. Tomasz Bigaj and Christian Wüthrich, pp. 25-54, Rodolpi: Brill (2015).
7. 'On the Fundamentality of Symmetries', *Philosophy of Science* 81, pp. 1090–1102, December 2014.

6. 'In No Categorical Terms: A Sketch for an Alternative Route to Humeanism about Fundamental Laws', in *New Directions in the Philosophy of Science*, eds. M. C. Galavotti, S. Hartmann, M. Weber, W. Gonzalez, D. Dieks and T. Uebel, pp. 45-61, Springer, 2014.
5. 'Structure and Logic' (co-written with Simon Saunders), in *Physical Theory: Method and Interpretation*, ed. Lawrence Sklar, pp. 127-62, Oxford University Press (NY), 2014.
4. 'Priority and Particle Physics: Ontic Structural Realism as a Fundamentality Thesis', *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 65 (2): 353-80, 2013.
3. 'How Not To Be A Humean Structuralist', in *EPSA11: Perspectives and Foundational Problems in Philosophy of Science*, eds. V. Karakostas and D. Dieks, pp. 307-18, 2013.
2. 'Thinking Outside the Toolbox: Toward a More Productive Engagement Between Metaphysics and Philosophy of Physics' (co-written with Steven French), *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp. 42-59, 2012.
1. 'Arguing Against Fundamentality', *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, Vol. 42, No. 4, pp. 244-55, November 2011.

Book Reviews and Discussion Notes

1. 'How (and How Not) to Object to Objects', review of *Structures, Objects and Causality: Proceedings of the Banff Workshop on Structural Realism*, eds. Elaine Landry and Dean Rickles, *Metascience*, July 2013, Volume 22, Issue 2, pp 283-87.
2. Review of *Basic Structures of Reality: Essays in Meta-Physics* by Colin McGinn, *Mind*, 122 (487), pp. 813-16, doi:10.1093/mind/fzt073, 2013.
3. Review of *Metaphysics and Science*, eds. Stephen Mumford and Matthew Tugby, in the *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, doi: 10.1093/bjps/axu050, February 2015.
4. 'Chance Regained: Review of *After Physics* by David Albert', *Metascience*, March 2016, 25 (1) pp. 51-55.
5. 'Being realistic: the challenge of theory change meets the metaphysics of scientific realism', forthcoming in a special issue of *Spontaneous Generations*.

In Preparation

Review of *Scientific Ontology: Integrating Naturalized Metaphysics and Voluntarist Epistemology* by Anjan Chakravartty, for *BJPS*.

'On the need, not just the desire, for a theory of quantum gravity', for OUP volume on the philosophy of quantum gravity.

'Three preconceptions about the fundamental', for OUP volume on the metaphysics of fundamentality.

'Naturalized metaphysics', for the Routledge handbook on metametaphysics.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE LEVEL

THE METAPHYSICS OF THE NON-FUNDAMENTAL, Graduate Seminar, UC San Diego (Winter 2016).

PHYSICS AND THE METAPHYSICS OF FUNDAMENTALITY, Graduate Seminar, UC San Diego (Fall 2014) and University of Calgary (Summer 2013).

PROSEMINAR, UC San Diego (Fall 2016).

UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

METAPHYSICS (PHIL 130), UC San Diego, Spring 2015, Spring 2017.

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE (PHIL 145), UC San Diego, Spring 2015, Spring 2016.

SCIENTIFIC REASONING (PHIL 12), UC San Diego, Winter 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF SEXUALITY AND GENDER, University of Western Ontario, Winter 2014.

SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY, University of Calgary, Winter 2013.

TOPICS IN EPISTEMOLOGY: THEORY AND EVIDENCE, University of Leeds, UK, Winter 2012.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship in Philosophy and Science, Rotman Institute of Philosophy (University of Western Ontario), Sept. 2013–Aug. 2014 / 2015.

Leverhulme Early Career fellowship (declined for Rotman Institute fellowship).

Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship in Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of Calgary, Jan.–Sept. 2013.

Junior Fellowship, Descartes Centre, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands: Sept.–Dec. 2012.

Royal Institute of Philosophy Jacobsen Bursary, 2011-12 (£2,500)

AHRC Research Training Support Grant, June 2011 (£420)

AHRC Doctoral Award, 2008-11 (full funding & fees)

AHRC Taught Masters Award 2007-8 (full funding & fees)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations:

Delusions of a Final Theory: Ontic Structural Realism and the Fiction of Fundamentality, Jowett Seminar, University of Oxford, June 2017.

What's Wrong with Structuralist Metaphysics? – Lessons from Pragmatism, Workshop III of 'Pragmatic approaches in Metaphysics and Philosophy of Science', Pittsburgh, April 2017.

What's Wrong with Structuralism?, Simon Fraser University, February 2017.

What's Wrong with Structuralism? UCI, March 2017.

Predicating Possibility: a legacy of positivism, University of Calgary, Canada, May 2016.

On the Prospects of a Present-Day Metaphysics, Science Studies Colloquium, UC San Diego.

Against Brute Fundamentalism, UIC, November 2015.

Against Brute Fundamentalism, seminar at CalTech, October 2015.

On the Prospects of an Effective Metaphysics, invited talk for the 15th Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, Helsinki, August 2015.

Necessities in Nature without Natural Necessity: Rethinking Humeanism about Fundamental Physics, Working Group in the History and Philosophy of Logic, Mathematics, and Science, UC Berkeley, April 2014.

On the Prospects of an Effective Metaphysics, UCLA Philosophy of Science Conference, March 7-8th 2015.

Necessity in Nature without Natural Necessity: Rethinking Humeanism about Fundamental Physics, Metaphysics and Philosophy of Physics Workshop, University of Rochester, September 2014.

Looking Forward, Not Back: Supporting Structuralism in the Present, 'Testing Structural Realism' conference, Case Western Reserve University, June 2014.

The Limits of Scientific Metaphysics, 'Metaphysics Within and Without Physics' conference, University of Western Ontario, May 2014.

The Plurality of Priority, Faculty Seminar, University of Cambridge, December 2013.

Prescriptions on Priority, Southern California Philosophy of Physics Research Group, UC Irvine, November 2013.

Off the Peg or Made to Order? – Reflections on Naturalistic Metaphysics, Bay Area Philosophy of Science meeting, San Francisco State University, November 2013.

Two Puzzles about Priority, Faculty Seminar, University of Calgary, January 2013.

In No Categorical Terms: Two Alternative Routes to Humeanism, PSE-CRASSH joint workshop, University of Cambridge, December 2012.

Rethinking Outside the Toolbox, The Metametaphysical Club, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, November 2012.

Structuralism as a Priority Thesis: Past Progress and Open Questions, closing conference of the Foundations of Structuralism project, University of Bristol, September 2012.

Fundamentality Between Physics and Metaphysics: The Case of Effective Fields, Faculty Seminar, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, December 2011.

Between Humeanism and Nomological Essentialism: Locating Modality in Ontic Structuralism, Faculty Seminar, University of Bristol, May 2011.

Priority and Particle Physics: Structure, Dependence and Moderation in All Things, Workshop on Ontological Dependence, University of Bristol, February 2011.

Structures and Objects, Workshop on Structuralism and Objects, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, November 2010.

The Triviality Objection to Structuralism, Philosophy of Science Research Group Seminar, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, June 2006.

Conference Papers:

Delusions of a Final Theory: On the folly of fundamentalist metaphysics, symposium paper at the APA (Pacific Division) conference, Seattle, April 2017.

On Realism and 'Deep Metaphysics', symposium paper at the APA (Eastern Division) conference, Baltimore, January 2017.

Structuralism in the Idiom of Determination, biennial meeting of the *Philosophy of Science Association*, Atlanta, Nov 2016.

Intrinsicity and The Goldilocks Principle: Fundamentality as a Resource for Structuralism, inaugural conference for the *Society for the Metaphysics of Science*, Rutgers, Newark NJ, Sept 2015.

Intrinsicity and The Goldilocks Principle: Fundamentality as a Resource for Structuralism, British Society for the Philosophy of Science Conference, University of Manchester, July 2015.

Symmetries, objecthood, and fundamentality: cross-sectioning fundamental physics, symposium at the 2012 PSA conference (co-presented with Elena Castellani, Antigone Nounou and Christian Wüthrich).

'*Humean Structuralism*' about Laws, European Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Conference, Athens, October 2011.

What is this '*Humean Structuralism*'?, British Society for the Philosophy of Science Conference, University of Brighton, July 2011.

The Heuristic Approach to Metaphysics, Metaphysics and the Philosophy of Science Conference, University of Toronto, May 2011.

What Should the Structuralist be Fundamentalist About?, British Society for the Philosophy of Science Conference, University College Dublin, July 2010.

Is Structuralism Anti-Fundamentalist?, presented at the Structure and Identity conference, Bristol, July 2010.

Arguing Against Fundamentality, British Society for the Philosophy of Science Conference, University of East Anglia, July 2009.

ACADEMIC-RELATED SERVICE

Referee for *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Dialectica*, *Ergo*, *Erkenntnis*, *International Studies in Philosophy of Science*, *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Polish Journal of Philosophy*, *Review of Symbolic Logic*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, *Synthese*, and *Thought*.

Committee member, Society for the Metaphysics of Science.

Member of the 2017 *BSPS* conference committee.

Member of the 2016 *Philosophy of Science* poster committee.

Co-organizer of and SSHRC grant applicant for workshop 'Metaphysics Within and Without Physics', University of Western Ontario, June 2014.

Presenter at Café Scientifique, a public outreach project on topics in contemporary science.

Facilitator with 'Thinking Space', an organization dedicated to teaching high school educators strategies for philosophical discussion in the classroom.

Organizer of 3 public lectures on philosophy of physics in Edinburgh, Scotland, 2005.

REFEREES

Prof. Steven French, University of Leeds

Doctoral Supervisor
Email: S.R.D.French@leeds.ac.uk
Tel. +44 (0)113 343 3279

Prof. James Ladyman, University of Bristol

Head of Department, University of Bristol
Email: james.ladyman@bristol.ac.uk
Tel. +44 (0)117 9287609

Dr. Juha Saatsi, University of Leeds

MA course director
Email: J.T.Saatsi@leeds.ac.uk
Tel. +44 (0)113 343 3383

Prof. Mark Migotti, University of Calgary

Associate Professor
Email migotti@ucalgary.ca
Tel. +1 403 220 5534

Dr. Nick Jones, University of Leeds

Head of First Year Teaching
Email: phlnoj@leeds.ac.uk
Tel. +44 (0)113 343 3390