

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Data:

Name: Frank K. Fair
Date of birth: June 19, 1944
Marital Status: Married to Janet Fair, children Ken and Joanna
Home Address: 3648 Youpon Lane, Huntsville, TX 77340
Employment: Professor of Philosophy
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Educational History:

Degrees: Honors A. B. (Magna cum laude) in Philosophy and Classical Languages from Xavier University (Cincinnati) in 1966, M. A. in Philosophy from Boston College in 1968, and the Ph. D. in Philosophy from the University of Georgia in 1971.

Dissertation: *The Logic of Some Which and Whether Questions*

Scholarships and Fellowships:

Proctor and Gamble Scholarship, 1962-1966, Xavier University
University Fellowship, 1966-1968, Boston College
NDEA Fellowship, 1968-1970, University of Georgia
University Foundation Fellowship, 1970-1971 University of Georgia

Postdoctoral Academic Work:

National Science Foundation Chautauqua Short Course on Telecollaboration in College Courses, May 1997, at the University of Texas at Austin
National Science Foundation Chautauqua Short Course on Time, Rhythms, and Chaos, in the Physical Sciences, February 1993, at the University of Texas at Austin
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar, 1981, at the University of Illinois on Moral and Political Choice in Arms Control
National Science Foundation Chautauqua Short Course, November 1976 and March 1977, at Louisiana State University on Social Impact Assessment
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar, 1975, at Tufts University on Social Justice

Awards and Honors:

Was named a 2011 Piper Professor by the Piper Foundation, one of ten professors selected annually from faculty members nominated by Texas colleges and universities.
Received the SHSU College of Humanities and Social Sciences award for Excellence in Service, 2009.

Received a competitive Faculty Development Leave for Spring 2006 to develop two new courses: PHL 463 Theories of Ethics and PHL 472: Theories of Knowledge and Reality. As of Fall 2008 both of the courses are entered the course inventory.
 Received the Sam Houston State University Faculty Excellence in Service Award, 1992.
 Received the Sam Houston State University Excellence in Teaching Award, 1989.

Teaching Experience:

Courses Taught Regularly:

Critical Thinking
 Contemporary Logic
 Philosophy of Science
 Contemporary Moral Issues
 Philosophy of Religion
 History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy

Courses Taught Occasionally:

Introduction to Philosophy
 History of Modern Philosophy
 Seminar on Contemporary American Philosophy
 History of Science
 Philosophy of Law
 Philosophy of Alienation and Liberation (Social Philosophy)
 Seminar on Recent Theories of Ethics (a doctoral seminar for Criminal Justice)
 Approaches to Decision Making (with emphasis on Medical Decision Making)
 Feminism and Moral Theory
 Communitarianism and Liberalism (for a graduate student in Political Science)
 Introduction to Psychology
 History of Psychology
 Readings in Sensation and Perception (a graduate course)
 Seminar on Theories of Ethics
 Seminar on Theories of Knowledge and Reality

Special Courses Team Taught:

Difficult Dialogues: an Honors Seminar team taught with colleagues from Biology and Political Science.
 Perspectives on the Present: a course on contemporary issues taught periodically with colleagues from History and Political Science
 From Information to Decision: an Honors seminar, HON 231, on aspects of decision making in a complex world, taught for a number of years with colleagues from Economics, Chemistry, Communications, and Psychology
 The Marxist Challenge: taught with a colleague from Political Science
 Designing a Nation: a course on the development of the U. S. Constitution taught with a colleague from Political Science
 Teaching Thinking Skills: a graduate level course in education taught with a colleague from Education
 Origins: From the Big Bang to Humankind: a course on evolution taught with colleagues from Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Geology

Journal Editorship:

Managing Editor of the journal *INQUIRY: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines* from 2010 to present.

Book Published:

Insightful Quality: Beyond Continuous Incremental Improvement by Vic Sower and Frank Fair, published by Business Expert Press in 2012.

Book manuscript submitted:

We Make Our Own Cheese! by Vic Sower and Frank Fair, is a business fable inspired by Spencer Johnson's *Who Moved My Cheese?*, and it was submitted to a publisher in December 2014.

Philosophy Papers Published:

"TACTS: Developing a New Critical Thinking Assessment Instrument" *Inquiry*, Vol. 25, No. 2 (Spring 2010), pp. 37-41. Lead author with Valerie Muehsam, John Miller, and Wendy McCoy as co-authors.

"Buddhism, Christianity, and Modern Science: A Response to Masao Abe," in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*. Vol. 25 (2005), pp. 67-74.

"There is More to Quality than Continuous Improvement: Listening to Plato," co-authored with Vic Sower as first author, appeared in *Quality Management Journal*. Volume 12, Issue 1 (January 2005), pp. 8-20.

"Trading Lives: Consequentialism, Deontology, and Inevitable Trade-offs" presented at the XXth World Congress of Philosophy, 1998. The Congress presentations are published electronically at the XXth World Congress website.

"Affirmative Action: Arguing with Lisa Newton" was published in *TR 5*, a collection of essays illustrating the process of research and writing in various disciplines. The collection was edited for use as a textbook by Diane Dowdey et al. and was published by Simon & Schuster, 1998.

"Morality on the Line: The Role of Ethics in Police Decision-Making," (co-author Wayland Pilcher), *American Journal of Police*, Vol. X, No. 2, 1991, pp. 23-38.

"On Interpreting a Philosophy of Science: A Response to Gareth Nelson," in *Systematic Zoology*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (March 1977), pp. 89-91.

"Two Problems with Chisholm's *Perceiving*," in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Vol. XXXVI, No. 4 (June 1976), pp. 547-550.

"J. J. Katz' Logic of Questions: New Departure or Dead End?" in *Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (April 1975), pp. 283-290.

"The Fallacy of Many Questions: Or, How to Stop Beating Your Wife," in the *Southwestern Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. IV, No. 1 (Spring 1974), pp. 89-92.

Philosophy Paper Accepted:

"Socrates in the Schools from Scotland to Texas: Replicating a study on the Effects of a Philosophy for Children Program" by Frank Fair, Lory Haas, Daphne Johnson, Debra Price, Carol Gardosik, and Olena Leipnik has been accepted by the *Journal of Philosophy in Schools*.

Philosophy Presentations:

- “Roe v. Wade—A Conservative Decision?” presented at the September 2014 SHSU Constitution Day lecture series.
- Commentaries on presentations at the AILACT Session at the APA Central Division Meeting, Feb. 28, 2014 by (1) Donald Hatcher “Is critical thinking (CT) across the curriculum a plausible goal?” by (2) Behar-Horenstein “Teaching and Studying the Development of Critical thinking Skills: An Imperative for Professional Schools and Colleges,” and by (3) Paul Green “CT Pedagogy as a Problem of Far Transfer.”
- Commentary on: Benjamin Hamby’s “Willingness to inquire: the cardinal critical thinking virtue” at the Ontario Society for the Study of Argumentation meeting, May 2013.
- “Intelligence, IQ Tests, and Critical Thinking: An Introduction to the Work of Keith Stanovich” presented at the AILACT session of the Central Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, February, 2012 in Chicago.
- “It’s All A Matter of Interpretation: How Judges Make Law” presented at the SHSU Constitution Day Celebration September 2011 and 2010. The presentation reviewed a number of pivotal Supreme Court decisions and the most recent influential views on the subject as presented in (i) *Purposive Interpretation in Law* by Aharon Barak, (ii) *How Judges Think* by Richard Posner, (iii) *The Living Constitution* by David A. Strauss, (iv) *A Matter of Interpretation* by Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, and (v) *Active Liberty* by Justice Stephen Breyer.
- “The Critical Thinking Tool Kit: A Response to Daniel Willingham’s ‘Critical Thinking: Why is it so Hard to Teach?’” presented at the Association for Informal Logic and Critical Thinking (AILACT) session at the Central Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association February, 2009 in Chicago.
- “The Texas Assessment of Critical thinking Skills (TACTS): A quantitative study of a business school accreditation instrument” presented, along with John Miller, at the annual meeting of the Decision Sciences Institute November 2007 in Phoenix.
- “Christianity, Buddhism, and Modern Science” presented at Dongguk University, Seoul Korea in October, 2002
- “Reverse Discrimination: Arguing with Lisa Newton,” read at the March 1997 meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- “Commentary on Alastair Norcross’s ‘Trading Lives’,” read at the October 1996 meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society.
- “Ethics and Affirmative Action,” read at the 1985 meeting of the Western Social Science Association.
- “Biotechnology’s Promise and Peril: The Views of Jeremy Rifkin,” accepted for the 1985 meeting of the Southwestern and Rocky Mountain region of the AAAS.
- “Ethics and Nuclear Deterrence,” read at the April 1982 meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- “The Fallacy of Many Questions: Or, How to Stop Beating Your Wife,” read at the 1973 meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society.
- “The Equal Right of All Men to be Free,” read at the 1971 meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.

Other Professional Publications:

- “If we are *Academically Adrift* in what direction should we sail now?” in the Texas Association of College Teachers *TACT eBulletin* Oct./Nov./Dec. 2011, pp. 10-12.
- “Pressure Building on Faculty to Increase Graduation Rates” in the Texas Association of College Teachers *TACT eBulletin*, Jan.-Mar. 2011, vol. LXIV, No. 3, pp. 8-11.
- “Science Education in Texas” in the Texas Association of College Teachers *TACT eBulletin* Jul/Aug/Sep 2008, Vol. LXII Number 1.
- “The Comfort of EPLI” in the Texas Association of College Teachers *TACT eBulletin* Jul/Aug/Sep 2008, Vol. LXII Number 1.
- “Post-Tenure Review in Texas: An Evolving Response to the Legislature’s Challenge” co-authored with the other members of the SHSU Post-Tenure Review Research Group: Debra Price, Dennis Longmire, Jo Ann Duffy, Paul Reed, Laverne Warner, and William Fleming. In *Post-Tenure Review: Experienced Voices*, eds. Christine Licata and Joseph Morreale. American Association for Higher Education, 2002.
- “State of the Profession in Texas,” co-authored with D. Castle. M. Baker, and J. Kemble, in the *TACT eBulletin*, Oct.-Dec., 2002 issue.
- “Pulling TEATH: Preventing Texans from Wasting Millions on a Testing Boondoggle” was an edited set of critiques by myself and a number of SHSU colleagues concerning the TEATH proposal to require all graduating students to take a GRE Subject area examination. This article was published in the July-September 2000 issue of the *TACT Quarterly Bulletin*, Vol. LIII, No. 1, pp. 12, 24-25.

Other Professional Presentations:

- “Pedagogy that Really Works: A Marriage of Classical Content from Ethics, Western Civilization, and American Traditions (EWCAT) and Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) in Freshman Composition English Classes” presented at the June 2013 American Association of University Professors (AAUP) Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education in Washington, D. C. Co-presenters were Dr. Ken Hendrickson and Timothy Ponce.
- “Post-tenure Review in Texas: An Evolving Response to the Legislature's Challenge and Continuation of the Conversation” presented at the February 2013 meeting of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates, with co-presenter Dr. Debra Price.
- “Insightful Quality: Beyond Continuous Improvement.” Panel discussion hosted by Dr. Pamela Zelbst with the authors (Sower & Fair) of the book which was videotaped to become part of the on-line course Technology and Innovation Management, Huntsville, TX, 22 June 2012.
- “The Scholarship of Service,” a joint presentation organized with two other TACT members concerning ideas about the scholarship of service and three examples of such scholarship at the TACT Eastern Regional meeting, Spring 2004.
- “Meeting the Legislature’s Challenge: Post-Tenure Review in State Supported Universities in Texas” was presented with Dr. Dennis Longmire at a Spring 2001 conference of the American Association for Higher Education.
- “Post Tenure Review in the Texas State University System: Preliminary Results,” was presented, with Dr. Dennis Longmire as a co-presenter, at the Spring 2000 American Association for Higher Education (AAHE) National Conference on Faculty Roles and Rewards.
- “How to Host an Academic Challenge Tournament,” presented with Richard Eglsaer at the November 1994 meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

“Collaborative Research: Working Together to Enhance Literacy/Thinking Skills of Junior High Students,” presented with Sheila Cohen at the May 1988 meeting of the International Reading Society.

Research Reports:

Final Project Report: PTR in Texas State-Supported Universities: Responding to the Legislative Challenge. I co-authored the report along with Dr. Dennis Longmire and Dr. Jo Ann Duffy in the summer of 2001. The report presented the research findings and policy recommendations resulting from a grant from the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE) as described below. Copies of the research report were sent to the AAHE and to all of the universities that participated in our study.

Final Project Report: Post Tenure Review in the Texas State University System. I co-authored the report along with Dr. Debra Price in the summer of 2000. The report presented the research findings and recommendations for action resulting from a grant from the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE) as described below. Copies of the research report were sent to the AAHE, to the System Office of the Texas State University System (TSUS), and to the Chief Academic Officers and Faculty Senate heads of the component universities in the TSUS

Funded Research:

Socrates in the Schools Project:

In summer 2010 led the SHSU P4C Interest Group in securing a \$6,000 grant from the Powell Foundation in Houston for a replication at Mance Park Middle School in Huntsville of a Scottish study of the impact of one-hour per week Philosophy sessions on middle-school students' cognitive abilities as assessed by the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). The Socrates in the Schools project started in August 2010 with a workshop for participating Language Arts teachers, and continued throughout the rest of the 2010-2011 school year. It was successfully concluded in Spring 2011, and an article documenting the impact on students' performances on the CogAT is forthcoming.

Development of the Texas Assessment of Critical Thinking Skills (TACTS) Test

In collaboration with two colleagues from the SHSU College of Business Administration, Dr. Valerie Muehsam and Dr. John Miller, and a Psychology graduate student, Wendy McCoy, I embarked on a project starting in Summer of 2004 and continuing to the present. The project, which was supported by the COBA dean, is to develop a test of reasoning abilities that can be used to assess progress made by students in SHSU's COBA in order to provide data for re-accreditation by the AACSB. In the Fall of 2006 the Texas Assessment of Critical Thinking Skills (TACTS™) was ready for use. As a result of this ongoing research and development program I have a co-authored presentation at the 2007 annual Decision Sciences Institute conference and a co-authored publication accepted: “TACTS™: Developing a New Critical Thinking Assessment Instrument” appearing in *Inquiry*, Vol. 25, No. 2 (Summer 2010), a journal dedicated to critical thinking instruction across the disciplines. Currently, Dr. Miller, Dr. Muehsam, and I are engaged in upgrading the first version of TACTS with input from an empirical

study using focus groups and from comments by a consultant, Dr. Robert Ennis, one of the nationally known leaders in critical thinking education and assessment.

Comparative Study of Argument Diagramming Software

Along with a Psychology graduate student, Wendy McCoy, in 2003 I received funding from the SAM Center and the Office of Institutional research to determine if a computer assisted instruction package known as Reason!Able would enhance the critical thinking skills of students in our PHL 262: Critical Thinking classes to the degree reported in the relevant literature. We administered the California Critical Thinking Skills Test to our Fall 2003 classes to determine a baseline, and then used Reason!Able with our Spring 2004 classes to see if there was any discernable change. No significant difference was detectable.

Survey of Post Tenure Review in Texas Universities

“Post Tenure review in Texas State-Supported Universities: A Broader View.” After completion of an initial two-year project studying post-tenure review in the Texas State University System, in the summer of 2000 I wrote an application for an AAHE funded follow-up grant. The application was successful, and so we were funded for an additional year to extend our research on post-tenure review to other state-supported universities in Texas during 2000-2001. TAMU, SFA, U of H, Texas Tech, UT Tyler, UT Arlington, and UT Pan American are all collaborated with the project.

Survey of Post Tenure Review at Lamar University, Sam Houston State University, Texas State University, Sul Ross State University, and Angelo State University

“Post Tenure Review in the Texas State University System” was funded in 1998 as part of the New Pathways II project of the American Association of Higher Education. I was the principal investigator along with Dr. Debra Price. Other members of the SHSU PTR Research group are Dr. Laverne Warner, Dr. Jo Ann Duffy, Dr. Paul Reed, Dr. Bill Fleming, and Dr. Dennis Longmire. This was a two-year project during which I led the team members in a study the operation of the post tenure review process first on the SHSU campus and then on the other campuses of the Texas State University System. The study employed a combination of faculty surveys and structured interviews with key stakeholders, including legislators, administrators, and faculty.

A Comparative Study of the Impact of the ODYSSEY Thinking Skills Program

“An Investigation of the Effects of a Thinking Skills Program on Reading and Writing Achievement.” The research was conducted during the 1986-87 school year with Dr. Sheila Cohen. We received a \$3,000 University research grant to study the impact of the ODYSSEY thinking skills program on students at two area junior high schools. The study involved nearly 180 students in the control and experimental groups and 5 teachers. After 5 months no significant differences on the Gates-McGinitie Reading Test and on the TEAMS test were observed.

Book Reviews:

Review of Blakemore and Greenfield’s *Mindwaves* in *Teaching Philosophy*, Vol. 11, No. 4 (December 1988), pp. 358-359.

Review of Joseph Margolis's *Philosophy of Psychology* in *Teaching Philosophy*, Vol. 8, No. 2 (April 1985), pp. 176-77.

Review of Ned Block's *The Philosophy of Psychology, Vols. 1 and 2* in *Teaching Philosophy* Vol. 5, No. 2 (April 1982), pp. 168-170.

Review of David Moore's *Statistics: Concepts and Controversies* in *Teaching Philosophy*, Vol. 5, No. 2 (April 1982), pp. 155-157.

Review of Belnap and Steel's *The Logic of Questions and Answers* in *Teaching Philosophy*, Vol. 2 Nos. 3 & 4 (Spring 1978), pp. 346-347.

Manuscript Reviewing:

Reviewer of manuscripts in the areas of Critical Thinking, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Religion, and Business Ethics for publishers such as Harcourt, Wadsworth, Mayfield, West Publishing, and St. Martin's. Some of the most recent reviews are: (1) the manuscript of *Philosophy of Science* by Barker and Kitcher for Oxford University Press (2012), (2) the manuscript of Diane Halpern's *Thought and Knowledge: An Introduction to Critical Thinking* (5th ed.) by the Psychology Press, (3) two chapters for a book *Critical Thinking in Higher Education* (2013), and (4) "A Serious Flaw in the Collegiate Learning Assessment [CLA] Test," an article for the journal *Informal Logic* (2013).

Consulting:

Regional Review Forum member for development of the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) examination. The TASP examination is given to all Texas public university students who expect to progress to junior level courses. Participated in test review sessions in January and August, 1988 and again in April, 1989.

Humanities Advisor and Script Consultant for *Doin' Life*, a 60-minute television documentary on issues of justice involved in cases of people serving life sentences in Texas prisons, 1979-1980. This documentary has been shown on PBS stations in Houston, Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, and El Paso.

Served as a faculty member for the United States Chamber of Commerce's leadership development program: Institutes for Organization Management. The Institutes were held at the University of Georgia and Southern Methodist University in the summer of 1980, and at Southern Methodist and the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1982.

Memberships in Professional Societies:

The American Philosophical Association, the Philosophy of Science Association, the Hastings Center for Bioethics, the Southwestern Philosophical Society, the American Association of University Professors, and the Texas Association of College Teachers.

Professional Service:

SHSU Philosophy Program Coordinator, January 1999-2005, 2007- March 2015.

Texas Association of College Teachers (TACT), Vice President for Financial Affairs and State Treasurer, 2001-present, Eastern Regional Vice President, 2000-2001, President SHSU Chapter 1998-2000.

SHSU Honors Program Advisory Council Member and Admissions Committee A Chair, 1989-present.

SHSU Constitution Day Planning Committee, Chair 2005-2009, member 2009-present.

CHSS Promotion and Tenure Advisory Committee, member 2009-present
 CHSS Teaching Conference planner, 2004-2010..
 CHSS Committee for the Peer Review of Teaching, Chair 2009.
 CHSS Committee on Ethics, Western Civilization, and American Traditions (EWCAT), member 2009-present.
 SHSU Excellence in Teaching Committee member, 2008-2014, Chair 2011-2012
 SHSU Academic Challenge Program, Coordinator 1991-1998, Chief Judge, 1998-2010.
 SHSU Distinguished Lecturer Committee, member. 1999-2003, Chair 1999-2001, 2009-present.
 SHSU American Democracy Project Steering Committee, member 2004-2007
 SHSU International Programs Committee, member 2001-2007
 CHSS Appeals Committee, member 2005-2007
 Faculty Sponsor, Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Honor Society), 1987-2010, Bearkat Democrats 2009-2012, the Society for Creative Anachronism, 1986-2003, and the SHSU Chess Club, 1987-2002 Co-sponsor Alpha Chi Honor Society, 2000-2010.
 CHSS Curriculum Committee, member 2004-2005.
 SHSU Standing Faculty Tenure Committee, member 2002-2006.
 Member, Faculty Development Leave Committee, 2000-2003.
 SHSU AAUP Chapter, Member, 1971-present. President 1984-86, 2002-2003, Secretary-Treasurer 1977-1980, President 2003-2004
 Post Tenure Development Review Committee, Chair, 1996-1997.
 SHSU Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects, Member 1993-1998.
 Chair, SHSU Committee for the Study of the Tenure Review Process. 1994-1995.
 University Strategic Planning Committee Member, 1990-1991.
 Core Curriculum Review Committee Member, 1990-1991.
 Alternate Faculty Representative on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, 1989
 Coordinator, Science Lecture Series for Education for Tomorrow Alliance, 1989.
 Writing Across the Curriculum Committee Member, 1988-1990.
 SACS University Self-Study Committee on the Faculty Member, 1987-88.
 University Strategic Planning Committee Member, 1987-88.
 Faculty Senate Member, 1985-88. Academic Affairs Committee Chairman, 1987-88.
 Faculty Council Member, 1979-1982. Vice-Chairman, 1980-81.
 Faculty Council Charter Revision Committee Member, Spring 1981.
 Institutional Review Board for Research on Human Subjects Member, 1980-1981.
 Psychology Department Human Subject Committee Member, 1978-1980, 1985-1990.
 Faculty Centennial Scholarship Committee Chair, 1979-1980.
 Quality of Life Conference Session Leader, 1977: "The Future of Humanism."
 Quality of Life Conference Outreach Committee Member, 1975.
 Quality of Life Conference Session Leader, 1974: "Man, Technology, and Alternative Futures."

Community Service:

Assistant Coach Huntsville High School Academic Challenge Team, 1989-2003.
 Communion Minister from St. Thomas Catholic Church to area nursing home residents, taking communion once a month, 1985-Present.
 BSA Troop 114: Treasurer 1985-1990, Troop Committee Member 1983-1986.
 Youth Sports Coach in basketball, baseball, softball, and soccer, 1982-1987.
 Huntsville Public Library Board, Chair 1986-1988, Member 1985-1988.

Academic References:

- Dr. Chris Wilson, Chair of the Department of Psychology and Philosophy, Box 2447
Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX 77341. (936) 294-1174
- Dr. A. Jerry Bruce, Department of Psychology and Philosophy, Sam Houston
State University, Huntsville, TX 77341. (936) 294-1173
- Dr. Richard Eglsaer, Associate Provost, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX
77341. (936) 294-1006
- Dr. Glenn Sanford, Philosophy Program, Department of Psychology and Philosophy,
Sam Houston State University, Huntsville. TX 77341. (936) 294-1510