

Peter van Elswyk

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APPOINTMENTS

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Assistant Professor, Philosophy 2022 –

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MILWAUKEE

Associate Professor, Philosophy 2021 – 2022

Assistant Professor, Philosophy 2018 – 2021

Associate Faculty, Linguistics 2019 – 2022

EDUCATION

PHD, Philosophy, [RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK](#) 2012 – 2018

Title: Un/qualified declaratives

Advisors: Jeffrey King, Ernest Lepore

CERTIFICATE, Cognitive Science, [CENTER FOR COGNITIVE SCIENCE](#) 2012 – 2018

Title: Discourse structure and anaphora

Advisor: Matthew Stone

MASTER OF ARTS, Philosophy, [NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY](#) 2010 – 2012

BACHELOR OF ARTS, Philosophy, [BIOLA UNIVERSITY](#) 2005 – 2009

RESEARCH AREAS

AREAS OF SPECIALTY

Philosophy of Mind

Philosophy of Language

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics

Philosophical Logic

Social Epistemology

Philosophy of Religion

RESEARCH PAPERS

† = invited

⑰ Assertion remains strong (forthcoming) (with M. Benton). *Philosophical Studies*.

⑰ Hedged testimony (forthcoming). *Noûs*. 10.1111/nous.12411

⑮ Metalinguistic apophaticism (forthcoming). *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*.

- ⑭ The linguistic basis for propositions (forthcoming). *Routledge Handbook of Propositions*. (ed.) C. Tillman. Routledge.†
- ⑬ Hedging and the ignorance norm on inquiry (2021). (with Y. Sapid). *Synthese* 199.3-4, 5837-5859. [10.1007/s11229-021-03048-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-021-03048-0)
- ⑫ Reviving the performative hypothesis? (2021). *Thought* 10.4, 240-248. [10.1002/tht3.501](https://doi.org/10.1002/tht3.501)
- ⑪ Representing knowledge (2021). *The Philosophical Review* 130.1, 97-143. [10.1215/00318108-8699695](https://doi.org/10.1215/00318108-8699695)
- ⑩ Generic animalism (2021). (with A. Bailey). *Journal of Philosophy* 118.8, 405-429. [10.5840/jphil2021118829](https://doi.org/10.5840/jphil2021118829)
- ⑨ Why animalism matters (2021). (with A. Bailey and A.K. Thornton). *Philosophical Studies* 179.9, 2929-2942. [10.1007/s11098-020-01593-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-020-01593-x)
- ⑧ *That*-clauses and propositional anaphors (2020). *Philosophical Studies* 177.10, 2861-2875. [10.1007/s11098-019-01343-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-019-01343-8)
- ⑦ Hedged assertion (2020). (with M. Benton). *Oxford Handbook of Assertion*. (ed.) S. Goldberg. Oxford. pp. 245-263.† [10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190675233.013.11](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190675233.013.11)
- ⑥ Deceiving without answering (2020). *Philosophical Studies* 177.5, 1157–1173. [10.1007/s11098-019-01239-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-019-01239-7)
- ⑤ What the metasemantics of *know* is not (2020). *Linguistics and Philosophy* 43.1, 69-82. [10.1007/s10988-019-09263-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10988-019-09263-w)
- ④ Testimony and grammatical evidentials (2019). *Routledge Handbook of Social Epistemology*. (eds.) M. Fricker, P. Graham, D. Henderson, N. Pedersen, J. Wyatt. Routledge. pp. 135-144.† [10.4324/9781315717937-14](https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315717937-14)
- ③ Propositional anaphors (2019). *Philosophical Studies* 176.4, 1055-1075. [10.1007/s11098-018-1042-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-018-1042-6)
- ② Contrast and constitution (2018). *Philosophical Quarterly* 68.270, 158-174. [10.1093/pq/pqx028](https://doi.org/10.1093/pq/pqx028)
- ① Humean laws and circular explanation (2015). (with M. Hicks). *Philosophical Studies* 72.2, 433-443. [10.1007/s11098-014-0310-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-014-0310-3)

PEDAGOGICAL PAPERS

- ① Teaching Philosophy Through Lincoln–Douglas Debate (2013). (with J. Nebel, R. Davis, B. Holguín). *Teaching Philosophy* 36.3, 271-289. [10.5840/teachphil201336334](https://doi.org/10.5840/teachphil201336334)

REVIEWS

- ① Weaver and Scharp’s *Semantics for Reasons* (2020). (with D. Fogal). *Ethics* 131.2, 420-427. [10.1086/711224](https://doi.org/10.1086/711224)

PRESENTATIONS

* = refereed, † = invited

Honesty as a conversational virtue Honesty Project Workshop, Wake Forest University [†]	August 2022
A solution to the paradox of ineffability Colloquium, Philosophy, Northwestern University [†] Princeton-Rutgers Philosophy of Religion Incubator Conference*	January 2022 May 2021
The aim of inquiry and interrogative flip Early Career Inquiry Network [†]	November 2021
Hedging and discourse structure New York Philosophy of Language Workshop [†] Colloquium, University of Chicago [†]	May 2021 November 2021
Knowledge, hedging, and inquiry Nature of Inquiry Workshop, Agnes Scott College*	March 2020
Hedging Colloquium, Philosophy, Northern Illinois University [†]	September 2019
Hedging as dimensional ambiguity Colloquium, Linguistics, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee [†] Semantics Workshop, Center for Cognitive Science, Rutgers University [†]	March 2019 March 2019
Representing knowledge Colloquium, Philosophy, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee [†]	February 2018
Deceiving without answering Illinois Philosophical Association, Northern Illinois University*	October 2017
Demarcating assertion Assertion: Foundational Issues, CSMN/Concept Lab, University of Oslo [†]	September 2017
Propositional anaphora as a window into the semantics of pronouns Embedded Sentence Workshop, New York University [†] Philosophy and Linguistics Group, Northwestern University [†]	May 2017 March 2018
Assertion, qualified New York Philosophy of Language Workshop [†] Center for Cognitive Science, Rutgers University [†]	September 2016 September 2016
Knowledge without question Central Meeting, American Philosophical Association*	March 2016

Endophoric <i>that</i>	
Semantics Workshop, Center for Cognitive Science, Rutgers University [†]	October 2014
New York Philosophy of Language Workshop [†]	October 2014
Contrast and constitution	
Eastern Meeting, American Philosophical Association*	December 2014
Yale Graduate Conference, Yale University*	April 2015
Trading propositions for dispositions	
Pacific Meeting, American Philosophical Association [†]	April 2015
Intrinsicity for the grounded	
Illinois Philosophical Association, Northern Illinois University*	November 2011
63rd Northwest Philosophy Conference, Lewis & Clark College*	November 2011
5th Annual Graduate Conference, Western Michigan University*	December 2011
Structure, grounding, and fundamentality	
33rd Graduate Philosophy Conference, University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign*	March 2011
COMMENTS	
Arianna Falbo “Inquiring minds want to Improve”	
Eastern Meeting, American Philosophical Association	January 2021
Michael Hannon’s “What’s the point of Understanding?”	
Eastern Meeting, American Philosophical Association	January 2018
Greg Lynch’s “Refiguring Contextualist Semantics: A Response to Travis”	
Illinois Philosophical Association	October 2017
Scott Soames’s “Propositions, The <i>Tractatus</i> , and the Single Great Problem of Philosophy”	
Philosophy Colloquium, Rutgers University	December 2015
Matt Mandelkern’s “The Force and Content of Epistemic Modals”	
Rutgers–Princeton Graduate Conference, Rutgers University	April 2014
Jeff Snapper’s “Minimalist Essentialism”	
5th Midwest Regional Graduate Conference, Northern Illinois University	November 2011
Josh Rasmussen’s “Physicalism and the Puppet Argument”	
63rd Northwest Philosophy Conference, Lewis & Clark College	November 2011

AWARDS

Runner-Up, Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Religion	Spring 2021
Artifact Award, Online Teaching Program, UW–Milwaukee	Fall 2020
Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers University	Fall 2012 – Spring 2018
Mellon Fellowship, Rutgers University	Fall 2012 – Spring 2018
Runner-Up, Rafalson Essay Contest, Northern Illinois University	Spring 2011, Spring 2012
Order of Peter & Paul (Top 1%), Torrey Honors, Biola University	May 2009
Epsilon Kappa Epsilon (Top 5%), Biola University	May 2009
Best Paper, 13th Undergraduate Conference, Pacific University	April 2009

GRANTS

Research Grant (\$27,694), Honesty Project, Wake Forest University	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
Research and Creativity Grant (\$8,000), UW–Milwaukee	Summer 2021
TA/GA Development Grant, Rutgers University	Winter 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2018
Travel Grant, American Philosophical Association	December 2014, March 2016
Research Grant, Project on the Nature and Value of Faith	Summer 2014
Travel Grant, Center for Cognitive Science, Rutgers University	Summer 2014
Travel Grant, Graduate School, Rutgers University	Summer 2014, Summer 2016
Travel Grant, Philosophy, Rutgers University	May 2013
Travel Grant, Philosophy, Northern Illinois University	November 2011
Travel Grant, Graduate School, Northern Illinois University	November 2011

SERVICE

Colloquium Committee, Northwestern University	Fall 2022 – Spring 2022
Director of Graduate Studies, Philosophy, UW–Milwaukee	Fall 2021 – Summer 2022
Chair, Awards Committee, Philosophy, UW–Milwaukee	Fall 2019 – Spring 2021
Graduate Admissions Committee, Philosophy, UW–Milwaukee	Fall 2018 – Spring 2021
Co-organizer, Milwaukee Philosophy Workshop	October 2019
Chair, Enrollment Taskforce, Philosophy, UW–Milwaukee	Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
Managing Editor, <i>Oxford Studies in Metaphysics</i>	Fall 2014 – Spring 2017
Organization Committee, NASSLLI	Fall 2015 – Summer 2016
Student Representative, Philosophy, Rutgers University	Fall 2014 – Spring 2016
Organizer, Unstructured Content Conference, Rutgers University	Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
Philosophy Climate Committee, Rutgers University	Fall 2014 – Spring 2016
Coordinator, Philosophy Colloquium, Rutgers University	Spring 2014 – Fall 2015
Organizer, Religion on the Raritan, Rutgers University	Spring 2014
Organizer, Metaphysics Mayhem, Rutgers University	Spring 2014
Organizer, 5th Annual Midwest Regional Graduate Conference	November 2011
Graduate Student Advisory Council, Northern Illinois University	Fall 2011 – Spring 2012
President, Association of Student Philosophers, Biola University	Fall 2007 – Spring 2009

REFEREEING

Recent refereeing at *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosopher's Imprint*, *Synthese*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Episteme*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Sinn und Bedeutung*, *Erkenntnis*, *Mind and Language*, *Res Philosophica*, *Ergo*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, Oxford University Press

COURSES TAUGHT

† = graduate course

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Logic Fall 2022
Philosophy of Mind Fall 2022

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MILWAUKEE

17 courses
Conversational scorekeeping† Spring 2022
Introduction to Logic Summer 2020, Summer 2021, Summer 2022
Epistemic vocabulary† Spring 2021
Epistemology Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021
Speech acts† Spring 2020
Metaphysics of science Fall 2020
Philosophy of Mind Fall 2019
Inquiry† Fall 2019, Fall 2021
Lying and misleading (Independent study) † Spring 2019
Introduction to philosophy of science Spring 2019
Philosophy of Language† Fall 2018, Fall 2020

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK

11 courses
Philosophy of Mind Spring 2017
Philosophy of Language Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Winter 2018
Logic, Reasoning, and Persuasion Summer 2013, Winter 2016, Summer 2016, Winter 2017, Summer 2017, Winter 2018, Summer 2018

COMMITTEES AND ADVISING

DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

Student	Institution	Department	Topic	
Jacklyn Ryan	UW–Milwaukee	Linguistics	Rhetorical questions	On-going
Ogki Kim	UW–Milwaukee	Linguistics	<i>Wh</i> -constructions in Korean	2022
Turki Alwahibee	UW–Milwaukee	Linguistics	Verb agreement in Arabic	2020

MASTER THESIS ADVISING

Student	Institution	Department	Topic	
Juan Murillo Vargas	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Discourse structure	2023
Kenny Galbraith	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Clause types	2022
Jazlyn Cartaya	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Kinds of belief	2022
Jingyi Chen	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Imperatives as answers	2021
Austin Fraser	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Promises	2021
Yasha Sapir	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Slurs	2021
Zachary Ferguson	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Speech act taxonomy	2021
Farhad Taraz	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Dogwhistles	2020
Savannah Marciezyk	UW–Milwaukee	Philosophy	Metaphor in poetry	2019

REFERENCES

[Ernest Lepore](#)

Board of Governors Professor
Center for Cognitive Science
Rutgers University, New Brunswick

[Herman Cappelen](#)

Chair Professorship
Philosophy Department
University of Hong Kong

[Michael Glanzberg](#)

Professor
Philosophy Department
Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Last updated: August 5, 2022