

# **Charles Royal Carlson**

Department of Psychology and Philosophy  
College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Sam Houston State University  
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## **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:**

Philosophy of Biology, Ethics, American Philosophy

## **AREAS OF COMPETENCE:**

History and Philosophy of Science, German Idealism, Modern Philosophy

## **EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., Philosophy

Texas A&M University, 2012

Dissertation: Some Philosophical Origins of Recent Ecological Sensibilities

Advisor: Dr. John J. McDermott

M.S., Biology

Texas A&M University, 2011

Thesis: Hybridization and the Typological Paradigm

Principal Investigator and Advisor: Dr. Gil Rosenthal

M.A., Philosophy

University of Toledo, 2006

Thesis: Survival and Society: A discussion of the inherent components  
of emotion and the interplay between culture and instinct

Adviser: Dr. John Sarnecki

B.A., Philosophy, Religion, and Government/International Affairs

Augustana College, 2003

**PUBLICATIONS:**

“The Return of Experience: Reinterpreting Dewey for Contemporary Evolutionary Biology” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* (2013) Vol. 87, No. 2, pp 267-284.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

Sam Houston State University, Post-Doctoral Fellow 2013 – Present  
Contemporary Moral Issues, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014  
Existentialism, Spring 2014  
Philosophy of Biology, Spring 2015

Texas A&M University, Instructor, Philosophy Department and Gateway Program  
Upper Division Undergraduate Courses:  
Ethical Theory, Fall 2012

Lower Division Undergraduate Courses:  
Contemporary Moral Problems, Summer 2009, Summer 2010,  
Summer 2011, Fall 2012

Blinn College, Instructor, Philosophy Department  
Introduction to Philosophy, Fall 2008 to Spring 2012, one course per semester

University of Toledo, Instructor, Philosophy Department  
Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2005, Spring 2006  
Contemporary Moral Problems, Fall 2005  
World Religions, Summer 2005

**PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PAPERS:**

“Pluralistic Conceptions of Nature’s Boundaries: A Pragmatic Species Concept”  
American Studies Association of Texas Annual Meeting, Huntsville, Texas,  
November 2014.

“Schopenhauer for Royce: Permanent Deposit, or Scar?” Annual Meeting of Society  
for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Eugene, Oregon, October 2013

“Neuroscientific Education, Deweyian Representation and the Hegelian Critique of  
Science” Commentary for session entitled “Pragmatist Engagements with Cognitive  
Science” Annual Meeting for the Society for the Advancement of American  
Philosophy, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, March 2013.

“Survival of the Fittest Laws of Nature: Peirce and the Paradox of Hybrids” Annual  
Meeting for the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, New York  
City, NY, March 2012.

“John Dewey's Ecological Naturalism as a Critique of Genetic Reductionism” Annual  
Meeting for the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Spokane,  
WA, March 2011.

“Questioning Aristotle’s Moral Absolutes in the Nicomachean Ethics” Augustana College Symposium, 2002.

### **INVITED LECTURES:**

“Evolutionary Pragmatism: A Movable Method” Texas A&M Philosophy Department Distinguished Alumni Lecture. College Station, TX, April 2015.

“Loyalty as a Way Out: Arthur Schopenhauer and Josiah Royce on Suffering” Annual Rukavina Lecture in History of Philosophy, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, October, 2013.

“Philosophy Begins in Wonder: Originating Moments in Aristotle, Descartes and William James” Invited Lecture, Carroll College, Helena, Montana, March 2013

“C.S. Peirce’s ‘Absolute Chance’ and the Role of Stochasticity in Breaking Down Evolutionary Constraints” Texas A&M University Philosophy Colloquium, February, 2013.

“Behind the Curtain is a Wild Animal: Early Modern Conceptions of the Unknown” Invited Lecture, St. Mary’s University, San Antonio, Texas, May 2012.

“An Evolutionary Understanding of the Will in Nature” Guest Lecture, Texas A&M University, 2011, invitation by Texas A&M Philosophy Club.

“Including Growth and Process in Explanations of Evolutionary Change.” Texas A&M University Philosophy Colloquium, October, 2010.

### **SERVICE AND OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITY:**

#### **TO THE PROFESSION:**

Associate Script Editor for Film: *William James: Psychology of Possibilities*. Davidson Films, 2011.

Consultant on the language of the project: National Science Foundation Grant for Rosenthal Lab, Texas A&M University, “Mate choice and evolutionary genetics in *Xiphophorus* hybrid zones,” July 2009-July 2012.

Program committee for annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, held in College Station, TX, 2009.

Organizer for Conference entitled “The Nectar is in the Journey: A Celebration of the Life and Work of John J. McDermott” held in College Station, TX, 2009

Chair of Author Meets Readers session of meeting of the North American Levinas Society, May 2011. Megan Craig's *Levinas and James: Toward a Pragmatic Phenomenology* was the focus of the session.

Invited Review of *Contemporary Moral Arguments: Readings in Ethical Issues*, by Lewis Vaughn, 2011 for Oxford University Press.

Prepared Index for: *The History of Continental Philosophy*, Volume II: *The Revolutionary Age and/as Responses to Hegel* (ed. Daniel Coway and Alan D. Schrift). London: Acumen Press, 2010.

Prepared Index for: Daniel Conway's *Reader's Guide to Nietzsche's On the Genealogy of Morals*. London: Continuum Books, 2008.

#### TO THE UNIVERSITY:

Program Coordinator for the Texas A&M Community of Faculty Retirees. 2012 – present.

QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Certification, Texas A&M University, 2011.

Webmaster for Melbern G. Glasscock Chair in the Humanities. 2010-2012.

Humanities tutor for the Texas A&M University Athletic Department. 2007-2008

Participant in Pedagogy Workshop, Blinn College, 2009.

#### TO THE DEPARTMENT:

Graduate Program Advising Committee, Texas A&M University, 2010-2012.

Graduate Colloquium Committee, Texas A&M University, 2009.

Founding Member of the Texas A&M University Graduate Students in Philosophy, 2012.

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

American Philosophical Association

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

Philosophy of Science Association

William James Society