

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Data:

Name: Frank K. Fair
Date of birth: June 19, 1944
Marital Status: Married to Janet Fair, children Ken and Joanna
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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:

Received the Sam Houston State University Faculty Excellence in Service Award, 1992.
Received the Sam Houston State University Excellence in Teaching Award, 1989.
Received a Faculty Development Leave for Spring 2006 to develop two new courses, PHL 463 Ethical theories and PHL 472: Theories of Knowledge and Reality.

Teaching Experience:

Courses Taught Regularly:

Critical Thinking
 Contemporary Logic
 Philosophy of Science
 Contemporary Moral Issues
 Philosophy of Religion
 Ethical Theories

Courses Taught Occasionally:

Introduction to Philosophy
 History of Ancient and Medieval 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:

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 each fall with colleagues from Economics, Biology, Mass 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

Philosophy Papers Published:

“TACTS: Developing a New Critical Thinking Assessment Instrument” is co-authored with Valerie Muehsam, John Miller, and Wendy McCoy and is forthcoming in *Inquiry*, Vol. 25, Issue No. 1.

- “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 and Police Decision-Making,” (co-author Wayland Pilcher), *American Journal of Police*, Vol. X, No. 2, 1991.
- “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 Presentations:

- “Texas Assessment of Critical Thinking Skills (TACTS): A Quantitative Study of a Business School Accreditation Assessment Instrument,” presented with John Miller of SHSU COBA at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Decision Sciences Institute, November 2007.
- “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:

“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/August/September/ 2000 issue of the *TACT Quarterly Bulletin*, Vol. LIII, No. 1, pp. 12, 24-25.

Other Professional Presentations:

“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. JoAnn 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:

In collaboration with Wendy McCoy and two colleagues from the SHSU COBA, Dr. Valerie Muehsam and Dr. John Miller, we embarked on a project starting in Summer of 2004 and extending to the Spring 2006 semester. The work was supported by Dean Lewis of COBA to develop a test of reasoning abilities that could be used to assess progress made by students in SHSU COBA in order to provide data for re-accreditation by the AACSB. As of Fall 2006 the Texas Assessment of Critical thinking Skills (TACTS™) is ready for use.

Along with a Psychology graduate student, Wendy McCoy, 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.

“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.

“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. JoAnn 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.

“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 recent acknowledgments are: *Logic and Contemporary Rhetoric*, 8th ed., by Kahane and Cavender, Wadsworth, 1998; *Critical Thinking*, 5th, by Moore and Parker, Mayfield Publishing, 1997; and *Philosophy of Law*, by Schauer and Sinnott-Armstrong, Harcourt Brace, 1996.

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 Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, the Southwestern Philosophical Society, the American Association of University Professors, and the Texas Association of College Teachers.

Professional Service:

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

SHSU Distinguished Lecturer Committee, 1999-2003, 2007-present, Chair 1999-2001

SHSU Honors Program Advisory Council Member, 1989-present.

SHSU Constitution Day planning committee, Chair 2005-present

SHSU International Programs Committee, member 2001-present.
 SHSU Academic Challenge Program, Chief Judge, 1998-Present. Program Coordinator 1991-1998.
 Faculty Sponsor, Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Honor Society), 1987-Present, the Society for Creative Anachronism, 1986-2003, and the SHSU Chess Club, 1987-2002
 Co-sponsor Alpha Chi Honor Society, 2000-present.
 SHSU Philosophy Program Coordinator, January 1999-2005, 2007-present.
 SHSU American Democracy Project Steering Committee, member 2004-2007.
 CHSS Appeals Committee, member 2005-2007.
 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.
 C. O. M. E. Member 1971-Present, Treasurer 1980-82, 1993-1995. C. O. M. E. administers United Way money for emergency relief and operates a clothing shop.
 Communion Minister from St. Thomas Catholic Church to area nursing home residents, 1985-Present.
 Boy Scouts of America Troop 114: Treasurer 1985-1990, 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. Donna Desforges, 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 Vice President for Academic Affairs, Sam Houston State
University, Huntsville, TX 77341. (936) 294-1006
- Dr. Glenn Sanford, Department of Psychology and Philosophy, Sam Houston State
University, Huntsville. TX 77341. (936) 294-1510