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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION Philosophy of Mind, Cognitive Science
AREAS OF COMPETENCE Neuroethics, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Psychiatry

EDUCATION

University of Arizona	
<i>Ph.D. in Philosophy, Cognitive Science minor</i>	2004-2012 (Expected)
Penn State University	
<i>B.A. in English (Writing), Economics minor</i>	1988-1993

DISSERTATION

Using Eliminative Inference in the Scientific and Philosophical Studies of Consciousness

Committee:

- Uriah Kriegel (chair) Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Arizona
- Terence Horgan Professor of Philosophy, University of Arizona
- Shaun Nichols Professor of Philosophy, University of Arizona
- Mary Peterson Professor of Psychology, University of Arizona

PUBLICATIONS

- “Correlation, Causation, Constitution: On the Interplay between the Science and Philosophy of Consciousness,” (with Uriah Kriegel), forthcoming in *The Constitution of Consciousness* (Ed., Miller, S.)
- “Awareness of unawareness: Folk psychology and introspective transparency” (with Shaun Nichols), forthcoming in *Journal of Consciousness Studies*

AWARDS

- Best Paper by Graduate Student in UA Philosophy Department (Spring 2011)
- Cognitive Science Fellowship (Spring 2007, Fall 2009)

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

- “Results of prefrontal lesions cast doubt on higher-order theories of consciousness,” at *Mind & Language*
- “Does inattentive blindness support attention being necessary for consciousness?” at *Phenomenology and Cognitive Science*

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT (short, longer version follows):

Lately, there has been much enthusiasm for research into the neural correlates of consciousness (NCC), the hope being that locating them might shed light on long-standing problems of consciousness. But little has been done to fill out the foundations necessary for NCC research, calling into question any conclusions researchers might wish to draw. In my dissertation, I first introduce and argue for “eliminative methodology,” a phenomenologically based system for locating the NCC, one that places emphasis on the falsification of theories. Then I use this method to criticize some popular hypotheses about the NCC, and to argue that visual experience is constituted by activity in lower visual areas than is commonly thought. Finally, I use this picture of the NCC to argue against some philosophical views about consciousness, including higher-order theories of consciousness, and the idea that visual experience plays no direct role in guiding motor actions.

PRESENTATIONS

“Results of lesions to the prefrontal cortex cast doubt on higher-order theories of consciousness”

- University of Arizona Phil. Dept. Colloquium Series. Tucson AZ, November 2010
- Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference. Tucson AZ, April 2010

“Does visual form agnostic DF use unreportable conscious experiences to direct her motor actions?”

- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans LA, February 2011
- Texas Tech Graduate Student Conference. Lubbock TX, April 2010
- Intermountain West Student Philosophy Conference. Salt Lake City UT, March 2010

“Inattentive blindness exemplifies consciousness without attention”

- Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness 14. Toronto, Canada, June 2010 (poster)

“Using eliminative methodology to find the neural correlates of phenomenal consciousness”

- Cognitive Science Brown Bag. Tucson AZ, November 2009
- The CUNY Cognitive Science Symposium. New York NY, November 2009

“Consciousness is involved in motoric action, sort of”

- Philosophy of Mind, Language, and Cognitive Science Conference. Western Ontario, Canada, June 2008
- Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference. Tucson AZ, April 2008
- University of Arizona Consciousness Forum Series. Tucson AZ, November 2007

“Does Wegner’s theory of apparent mental causation undermine epiphenomenalism?”

- Society of Philosophy and Psychology Meeting. Philadelphia PA, July 2008 (poster)

“The difference between consciousness and reportability”

- University of Arizona Consciousness Forum Series. Tucson AZ, December 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses taught independently:

PHIL 347: Neuroethics (online)	Fall 2011, Summer 2011
PHIL 345: Philosophy and Psychiatry	Fall 2010
PHIL 305: Philosophy of Science (online)	Summer 2009, 2010, 2011
PHIL 110: Logic and Critical Thinking	Spring 2008, Fall 2007
PHIL 450: Philosophy of Mind	Summer 2007
PHIL 346: Cognitive Science	Fall 2006

Courses taught as a teaching assistant:

PHIL 346: Cognitive Science	Spring 2011
INDV 101: Intro to Philosophy	Spring 2010, Spring 2009, Spring 2006, Fall 2005
TRAD 104: Intro to Ancient Philosophy	Fall 2008
Web Course on Consciousness	Fall 2007

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Cognitive Science and Philosophy of Mind

- Perception (Radu Bogdan, Fall 2003, at Tulane University)
- Computational Intelligence (Co-taught, Spring 2005)
- Philosophy and Cognitive Science (John Pollock, Fall 2005)
- Visual Cognition (Mary Peterson, Fall 2005)
- Philosophy and Psychology (Shaun Nichols, Fall 2006)
- Neuropsychology (Lee Ryan, Fall 2006)
- Consciousness (Uriah Kriegel, Spring 2007) (audited)
- Moral Psychology (Shaun Nichols & Mark Timmons, Spring 2009) (audited)

Other

- Metaphysics (Jenann Ismael, Fall 2004)
- Analytic Philosophy (Marga Reimer, Fall 2004)
- Aesthetics (Keith Lehrer, Fall 2004)
- Epistemology (John Pollock, Fall 2004)
- Philosophy of Mind (Uriah Kriegel, Spring 2005)
- Seminar on David Hume (David Owen, Spring 2005)
- Metaethics (Mark Timmons, Fall 2005)
- Philosophy of Science (Shaughan Lavine, Spring 2006)
- Ancient Ethics (Julia Annas, Spring 2006)
- Decision Theory (David Schmitz, Spring 2006)
- Seminar on Intentionality (Uriah Kriegel, Spring 2008)*
- Seminar on Free Will (Shaun Nichols, Spring 2007)
- Research and Professionalization Seminar (Co-taught, Fall 2007, Fall 2008)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Referee, Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews (Fall 2009)
- Chair for Session at Conference on Phenomenal Intentionality. Tucson AZ (November 2008)
- Coordinator for the University of Arizona Consciousness Discussion Forum Series (Fall 2006, Spring 2007)
- Chair for Concurrent Session at Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference. Tucson AZ (April 2006, April 2008, April 2010)

REFERENCES:

Uriah Kriegel

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Michael Mckenna (Teaching reference):

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