

Heather Demarest

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University of Colorado
UCB 232
Boulder, CO 80309-0232

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Science, Metaphysics, and Philosophy of Physics

Areas of Competence

Logic, Epistemology, and Philosophy of Language

Employment

University of Colorado, Boulder

Assistant Professor of Philosophy

2017-present

University of Oklahoma

Assistant Professor of Philosophy

2013-2017

Education

Rutgers University

2013

PhD in Philosophy

Dissertation: *A Theory of Laws, Dispositions, and Chances*

Advisor: Barry Loewer

Committee: Jonathan Schaffer, Branden Fitelson, and Jenann Ismael

Oxford University

2007

BPhil in Philosophy

Advisors: Timothy Williamson and John Hawthorne

University of Colorado, Boulder

2004

BA in Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*

BA in Physics, *summa cum laude*

Physics education research with Carl Wieman, Nobel laureate in physics

2004

Lab assistant for Eric Cornell, Nobel laureate in physics

2001

Minor in mathematics

Publications

- “Similarity and Enjoyment Predict Continuation for Women in Philosophy” 2017
Analysis, **77**(3): 525-541.
- “Powerful Properties, Powerless Laws” 2017
 In *Causal Powers*, Oxford University Press, ed., Jonathan Jacobs.
- “Fission May Kill You (But Not for the Reasons You Thought)” 2016
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, **93**(3): 565–582.
- “The Universe Had One Chance” 2016
Philosophy of Science, **83**(2): 248-264.
- “Fundamental Properties and the Laws of Nature” 2015
Philosophy Compass, **10**(5): 334–344.
- “Do Counterfactuals Ground the Laws? A Critique of Lange” 2012
Philosophy of Science, **79**(3): 333-344.
- Review: “Review of *Laws of Nature*” 2018
Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews.

Presentations

- “Flowing Alone” 2018
Workshop on Time and Explanation, CPT and FraMEPhys, Milan
- Comments on Casey McCoy’s, “The Universe Never Had a Chance: A Critique of Demarest” 2018
Fourth Annual Conference, Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Milan
- “Nonlocal Science” with Michael Townsend Hicks 2018
Conference on History and Metaphysics of Laws, Central European University, Budapest
- “Relativistic Persons: What special and general relativity can tell us about who we are” 2018
Morris Colloquium: The Self and Its Realizations, University of Colorado, Boulder
- “Women in Philosophy” 2018
Colorado Summer Seminar in Philosophy, University of Colorado
- “In Defense of a Modal Best System” 2018
International Workshop: Properties and Laws, University of Dusseldorf
- “Consequences of Relativistic Frame-Dependence” 2018
Pacific APA

- Colloquium*, Center for Philosophy of Time, Milan 2018
Metro Area Philosophers of Science, New York University 2017
- “Special Relativity and Consciousness”
Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of Colorado, Boulder 2017
- “What we can do about the Underrepresentation of Women in Philosophy”
Colorado Summer Seminar in Philosophy, University of Colorado 2017
- “It Matters how You Slice it: Special Relativity and Causation”
1st New England Workshop on Philosophy of Time, Rhode Island College 2017
Mentoring Workshop for Pre-tenure Women Faculty in Philosophy, University of Utah 2017
- Panel on Time and Causation
International Association for the Philosophy of Time, Wake Forest University, NC 2016
- “What is Bad About the Lack of Diversity in Philosophy? Implicit Bias and Efforts
to Recruit and Retain Philosophers from Underrepresented Groups”
Western Washington, *13th Northwest Student Philosophy Conference* (Special Lecture) 2015
- Comments on “A Scientific Realist’s Guide to Objective Chance” by Nina Emery
Whistler, British Columbia, *The Philosophy Mountain Workshop* 2015
- “Fission May Kill You (But Not for the Reasons You Thought)”
Western Washington, *13th Annual Northwest Student Philosophy Conference* (Keynote) 2015
Back at the Ranch Metaphysics Conference, Tucson, AZ (Invited Speaker) 2015
University of Colorado, Boulder (Colloquium) 2015
Midwest Annual Workshop on Metaphysics (Invited Speaker) 2014
- Comments on “Against Simplicity” by Mary Beth Willard
Western Washington University, *Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference* 2013
- “Fundamental Chance”
The University of Oklahoma, *Mathematics Department, Analysis and Convexity Seminar* 2016
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, *Necessity Conference* 2013
The University of Georgia (Colloquium Speaker) 2013
The University of Oklahoma (Colloquium Speaker) 2013
Purdue University (Colloquium Speaker) 2013
- “Fundamental Chance and the Mentaculus”
Prague, *Ernst Mach Workshop: Issues in Physicalism* 2012
- “Dispositional Best System Accounts of Laws”
St. Louis University, *Putting Powers to Work* 2011

“Justifying the Lebesgue Measure”

SUNY, Buffalo, Graduate Conference, *Nature and Structure* 2007

Honors and Awards

President’s Fund for the Humanities Grant	2019
Research and Innovation Office Conference Grant	2019
Dean’s Summer Grant	2018
Course Development Grant	2016
Faculty Fellow Award	2015
College of Arts and Sciences Career Development Grant	2015
Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Summer Fellowships	2014, 2015
SAS Excellence Fellowship	2012–2013
Mellon Summer Grants	2011, 2012
Jacob K. Javits Fellowship	2008–2012
SAS Excellence Fellowship	2007–2008
Clarendon Scholarship	2005–2007
Fawkes Memorial Scholarship	2005–2007
Overseas Research Student Award	2005–2007
<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i> Merit Scholarship	2004

Teaching

Metaphysics of Laws of Nature at CEU Summer School, Budapest	2018
Critical Thinking and Writing in Philosophy	2018
Metaphysics	2013, 2017, 2018
Philosophy of Science	2017
Philosophy of Physics and Cosmology	2014, 2016, 2017
Introduction to Philosophy	2014, 2015, 2016
Self and Identity	2013, 2015, 2016
Philosophy of Time Seminar	2014
Ethics of Food (TA for Andy Egan)	2012
Philosophy of Physics	2012
Current Moral and Social Issues	2011
Introduction to Logic	2011
Introduction to Metaphysics	2010
Philosophy of Literature	2009

Service

Referee for:

Philosophical Review

Mind

Philosophy of Science

British Journal for the Philosophy of Science

Philosopher’s Imprint

Philosophical Studies

Analysis

Philosophical Quarterly
American Philosophical Quarterly
Journal of the American Philosophical Association
Thought
Synthese
Erkenntnis
Dialectica
Topoi
Philosophical Papers
National Science Foundation (Grant Proposal)
Oxford University Press
Routledge/Taylor & Francis

Service at the University of Colorado

International Association for the Philosophy of Time Board of Advisors	2018–2019
Society for the Metaphysics of Science Council Member	2017–2019
Chair of Committee on the History and Philosophy of Science	2017–2019
Organizer of CHPS Conference	2017, 2018, 2019
Climate Committee	2017–2019

Service at the University of Oklahoma

Evaluation of Interventions to Retain Women in Philosophy (Design and Implementation)	2014–2016
Initiatives for Undergraduate Inclusiveness and Community-Building (Creator and Organizer)	2014–2016
UNC Workshop on Recruitment and Retention of Female Undergraduates (Participant)	2014
Recruitment and Diversity Committee	2014–2017
Undergraduate Studies Committee	2013–2017

Service at Rutgers

Rutgers-Columbia-NYU Philosophy of Cosmology Project (Organizer)	2012–2013
Rutgers Graduate Summary Workshop (Creator and Organizer)	2012
Climate Committee for Underrepresented Groups (Graduate Representative)	2011–2012
Graduate Student Climate Survey (Chief Designer and Implementer)	2012
Departmental Colloquia (Organizer)	2011–2012
Philosophy of Cosmology, Quantum Theory, and Time Conference (Organizer)	2010
Foundations of Statistical Mechanics Conference (Organizer)	2009
Metaphysics Meets Physics on the Banks of the Raritan Conference (Organizer)	2008
Philosophy of Science Reading Group (Organizer)	2007–2011